

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/25/2023 7:22:02 PM

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Comments: In a current moment marked by increasing ski area corporate consolidation, I find Monarch ski area's expansion proposal to be modest and reasonably focused on the recreation experience for skiers and riders. As other resorts muscle through condo sub-divisions and gargantuan lifts, Monarch's proposal opens new terrain with minimal environmental impact, and should have a positive economic-development impact on Chaffee / Gunnison Counties, too.

The West-facing angle of the No Name basin may shape the quality of snowfall here, as afternoon sunshine hits the slope. Accordingly, I would highly consider all stakeholders involved to consider glading as much as possible, rather than cut full ski runs, which would likely have positive consequences for the skier experience, the hill's erosion, and more.