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Comments: It is extremely important that the NFS allows for the expansion at Mission Ridge. The footprint is relatively small and environmental impact of ski resorts is really not large compared to other industries. The primary use is in the winter and the trees and grass are actually preserved from other industrial activities to make way for summer photosynthesis activity.

The National Forest Service of the Pacific Northwest is actually making a huge mistake by not allowing for the development of destination ski resorts. These are allowed in neighboring British Columbia and Idaho, without any significant impact. Unfortunately, they are a draw for Washington State tourist dollar and our region loses substantial funds where a portion could be re-directed to fostering the Services conservation goals, if coordinated correctly. Again, the foot-print and environmental impact of ski resorts is miniscule and we are losing a huge opportunity for both recreational activity and conservation monies by inhibiting full resort development in the PNW.