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First name: Fred

Last name: Hanson

Organization:

Title:

Comments: To whom it may concern:

The Sandia Peak Ski Area Mountain Coaster (SPSAMC) must be opposed in the strongest possible terms by anyone that cares for the sanctity of the local environment. It is incomprehensible that such a ludicrous project has been considered up to this point. If this project does move forward it will declare multiple things clearly:

1. The Forest Service is in dereliction of its duty to protect the forests in its charge.
2. The Forest Service cares more about money generation than the health of its forests.
3. The Forest Service and those developing this project reject the importance of ecological health in forests already stressed from prolonged drought.
4. The Forest Service cares nothing for the importance of the forests in the Sandias to local indigenous people.

The outdoor recreation community has little comprehension of what is ecologically responsible recreation. Those that are pushing and funding this project can not be relied upon to honestly consider all effects of yet more construction on the top of the Sandias.

In practical terms the desire to push more recreation in the Sandias is never going to be a large money making business venture. Of the many reasons for this is the simple lack of water or snow for winter sports. New Mexico is still in the middle of a severe drought. The idea that there will be a growing snow recreation industry is either willful deception or delusion.

In this continuing drought the amount of ecological damage that will be caused by further expanding recreation in the Sandias, especially a project so ill conceived as this rollercoaster, is not in any way an acceptable compromise between ecological health and business interests looking to extract yet more money from these mountains. There is also the question of local corruption. I won't venture a guess as to the real nature of these business decisions, but this is New Mexico. I doubt highly that the plans for construction take into account at all the increased environmental damage brought on by this project.

Lastly, it is an extremely poor idea to ignore the desires of the local native nations that oppose these projects that both destroy sacred sites and give zero benefit to native people. This project must not go forward.

Regards,

Fred Hanson