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Comments: As a long time skier at Monarch Mountain I support the proposed expansion for the following reasons.

The expansion area is current covered under the existing SUP for cat skiing. Winter recreation is already occurring in this area.

The GMUG Management Prescription 1B allows for 5400 acres of winter sports recreation. The Monarch expansion is a small fraction of this acreage.

The project will provide some wildfire mitigation due to the removal of beetle kill trees.

The proposed area for expansion is surrounded by expansive National Forest lands. Impacts to flora and fauna would be minimal.

Monarch Mountain is seeing increases in skier visitation every year. This expansion is needed to provide more terrain and improve the skier experience. This proposal is has been well planned and the infrastructure is in place to handle the increase in the SUP footprint. As one of Colorado's oldest ski areas, I feel this proposal should be approved.