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Comments: As current landowners and taxpayers, Brian Head is more than property to us ... it is a mountain community whose future matters deeply. We support Alternative 2 because it would give Brian Head room to thrive while preserving its distinctive outdoor identity. Thoughtful growth is not simply about attracting more people; it sustains local businesses and services while allowing residents, families, employees, and returning visitors to build traditions and become invested in Brian Head's future. The Socioeconomics Technical Report states that Brian Head's identity as a resort community centered on outdoor recreation is expected to remain consistent under the action alternatives. This demonstrates that expanded recreation can strengthen, rather than replace, the family-centered mountain character that makes Brian Head so unique and special.

Well-planned growth can also create a stronger economy and a more sustainable tax base. Alternative 2's complete network of terrain, lifts, snowmaking, guest facilities, and supporting infrastructure would convert recreational demand into employment and taxable spending on lodging, dining, retail, equipment, and transportation. That activity would support local businesses and generate revenue for roads, public safety, water, wastewater, and other community needs, helping ensure that future improvements are not financed solely by existing taxpayers. Town records show 91 single-family dwelling permits issued from 2015 through 2024, plus permits for 13 townhome dwellings in 2024, demonstrating substantial private investment already underway. The Socioeconomics Technical Report estimates that Alternative 2 could support approximately 639,700 annual winter visits by 2036, \$148 million in annual direct visitor spending in 2036 dollars, 1,881 visitor-spending-supported FTEs, and 253 additional resort operational FTEs. These projections illustrate why growth matters: it can provide the economic resources needed to support the community and the public costs accompanying expansion. These improvements would do more than increase capacity: they would create shared experiences, gathering opportunities, family traditions, and a stronger identity for Brian Head as a premier Southern Utah destination.

Alternative 2 would also connect Brian Head with Southern Utah's growing and increasingly diverse population. Southern Utah University in nearby Cedar City reported 15,825 students in fall 2025, representing all 50 states and 87 countries. The Recreation Technical Report finds that Alternative 2 would add approximately 359 acres of developed ski terrain and 14 lifts, improve skier progression and circulation, reduce bottlenecks, and create an interconnected lift-and-trail circuit around Brian Head Town that is uncommon in North America. This full, integrated system would give more families, students, and visitors opportunities to participate in mountain recreation and form lasting connections with Brian Head. Alternative 2 also preserves the resort's proposed configuration and avoids the approximately five additional acres of ridge-top grading associated with the relocated lift terminals under Alternative 3. We respectfully request that the Forest Service select Alternative 2 while applying the project-design criteria, mitigation, and monitoring described in the environmental review.