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First name: Hans

Last name: Geier

Organization:

Title:

Comments: To: Emily DickermanFrom: Hans Geier - Former President of Steamboat Resort Corp. 1981-

1990Date: May 1, 2021R.E.: Community member response for US Forest's draft for Steamboat Resort

Improvement ProjectsDear Ms. Dickerson,I thank you for inviting me to respond again and I am delighted to do so.Not much has changed from the previous proposals except for the Sunshine Restaurant on top of Sunshine Peak aswell as minor trail and road improvements.I would prefer the shorter water and sewer lines since it will be less impact on the environment.Regarding the Pioneer skiing area expansion, as I remember, the original proposal had only tree skiing. I do not see the need to add more expert skiing to the ski terrain. We need ski terrain for the majority of skiers especially with the future proposed gondola. In the future more and more intermediate skiers will ski Steamboat.When I was president of the Steamboat Resort I was standing at the bottom of the Priest Creek Lift and a skier approached me and asked - "Why don't you add more tree skiing on the mountain?". I told him to look up and tell me how many skiers you see in the next ten minutes. As it turned out he did not see any skiers. So I told him, "This is the reason". This was in 1989 and I believe this is still true.Finally, I would like to suggest again that mitigation is paramount to reduce the impact on soil, water sources and wildlife. Having a forest service employee on site would be advisable to make sure all impacts are as small as possible. From my previous experience that money is not always available in the FS budget. May I suggest in the final EIS, that you negotiate that the Ski Corp pay for that resource person. This had been done before and is not new. The FS employee would be available for oversight and mutual consultation as problems and obstacles arise.I hope this has been helpful and I look forward to the new expansion of the Steamboat Resort.My very best to you,Hans Geier