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Title:

Comments: I am submitting comments in support of TSV improvements specifically to build a new base-to-base gondola, new Nordic and snowshoe trails, and a 5-million-gallon water storage tank in order to allow for a significant increase in snowmaking.

I am a full time resident of Arroyo Seco and a parciente of the Acequia Madre de Arroyo Seco y del Rio Lucero. Speaking to the snowmaking proposal first I would point out that having additional water storage upstream of us is vital from two perspectives. First, from a fire suppression standpoint having effective fire breaks up the valley serves to protect all downstream users and those in the valley from the sort of devastating fires we have seen in the Las Vegas area. The additional glade clearing to allow for Nordic trails has also lessened the sort of conflagration that would only add to the risk. In addition snowmaking is in essence a large winter "dam" storing water in the winter for later release in the summer when needed for downstream irrigation and to replenish well heads. Any enhancement of winter storage capacity only benefits downstream users.

As for the gondola proposal, the present Twinning dirt road to the upper lodge and lift 4 is woefully inadequate in grade and only promotes erosion. In the winter it is exceedingly hazardous. In its present state it is far from an environmental asset and the base-to-base gondola would provide for much needed relief from the likely increased traffic which the road could ill afford to bear. Concerns over Williams lake trail access could be alleviated by continuing to allow limited traffic on the road as there are residences which still exist for such access but moving some of the traffic off this road would reduce erosion and silt runoff. In short these improvements will enhance TSV's stewardship of the valley's ecosystem.