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Comments: I am a frequent visitor to the Durango area.

The proposed pod lays north of Purgatory's current winter and summer sports operations, a spot that is ideal lynx habitat due to its mix of dense spruce forest and shrub-dotted meadows occupied by various prey species.

Research since the agreement between the previous Purgatory owners and Colorado Wild (now Rocky Mountain Wild) to drop the pod from the MDP indicates continued "high habitat use" for the lynx, a threatened species, in this region. The environmental analysis for the ski area expansion fails to present any development alternatives to the Ice Creek Pod.

Please encourage Purgatory to look within its current area instead. Thank you.