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First name: timo

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: To the US Forest Service:

My name is timo platt. I am a resident of Arroyo Seco, NM. I am a skier (lift-served, touring and backcountry) and hiker, and outdoor enthusiast. I am a member and active participant of our local acequia. I raise animals and grow crops on my land. I value water quality and availability; carpooling, ride-sharing, and public transportation; roadways consistent with local conditions and land uses; traffic moving at or below posted speed limits; limited road noise; clean air; and all the local and native flora and fauna.

Significantly, I am also a full-time business person and seasonal employee of Taos Ski Valley, Inc., so I understand and welcome the value of business to jobs, economic development, and a diverse tax base.

Thus, I have an unusual perspective of being both pro-business and pro-environment.

I have learned, and public policy should reflect, that the key is finding the right balance between economic growth (both for a community and for a single company) and protection of communities and the environment.

Given the scope and size of Taos Ski Valley Inc's proposed expansion -- to be funded largely with public dollars -- the Forest Service has the responsibility to consider the full and far-ranging impacts of TSV's proposal. A simple environmental assessment would not serve and fulfill this objective.

The Forest Service should -- and indeed must, to fulfill its mission -- require that an Environmental Impact Study (EIS) must be conducted by TSV to understand fully the impacts to water, wildlife, and wilderness.

As a committed steward of both the natural world and a welcoming business environment, I am ready, willing and able to provide more data to the Forest Service and provide any and all service to the Forest Service to help it meet its objective in its review of TSV's proposal.

Respectfully,  
timo platt