

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/15/2022 3:47:45 PM

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Comments: Regarding the proposals; I have read through the entire project material. As proposed, I am in favor of supporting every one of these projects, so long as three important perspectives are considered and acquiesced.

My first perspective, which is of utmost importance for our community - akin to considering and potentially approving Taos Ski Valley, Inc.'s proposals please make sure that the upper parking lot adjacent to the Twining Campground and the Wheeler Peak Trail #90 (aka BULL OF THE WOODS) remains freely open and accessible to public use, every day, all year. This is one of the most important dynamics of the ongoing development at TSV because this is one of the few publicly accessible access points onto the Columbine-Hondo and Wheeler Peak Wilderness areas, especially during the winter months when the trailhead access points at the Gavilan, Italianos, Manzanita and Yerba trails down-canyon are not properly maintained and are typically filled in with snow pushed onto the small parking areas by highway plowing, which directly prevents safe and reasonable access to these trails on our public lands.

My second perspective - regarding the proposed gondola from the base area to the Kachina Basin area - the proposal states one purpose for this gondola will be to reduce vehicular traffic. Per this intent this gondola should be free for the public to utilize and not require a lift ticket, the same as the lower gondola by the ski school. Also TSV should be asked to consider running this gondola longer hours than other lifts (when seasonally appropriate) to accommodate foot traffic returning to the base area village.

My third perspective is regarding the cross country ski and snowshoe area trails - this general area is commonly used by backcountry skiers and splitboarders to access lands beyond the ski area boundary, including terrain between the ski area and Amizette. Please make sure I need development of terrain With the intent of providing more trails to TSV's customers does not inhibit public access to these lands. Also, as has been done at other ski areas operating on national forest lands where developed and maintained cross-country trail access is provided, please consider encouraging or requiring free public access to these trails, this would be beneficial for our community and would provide adequate means to promote fitness and healthful activities for individuals, families and other groups who are not downhill skiers.

The on-mountain improvements, specifically replacing lifts #2 and #8, should absolutely be approved as these Upgrades are necessary for TSV, Inc. to maintain the integrity of their ski area operation. I would encourage them to also seek approval to replace lift #7 with a new fixed grip triple or quad, and lift #4 with a new high-speed detachable quad which would be utilized during the summer for the MTB park. Adjacent to the downhill mountain bike trails, the proposed hiking trail is a great idea, there are already informal user-worn paths in this area, constructing an actual trail will allow proper maintenance and accommodate naturally-occurring environmental dynamics of the ecosystems by encouraging hikers to stay on the trail and not travel across fragile surfaces that comprise much of this area. The restaurant near the top of lift #7 is being discussed positively within our community, I share this sentiment so long as it can be designed and constructed so as to minimize exposure to avalanche potential. Relocating and improving the Whistle Stop café is also a good idea in my opinion, and will generally benefit ski area users. Other proposals such as upgrading and improving snowmaking systems, water storage etc. seem to be proposed to be designed in a manner which will help modernize the overall infrastructure which will be beneficial in the near- and long-term.

I encourage the US Forest Service to conduct complete and thorough assessments for all these projects, and produce a detailed EIS regarding this development plan.