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Title:

Comments: I have several concerns with this proposal:

-the Environmental impact study lacked sufficient rigor. They opted for an Environmental Assessment (EA)-rather than a more robust Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). They also did not analyze any other proposed action or compare it to no-action (the base form of any rigorous inquiry)

-the analysis of water impacts is based on faulty assumptions. The EIS should consider Taos Ski Valley's proposals in light of the resort's actual water rights of 21.45 acre-feet, which is limited to 0.11 acre-feet of daily use allowed between April 11th and October 25th. The EIS should analyze an alternative that places TSVI's potential water usage in context of the resort's allocated water rights. This will undoubtedly have impacts on downstream water users.

-blocking public lands. The gondola proposal will make it difficult (and occasionally impossible) for public users to access the Williams Lake TH. Even if this weren't one of the most popular THs in the region, blocking public Wilderness access in favor of a business is deeply unsettling at best and (I would argue) morally wrong.