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Comments: I am extremely disappointed in the proposed recreation expansion of Steamboat Resort. I think this is a terrible idea and detrimental to both wildlife and our environment for the following reasons:

#1 If the ski area allows the new gondola to bring a significant number of recreationalists to the summit of Sunshine Peak, the increased traffic going down Mountain View Trail will have a deleterious effect on wildlife and will change the undeveloped characteristic of the Long Park Roadless Area.

#2 The proposed Fish Creek Expansion Area includes and/or borders on an elk calving area, elk summer range, and is an elk migration corridor. In order to avoid impact, non-winter recreation must be prevented. BUT the proposed Mad Rabbit Trail #5 crosses the same area as it enters the Ski Area. Two projects that impact the same area must legally be treated as one. The Ski Area Expansion and Mad Rabbit MUST be combined into one project.

#3 The USFS currently is doing three EAs: Buff Pass Road EA, Mad Rabbit EA, Ski Area EA. These areas are connected areas, but performing them separately avoids cumulative effect analysis. These three EAs should be combined into a single EIS, since the impact is cumulative across the entire area.

#4 WE ARE IN A PANDEMIC. Becuase of this there were no in-person public meetings. The public should be given the opportunity to comment on the final proposed project.

Lastly, the proposals - if implemented - will ruin the character of the Yampa Valley, not to mention threaten the already dwindling population of Elk. We don't want to have happen here what happened in Eagle County. Overdevelopment has devastated their Elk and Bighorn Sheep population. The Forest Service has an obligation to preserve habitat and species BEFORE allowing more humans into an area. There are already TOO MANY humans in the proposed expansion areas.