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Comments: I am writing to express concerns about several components of the proposed Telluride Ski Resort Improvement Project, particularly those involving logging and habitat disturbance.

As an avid skier, I support necessary safety upgrades to Lifts 7 and 8, but I am troubled by the extent of vegetation removal proposed throughout the resort. The EA itself acknowledges that some primary suitable Canada lynx habitat will become unsuitable as a result of this project. Lynx depend on dense forest cover, deep untracked snow, and abundant snowshoe hare populations - all of which are threatened by extensive glading and logging operations. Scientific guidance from the Interagency Lynx Biology Team confirms that high stem density and dense understory vegetation are critical for both lynx and their prey. At high elevations, forests regenerate slowly, meaning any habitat lost could remain degraded for decades.

I am also concerned that cleared glades will attract skiers into these sensitive areas, compounding the harm to wildlife long after construction ends. The EA does not adequately address how soil compaction, slash management, and logging equipment travel routes will be handled, leaving significant questions unanswered. Additionally, wetlands in the project area should be fully avoided during all vegetation management activities, as repeated snow compaction from skiers could permanently alter these ecosystems.

Finally, the proposal to build new bike trail infrastructure raises questions given that the bike park will not be operational in summer 2026.

I urge the Forest Service to require a more thorough analysis of cumulative wildlife impacts before approving the logging components of this project.