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Title:

Comments: Because I have been a concerned neighbor and resident of Valdez NM I am writing this letter to protest the expansion plan for TSV without a complete and debated Environmental Assessment plan and a complete Environmental Impact Statement. Here are a few reasons I believe are important to consider. The impact of more skiers on the mountain is hard on the environment. The southwest is experiencing a several year drought. More people on the mountain means more needed water for their needs, drinking, washing cloths, hotel rooms dishes etc. The area had a people lift capacity of 4,400 per day when Ernie Blake was there. Now they want a lift capacity of 15000 per hour. That's crazy. The water system that is there now is currently leaking and wasting 80 % of its precious water. The fragile eco system in the Hondo Canyon and Valdez cannot handle that much of a increase in tourism. The roads would become more dangerous with more added people. The Hondo river is polluted with algae and has seen a major decrease in fish population. Such an important water shed as the Wheeler Peek Wilderness, Southfork Canyon, and Hondo River Canyon are already in stress because of climate change and this expansion to TSV would exacerbate these conditions. The forecasted drought that's expected will only add to the decline of the local environment. I know that tourism is an important aspect of our economy so let's protect what we have because what we have is unique. It needs to be protected with insight, caution, passion, love and understanding and a commitment to leaving this beautiful part of Mother Nature as natural as we found it. Thanks for the opportunity to comment on the TSV expansion proposal .