

**APPENDIX A**  
**Scoping and Issues Report**





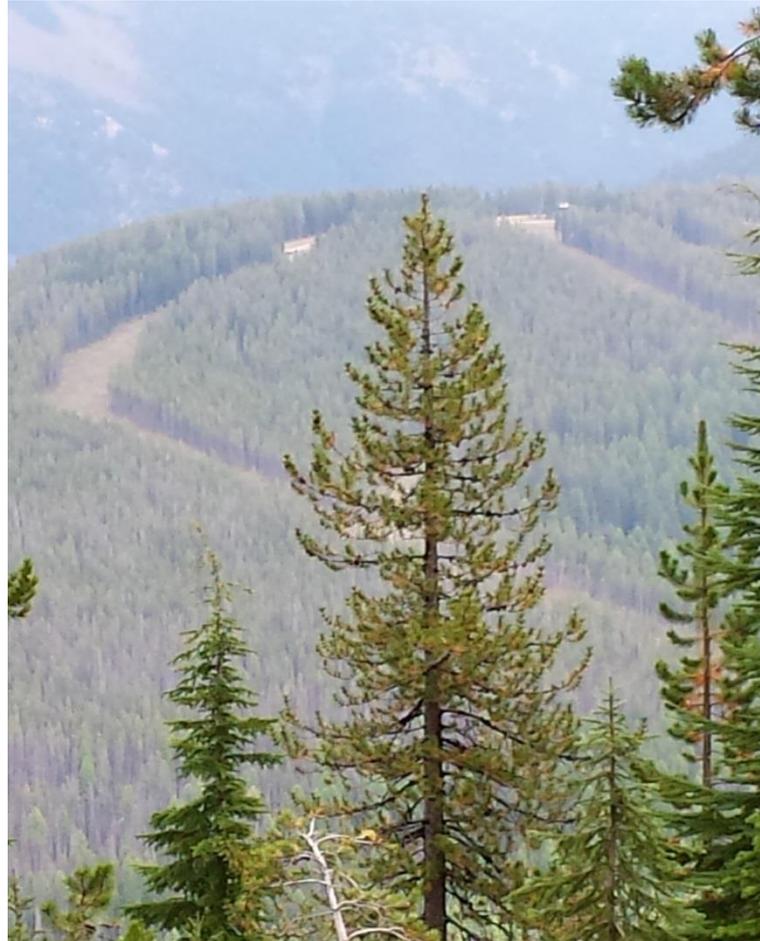
United States  
Department of  
Agriculture  
Forest Service

August 2014

# Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion Environmental Impact Statement

## Scoping and Issues Report

Coeur d'Alene Ranger District, Idaho Panhandle National Forests and Lolo National Forest, Shoshone County, Idaho, and Mineral County, Montana



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## 1. INTRODUCTION

The Lookout Pass Ski and Recreation Area has proposed to expand its ski area south and west of the current special-use permit boundary onto additional U.S. Forest Service (Forest Service) lands in the Idaho Panhandle National Forests (IPNFs) and Lolo National Forest (LNF). This expanded boundary would permit development of additional ski lifts, traditional terrain and gladed terrain ski trails, expanded parking, and access roads. The Forest Service, as the lead federal agency for this project, is preparing an environmental impact statement (EIS) to disclose the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed project, and to consider alternatives to the Proposed Action. This EIS process will inform the public and agencies about the project's potential impacts on human and natural resources.

A notice of intent (NOI) to prepare the EIS was published in the *Federal Register* on April 4, 2014 (Attachment A). Publication of the NOI initiated the formal public and agency scoping period, during which the IPNFs and LNF solicited comments regarding the project and its potential impacts. Public scoping meetings for the EIS were held in de Borgia, Montana, and Wallace and Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, to give agency personnel and members of the public the opportunity to view project information and ask questions. Meeting attendees were also encouraged to provide comments on the issues and alternatives that will be included in the draft EIS (DEIS).

## 2. DOCUMENT PURPOSE

This scoping and issues report is intended to aid in clarifying preliminary issues, determining the appropriate scope of environmental analysis, and gathering new input on alternatives development. It summarizes public and agency comments received during the formal scoping period, describes the analysis of those comments, and provides a preliminary list of issues, concerns, and opportunities for alternatives development or analysis in the DEIS. All substantive issues raised by respondents within the scope of the Forest Service's decision are included in the DEIS, as well as other resource categories and issues identified internally by the IPNFs and LNF interdisciplinary team (IDT).

## 3. DOCUMENT ORGANIZATION

This document contains the following sections:

- Description of scoping meetings, including advertising leading up to the meetings.
- Opportunities for public and agency comment during the formal scoping period.
- Scoping comment analysis process.
- Summary of public comments received during the formal scoping period (April 4, 2014–May 5, 2014).
- Copies of all advertising and informational materials (Attachments A–C), meeting attendee information (Attachment D), meeting materials used (Attachment E), the project coding structure and all comments received during the formal scoping period (Attachment F), and respondent demographic information (Attachment G).

## 4. DESCRIPTION OF SCOPING MEETINGS

Three public scoping meetings were held for the Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion EIS (Table 1).

**Table 1.** Formal Scoping Meeting Dates, Times, and Locations

| Date           | Time         | City and State       | Address                            |
|----------------|--------------|----------------------|------------------------------------|
| April 22, 2014 | 5:00–7:00 PM | De Borgia, Montana   | 120 De Borgia Haugan Frontage Road |
| April 23, 2014 | 5:00–7:00 PM | Wallace, Idaho       | 100 Front Street                   |
| April 24, 2014 | 5:00–7:00 PM | Coeur d’Alene, Idaho | 3815 Schreiber Way                 |

### 4.1. Meeting Advertising

Pursuant to National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements, the scoping meetings were advertised in a variety of formats (Table 2; Attachments A–C) before their scheduled dates. For each format, the advertisements provided logistics, explained the purpose of the scoping meetings, gave the schedule for the public and agency comment period, outlined additional ways to comment, and provided methods of obtaining additional information.

**Table 2.** Advertising of Formal Public Scoping Meetings

| <b>Notice of Intent (Attachment A)</b>   |
|--|
| An NOI to prepare the EIS was published in the <i>Federal Register</i> on April 4, 2014.   |
| <b>Newspaper Advertisements, Media Notices, and Other Forms of Advertising (Attachment B)</b>  |
| The Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion EIS project was listed in the IPNFs Schedule of Proposed Action on April 1, 2014.  |
| Legal advertisements were published in the <i>Coeur d’Alene Press</i> on April 12, 2014, and April 19, 2014, and in the <i>Missoulian</i> on April 13, 2014, and April 20, 2014.   |
| Display advertisements were published in the <i>Mineral Independent and Valley Press</i> on April 16, 2014, and in the <i>Shoshone News Press</i> on April 12, 18, 19, and 22, 2014.   |
| Media notice releases and 30-second public service announcements were emailed and/or faxed between April 7 and 8, 2014, to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The <i>Missoulian</i>, <i>Coeur d’Alene Press</i>, <i>Shoshone News Press</i>, <i>Spokesman Review</i>, and the <i>Mineral Independent</i> newspapers</li><li>• Spokane, Montana, and Boise State public radio stations</li></ul>              |
| A flyer containing meeting information was sent electronically to the Shoshone County Commissioners and Mineral County Commissioners.  |
| A flyer containing meeting information was sent electronically to the Coeur d’Alene, Historic Silver Valley, Mineral County, and Historic Wallace Chambers of Commerce.  |
| <b>Scoping Letter (Attachment C)</b>   |
| Scoping letters (containing a brief description of the Proposed Action, the purpose and need for the project, and a map of the proposed project area) announcing the scoping meetings were mailed on April 7 and 8, 2014, to all individuals on the project mailing list. A separate electronic version of the scoping letter was sent via email to all mailing list individuals who provided an email address on April 7, 2014. |

## 4.2. Meeting Set-up

The scoping meetings used an open-house format. At each meeting, attendees were greeted at the entrance and asked to sign in as a way to provide a record of attendance, and so that they could be added to the mailing list (see Attachment D for copies of the sign-in sheets). Attendees were informed about the flow of information on the display boards in the room, and availability and location of comment forms (Attachment E). Forest Service staff and members of the EIS consultant team circulated and were available to answer questions.

Seven informational display boards were arranged (Attachment E) in the following order around the meeting rooms:

1. Welcome message to meeting attendees.
2. Description of the general purpose and need for the Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion EIS.
3. Description of the Proposed Action.
4. Map of the Proposed Action, including proposed ski trails, lifts, and roads.
5. List of preliminary issues identified to date.
6. NEPA process and schedule.
7. Description of different ways to submit comments.

Refreshments and handouts of the display boards, the Proposed Action map, comment form, and scoping letter were provided at each meeting.

## 5. OPPORTUNITIES FOR PUBLIC AND AGENCY COMMENT

Members of the public and agency representatives were afforded several methods for providing scoping comments. Comments could be submitted

- by mail to SWCA Environmental Consultants, 1220 SW Morrison St., Suite 700, Portland, OR 97205;
- by fax to (503) 224-1851;
- online via the project website at <http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/fs-usda-pop.php?project=43757>;
- via email at [comments-northern-idpanhandle-coeur-dalene@fs.fed.us](mailto:comments-northern-idpanhandle-coeur-dalene@fs.fed.us); or
- in person at the Coeur d'Alene River Ranger District, Fernan or Smeltonville offices, or Superior Ranger District Office.

## 6. SCOPING COMMENT ANALYSIS

Public comments on the Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion EIS were analyzed and categorized using a process called comment analysis. The comment analysis process consists of sorting comments, analyzing them, entering the analysis into a database, and using database reports to summarize the concerns raised in the comments. The goals of the analysis process are to

- ensure that every comment is considered,
- identify the concerns raised by all respondents,
- represent the breadth and depth of the public's viewpoints and concerns as fairly as possible, and

- present those concerns in such a way as to facilitate the Forest Service’s consideration of comments.

Names, contact information, and letter text for all respondents who submitted comments were entered into the Forest Service database CARA (Comment Analysis and Comment Application). Analysts then read and coded all comments using the coding structure in CARA. Each comment was coded by action and rationale (discussed below) and verified through a quality control process for accuracy and consistency. Database reports tracked all input and allowed analysts to identify the public’s concerns and to analyze the relationships among them. As part of the NEPA process, all comments were given equal consideration, regardless of the method of their transmittal.

## 6.1. Coding Structure

Comments were assigned to one management issue/action (100-level code) and one or more affected resources or rationales (200-level code). As needed, comments could also be assigned early attention codes (500-level), which identified respondent requests for information, notice of appeal, letters requiring detailed review, letters from government entities, or a request for a comment period extension. For example, the following comment was assigned an action code of 132.03 (Snow management) and a rationale code of 282.02 (Public health, safety).

[The Forest Service should look at] avalanche abatement. This is to insure the safety of all personnel and the public.

A more detailed description of the coding structure used to sort public comments can be found in Attachment F.

## 7. SUMMARY OF PUBLIC COMMENT

In all, 90 comment letters from individuals, businesses, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), or government entities were received for the Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion EIS, as follows:

- 63 letters from individual respondents, some of whom submitted multiple letters.
- One letter from a federal agency (Environmental Protection Agency).
- 10 letters from state and local agencies.
- 12 letters from non-profit organizations or groups representing natural resources, historical, and recreation interests.
- 4 letters from businesses or utility associations.

Attachment G, Demographics, provides a breakdown of submissions by delivery, letter, and organization type. The attachment also provides contact information for all individuals who provided comments during the public scoping period.

### 7.1. Scoping Topics

The following section summarizes the content of comments received during scoping for the Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion EIS. In addition to the topics discussed below, many commenters expressed either general support or opposition to the proposed project. A detailed report containing all scoping period comments is provided in Attachment F.

### **7.1.1. Air Quality and Climate**

Respondents noted that the EIS should ensure maintenance of air quality in the region and implement mitigation measures to reduce vehicle emissions. Comments also requested that the EIS evaluate how climate change may affect project area resources, and how implementation of the project may contribute to or mitigate for climate change (through greenhouse gas emissions). Several commenters expressed concern that snowmaking would increase water demand and could be affected by long-term climate change.

### **7.1.2. Cultural Resources**

One commenter noted that the Forest Service should consult with affected tribal governments and discuss whether the proposed project would “affect tribal natural and/or cultural resources and address any concerns of the tribes in accordance with federal tribal trust responsibilities.” Another respondent requested that the Forest Service analyze and mitigate potential project effects to the Mullan Trail.

### **7.1.3. Fish and Wildlife Species, Habitat, and Movement**

Several commenters requested that the EIS examine project effects to terrestrial and aquatic wildlife, including the westslope cutthroat trout, bull trout, Idaho giant salamander, and other sensitive species. Alternatives development, monitoring, project design features, and compensatory mitigation to minimize wildlife effects from proposed roads, ski runs, facilities, and stream crossing structures were recommended. Respondents also indicated that the EIS should evaluate effects to wildlife habitat availability, connectivity, and movement from habitat removal, alternation, and fragmentation associated with proposed project actions. In particular, comments requested a discussion of how proposed activities would support the retention of large snags, downed logs, and large wood in streams while minimizing the spread of invasive weeds.

### **7.1.4. Land Use**

Respondents noted that project actions could affect other land uses within and adjacent to the project area. In particular, comments requested an assessment of potential effects to state survey monuments and the adjacent Stevens Peak inventoried roadless area, as well as clarification regarding whether access to adjacent patented mine claims would be affected and what utility infrastructure would be required. Comments included individual assessments of whether the project would be in compliance with local, state, and federal land use–related plans, regulations, and permits, as well as requests for disclosure of this compliance in the EIS. One commenter also requested that the ski area be required to purchase adjacent private in-holdings as a mitigation measure to minimize future development in the area.

### **7.1.5. NEPA Process Concerns**

Numerous respondents requested that the schedule for EIS completion be expedited. As one commenter stated, “Please expedite the approval process so as to minimize cost impacts for Lookout Pass. I look forward to taking my family to Lookout for years to come as long as they can provide good skiing at a low price.” Other comments requested 1) additional public meetings in Mullan, Idaho, and Missoula, Montana; 2) that the Forest Service analyze effects as an environmental assessment (EA) and disclose costs associated with preparation of the NEPA document; and 3) that the Forest Service restrict studies and analysis to critical resource issues. One respondent also requested that the comment period be extended.

### **7.1.6. Plant Communities and Invasive Species**

Project effects to area plant life were of concern to several respondents. As one respondent noted, “The NEPA document should identify whether there are any threatened, endangered, candidate, sensitive or other plant species of concern within or near the project area that could be affected by proposed actions.” Additionally, this respondent requested an assessment of invasive weed conditions and the use of best management practices to reduce the likelihood of introduction and spread of invasive species.

### **7.1.7. Recreation**

Recreation comments focused on six main topics: backcountry skier safety, skier displacement, recreation access and parking, demand for ski area expansion, winter travel planning, and long-term ski expansion plans.

#### **7.1.7.1. BACKCOUNTRY SKIER SAFETY**

For some commenters, potential increased safety risks for skiers leaving the ski area were of significant concern. As one commenter stated, “This will encourage off-piste access into avalanche terrain by inexperienced resort users without adequate avalanche safety training and appropriate avalanche safety gear, endangering not only themselves but other users of these areas as well as members of search and rescue organizations. Backcountry access, avalanche safety, and avalanche control procedures should be addressed.” However, other respondents expressed trust in Lookout Pass Ski and Recreation Area’s capacity to provide avalanche control and rapid skier rescue. One commenter requested that the EIS clarify where the operational ski area boundary will be, if separate from the special-use permit boundary, and disclose whether gates would be constructed to control unauthorized access.

#### **7.1.7.2. SKIER DISPLACEMENT**

Individual respondents expressed concern that the proposed ski area expansion will eliminate high-quality terrain readily accessible to backcountry skiers, snowmobilers, or summer users and reduce opportunities for adventure and solitude in the area. This ski area expansion, some commenters stated, will also push over-snow vehicles (OSVs) farther into the Copper Lake, Stevens Lake, Lone Lake, and Boulder Creek drainages and adjoining terrain of the Stevens Peak area, leading to degraded backcountry experiences. Respondents also stated that increased numbers of out-of-bound skiers will force OSVs to use the cross-country ski trail on the south side of the creek, displacing skiers and increasing potential motorized/non-motorized conflict. Comments requested a consideration of recreation impacts within and adjacent to the expansion area.

#### **7.1.7.3. WINTER RECREATION ACCESS AND PARKING**

Numerous respondents expressed safety concerns over snowmobile and skier traffic using the same area along the railroad grade, particularly if ski visitation continues to increase. Commenters noted that the expanded parking would also make it more difficult for snowmobilers and grooming equipment to travel across the area (due to vehicle operational limitations for traveling on plowed surfaces).

Some commenters felt that the proposed new parking area would not resolve parking needs and that parking restrictions for winter and summer use needed to be further clarified; continued provision of a snowmobile right-of-way and parking was identified as critical to maintaining access to area trail systems and providing economic revenue for local businesses. One respondent suggested that there should be consideration given to a designated snowmobile route along the edge of the parking lot to address safety

concerns. Concern was also expressed that the proposed project would restrict existing road and trail use in the project area.

#### **7.1.7.4. DEMAND FOR SKI AREA EXPANSION**

Several commenters requested additional information to support the project need for ski area expansion. As one respondent stated, “We recommend that the EIS define ‘market demand’ and provide more information regarding the number, timing and use preferences of recreational users at Lookout Pass Ski [and Recreation] Area. Present evidence that a clear public need exists for the expansion, including the current percentage utilization of the existing facility, on-slope skier densities and lift line length.”

#### **7.1.7.5. DEVELOPMENT OF A WINTER TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Numerous commenters requested that the EIS not move forward until the Forest Service developed a winter travel management plan for the area.

#### **7.1.7.6. CUMULATIVE EFFECTS OF LOOKOUT PASS EXPANSION**

Many commenters expressed concern that the EIS was not considering future expansion plans for Lookout Pass Ski and Recreation Area in the St. Regis Basin and that these plans must be considered as part of the cumulative or connected action analysis.

#### **7.1.8. Roads**

Commenters noted that the Forest Service should provide additional information regarding existing road conditions and address how 1) proposed new and reconstructed permanent roads will be managed and designed to minimize adverse environmental effects, and 2) temporary and unauthorized roads will be closed, including restoration, monitoring, and enforcement activities. Comments also included a request that the Forest Service consider alternatives for reducing the number of roads needed for the ski area expansion and evaluate road impacts to adjacent inventoried roadless and unroaded areas.

#### **7.1.9. Socioeconomic Conditions**

Respondents provided both support for, and concern over, potential socioeconomic effects associated with the proposed ski area expansion. Although some commenters identified the potential for increased employment, tax base, and property values; improved health benefits; and other cultural benefits, others expressed concern that expansion would increase ski resort ticket costs and negatively affect the long-term economic viability of the ski area. Comments also requested that the Forest service look at potential growth-related effects to area resources and the potential to set precedent for approval of other ski expansion proposals in the area.

#### **7.1.10. Visual Resources**

Several commenters expressed concern over changes to the viewshed from proposed activities and expressed a need for a visual assessment as part of the EIS analysis, as well as consideration of alternatives that would lessen visual impacts.

#### **7.1.11. Watershed Health**

Concerns over project effects to the Willow Creek watershed, wetlands, tributaries, and the St. Regis River were expressed by several respondents. Commenters noted that the proposed project activities could

degrade water quality, change water flow, increase the risk of mud slides, and impact source water supplies, and that mitigation and monitoring measures should be identified to minimize these impacts in the EIS. As one example, it was recommended that either riparian habitat conservation areas (RHCAs) be avoided or that a sufficient RHCA buffer be maintained. Other specific mitigation suggestions included avoiding or minimizing stream crossings and designing crossing structures to protect aquatic species. Commenters also requested that the EIS disclose effects to 303(d) listed waterbodies and compliance with the Clean Water Act.

Two commenters stated that the Forest Service should discuss how logging would be conducted in environmentally sensitive areas and evaluate impacts to sediment delivery, temperature, fish habitat, and hydrology. Several mitigation measures—including timing of logging entry and low-impact logging systems—were also suggested. One individual requested additional information regarding the removal and sale of dead and live trees, particularly in regard to addressing safety hazards for skiers using adjacent roads and off-trail “side country.”

## 7.2. Issues

Based on the public and agency comments received during the scoping comment period, as well as internal scoping concerns, the IDT identified a preliminary list of issues for the Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion EIS. Preliminary issues were separated into three categories: issues included in the EIS (key issues and analysis issues) and issues that will not be impacted by the proposed project and therefore eliminated from detailed analysis.

### 7.2.1. Key Issues

Key issues are defined as issues within the project scope of sufficient concern to drive the development of the Proposed Action or additional action alternatives. The IDT identified the following key issues:

- **Cultural resources:** Effects to sites listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).
- **Recreation:** Effects on opportunities for downhill skiing.
- **Watershed health:** Effects on water quality (sedimentation to streams), wetlands, and other waterbodies of the U.S., and forest vegetation.
- **Wildlife:** Effects to suitable lynx habitat within the lynx analysis unit (LAU).

### 7.2.2. Analysis Issues

Analysis issues were not essential in developing action alternatives but must still be analyzed for potential effects. For the Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion EIS, analysis issues consist of the following:

- **Fish and other wildlife:** Effects to threatened, endangered, or candidate species (grizzly bear); sensitive terrestrial species (gray wolf, fisher, black-backed woodpecker); sensitive aquatic species (e.g., Coeur d’Alene salamander, boreal toad, and northern leopard frog); management indicator species (pileated woodpecker, elk, northern goshawk); and other species of interest (wolverine, marten, migratory birds); and effects to stream habitat.
- **Socioeconomics:** Effects to the local economy (employment, wages, visitor spending, county tax revenue).
- **Soils:** Effects on detrimental soil conditions and hazards.
- **Special-status plants:** Effects on habitats for sensitive plants and species of concern (subalpine, wet forest, and moist forest plant guilds).

- **Visual:** Effects on visual characteristics and compliance with the Forest Plans' scenery integrity objective designations.
- **Water quantity:** Effects to peak flows.

### **7.2.3. Issues Addressed but not Analyzed in Detail**

Some issues identified during the scoping period were not carried forward for detailed analysis or alternatives development in the DEIS because they are 1) too general; 2) already addressed by law, regulation, Forest Plan, or other higher level decision; or 3) out of the scope of analysis. As noted above, a detailed report containing all received comments is provided in Attachment F.

Issues not carried forward for the Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion EIS consist of the following:

- Air quality and climate change
- Changes to land use
- NEPA process concerns
- Specific recreation issues
  - Backcountry skier safety
  - Skier displacement
  - Winter recreation access and snowmobile parking
  - Development of a winter travel management plan
  - Cumulative effects of future Lookout Pass Ski and Recreation Area expansion activities
- Specific plants and noxious weeds
- Specific fish and wildlife

Rationales for exclusion are provided by issue, below.

#### **7.2.3.1. AIR QUALITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE**

The project area currently meets all federal air quality standards, and the Forest Service strictly complies with current direction to protect and improve air quality, as follows:

- Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Act of 1974 (16 United States Code [USC] 1601), as amended by the National Forest Management Act (16 USC 1602).
- Federal Land Management Policy Act of 1976 (43 USC 1701).
- Clean Air Act amendments of 1977 and 1990 (42 USC 7401–7626).

The Forest Service is a member of the Montana/Idaho Airshed Group, which is composed of members who conduct a “major” amount of prescribed burning as well as the regulatory and health agencies that regulate this burning. The intent of the Airshed Group is to minimize or prevent smoke impacts while using fire to accomplish land management objectives and/or fuel hazard reduction. The monitoring unit of the Montana/Idaho Airshed Group coordinates burning and smoke emissions to minimize smoke accumulation and provides smoke dispersion forecasts and air quality monitoring support for burners in the Airshed Group. Burn information is evaluated airshed by airshed to anticipate cumulative smoke effects for the following day. Key factors include burn elevation, wind speed and direction, type of burn, proximity to smoke-sensitive features, anticipated impacts from non-member burners, and any other pertinent information made available at the time of the decision. The monitoring unit considers proposed burns together with expected ventilation or smoke dispersion conditions and existing air quality to determine burn recommendations for the following day (with concurrence from the Idaho and Montana

Department of Environmental Quality). These procedures limit smoke accumulations to legal, acceptable limits.

Because protocols are already in place to assure compliance with all legal and regulatory requirements regarding air quality, this issue is not carried forward for analysis.

Assessment of project greenhouse gas emissions is also dismissed from further detailed direct and indirect analysis because project emissions would be negligible and would result in insignificant differences between the alternatives. Project greenhouse gas emissions may cumulatively contribute to global climate change. Conversely, ongoing climate shifts may affect the proposed project's operations and natural resources. These trends are qualitatively disclosed in the EIS where applicable but, per Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) draft guidance, this discussion should "recognize the scientific limits ... to accurately predict climate change effects, especially of a short-term nature, and not devote effort to analyzing wholly speculative effects."

### **7.2.3.2. LAND USE**

None of the alternatives under consideration will change access to adjacent patented mine claims; therefore, this issue is not carried forward for analysis. Utility infrastructure needs and compliance with land use plans will not drive alternative design or analysis, but they are considered and disclosed in Chapter 2 of the EIS.

The Stevens Peak inventoried roadless area is located south of the project area and would not be directly impacted by proposed activities. The EIS discloses potential visual impacts to this roadless area and discloses key visual scenery resources design features that will be implemented to reduce deviations to the landscape form, line, color, texture, and pattern.

### **7.2.3.3. NEPA PROCESS CONCERNS**

NEPA process concerns will not drive alternative design or analysis, but will be considered and addressed, as applicable, throughout the NEPA process. All public involvement and agency coordination efforts are disclosed in the EIS.

### **7.2.3.4. SPECIFIC RECREATION ISSUES**

#### **7.2.3.4.1. Backcountry Skier Safety**

The issue of backcountry skier safety is considered beyond the project decision scope because the project purpose and need is to improve developed, downhill skiing opportunities. Lookout Pass has identified an operational ski area boundary that establishes the limits of where skiers are allowed to ski. This boundary is disclosed in Chapter 2 of the EIS. Under all alternatives, Lookout Pass would post signs at the boundary informing skiers that they have reached the boundary and that skiing beyond that point is not allowed. It is the skier's responsibility (per Idaho Statute 6-1106 and Montana Statute 23-2-736) to obey all posted signs; any skier's decision to ski beyond the boundary is conducted at their own risk and is not under the control or responsibility of the Lookout Pass Ski and Recreation Area.

#### **7.2.3.4.2. Skier Displacement**

Based on discussions with local recreation groups, there is minimal winter snowmobiling and backcountry skiing use within the proposed ski area expansion. Most activity occurs to the south and west within the St. Regis Basin and is anticipated to continue to occur in that area regardless of which

alternative is selected for the Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion EIS. Because project effects would be minor and would result in insignificant differences between the alternatives, the issue of recreational skier displacement from high-quality terrain is dismissed from further analysis.

The related issue of skier displacement from area cross-country trails is also dismissed from further analysis because public concerns can be addressed through application of project design features. Implementation of out-of-bounds skiing restrictions for all alternatives (see Backcountry Skier Safety section) should restrict the extent of backcountry skier activity and subsequent potential increase in overlapping use of the same travel routes by motorized and non-motorized users. Grading and widening a portion of existing NFS Road 18591 under any action alternative may also help reduce potential motorized and non-motorized congestion near the base of Lift 2.

#### **7.2.3.4.3. Winter Recreation Access and Parking**

Existing project area roads and trails currently open to motorized and non-motorized public use would remain open under all alternatives. Additionally, the Lookout Pass Ski and Recreation Area has committed to posting traffic signs within designated parking areas to improve parking lot safety. To respond to public comments, the Forest Service has provided updated maps and has revised text clarifying this issue in Chapter 2 of the EIS.

Based on discussions with local recreation groups and internal IDT evaluation, no technically feasible alternative snowmobile route was identified to re-route users around proposed and existing ski parking areas. A potential alternative parking lot site was identified, but the Forest Service has made a preliminary determination that the site is not likely to be technically or economically feasible to construct and is outside of the scope of the project. Therefore, this issue is not carried forward for analysis at this time.

#### **7.2.3.4.4. Development of a Winter Travel Management Plan**

Development of a winter travel management plan for the area is considered beyond the project decision scope, because a winter travel management plan is not required for the project area. Should the Forest Service require the IPNFs and LNF to prepare a winter travel management plan during preparation of the EIS, this issue will be revisited. All alternatives considered for the EIS do not constrain any future travel management planning outside of the special-use permit area.

#### **7.2.3.4.5. Cumulative Effects of Lookout Pass Expansion**

Consideration of future expansion plans for the Lookout Pass Ski and Recreation Area in the St. Regis Basin is considered beyond the project decision scope because, per CEQ regulations, cumulative actions must be reasonably foreseeable, and the ski area does not currently have any documented plans filed with the Forest Service for a Phase 2 expansion.

#### **7.2.3.5. SPECIFIC PLANTS AND NOXIOUS WEEDS**

No endangered plants are listed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) for the IPNFs or LNF. Potential exists for the threatened water howellia (*Howellia aquatilis*) and Spalding's catchfly (*Silene spaldingii*) to occur, but these species are not known to be present in the project area (Goodnow 2015), and no individuals or populations were identified in the project area during the 2015 field surveys.

Table 3 provides a list of sensitive plant species or Forest Species of Concern with potential to occur in the project area. No individuals or populations were identified in the project area during 2015 field surveys, with the exception of whitebark pine, which is analyzed in the EIS.

**Table 3.** List of Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive Plants Investigated with Associated Presence in Project Area

| Common Name                   | Scientific Name                                     | Suitable Habitat Found? | Plant Found? |
|-------------------------------|---|-------------------------|--------------|
| Maidenhair spleenwort         | <i>Asplenium trichomanes</i>                        | yes                     | no           |
| Deerfern                      | <i>Blechnum spicant</i>                             | yes                     | no           |
| Upswept moonwort              | <i>Botrychium ascendens</i>                         | yes                     | no           |
| Dainty moonwort               | <i>B. crenulatum</i>                                | yes                     | no           |
| Triangle moonwort             | <i>B. lanceolatum</i>                               | yes                     | no           |
| Slender moonwort              | <i>B. lineare</i>                                   | yes                     | no           |
| Mingan moonwort               | <i>B. minganense</i>                                | yes                     | no           |
| Western goblin                | <i>B. montanum</i>                                  | yes                     | no           |
| Peculiar moonwort             | <i>B. paradoxum</i>                                 | yes                     | no           |
| Stalked moonwort              | <i>B. pedunculosum</i>                              | yes                     | no           |
| Northwestern moonwort         | <i>B. pinnatum</i>                                  | yes                     | no           |
| Least moonwort                | <i>B. simplex</i>                                   | yes                     | no           |
| Leafless bug-on-a-stick moss  | <i>Buxbaumia aphylla</i>                            | yes                     | no           |
| Green bug-on-a-stick moss     | <i>Buxbaumia aphylla</i>                            | yes                     | no           |
| Bvuxbaum's sedge              | <i>Carex buxbaumii</i>                              | yes                     | no           |
| Clustered lady's slipper      | <i>Cypripedium fasciculatum</i>                     | yes                     | no           |
| Greater yellow lady's slipper | <i>C. parviflorum</i> var. <i>pubescens</i>         | no                      | no           |
| Creeping snowberry            | <i>Gaultheria hispidula</i>                         | yes                     | no           |
| Britton's dry rock moss       | <i>Grimmia brittoniae</i>                           | yes                     | no           |
| Clear moss                    | <i>Hookeria lucens</i>                              | yes                     | no           |
| Ground pine                   | <i>Lycopodium dendroideum</i>                       | yes                     | no           |
| Chickweed monkeyflower        | <i>Mimulus alsinoides</i>                           | yes                     | no           |
| Northern beechfern            | <i>Phegopteris connectilis</i>                      | yes                     | no           |
| White bark pine               | <i>Pinus albicaulis</i>                             | yes                     | yes          |
| Braun's hollyfern             | <i>Polystichum braunii</i>                          | yes                     | no           |
| Naked mniium                  | <i>Rhizomnium nudum</i>                             | yes                     | no           |
| Krushea                       | <i>Streptopus streptopoides</i>                     | yes                     | no           |
| Sierra wood fern              | <i>Thelypteris nevadensis</i>                       | yes                     | no           |
| Short-styled sticky tofieldia | <i>Triantha occidentalis</i> spp. <i>brevistyla</i> | no                      | no           |
| Idaho barren strawberry       | <i>Waldstenia idahoensis</i>                        | yes                     | no           |

Three noxious weed species were identified by SWCA during 2015 field surveys: spotted knap weed (*Centaurea stoebe*), bull thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*), and common St. John's-wort (*Hypericum perforatum*). Noxious weed treatment in the project area is guided by the IPNFs *Noxious Weeds Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and Record of Decision* (Forest Service 2000) and *LNF Noxious Weed Management FEIS and Record of Decision* (Forest Service 1991). Weed treatment and prevention

practices used in conjunction with the proposed activities will reduce but not totally eliminate the possibility of weed spread; however, Forest Plan objectives for noxious weed management will be met. For those reasons, no further analysis or disclosure to effects to noxious weeds is warranted.

### 7.2.3.6. SPECIFIC FISH AND WILDLIFE

Table 4 lists fish and wildlife species that were evaluated, but not analyzed in detail. Rationale to dismiss these species from further analysis is based on their presence in the project area and/or whether or not suitable habitat exists.

**Table 4.** Fish and Wildlife Species not Analyzed in Detail

| Common Name<br>Scientific Name                            | Status                   | Rationale for Dismissal  |
|---|--------------------------|--|
| Bull trout<br><i>Salvelinus confluentus</i>               | Federal Threatened       | May be present. Please see following section for rationale.  |
| Kootenai white sturgeon<br><i>Acipenser transmontanus</i> | Endangered               | Not present. The distribution of this species does not occur in the project area.  |
| Western Pearlshell<br><i>Margaritifera falcata</i>        | Forest Service Sensitive | There is no suitable habitat for the species in the project area (large river systems).  |
| Woodland caribou<br><i>Rangifer tarandus caribou</i>      | Endangered               | Not present. There are no known populations that occur near the project area.  |
| Yellow-billed cuckoo<br><i>Coccyzus americanus</i>        | Threatened               | Not present. The distribution of species does not occur in the project area, and there is no suitable habitat for the species in the project area. |
| American peregrine falcon<br><i>Falco peregrinus</i>      | Forest Service Sensitive | There is no suitable habitat for the species in the project area (cliffs).   |
| Bald eagle<br><i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>             | Forest Service Sensitive | There is no suitable habitat for the species in the project area.  |
| Black swift<br><i>Cypseloides niger</i>                   | Forest Service Sensitive | There is no suitable nesting habitat for the species in the project area (waterfalls and cliff faces).   |
| Common loon<br><i>Gavia immer</i>                         | Forest Service Sensitive | There is no suitable habitat for the species in the project area (lakes)   |
| Flammulated owl<br><i>Otus flammeolus</i>                 | Forest Service Sensitive | There is no suitable habitat for the species in the project area (lower elevation ponderosa pine).   |
| Harlequin duck<br><i>Histrionicus histrionicus</i>        | Forest Service Sensitive | There is no suitable habitat for the species in the project area (mountain streams). The species does not occur west of the St. Regis River.       |
| Pygmy nuthatch<br><i>Sitta pygmaea</i>                    | Forest Service Sensitive | There is no suitable habitat for the species in the project area (ponderosa pine forest).  |
| Bighorn sheep<br><i>Ovis canadensis</i>                   | Forest Service Sensitive | There is no suitable habitat for the species in the project area   |
| Fringed myotis<br><i>Myotis thysanodes</i>                | Forest Service Sensitive | The species is not known to occur near the project area.   |
| Northern bog lemming<br><i>Synaptomys borealis</i>        | Forest Service Sensitive | There is no suitable habitat for the species in the project area (bogs and fens).  |
| Townsend's big-eared bat<br><i>Plecotus townsendii</i>    | Forest Service Sensitive | This species is not known to occur near the project area.  |

### 7.2.3.6.1. Bull Trout

Although bull trout could be present in the project area, the species would not be affected by the Proposed Action because of the following factors:

1. The ski area special-use permit boundary is 24 miles upstream of the nearest designated critical habitat for bull trout, mapped up to river mile 12.5 on the St. Regis River.
2. The special-use permit boundary is in the St. Regis River headwaters (Hydrologic Unit Code 170102040801) of the Middle Clark Fork River Core Area for bull trout (USFWS 2014; Forest Service 2013). No bull trout are known to occupy the St. Regis River headwaters adjacent to the special-use permit boundary because bull trout access to these streams is blocked by a barrier under Interstate 90 at river mile 34.2 (Forest Service 2013). This fish barrier is approximately 2 miles downstream of the ski area parking lot.
3. Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks historical fish sampling records indicate bull trout up to river mile 15.3, approximately 21 miles downstream of the special-use permit boundary. No bull trout were observed in the St. Regis River headwaters during fish sampling conducted in 2013 and 2014.
4. Best management practice implementation required by the Inland Native Fish Strategy would ensure that no sedimentation occurs in downstream reaches occupied by fish, including bull trout. Additionally, a recent study of stream crossing replacements on NFS roads finds that during culvert replacement, turbidity values 0.5 mile downstream were similar to results measured upstream of the culvert replacement. The closest distance to potential bull trout occupancy is anywhere from 2 to 21 miles downstream from proposed surface-disturbing activities from the project.
5. All fish-bearing streams would have stream crossings designed to provide aquatic organism passage, ensuring that fragmentation of aquatic habitat would not occur.

For the reasons listed above, the Proposed Action would have *no effect* on bull trout species or bull trout designated critical habitat and is dismissed from further analysis.

## 8. LITERATURE CITED

- U.S. Forest Service (Forest Service). 2000. *Idaho Panhandle National Forests Noxious Weeds Final Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision*.
- . 1991. *Lolo National Forest Noxious Weed Management Final Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision*.
- . 2013. *Conservation Strategy for Bull Trout on USFS lands in Western Montana*. Available at: [http://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE\\_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5427869.pdf](http://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5427869.pdf). Accessed on May 7, 2015. USDA Forest Service Northern Region and USFWS Montana Field Office. May 2013.
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). 2014. *Revised Draft Recovery Plan for the Coterminous United States Population of Bull Trout (Salvelinus confluentus)*. Portland, Oregon: USFWS Pacific Region. Available at: <http://www.fws.gov/pacific/bulltrout/pdf/Revised%20Draft%20Bull%20Trout%20Recovery%20Plan.pdf>. Accessed May 7, 2015.

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## **Attachment A: Notice of Intent**

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Done at Washington, DC, this 31st day of March 2014.

**Catherine E. Woteki,**

*Under Secretary for Research, Education and Economics.*

[FR Doc. 2014-07574 Filed 4-3-14; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Agricultural Research Service

#### Notice of Intent To Grant Exclusive License

**AGENCY:** Agricultural Research Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, intends to grant to Eureka Genomics Corporation of Hercules, California, an exclusive license to the Federal Government's rights in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 13/824,348, "SCALABLE CHARACTERIZATION OF NUCLEIC ACIDS BY PARALLEL SEQUENCING", filed on March 15, 2013.

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before May 5, 2014.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments to: USDA, ARS, Office of Technology Transfer, 5601 Sunnyside Avenue, Rm. 4-1174, Beltsville, Maryland 20705-5131.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** June Blalock of the Office of Technology Transfer at the Beltsville address given above; telephone: 301-504-5989.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The patent rights in this invention are co-owned by the United States of America, as represented by the Secretary of Agriculture, and Eureka Genomics Corporation of Hercules, California. The prospective exclusive license will grant to the co-owner, Eureka Genomics Corporation, an exclusive license to the Federal Government's patent rights. It is in the public interest to so license this invention as Eureka Genomics Corporation of Hercules, California has submitted a complete and sufficient application for a license. The prospective exclusive license will be royalty-bearing and will comply with the terms and conditions of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7. The prospective exclusive license may be granted unless, within thirty (30) days from the date of this published Notice, the Agricultural Research Service receives written evidence and argument which establishes that the grant of the license would not be consistent with the

requirements of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7.

**Mojdeh Bahar,**

*Assistant Administrator.*

[FR Doc. 2014-07553 Filed 4-3-14; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-03-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Idaho Panhandle National Forests and Lolo National Forest; Shoshone County, ID and Mineral County, MT; Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion Third-Party Environmental Impact Statement

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement.

**SUMMARY:** The Idaho Panhandle National Forests (IPNFs) and Lolo National Forest (LNF) are preparing an environmental impact statement (EIS) to consider and disclose the anticipated environmental effects of a proposal from Lookout Pass Ski and Recreation Area (Lookout Pass) to expand its special use permit to upgrade and develop new lifts, ski terrain, parking, access roads, and guest service facilities. The proposed project is located approximately 12 miles east of Wallace, Idaho, on National Forest System (NFS) lands within Shoshone County, Idaho, and Mineral County, Montana.

**DATES:** Comments concerning the scope of the analysis must be received by May 5, 2014. The Draft EIS is expected to be available for public review in winter 2015 and the Final EIS is expected in summer 2016.

**ADDRESSES:** Send written comments to SWCA Environmental Consultants, 1220 SW Morrison St., Suite 700, Portland, OR 97205. Comments may also be sent via email to [comments-northern-idpanhandle-coeur-dalene@fs.fed.us](mailto:comments-northern-idpanhandle-coeur-dalene@fs.fed.us), via facsimile to (503) 224-1851, online through the project Web site at <http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/fs-usda-pop.php?project=43757>, or in-person at the Coeur d'Alene River Ranger District, Fernan or Smelterville offices, or the Superior Ranger District. Include "Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion Third-Party EIS" in the subject line. Comments submitted electronically must be searchable or readable with optical character recognition software.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Additional information related to the proposed project can be obtained from the project Web site, [\[pop.php?project=43757\]\(http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/fs-usda-pop.php?project=43757\), by contacting the Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion Third-Party EIS NEPA Contractor, Sue Wilmot, at \(503\) 224-0333 ext. 6324, or by emailing: \[swilmot@swca.com\]\(mailto:swilmot@swca.com\).](http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/fs-usda-</a></p>
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Further information will also be made available at three public open houses:

- April 22, 2014, 5-7 p.m. at the Black Diamond Ranch (120 Borgia Haugan Frontage Rd., De Borgia, MT).
- April 23, 2014, 5-7 p.m. at the Wallace Inn (100 Front Street, Wallace, Idaho).
- April 24, 2014, 5-7 p.m. at the Coeur d'Alene Forest Supervisors Office (3815 Schreiber Way, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho).

Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern Time, Monday through Friday.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Purpose and Need for Action:** The purpose of the proposed Lookout Ski Area Expansion is to provide a high-quality downhill skiing recreational opportunity on the IPNFs and LNF. Lookout Pass ski terrain is insufficient to meet market demands, resulting in diminished recreational experiences and reduced economic viability for the ski area. In the Lookout Pass Ski and Recreation Area Master Development Plan, Lookout Pass specifically identified three social, economic, or physical factors that necessitate the development of additional terrain in order to ensure continued, publicly acceptable ski operations. These factors are (1) diminished skier experiences associated with overcrowding, increased skier congestion, decreased safe operating conditions, and inefficient skier transport during high-visitation days as well as inefficient skier transport and trail use on low-visitation days; (2) current ski terrain distribution that does not match market demand; and (3) concerns over the economic viability of Lookout Pass and its ongoing contribution to the local economy. Expansion of Lookout Pass would address these needs by providing more skiable terrain and more efficient lift systems to enable the ski area to remain economically viable while ensuring a high-quality recreation experience for a wider range and number of skiers. This action would move the ski area toward a desired condition outlined in the Idaho Panhandle National Forests Land Management Plan and the Lolo National Forest Plan and respond to the Forest Plans' goals and objectives.

**Proposed Action:** The IPNFs and LNF propose to expand the existing Lookout

Pass boundary through a new special use permit to encompass an additional 650 acres of Forest Service lands.

Administration of these lands is split between the IPNFs in Shoshone County, Idaho, and the LNF in Mineral County, Montana. Approximately 55% of the additional acreage would fall within the IPNFs and 45% would fall within the LNF.

*Ski Trails and Terrain:* The Proposed Action would construct 15 new ski trails, providing a total of 85 new acres of traditional ski terrain. New connector ski trails would add about 24 acres of novice terrain and provide access to proposed and existing lifts and terrain. The remaining 61 acres would provide new low intermediate to advanced intermediate terrain and reduce crowding and skier conflicts on high-visitation days.

Construction of traditional terrain ski trails would require the removal of all trees within the ski trail corridor. Some partial removal would also occur along ski trail edges and in leave islands. Timber harvest during ski trail construction would be conducted using ground-based yarding systems and slash, including limbs and large woody debris, would be either removed or burned.

In addition to traditional ski terrain, creation of about 9 acres of gladed terrain is proposed. Beetle-killed and infested trees would be removed, and wood waste would be chipped and used for erosion control, cut for firewood, or piled and burned on site.

*Lifts:* Lift 1 would be upgraded from a two-passenger lift to a four-passenger lift to increase skier capacity. A new drive terminal, a return terminal, and 14 line towers would be installed to support this upgrade. Existing access roads would be used for construction and maintenance of upgraded Lift 1; no new road construction would be required.

Two new lifts—Lifts 5 and 6—would be constructed in the proposed expansion area to provide skier access to new traditional and gladed terrain. Lift construction would occur within tree-cleared corridors. Lift 5 would be approximately 5,200 feet long with a vertical rise of approximately 1,300 feet. It would serve six trails and provide access to the Lift 6 ski trails. Lift 5 would be installed as a fixed-grip lift for two, three, or four passengers. Lift 6 would serve six trails and would provide access back to the Lift 5 trails. The lift would be approximately 2,800 feet long with a vertical rise of approximately 800 feet, and would be installed as a fixed-grip, two-passenger lift.

Lift terminals and towers would be transported to each site using logging equipment (forwarders, tractors, or skidders).

*Powerline:* Proposed Lifts 5 and 6 would be powered via an underground power cable extending from the bottom of existing Lift 1 to the bottom drive terminals of proposed Lifts 5 and 6. The approximately 12,000 feet of buried cable would be installed within new and existing ski trails and along proposed temporary roads.

The powerline would cross one unnamed spring-fed creek near the base of Lift 6. The cable would be either directionally drilled under the creek or installed using an open-cut method. The creek would be restored to pre-construction or better condition, and erosion and sediment control measures would be installed to reduce streambank and upland erosion and sediment transport into the waterbody.

*Parking:* The Proposed Action would add 6.6 acres of parking to accommodate an additional 130 vehicles and buses. Approximately 50 parking spaces and a turn-around area would be added north of the existing overflow parking area. Ingress and egress for users of the Northern Pacific Railroad Trail would be maintained. An additional 80 parking spaces would be created in two locations south of the existing paved parking area; one on the west side of the access road and another on the west side of the existing railroad grade. Ingress and egress for other users would be maintained.

No snowmobile off-loading or trailer parking would be designated or permitted within the special use area boundary.

*Maintenance Facilities:* A new maintenance shop and adjacent concrete fuel tank pad would be constructed just south of the existing fueling pad station to support ski operations. A 0.03-mile new, permanent gravel road would be constructed to provide access between the maintenance facilities and the lodge.

*Guest Service Facilities (ski patrol service building and restroom):* A ski patrol service building and warming hut would be constructed at the top of proposed Lifts 5 and 6. The log structure would be similar to the existing ski patrol service building and would be powered by propane or fuel cell technology to provide heat and light.

The Proposed Action would also include construction of a two-stall Romtec restroom structure in the vicinity of the proposed Lift 5 bottom terminal, just off existing NFS Road 18591 along a proposed new permanent road.

*Roads and Access:* Approximately 4.3 miles of existing and new roads would be constructed or reconstructed to Forest Service standards by the permittee to facilitate timber harvest and Lookout Pass maintenance and operations. These roads would be closed to public travel during project implementation and after completion.

Entry to the project area during the timber harvest and construction phases would occur via existing NFS Roads 9132, 4208, 18591, and 3026A, requiring approximately 0.5 mile of reconstruction on Road 18591.

Approximately 2.2 miles of new, permanent roads would also be constructed to provide long-term, annual use by Lookout Pass for maintenance and operations. Planned new permanent roads would be constructed to Forest Service standards. Motorized vehicle access would be permitted for Forest Service administrative use and by Lookout Pass for maintenance and operations, but all other motorized access would be prohibited.

Approximately 1.6 miles of temporary roads would be constructed, primarily on existing ski trails, jeep tracks, or other primitive trails and unmanaged Forest Service roads to minimize vegetation and soil disturbance. Temporary roads would be constructed for logging of a single entry only and would be decommissioned following this activity.

Low-impact temporary roads would also be needed to access the lift tower locations. These would be made with a small trackhoe traversing cross-country and removed at the conclusion of construction activities.

Upon construction of the proposed new permanent road, Forest Service Undetermined Roads 37315 and 37315-1 would be decommissioned. These roads provide duplicate access to areas that would be accessed by the proposed new permanent road and represent a higher risk to area resources because they are not managed by the Forest Service or constructed to current Forest Service-specified road standards.

*Forest Plan Amendment:* The Proposed Action would include an amendment to the Lolo National Forest Plan. This amendment would change approximately 173 acres from Management Area (MA) 9 (concentrated public use), 13 acres from MA 13 (riparian areas), and 107 acres from MA 24 (timber production with high visual sensitivity) to MA 8 (ski areas).

For the IPNFs, the Proposed Action would change approximately 85 acres from MA 1 (timber production) and 89 acres from MA 9 (non-forest lands) to

MA 17 (developed recreation) under the current Idaho Panhandle National Forests Land Management Plan (referred to as the Forest Plan). However, if any of the action alternatives are selected as part of the record of decision for the IPNF's ongoing Forest Plan revision, all lands potentially affected by the Proposed Action would fall within MA 7 (primary recreation areas) and would not require a Forest Plan amendment.

*Responsible Official:* Mary Farnsworth, Forest Supervisor, Idaho Panhandle National Forests, 3815 Schreiber Way, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83815.

*Nature of Decision To Be Made:* Based on the analysis that will be documented in the forthcoming EIS, the responsible official will decide whether or not to amend the current special use permit to implement, in whole or in part, the Proposed Action or another alternative that may be developed by the Forest Service as a result of scoping.

*Scoping Process:* This notice of intent initiates the scoping process, which guides the development of the EIS. The Forest Service is soliciting comments from federal, state, and local agencies and other individuals or organizations that may be interested in or affected by implementation of the proposed project. Public questions and comments regarding this proposal are an integral part of this environmental analysis process. Input provided by interested and/or affected individuals, organizations, and governmental agencies will be used to identify resource issues that will be analyzed in the Draft EIS. The Forest Service will use the significant issues raised during the scoping process to formulate alternatives, prescribe mitigation measures and project design features, and analyze environmental effects.

It is important that reviewers provide their comments at such times and in such manner that they are useful to the agency's preparation of the EIS. Therefore, comments should be provided prior to the close of the comment period and should clearly articulate the reviewer's specific facts, concerns, or issues, and the supporting reasons.

Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be part of the public record for this Proposed Action. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered; however, anonymous comments will not allow the Forest Service to provide the respondent with subsequent environmental documents.

Dated: March 28, 2014.

**Lisa A. Timchak,**

*Acting Forest Supervisor.*

[FR Doc. 2014-07524 Filed 4-3-14; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-11-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Siuslaw Resource Advisory Committee Meetings

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of meetings.

**SUMMARY:** The Siuslaw Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) will meet in Corvallis, Oregon. The committee is authorized under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act (Pub. L. 110-343) (the Act) and operates in compliance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act. The purpose of the committee is to improve collaborative relationships and to provide advice and recommendations to the Forest Service concerning projects and funding consistent with Title II of the Act. The meetings are open to the public. The purpose of the meetings is to recommend projects for Title II funding.

**DATES:** The meetings will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the following dates:

- May 8, 2014
- May 28, 2014
- June 6, 2014

All RAC meetings are subject to cancellation. For status of meeting prior to attendance, please contact the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at Siuslaw National Forest Headquarters, Conference Room 20 A, 3200 SW Jefferson Way, Corvallis, Oregon 97331.

Written comments may be submitted as described under **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**. All comments, including names and addresses when provided, are placed in the record and are available for public inspection and copying. The public may inspect comments received at Siuslaw National Forest Headquarters. Please call ahead to facilitate entry into the building.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Joni Quarnstrom, RAC Coordinator, by phone at 541-750-7075 or via email at [jquarnstrom@fs.fed.us](mailto:jquarnstrom@fs.fed.us).

Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday.

Please make requests in advance for sign language interpreting, assistive listening devices or other reasonable accommodation for access to the facility or proceedings by contacting the person listed above.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

Additional RAC information, including the meeting agenda and the meeting summary/minutes can be found at the following Web site: [www.fs.usda.gov/siuslaw/rac](http://www.fs.usda.gov/siuslaw/rac). The agenda will include time for people to make oral statements of three minutes or less. Individuals wishing to make an oral statement should request in writing at least 2 days before the meeting date to be scheduled on the agenda. Anyone who would like to bring related matters to the attention of the committee may file written statements with the committee staff before or after the meeting. Written comments and requests for time for oral comments must be sent to Joni Quarnstrom, RAC Coordinator, Siuslaw National Forest Headquarters, 3200 SW Jefferson Way, Corvallis, Oregon 97331; or by email to [jquarnstrom@fs.fed.us](mailto:jquarnstrom@fs.fed.us) or via facsimile to 541-750-7234.

*Meeting Accommodations:* If you are a person requiring reasonable accommodation, please make requests in advance for sign language interpreting, assistive listening devices or other reasonable accommodation for access to the facility or proceedings by contacting the person listed in the section titled **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**. All reasonable accommodation requests are managed on a case by case basis.

Dated: March 26, 2014.

**Jeremiah C. Ingersoll,**

*Forest Supervisor.*

[FR Doc. 2014-07437 Filed 4-3-14; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3411-15-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Del Norte Resource Advisory Committee

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of meetings.

**SUMMARY:** The Del Norte Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) will meet in Crescent City, California. The committee is authorized under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act (Pub. L. 110-343) (the Act) and operates in compliance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act. The purpose of the committee is to improve collaborative relationships and to provide advice and recommendations



## **Attachment B: Scoping Media Materials**

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# AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF IDAHO, }  
County of Kootenai, } ss.

*Paige Prew*

being first duly sworn

upon oath deposes and says:

1. I am now and at all times hereinafter mentioned was a citizen of the United States, resident of the State of Idaho, over the age of twenty-one years and not a party of the above entitled action.

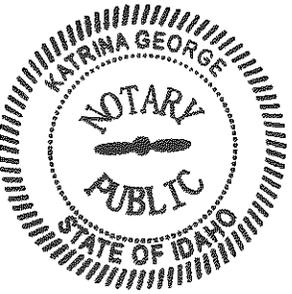
2. I am now and at all times hereinafter mentioned was the printer (principal clerk) of the "Coeur d'Alene Press," a newspaper printed and published daily except Sunday in Coeur d'Alene, Kootenai County, Idaho, and having a general circulation in said county.

3. The legal notice

of which the annexed is a printed copy, was published in the regular Saturday issue of said newspaper for 2 consecutive weeks commencing on the 12th day of April 2014 and ending on the 19th day of April 2014 and such publication was made as often during said period as said daily newspaper was regularly issued.

4. That said newspaper has been continuously and uninterruptedly published in said Kootenai County, during a period of more than seventy-eight consecutive weeks immediately prior to the first publication of said notice Paige Prew. On this 19th day of April in the year of 2014, before me, Notary Public, personally appeared Paige Prew, known or identified to me to be the person whose name subscribed to the within instrument, and being by me first duly sworn, declared that the statements therein are true, and acknowledged to me that he executed the same.

*Katrina George*  
Notary Public for the State of Idaho,  
residing at Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.



MY COMMISSION EXPIRES 8/29/17

## Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion Third-Party Environmental Impact Statement Scoping Meetings

The U.S. Forest Service is seeking your involvement with a proposal by Lookout Pass Ski and Recreation Area to expand its special use permit. The proposal would allow the ski area to upgrade and develop new lifts, ski terrain, parking, access roads, and guest service facilities. The Forest Service will be preparing an environmental impact statement to disclose the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed action and potential alternatives.

Three public meetings have been scheduled to allow attendees to view project information, ask questions, and submit comments.

**April 22, 2014**  
**De Borgia, MT:** Black Diamond Ranch, 120 De Borgia Haugan Frontage Rd, 5-7 PM

**April 23, 2014**  
**Wallace, ID:** Wallace Inn, 100 Front Street, 5-7 PM

**April 24, 2014**  
**Coeur d'Alene, ID:** Coeur d'Alene Forest Supervisors Office, 3815 Schreiber Way, 5-7 PM

- Comments can be submitted:
- by mail to SWCA, 1220 SW Morrison St., Suite 700, Portland, OR 97205
  - by fax to (503) 224-1851
  - online via project website at <http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/fs-usda-pop.php?project=43757>
  - via email at [comments-northern-idpanhandle-coeur-dalene@fs.fed.us](mailto:comments-northern-idpanhandle-coeur-dalene@fs.fed.us)
  - in-person at the Coeur d'Alene River Ranger District, Fernan or Smelterville offices, or Superior Ranger District Office

All comments must be postmarked by **May 5, 2014**.  
LEGAL 599  
APRIL 12, 19, 2014

**AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION  
THE MISSOULIAN**

500 S. Higgins Ave.

Missoula, MT 59801

Phone: (406) 523-5236 Fax: (406) 523-5221

Ad Number: 20338832

Chris Arvish, being first duly sworn, deposes and says. That she is the principal clerk of The Missoulian, a newspaper of general circulation published daily in the City of Missoula, in the County of Missoula, State of Montana, and has charge of the Advertisements thereof.

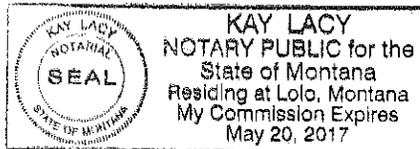
That the legal regarding:

Lookout Pass Expansion  
a true copy of which is hereto annexed, was published in said newspaper on the following dates: via:

April 13 to 29 2014  
via

Making all 2 publication(s)

On this day of April 22 2014 before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public for the State of Montana, personally appeared Chris Arvish known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she executed same. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my notarial seal the day and year first above written.



Kay Lacy

Venue: Missoula, Montana, County of Missoula

Page : 1 of 1 04/22/2014 09:11:49

Order Number : 20338832  
PO Number :  
Customer : 60064905 SWCA Environmental Consultant  
Contact :  
Address1 : 1220 SW Morrison, Suite 700  
Address2 :  
City St Zip : Portland OR 97205  
Phone : (503) 224-0333  
Fax :  
Printed By : misarvic  
Entered By : misarvic  
Keywords : Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion Third-Party Enviro  
Notes :  
Zones :

Ad Number : 11082035  
Ad Key :  
Salesperson : DF01 - Default Transient Salesperson  
Publication : Missoulian  
Section : Classified  
Sub Section : Legals  
Category : 399 Legals  
Dates Run : 04/13/2014-04/20/2014  
Days : 2  
Size : 2 x 3.41, 37 lines  
Words : 213  
Ad Rate : Open  
Ad Price : 249.80  
Amount Paid : 0.00  
Amount Due : 249.80

**Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion Third-Party Environmental Impact Statement Scoping Meetings**

The U.S. Forest Service is seeking your involvement with a proposal by Lookout Pass Ski and Recreation Area to expand its special use permit. The proposal would allow the ski area to upgrade and develop new lifts, ski terrain, parking, access roads, and guest service facilities. The Forest Service will be preparing an environmental impact statement to disclose the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed action and potential alternatives.

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- in-person at the Coeur d'Alene River Ranger District, Fernan or Smelterville offices, or Superior Ranger District Office

All comments must be postmarked by **May 5, 2014**.

#20338832 April 13 & 20, 2014

mance at Job Corps.

The third person involved in the robbery, was sentenced on February 18. For the burglary, Dyllon Lee Totty-Hendry was sentenced to a three year deferred sentence, restitution of \$760.34 paid to the victim and 60 days in the Sanders County Jail with credit for October 16, 2013 to December 10, 2013 served.

After completing the remainder of his time, Totty-Hendry was placed on supervised probation for three years.

The final sentencings closed the case in the burglary that occurred on Wednesday, October 2, 2013 where the Subway's window was broken and \$248 was taken.

**Be sure to like us on Facebook!**

### Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion Third-Party Environmental Impact Statement Scoping Meetings

The U.S. Forest Service is seeking your involvement with a proposal by Lookout Pass Ski and Recreation Area to expand its special use permit. The proposal would allow the ski area to upgrade and develop new lifts, ski terrain, parking, access roads, and guest service facilities. The Forest Service will be preparing an environmental impact statement to disclose the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed action and potential alternatives.

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- in-person at the Coeur d'Alene River Ranger District, Fernan or Smeltonville offices, or Superior Ranger District Office

All comments must be postmarked by **May 5, 2014.**

Discount Grocer

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Hours: Mon-Fri 9 am to

5468 Hwy 200 • 3 Miles

(406) 8

**Auction**

Please Call Jason 406-239-35

If you have any Consign

Consignments will be taken

Location: **Mile Mark**

Evare, Mo

**Thursday, Ap**

Safe date and time:

**Thursday - April 24, 2**

(Large equipment will sell a

Preview:

Tuesday and Wednesday Apr

Auctioneer's note:

THIS YEARS SALE INCLUDES T  
MACHINERY, HAYING EQUIPM  
RECREATION VEHICLES, MOB  
EQUIPMENT, SHOP EQUIPMEN  
CONSIGNED WITH CONSIGNM

Directions: 10 Miles North of ID / MT  
GREYHOLE PEAK CASINO and CONVE

Phone Book will be dropped call Jason for

#### TRACTORS

Oliver 88

John Deere 2030 Tractor w/

4 cyl diesel, ser#150322L

International 1066, with cab

International 966, with cab a

Massey Ferguson Super 90

#### TRUCKS, TRAILERS, VEHI

1993 F150, 4WD, manual, 6

1967 F100, 2WD, auto, V8

Star Craft 12' aluminum fishi

21' Flatbed bumper pull trail

1988 Bouncer motor home

16' tandem axle flatbed trail

3 - tilt deck utility trailers

School bus w/ started conve

1972 Chevelle RS project ca

Polaris Series-10 6x6 ATV

Two Ton Chevy Hoist Bed T

Two Ton GMC Flatbed Truc

#### MOBILE HOME

1974 12'x40' trailer house

#### FARM EQUIPMENT and M

New Holland 1495 haybines

Ford gas, ser#396665

Allen 8111 Hydraulic driven

Deutz-Fahr KS 200 rotary r

Ann, April 7, Hackenbruck, Joseph  
day Jeremy, Speeding on interstate-ex-  
ceed day limit of 75 mph.

April 8, Smith, Lloyd, C., Seat-  
belt violation.

391.11 or 391.15.

disqualified under erate motor vehicle with defective  
or shattered windshield.

Ham- April 7, Spets, Ryan Eric, Stop  
ce-ex- sign violation.

April 8, Larsen, David Lee,  
Speeding-exceed restricted/special  
zone speed limit established by de-

April 9, Schenk, Robert E.,  
Speed-  
ing on  
interstate-  
exceed day

See COURTS, Page 13

individualized these claims  
can be, we highly recom-  
mend that veterans see us  
with their specific questions  
to ensure the accuracy of  
answers. We could be happy  
to meet with you and assist  
you in any way we can.  
For questions please  
call us directly at 406-542-  
2501.

**Montana Nightriders  
Snowmobile Club**

Join us for snowmobile  
riding fun and functions.  
All riders and families wel-  
come.  
We meet the first Satur-  
day of the month from Oc-  
tober-April at various places  
in the west end of Mineral  
County but this can vary so  
check our website montana-  
nightriders.com to confirm.  
Call Brennan at 406-544-  
416 for more information.

**Mineral County Re-  
source Advisory group**

The Mineral County  
Resource Advisory Group  
meets every Wednesday  
in the Commissioner's  
room of the Courthouse at  
4 p.m.

**MCH Board of Direc-  
tors meeting**

The Board meets on the  
fourth Thursday of each  
month at 12 p.m. in the  
conference Room of Min-  
eral Regional Health Center  
(MRHC).

**Mineral County Pioneer  
Council**

The Mineral County Pio-  
ner Council, Inc. meets  
fourth Thursday of each  
month at 10 a.m. in the  
conference Room of the St  
Regis Senior Citizen's Cen-  
ter.

All meetings are open  
to the public. For more in-  
formation, call (406) 280-  
2501.

**Need help with diabetes**

Have you been diag-  
nosed with diabetes? Do  
you have questions and

want answers?, Jennifer  
Troupe, CDE, Board Certi-  
fied in Advanced Diabetes  
Management, a Diabetes  
Educator, and Registered  
Dietician will be speaking  
on April 15th, at 7 p.m. at  
the Superior Ambulance  
Building for those interest-  
ed. This is being sponsored  
by the Mineral County  
Community Outreach Pro-  
gram. Questions call Mary  
Jo at 822-2213. Free with  
refreshments.

**Montana Dept. of Mili-  
tary Affairs**

3rd Wednesday of Every  
month  
Next meeting: April 16,  
2014  
Superior 10 a.m. to 12  
p.m. at the Mineral County  
Chamber Office  
For more info, call 406-  
542-2501

**Adult Ed Sly Class**

Starting April 9  
6-8:30 p.m. every  
Wednesday  
Superior High School

Shop  
Contact: Jeff Schultz,  
546-9778

**Easter service**  
St. Mary Queen of Heav-  
en Church is offering Easter  
service at noon in Superior.  
Everyone is welcome!

**Easter Cantata**

The Mineral County  
Community Choir and Or-  
chestra will be performing  
an Easter Cantata on Satur-  
day, April 19th at 3:00pm  
at the LDS Church in Supe-  
rior. The Cantata will be  
directed by Derek Larson  
(St. Regis School music  
teacher) and accompanied  
by Nancy Wilson of Supe-  
rior. Members of the choir/  
orchestra consist of folks  
from throughout Mineral  
County. The Community  
Chime Choir will also per-  
form under the direction  
of Nancy Wilson. This is  
open to everyone and there  
is no charge for admission.  
The program will last ap-  
proximately one hour.

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|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>30'x36'x10'</b><br/>Horse Barn<br/>with 8' Lean-to</p>  <p>\$16,900-Installed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10' Split Slider w/Windows</li> <li>• 1-3' Entry Door</li> <li>• 3-4'x7' Dutch Doors</li> <li>• Soffit Optional</li> </ul> | <p><b>30'x48'x16'</b><br/>Drive Thru<br/>RV Storage</p>  <p>\$18,500-Installed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2-12x14 Garage Doors</li> <li>• 1-3' Entry Door</li> <li>• Soffit/Wainscot Optional</li> </ul> |
|--|---|

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**Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion  
Third-Party Environmental Impact  
Statement Scoping Meetings**

The U.S. Forest Service is seeking your involvement  
with a proposal by Lookout Pass Ski and Recreation  
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**April 24, 2014**  
**Coeur d'Alene, ID:** Coeur d'Alene Forest  
Supervisors Office, 3815 Schreiber Way, 5-7 PM

- Comments can be submitted:
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  - via email at comments-northern-idpanhandle-coeur-dalene@fs.fed.us
  - in-person at the Coeur d'Alene River Ranger District, Fernan or Smelterville offices, or Superior Ranger District Office

All comments must be postmarked by **May 5, 2014.**

CE OF ELECTION

NOTICE

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE-FOREST SERVICE

Contact: Jason Kirchner (jdkirchner@fs.fed.us)  
Idaho Panhandle National Forests Public Affairs Officer  
Phone: (208) 765-7211  
Release Date: 4/7/14

### **Forest Service Schedules Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion Third-Party Environmental Impact Statement Public Scoping Meetings**

**Coeur d’Alene, ID** – The Idaho Panhandle National Forests and Lolo National Forest will be hosting three public scoping meetings for the proposed Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion Third-Party Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The purpose of the meetings will be to provide information on the proposed project and to give members of the public the opportunity to ask questions of the U.S. Forest Service team leader and resource specialists. The public will also be able to provide comments on potential issues and alternatives to consider in the Draft EIS.

The Idaho Panhandle National Forests and Lolo National Forest are providing this opportunity as part of the preparation of an EIS to disclose the anticipated environmental effects of a proposal from Lookout Pass Ski and Recreation Area to expand its special use permit. The proposal would allow the ski area to upgrade and develop new lifts, ski terrain, parking, access roads, and guest service facilities. The proposed project is located approximately 12 miles east of Wallace, Idaho, on National Forest System lands within Shoshone County, Idaho, and Mineral County, Montana.

“Public participation at these meetings is vital to help identify important questions and concerns early on in the process,” notes Chad Hudson, the Coeur d’Alene River District Ranger overseeing the project. According to Mr. Hudson, “the Forest Service will use this information to develop alternatives, analyze environmental effects, and even possibly establish mitigation measures in the EIS.”

All scoping meetings will be held from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. Meetings will take place in De Borgia on April 22, 2014 at the Black Diamond Ranch (120 De Borgia Haugan Frontage Rd), in Wallace on April 23, 2014 at the Wallace Inn (100 Front St.), and on April 24, 2014 in Coeur d’Alene at the Coeur d’Alene Forest Supervisors Office (3815 Schreiber Way).

Scoping comments will be accepted through May 5, 2014, and can be submitted at the public meetings, faxed to (503) 224-1851, emailed to comments-northern-idpanhandle-coeur-dalene@fs.fed.us, submitted online via the project website at <http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/fs-usda-pop.php?project=43757>, dropped off at the Coeur d’Alene River Ranger District, Fernan or Smelterville offices, or the Superior Ranger District Office, or mailed to SWCA Environmental Consultants, 1220 SW Morrison St., Suite 700, Portland, OR 97205. In all correspondence please put “Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion Third-Party EIS” in the subject line and include your name, address, and organization name if commenting as a representative of an organization.

More information on the project can be found at <http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/fs-usda-pop.php?project=43757>.

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE-FOREST SERVICE**

Contact: Jason Kirchner  
(jdkirchner@fs.fed.us)  
Idaho Panhandle National Forests Public Affairs Officer  
Phone: (208) 765-7211  
Release Date: 4/7/14

**PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT (30 seconds)**

**Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion Third-Party Environmental Impact Statement**

The U.S. Forest Service will be hosting three public scoping meetings for the proposed Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion Third-Party Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The meetings will provide information about the proposed project and allow the public to comment on potential issues and alternatives to consider in the Draft EIS.

Scoping meetings will be held in Shoshone County, Idaho and Mineral County, Montana from April 22<sup>nd</sup> to April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014. All meetings will take place from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. For more information, contact the NEPA Contractor, Sue Wilmot at (503) 224-0333.

# LOOKOUT PASS SKI AREA EXPANSION THIRD-PARTY EIS

## Scoping Meeting Dates Announced

The U.S. Forest Service will be hosting three public scoping meetings for the proposed Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion Third-Party Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The purpose of the meetings will be to provide information on the proposed project and to give members of the public the opportunity to ask questions of the U.S. Forest Service team leader and resource specialists. The public will also be able to provide comments on potential issues and alternatives to consider in the Draft EIS.

## Meeting Details



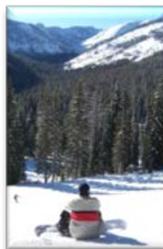
**Tuesday, April 22, 2014**

- Black Diamond Ranch, 120 De Borgia Hagan Frontage Rd
- 5:00-7:00 PM



**Wednesday, April 23, 2014**

- Wallace Inn, 100 Front Street
- 5:00-7:00 PM



**Thursday, April 24, 2014**

- Coeur d'Alene Forest Supervisors Office, 3815 Schreiber Way
- 5:00-7:00 PM

For additional information, contact: **Sue Wilmot** – NEPA Contractor. Ph No.: (503) 224-0333. Email: [swilmot@swca.com](mailto:swilmot@swca.com). Or, visit our website at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/fs-usda-pop.php?project=43757>.

## **Attachment C: Scoping Letter**

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File Code: 1950

Date: April 4, 2014

## **RE: Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion Third-Party Environmental Impact Statement**

Dear Interested Individuals, Organizations, and Agencies,

The Idaho Panhandle National Forests (IPNFs) and Lolo National Forest (LNF) are preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to consider and disclose the anticipated environmental effects of a proposal from Lookout Pass Ski and Recreation Area (Lookout Pass) to expand its special use permit to upgrade and develop new lifts, ski terrain, parking, access roads, and guest service facilities. The proposed project is located approximately 12 miles east of Wallace, Idaho on National Forest System lands within Shoshone County, Idaho and Mineral County, Montana.

You are receiving this letter because the IPNFs and LNF are soliciting public comments on the proposed project as they begin the scoping process. Public questions and comments regarding this proposal are an integral part of the environmental analysis process. Public input will be used to help identify resource issues that will be analyzed in the Draft EIS. Significant issues raised during the scoping process will also be used to develop alternatives, prescribe mitigation measures, and project design features, and/or analyze environmental effects.

### **Decision to be Made**

The EIS will contain full disclosure and analysis of potential environmental and social effects. Based on the analysis that will be documented in the forthcoming EIS, I will decide whether or not to amend Lookout Pass's current special use permit to implement (in whole or in part) the Proposed Action or another alternative that may be developed during the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process.

### **Purpose and Need**

The purpose of the proposed Lookout Ski Area Expansion is to provide a high-quality downhill skiing recreational opportunity on the IPNFs and LNF. Lookout Pass ski terrain is insufficient to meet market demands, resulting in diminished recreational experiences and reduced economic viability for the ski area. In the *Lookout Pass Ski and Recreation Area Master Development Plan*, Lookout Pass specifically identified three social, economic, or physical factors that necessitate the development of additional terrain in order to ensure continued, publicly acceptable ski operations. These factors are 1) diminished skier experiences associated with overcrowding, increased skier congestion, decreased safe operating conditions, and inefficient skier transport during high-visitation days, as well as inefficient skier transport and trail use on low-visitation days; 2) current ski terrain distribution that does not match market demand; and 3) concerns over the economic viability of Lookout Pass and its ongoing contribution to the local economy.



Expansion of Lookout Pass would address these needs by providing more skiable terrain and more efficient lift systems to enable the ski area to remain economically viable while ensuring a high-quality recreation experience for a wider range and number of skiers. This action would move the ski area toward a desired condition outlined in the *Idaho Panhandle National Forests Land Management Plan* and the *Lolo National Forest Plan* and respond to the Forest Plans' goals and objectives.

### **Proposed Action**

Under the Proposed Action, the existing Lookout Pass boundary would be expanded through a new special use permit to encompass an additional 653.4 acres of Forest Service lands. Administration of these lands is split between the IPNFs in Shoshone County, Idaho, and the LNF in Mineral County, Montana. Approximately 55% of the additional acreage (359.5 acres) would fall within the IPNFs and 45% (294.0 acres) would fall within the LNF.

### Ski Trails and Terrain

The Proposed Action would construct 15 new ski trails. Fourteen of the 15 new ski trails would measure 120 feet wide, and one would measure 150 feet wide. All would be located below treeline and provide a total of 84.6 new acres of traditional terrain. Of this total, approximately 23.8 acres would be new novice terrain through the creation of three new connector ski trails. One of the new connector ski trails (off the existing Rainbow Ridge ski trail) would provide skier and snowboarder access to the bottom of proposed Lift 5. Two other new connector ski trails would allow skiers and snowboarders to proceed from the bottom of proposed Lift 5 to the bottom of existing Lift 2 for access back to existing ski terrain. The remaining acreage (60.8 acres) would provide new low intermediate to advanced intermediate terrain and reduce crowding and skier conflicts on high-visitation days.

Construction of traditional terrain ski trails would require the removal of all trees within the ski trail corridor. Timber harvest during ski trail construction would be conducted via ground-based yarding, using wheeled and tracked equipment (including forwarders). Trees would be cut at ground level, and stumps and roots would be left intact, unless they present safety issues that necessitate removal by harvest equipment. Slash, including limbs and large woody debris, would be either removed or burned. Shrubs on ski trails would be trimmed periodically during summer operations to ensure safe skiing conditions in winter. Ski trail edges and leave islands would also be treated (such as through selective “feathering” or thinning), as necessary, to maintain edge integrity while minimizing the potential for wind damage and the spread of disease or insects.

Approximately 6.2 acres of the new ski trails would be graded to minimize side slopes and provide easier skier transitions across proposed and existing permanent road edges. Grading would consist of removing all vegetation, stockpiling topsoil and incorporated plant materials, adjusting topography to meet site-specific needs, re-spreading topsoil, and revegetating with native and desirable non-native plants.

Proposed Lifts 5 and 6 would provide visitors with access to 8.7 acres of new gladed terrain. Trees with beetle infestation damage within this area would be removed, and wood waste would be chipped and used for erosion control, cut for firewood, or piled and burned according to Forest Service standards and air quality controls.

New permanent culverts would be placed at locations where any trail corridor crosses surface water. It is anticipated that skiers would use Lookout Pass lands near the top terminals of Lifts 5 and 6, and the ski patrol station to access terrain outside of the proposed special use permit boundary, including the St. Regis Basin and Stevens Lake Basin. Lookout Pass would post signs along the special use permit boundary in this vicinity to notify skiers that they were leaving the ski area; no ground disturbance would occur.

### Lifts

Lift 1 would be upgraded from a two-passenger lift to a four-passenger lift to increase skier capacity. A new drive terminal, a return terminal, and 14 line towers would be installed to support this upgrade. Existing terminals would be removed, line towers would be cut at ground level, and tower footings would be left in place. Less than 0.1 acre of ground disturbance would occur during installation of the new top and bottom terminals and line towers. New line tower footings paralleling the existing route, each measuring approximately  $4 \times 4$  feet and placed at a depth of 8 feet, would support the upgraded lift. Terminal specifications would depend on the manufacturer's design. However, for the purposes of analysis, this EIS assumes an average drive terminal size of  $18 \times 12$  feet, and an average return terminal size of  $8 \times 4$  feet.

Existing access roads would be used for construction and maintenance of upgraded Lift 1; no new road construction would be required.

Two new lifts—Lifts 5 and 6—would be constructed in the proposed expansion area to provide skier access to new traditional and gladed terrain. Lift construction would occur within tree-cleared corridors measuring 100–120 feet wide. Lift 5 would be approximately 5,200 feet long with a vertical rise of approximately 1,300 feet. It would serve six trails and provide access to the Lift 6 ski trails. Lift 5 would be installed as a fixed-grip lift for two, three, or four passengers. Approximately 0.1 acre of ground disturbance would occur during installation of the top and bottom terminals and line towers. Depending on final engineering design for the lift, approximately 24 towers would be needed. The disturbance acreage does not include proposed temporary and permanent road construction, which is addressed in the “Roads” section below.

Lift 6 would serve six trails and would provide access back to the Lift 5 trails. The lift would be approximately 2,800 feet long with a vertical rise of approximately 800 feet, and would be installed as a fixed-grip, two-passenger lift. As with Lift 5, approximately 0.1 acre of ground disturbance would occur during installation of the top and bottom terminals, and an estimated 12 towers (depending on final design).

Lift terminal locations were determined based on the site's ability to provide access to proposed ski trails, and to ensure adequate space for lift lines, unloading areas, and general congregation areas under projected carrying capacity estimates.

Lifts 5 and 6 would be constructed as bottom drive lifts. Power to the lifts would be supplied through a new underground powerline, as well as via backup diesel or gasoline generators. The new lifts would incorporate components recycled from the Lift 1 upgrade as well as used components purchased from other ski areas to promote resource conservation and to reduce

costs. Lift terminals and towers would be transported to each site using logging equipment (forwarders, tractors, or skidders). Some tower foundations would be poured using concrete pump trucks while others could require concrete buckets flown by helicopter.

### Powerline

Proposed Lifts 5 and 6 would be powered via an underground power cable installed by Avista Power Company. Per Avista Power Company, there is sufficient capacity (13,000 volts) to serve the new loads that would be needed for the proposed project on a single three-phase circuit within an existing transformer located at the base of existing Lift 1.

From the bottom of existing Lift 1, the cable would be routed to the bottom drive terminals of proposed Lifts 5 and 6 within a 75-foot corridor. The approximately 12,000 feet of buried cable would be installed up the Montana Face trail and then down the Rainbow Ridge trail to one of the new connector trails. From there, the cable would be routed along proposed temporary roads and ski trails to the bottom terminals of Lifts 5 and 6.

The powerline would cross one unnamed spring-fed creek near the base of Lift 6. The cable would be either directionally drilled under the creek or installed using an open-cut method. The creek would be restored to pre-construction, or better condition, and erosion and sediment control measures would be installed to reduce streambank and upland erosion and sediment transport into the waterbody.

This powerline corridor would also serve as an escape ski trail for skiers to reach existing Lifts 2 and proposed Lift 5 if proposed Lift 6 should become inoperable. Lift maintenance and operations staff would also be able to use this corridor to access proposed Lift 6.

### Parking

The Proposed Action would add 6.6 acres of parking to accommodate an additional 130 vehicles and buses, based on a 90-degree parking angle and 19 × 10-foot spaces. Parking would be extended to the north of the overflow parking lot to permit parking on both sides of the railroad grade while maintaining a 20-foot-wide roadbed for ingress and egress for other users such as snowmobilers accessing the Northern Pacific Railroad Trail. Approximately 5.2 acres are available in this area for parking; Lookout Pass estimates that it would support 50 parking spaces, as well as provide room for a turn-around to handle vehicles with trailers and recreational vehicles.

South of the existing paved parking area, 400 feet of parking on the west side of the access road, and on the west side of the existing railroad grade would be added, which would provide an additional 80 parking spaces within 1.4 acres. The area along the railroad bed would be used for employee parking and would have at least 20 feet for ingress and egress for other users.

Parking areas would be graded to near level and covered with gravel or crushed rock to minimize erosion. Drainage from the parking areas would be routed to vegetated areas to prevent runoff from reaching streams. Parking lot snow removal and storage would be planned to provide for vehicle and snowmobile ingress and egress. No snowmobile off-loading or trailer parking would be designated or permitted within the special use area boundary.

### Maintenance Facilities

A new 7,000-square-foot (120 × 60-foot) maintenance shop and adjacent 864-square-foot (36 × 24-foot) concrete fuel tank pad would be constructed just south of the existing fueling pad station to support ski operations. A 0.03-mile new, permanent gravel road would be constructed to provide access between the maintenance facilities and the lodge.

### Guest Service Facilities (ski patrol service building and restroom)

A 480-square-foot ski patrol service building and warming hut would be constructed at the top of proposed Lifts 5 and 6. The log structure would be similar to the existing ski patrol service building, and would be powered by propane or fuel cell technology to provide heat and light.

The Proposed Action would also include construction of an approximately 160-square-foot, two-stall Romtec restroom structure in the vicinity of the proposed Lift 5 bottom terminal, just off existing NFS Road 18591 along a proposed new permanent road. These roads would be constructed, or reconstructed, to permit pump truck access for vault pumping during summer months. For winter pumping, Lookout Pass would equip a snowcat with a tank and pump to access the vaults. Guest service facility upgrades would not affect water use or require a change to Lookout Pass's existing water system.

### Roads and Access

Approximately 4.3 miles of existing and new roads would be constructed or reconstructed to Forest Service standards by the permittee to facilitate timber harvest and Lookout Pass maintenance and operations. These roads would be closed to public travel. Upon completion of expansion activities, all motorized use would be prohibited, except as authorized in the special use permit.

Entry to the project area during the timber harvest and construction phases would occur via existing NFS Roads 9132, 4208, 18591, and 3026A. Based on current road planning, approximately 0.5 mile of NFS Road 18591 would require grading and reconstruction to accommodate logging trucks and construction vehicles, and to facilitate tree removal and transport from adjacent ski trails. Re-grading would include installation of water bars to reduce erosion, as necessary.

Approximately 2.2 miles of new, permanent roads would also be constructed to provide long-term, annual use by Lookout Pass for maintenance and operations. Planned new permanent roads would be constructed to a 16-foot running surface width to accommodate a boom truck and shaped to minimize surface erosion. Road grades would not exceed 15% gradient, and would generally be less than 10% gradient where feasible. Motorized vehicle access would be permitted for Forest Service administrative use and by Lookout Pass for maintenance and operations, but all other motorized access would be prohibited.

Temporary road construction (approximately 1.6 miles) would occur in locations where existing and proposed permanent roads are insufficient for timber harvest due to slope or other factors. Roughly 75% (1.2 miles) of all proposed temporary roads would be constructed on existing ski trails, jeep tracks, or other primitive trails and unmanaged Forest Service roads to minimize

vegetation and soil disturbance. Temporary roads would be constructed to a 12-foot running surface width and shaped to minimize surface erosion. Road grades would not exceed 20% downhill gradient and 15% uphill gradient; where possible, road grades would be kept to less than 10% gradient. Temporary roads would be constructed for logging of a single entry only, and would be decommissioned following this activity.

Low-impact temporary roads would also be needed to access the lift tower locations. The specific location of these roads has not been identified at this time, as it will depend on final lift design. However, roads would likely extend off of proposed temporary or permanent roads and would be made by a small trackhoe that would traverse cross-country to reach the line tower footing locations. As with other temporary roads, these lateral roads would be recontoured, seeded, and fertilized, as necessary, at the conclusion of construction activities.

Upon construction of the proposed new permanent road, Forest Service Undetermined Roads 37315 and 37315-1 would be decommissioned. These roads provide duplicate access to areas that would be accessed by the proposed new permanent road, and represent a higher risk to area resources because they are not managed by the Forest Service or constructed to current Forest Service-specified road standards. Decommissioning roads that are not necessary for long-term administrative or public purposes is consistent with Forest Service guidance to “identify the minimum road system needed for safe and efficient travel, and for administration, utilization, and protection of National Forest System lands” (36 Code of Federal Regulations 212.5(b)).

#### Forest Plan Amendment

The Proposed Action would include an amendment to the *Lolo National Forest Plan*. This amendment would change approximately 173 acres from Management Area (MA) 9 (concentrated public use), 13 acres from MA 13 (riparian areas), and 107 acres from MA 24 (timber production with high visual sensitivity) to MA 8 (ski areas).

For the IPNFs, the Proposed Action would change approximately 85 acres from MA 1 (timber production) and 89 acres from MA 9 (non-forest lands) to MA 17 (developed recreation) under the current *Idaho Panhandle National Forests Land Management Plan* (referred to as the Forest Plan). However, if any of the action alternatives are selected as part of the record of decision for the IPNF’s ongoing Forest Plan revision, all lands potentially affected by the Proposed Action would fall within MA 7 (primary recreation areas) and would not require a Forest Plan amendment.

#### **Request for Comments**

The IPNFs and LNF are providing a 30-day comment period for the public to submit comments for this project. Respondents should: (1) include name, address, telephone number, e-mail, organization represented, if any; (2) reference the “Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion Third-Party EIS,” and (3) discuss specific facts, concerns, or issues, and the supporting reasons.

Comments may be submitted by mail to: SWCA Environmental Consultants, 1220 SW Morrison St., Suite 700, Portland, OR 97205; in person at: Coeur d’Alene River Ranger District, Fernan or Smelerville offices, or Superior Ranger District; by facsimile to (503) 224-1851; via e-mail at: [comments-northern-idpanhandle-coeur-dalene@fs.fed.us](mailto:comments-northern-idpanhandle-coeur-dalene@fs.fed.us); or online through the project website at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/fs-usda-pop.php?project=43757>.

All comments must be postmarked by May 5, 2014. Comments submitted electronically must be searchable or readable with optical character recognition software.

Persons who submit comments during the comment period will be placed on the mailing list for future information regarding this project. Individuals who do not submit comments, but wish to be on this mailing list, should contact the Lookout Pass EIS NEPA Contractor, Sue Wilmot, at (503) 224-0333 ext. 6324, or e-mail: [swilmot@swca.com](mailto:swilmot@swca.com).

Three public open houses will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. for this proposal:

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| <b>April 22, 2014</b> | Black Diamond Ranch (120 De Borgia Haugan Frontage Rd, De Borgia, MT)              |
| <b>April 23, 2014</b> | Wallace Inn (100 Front Street, Wallace, Idaho)                                     |
| <b>April 24, 2014</b> | Coeur d'Alene Forest Supervisors Office (3815 Schreiber Way, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho) |

Additional details of the proposed project, the EIS scoping process, how to comment electronically, and the overall NEPA process can be viewed at <http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/fs-usda-pop.php?project=43757> or by contacting Sue Wilmot.

Thank you for your participation. I look forward to your comments.

Sincerely,



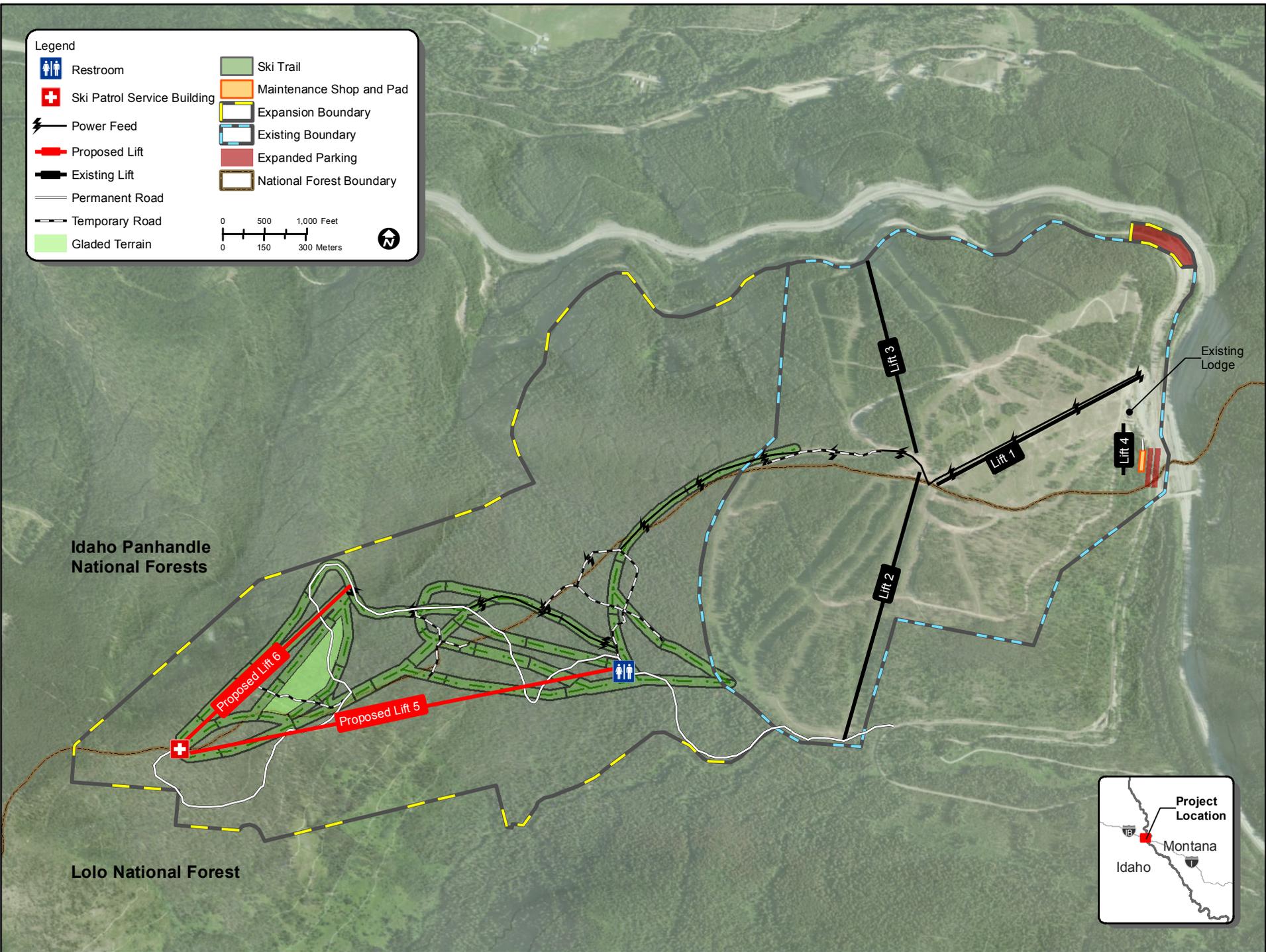
FOR MARY FARNSWORTH  
Forest Supervisor

Enclosure: Proposed Action Map

**Legend**

|   |  |
|---|--|
|  Restroom                    |  Ski Trail                |
|  Ski Patrol Service Building |  Maintenance Shop and Pad |
|  Power Feed                  |  Expansion Boundary       |
|  Proposed Lift               |  Existing Boundary        |
|  Existing Lift               |  Expanded Parking         |
|  Permanent Road              |  National Forest Boundary |
|  Temporary Road              |  |
|  Gladed Terrain              |  |

0 500 1,000 Feet  
0 150 300 Meters

## **Attachment D: Scoping Meeting Sign-in Sheets**

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# Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion Third-Party EIS Scoping Meeting

April 22, 2014, 5-7 PM, Black Diamond Ranch, De Borgia, MT

## Meeting Sign-in Sheet

| Name (please print clearly)        | Mailing Address<br>(please include organization/agency name, if applicable) | Email Address              |
|------------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| VAN SCOTT                          | P.O. Box 1115<br>SUPERIOR, MT. 59872  |                            |
| Joe Pife                           | P.O. Box 318<br>SUPERIOR, MT 59872  |                            |
| Ken & Marilyn Miller               | PO Box 170<br>St. Regis, MT. 59866  |                            |
| Laurie Johnston<br>Duane Simons    |   |                            |
| Don <del>Garr</del> Garr (Shirley) |   | flatopgarr@aol.com         |
| Mark Sverdsten                     | 24695 E. Meadow Rd.<br>Cataldo, ID 83810                                    | msverdsten@hotmail.com     |
| ALAN SOICLINI                      | 5935 mt CAMEL ST.<br>DALTON GARDENS ID                                      | asoderling@roddrunnel.com. |
| P. J. Jennings                     | #9 Frontage RD<br>De Borgia MT  | <hr/>                      |
| Mike Toth.                         |   |                            |
| Robert Dahl                        | 811 Frontage Rd. E.   |                            |



# Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion Third-Party EIS Scoping Meeting

April 22, 2014, 5-7 PM, Black Diamond Ranch, De Borgia, MT

## Meeting Sign-in Sheet

| Name (please print clearly) | Mailing Address<br>(please include organization/agency name, if applicable) | Email Address                                  |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| Brooke Lincoln              | Montana Nightriders<br>Box 420242 Haugan 59842                              | blincoln@blackfoot.net                         |
| Brennan Teeters             | Montana Nightriders<br>Box 420242 Haugan 59842                              | bteeters42@hotmail.com                         |
| LARRY YERGLER               | SHOSHONE COUNTY Commissioner  | lyergler@co.shoshone.id.us                     |
| PHIL FINGAR                 | P.O. Box 300147<br>DeBorgia, MT 59830                                       | blackdiamondmt@gmail.com                       |
| Anita Bailey                | 837 Trestle Creek Dr.<br>St. Regis, MT 59866                                | anitabailey@blackfoot.net                      |
| Carol L. Hunt               | 405 Woodland Dr.<br>Wallace ID 83873  | High Mountain ATV<br>crusty frog 88869@aol.com |
|                             |   |  |
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# Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion Third-Party EIS Scoping Meeting

April 23, 2014, 5-7 PM, Wallace Inn, Wallace, ID

## Meeting Sign-in Sheet

| Name (please print clearly) | Mailing Address<br>(please include organization/agency name, if applicable) | Email Address                    |
|-----------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| Ann K Horning               |   |                                  |
| Dan Martinson               | Shoshone County Plz<br>700 Banc St. Ste #25<br>Wallace ID 83873             | PZ@Co-shoshone.id.us             |
| David Sherman               | 410 5th St<br>Wallace ID 83873  | davids@SlateCreekEngineering.com |
| Diane Feifer                | Wallace Chamber of Commerce<br>10 River Street Wallace                      | director@wallacedahochamber.com  |
| Carol Young                 | Shoshone County<br>100 Bank St, Ste 50<br>Wallace, ID 83873                 | Rayyoung@Co-shoshone.id.us       |
| Bruce Van Broeke            | Shoshone Groomer Shoshone Co Sportsman's<br>Shoshone Fire Dist #3           | Bruce.VanBroeke@id.idaho.gov     |
| Mary Van Broeke             | Idaho Fish & Game<br>Mullan Hatchery P.O. Box 448 Mullan 83876              | mary.vanbroeke@idfg.idaho.gov    |
| GREG MARSH                  | P.O. Box 209<br>SILVERTON, ID 83867   | GREG4MSS@HOTMAIL.COM             |
| Lamy Yetgler                |   |                                  |
|                             |   |                                  |



# Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion Third-Party EIS Scoping Meeting

April 23, 2014, 5-7 PM, Wallace Inn, Wallace, ID

## Meeting Sign-in Sheet

| Name (please print clearly) | Mailing Address<br>(please include organization/agency name, if applicable) | Email Address                            |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| MARK KRALEY                 | PO Box 664 Kellogg Idaho 83837  | silverfox@suddenlink.net                 |
| Steve Cramer                | PO Box 221 Harrison Id 83835  | _____                                    |
| DENNIS DETHOMAS             | P.O. Box 63 SILVERTON, ID 83867   | J  |
| Carol Hunt                  | 405 Woodland Dr. Wallace  | crustyfrog88869@evl.com                  |
| Warren Kaye                 | 537 Main St. Wardner 83837  |  |
| VAN SCOTT                   | P.O. Box 1115 Superior, MT. 59872   |  |
| DR Dick VESTER              | 425 PINE ST - WALLACE, ID 83873   | dr Vester @ hot mail . com               |
| Hans Reiter                 | PO Box 207 silverton ID 83867   | skiprof@sprynet.com                      |
| JOHN GOLD                   | 1230 CANYON AVE WALLACE, ID 83873   | jwggold@hotmail.com Send proposed action |
| Mary Jane Bair              | 1108 Canyon Ave Wallace, Id 83873   | bairmaryjane@gmail.com                   |



# Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion Third-Party EIS Scoping Meeting

April 23, 2014, 5-7 PM, Wallace Inn, Wallace, ID

## Meeting Sign-in Sheet

| Name (please print clearly) | Mailing Address<br>(please include organization/agency name, if applicable)              | Email Address                 |
|-----------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| Tom Harman                  | P.O. Box 4, Silverton, Idaho 83867   | VLharman@hotmail.com          |
| DANIEL ERICKSON             |  |                               |
| MIKE LEVEKILK               | P.O. BOX 185<br>KINGSTON, ID 83939   | michaeljaskie@frontier.com    |
| Mike Murray                 | P.O. Box 507<br>Mullin, ID 83846   |                               |
| FORREST GREENFIELD          | Shoshone County Public Works<br>700 Bank St Site 35<br>WALLACE IDAHO 83873               | fgreenfield@co.shoshone.id.us |
| Dennis O'Brien              | Po Box 146 WALLACE ID 83873  |                               |
| Kirk Ehn                    | No. Idaho Building Consultants<br>Co. Building Official<br>512 Bank St, Wallace ID 83873 | kirk.nibc@gmail.com           |
| Linda R. Wilson             | 629 Friday Avenue<br>mullin, Idaho 83846   | esugar091@frontier.com        |
| Ed Wilson                   | " "  | ed.wilson1945@gmail.com       |
| Stacy Podsaic               | Kingston Id Resident   | Awwoutfit@aol.com             |



**Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion Third-Party EIS Scoping Meeting**  
**April 24, 2014, 5-7 PM, Coeur d'Alene Forest Supervisors Office, Coeur d'Alene, ID**

**Meeting Sign-in Sheet**

| Name (please print clearly) | Mailing Address<br>(please include organization/agency name, if applicable) | Email Address              |
|-----------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| Arnold L. Howe              | Back Country ATV<br>1603 N Idaho ST Apt B Post Falls Id                     | Arnichowe@Frontier.com     |
| Marcos Quinn                | BACKCOUNTRY<br>16523 E MAIN Ave   |                            |
| Roger Hickey                |   | roger@webband.com          |
| Mike Scitter                | P.O. Box 3563<br>Hayden Id. 83835   | mmsuitter@msn.com          |
| Jon Ingalls                 | 1751 W. Durham Dr<br>CDA ID 83815   | ingallsjw@roadrunner.com   |
| Steve Llewellyn             | 1924 S. Oneida Place<br>Spokane, WA 99203                                   | Llew62@g.com               |
| John<br>Betsy McFearn       | 4456 W Upriver Dr.<br>CDA ID 83814  | mctearcda1@yahoo.com       |
| Bob Kasyn                   | 1054 E. 16th Ave.<br>Post Falls, ID 83854                                   | bkasyn31@gmail.com         |
| TERRY GODBOUT               | 312 N FOREST<br>CDA 83814   | TERRY@AUTOCCLASSICSINC.COM |
| Wayne Wood                  | 8011 E Sunnyside Rd<br>CDA 83814  |                            |



**Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion Third-Party EIS Scoping Meeting**  
**April 24, 2014, 5-7 PM, Coeur d'Alene Forest Supervisors Office, Coeur d'Alene, ID**

**Meeting Sign-in Sheet**

| Name (please print clearly) | Mailing Address<br>(please include organization/agency name, if applicable)    | Email Address            |
|-----------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| ROBERT SMITH                | BOX 864, POSTFALLS, ID 83877   | STAYSAFE@SAFE-LLC.COM    |
| JON TOTTEN                  | 1000 W. GARDEN AVE. CDA, ID 83814  | jstotten@nic.edu         |
| Jeff Mann                   | Inland Northwest Backcountry Alliance<br>1001 W. Highpeak Dr. Spokane WA 99224 | jsmann-72@comcast.net    |
| JEFF JUEL                   | 1747 W. 11th Ave Spokane WA 99204  | jeffjuel@wildrockies.org |
| Peter Reedy                 | 120 SUSIE Drive<br>St Maries Idaho 83861                                       | pcreedy197@gmail.com     |
| Byron Dublin                | BOX 827 RATTAPRUN ID 83858   |                          |
| Bob Drzymkowski             | 4015 S. HOGAN ST SPOKANE 99203<br>IN NWBA                                      | bobdriz@comcast.net      |
| Chuck Sheroka               | 1621 Lost Ave. CDA, ID 83814   | sheroka202@hotmail.com   |
| Alan Nelson                 | 1334 S Nugget Drive CDA ID 83814   | alan.nelson@xq400.com    |
| Rhonda Nelson               | "  | nelsonrhonda@hotmail.com |



# Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion Third-Party EIS Scoping Meeting

April 24, 2014, 5-7 PM, Coeur d'Alene Forest Supervisors Office, Coeur d'Alene, ID

## Meeting Sign-in Sheet

| Name (please print clearly) | Mailing Address<br>(please include organization/agency name, if applicable) | Email Address                            |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| JOHN M. REDMOND & MARCIA    | 320 W VISTA DRIVE CDA ID 83815  | J.tedmond1@FRONTIER.COM                  |
| ROD SCHOBERT                | 9035 N. Clarkview Pl<br>Hayden ID   | rodthetourdiretor@yahoo.com              |
| GREG F164                   | 2928 N. NEVADA<br>SPOKANE, WA 99207   | greg.f@msn.com                           |
| Don Bacon                   | 1404 E FRONT AVE<br>Coeur d'Alene Idaho 83814                               | donbac51@hotmail.com                     |
| Rdr Rutherford              | 701 E. Front Ave #1301<br>CDA, ID 83814                                     | rutherford39@roadrunner.com              |
| Rick Patten                 | 4925 Canterbury Rd<br>CDA ID 83815  | rtpatten@gmail.com                       |
| Jim Landers                 | 112 Forest Dr. 83814  | skibums6@aol.com                         |
| John Latta                  | 868 W 26th Ave (Inland NW Backcountry<br>Spokane 99203 Alliance)            | john@latta <del>photo</del><br>photo.com |
|                             |   |  |
|                             |   |  |



**Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion Third-Party EIS Scoping Meeting**  
**April 24, 2014, 5-7 PM, Coeur d'Alene Forest Supervisors Office, Coeur d'Alene, ID**

**Meeting Sign-in Sheet**

| Name (please print clearly) | Mailing Address<br>(please include organization/agency name, if applicable) | Email Address |
|-----------------------------|---|---------------|
| Henry Benson                | 29211 N. Blanchard Creek Rd ; Chetlaroy WA 99007                            |               |
|                             |   |               |
|                             |   |               |
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## **Attachment E: Scoping Meeting Materials**

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# LOOKOUT PASS

*Ski Area Expansion Third-Party EIS*

***Introduction***

## **The U.S. Forest Service Is Requesting Your Input**

The Forest Service is requesting your input on issues to be considered while preparing an environmental impact statement (EIS). The EIS will disclose environmental impacts associated with Lookout Pass's proposal to expand its special use permit for improvements and development of new lifts, ski terrain, parking, access roads, and guest service facilities.

While you are here, please take time to 1) learn about the proposed project; 2) ask questions; and 3) discuss your concerns with the Forest Service resource specialists and contractors involved with this project.

**Thank you for participating in the Lookout Pass EIS project.**



# LOOKOUT PASS

*Ski Area Expansion Third-Party EIS*

***Purpose and Need***



## **Project Purpose**

- Provide a high-quality downhill skiing recreational opportunity on the Idaho Panhandle National Forests and Lolo National Forest

## **Project Needs**

- Maintain quality skier experiences on high- and low-visitation days
- Match ski terrain distribution to market demand
- Maintain the economic viability of Lookout Pass



# LOOKOUT PASS

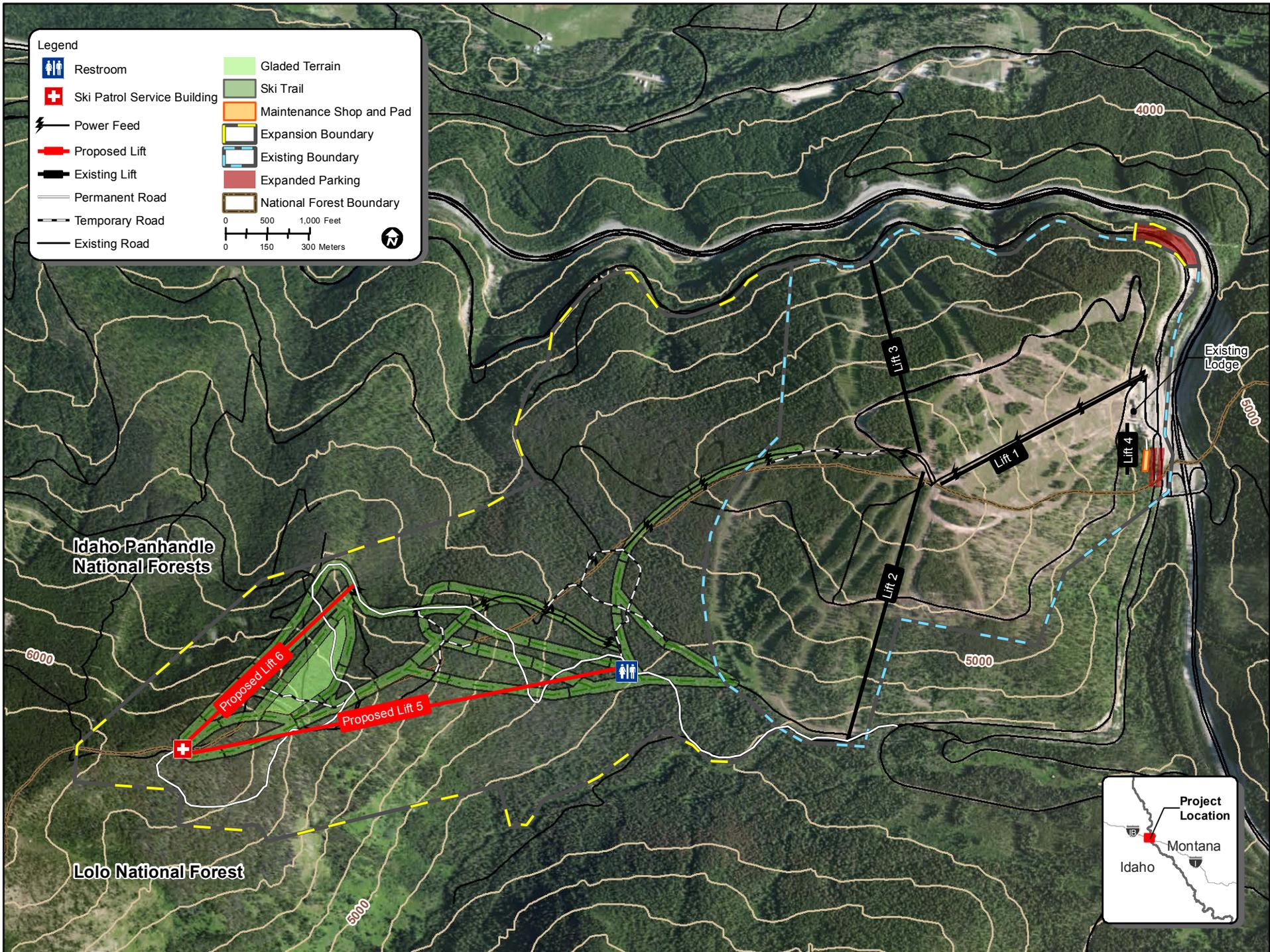
*Ski Area Expansion Third-Party EIS*

***Proposed Action***

## **The Proposed Action Would Consist of the Following Components:**

- Fifteen new ski trails (84.6 acres)
- 8.7 acres of gladed terrain
- Two new fixed-grip or detachable two-, three-, or four-passenger lifts (Lifts 5 and 6)
- Lift 1 upgrade to a fixed-grip or detachable four-passenger lift
- Buried power line from the bottom of existing Lift 1 to proposed Lifts 5 and 6 (approximately 12,000 feet of cable)
- 130 new parking spaces
- 7,000-square-foot maintenance shop and adjacent 864-square-foot concrete pad with fuel storage tanks
- Ski Patrol service building located at the top of proposed Lifts 5 and 6
- Two-stall restroom near Lift 5 bottom terminal
- 1.6 miles of temporary roads for timber harvest and lift construction
- 2.7 miles of new or reconstructed permanent roads

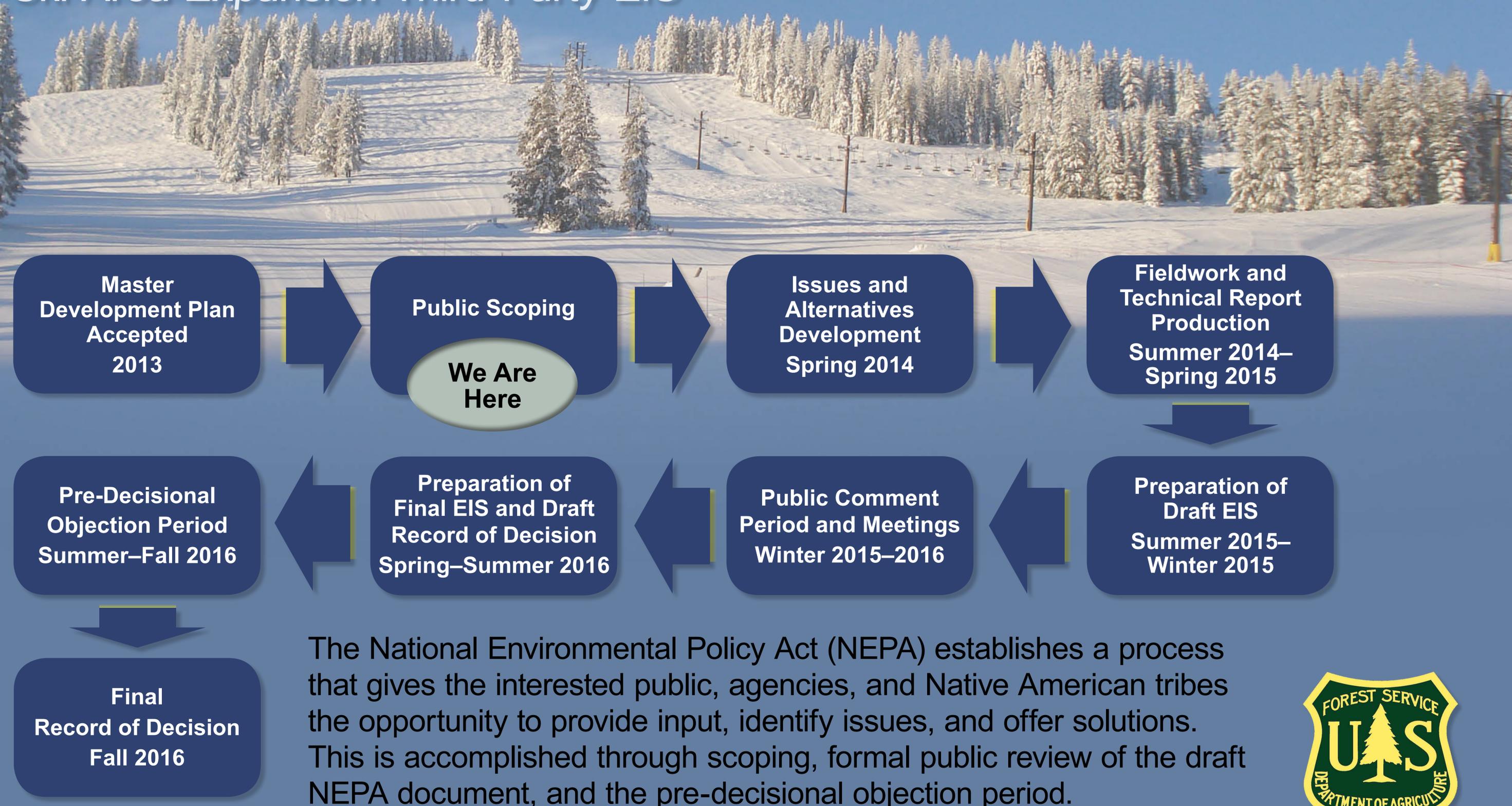




# LOOKOUT PASS

Ski Area Expansion Third-Party EIS

## NEPA Schedule



The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) establishes a process that gives the interested public, agencies, and Native American tribes the opportunity to provide input, identify issues, and offer solutions. This is accomplished through scoping, formal public review of the draft NEPA document, and the pre-decisional objection period.



# LOOKOUT PASS

Ski Area Expansion Third-Party EIS

***Preliminary Issues***

## Cultural Resources

- Historic Mullan Trail

## Fish and Wildlife

- Lynx and other carnivore habitat connectivity and movement
- Sensitive wildlife species and Forest Service indicator wildlife species
- Bull trout

## Operational Considerations

- Short-term and long-term road access
- Disposal of vegetation
- Restroom maintenance and capacity

## Recreation

- Recreational user conflicts
- Access and parking

## Vegetation

- Presence of sensitive plant habitat, species, and Forest Service species of concern
- Invasive plant infestations

## Water and Soil Resources

- Soil erosion potential and sedimentation
- Project effects to St. Regis River and other area streams
- Road connectivity to the drainage network



# LOOKOUT PASS

*Ski Area Expansion Third-Party EIS*

***How to Comment***

## **You Can Submit Scoping Comments Several Ways:**

- **Submit written comments tonight in person**
- **Drop off comments at Fernan, Smelterville, or Superior Ranger District Offices**
- **Email comments to:**  
comments-northern-idpanhandle-coeur-dalene@fs.fed.us
- **Submit comments online through the project website at:**  
<http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/fs-usda-pop.php?project=43757>
- **Mail or fax comments to:**  
SWCA Environmental Consultants  
1220 SW Morrison Street, Suite 700  
Portland, Oregon 97205  
(503) 224-1851
- **All comments must be received or postmarked by May 5, 2014**



**Please provide your contact information below if you would like to be on our project mailing list:**

Your Contact Information:

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Preference (check one):

E-mail  Mailing Address

**Thank you  
for your interest  
in the project!**

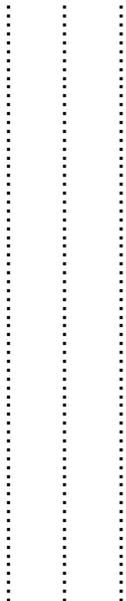
Fold this form in thirds, making sure to display the mailer portion on the outside. Please tape and affix the correct postage.

RE: Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion Third-Party EIS

SWCA Environmental Consultants  
1220 SW Morrison St., Suite 700  
Portland, OR 97205

You are invited  
to provide input regarding  
the  
U.S. Forest Service's

**Lookout Pass Ski  
Area Expansion  
Third-Party  
Environmental  
Impact  
Statement  
(EIS)**



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## **Attachment F: Coding Structure and Comments**

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## Coding Structure Report

**Project:** Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion Third-Party EIS (43757)

**Comment Period:** Scoping - Scoping period

**Period Dates:** 4/4/2014 - 5/5/2014

**Generated:** 11/16/2015 3:04 PM

| Code #                | Code Name                       | Comment Count |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|
| <b>Total Comments</b> |                                 | <b>747</b>    |
| <b>Issue/Action</b>   |                                 |               |
| 101                   | Code TBD/Pending                | 0             |
| 102                   | No Further Response Required    | 8             |
| 102.01                | Beyond Scope                    | 0             |
| 102.02                | Position, No Rationale          | 0             |
| 102.03                | Already Addressed               | 0             |
| 102.04                | General Project Support         | 46            |
| 102.05                | General Project Opposition      | 11            |
| 110                   | Decision Process                | 13            |
| 110.01                | Roles, Authorities              | 0             |
| 110.02                | Coordination, Consultation      | 1             |
| 110.03                | Trust, Credibility              | 0             |
| 110.04                | Laws, Policies                  | 27            |
| 110.05                | General Use of Science          | 0             |
| 110.06                | Land Mgmt Emphasis              | 0             |
| 110.0601              | Multiple Use Mgmt               | 0             |
| 110.0602              | Preservation Mgmt               | 0             |
| 110.0603              | Adaptive Mgmt                   | 0             |
| 110.07                | Appeals, Objections, Litigation | 0             |

| <b>Code #</b>       | <b>Code Name</b>                | <b>Comment Count</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Issue/Action</b> |                                 |                      |
| 111                 | Public Involvement              | 0                    |
| 111.01              | Outreach/Education              | 0                    |
| 111.02              | Collaboration, Meetings         | 3                    |
| 111.03              | Comment Period                  | 1                    |
| 112                 | Agency Organization             | 0                    |
| 112.01              | Funding, General                | 1                    |
| 112.02              | Staffing                        | 1                    |
| 112.0202            | Volunteers                      | 0                    |
| 112.03              | Outsourcing, Contracting        | 3                    |
| 120                 | Proposed Action, Decision       | 26                   |
| 120.01              | Purpose and Need                | 10                   |
| 120.02              | Analysis type (CE, EA, EIS)     | 1                    |
| 121                 | Issues, Alternatives            | 0                    |
| 121.01              | Alts. Not Analyzed In Detail    | 0                    |
| 121.02              | Alternatives (comparing, range) | 0                    |
| 121.0201            | Preferred Alternative           | 0                    |
| 121.0202            | No Action Alternative           | 0                    |
| 121.0203            | Alternative X                   | 0                    |
| 122                 | Effects Analysis                | 5                    |
| 122.01              | Cumulative Effects Analysis     | 12                   |
| 123                 | Technical, Editorial            | 4                    |
| 130                 | Resource & Area Mgmt            | 1                    |
| 130.01              | Monitoring                      | 1                    |
| 130.02              | Inventories, Mapping, GIS       | 0                    |
| 130.03              | Enforcement                     | 0                    |
| 131                 | Physical Elements               | 0                    |
| 132                 | Water, Watershed Mgmt           | 11                   |

| <b>Code #</b>       | <b>Code Name</b>                | <b>Comment Count</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Issue/Action</b> |                                 |                      |
| 132.01              | Riparian Area Mgmt              | 2                    |
| 132.02              | Water Infrastructure Mgmt       | 1                    |
| 132.03              | Snow management                 | 5                    |
| 133                 | Air and Climate                 | 1                    |
| 133.01              | Air Quality Mgmt                | 1                    |
| 133.02              | Climate Change                  | 2                    |
| 134                 | Soils Mgmt                      | 0                    |
| 134.01              | Slope or Erosion Control        | 2                    |
| 135                 | Minerals & Geology Mgmt         | 0                    |
| 135.01              | Minerals & Rock                 | 0                    |
| 135.02              | Oil & Gas                       | 0                    |
| 135.03              | Plan of Operation, Processes    | 0                    |
| 135.04              | Reclamation, Cleanup, Bonding   | 0                    |
| 135.05              | Mineral Uses, Alternatives      | 0                    |
| 136                 | Fire and Fuels Mgmt             | 1                    |
| 136.01              | Suppression                     | 0                    |
| 136.02              | Fuel Treatment, Reduction       | 0                    |
| 136.03              | Prescribed Burns                | 0                    |
| 136.04              | Unit Fire Plans                 | 0                    |
| 136.05              | Safety, Risk Mgmt.              | 0                    |
| 136.06              | Wildland/Urban Interface        | 0                    |
| 136.07              | Smoke Mgmt                      | 0                    |
| 140                 | Biological Resources Mgmt       | 10                   |
| 141                 | Vegetation Mgmt                 | 5                    |
| 141.01              | Introduction, Planting, Seeding | 0                    |
| 141.02              | Insects and Disease Treatment   | 0                    |
| 141.03              | Invasive Vegetation Treatment   | 0                    |

| <b>Code #</b>       | <b>Code Name</b>                     | <b>Comment Count</b> |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Issue/Action</b> |                                      |                      |
| 141.04              | Chemical Veg. Treatment              | 0                    |
| 142                 | Timber Mgmt                          | 6                    |
| 142.01              | Timber Sales (Green)                 | 0                    |
| 142.02              | Timber Sales (Salvage)               | 0                    |
| 142.03              | Harvest Levels (Actual)              | 0                    |
| 142.04              | Harvest Methods                      | 0                    |
| 142.05              | Suitability Determinations           | 0                    |
| 142.06              | Allowable Sale Quantity (ASQ)        | 0                    |
| 142.07              | Biofuels                             | 0                    |
| 142.08              | Other Uses                           | 0                    |
| 143                 | Wildlife/Animals Mgmt                | 2                    |
| 143.01              | Stock, Breed, Reintroduce            | 0                    |
| 143.02              | Animal Disease Mgmt                  | 0                    |
| 143.03              | Invasive Animal Mgmt                 | 0                    |
| 143.04              | Chemical Animal Treatment            | 0                    |
| 143.05              | Wildlife Harvest Levels, Methods     | 0                    |
| 143.06              | Wildlife Structures (barriers, etc.) | 0                    |
| 144                 | Domestic Livestock, Grazing Mgmt     | 0                    |
| 144.01              | Grazing Permits, Allotments          | 0                    |
| 144.02              | Fences, Structures                   | 0                    |
| 144.03              | Rangeland Veg. Improvements          | 0                    |
| 144.04              | Monitoring (Livestock Effects)       | 0                    |
| 149                 | Other Activities Mgmt                | 0                    |
| 149.01              | Utility Corridors, Facilities        | 1                    |
| 149.02              | Research Facilities, Projects        | 0                    |
| 149.03              | Military Activities                  | 0                    |
| 149.04              | Hydroelectric                        | 0                    |

| <b>Code #</b>       | <b>Code Name</b>                     | <b>Comment Count</b> |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Issue/Action</b> |                                      |                      |
| 149.05              | Permits (excl. rec. & grazing)       | 0                    |
| 149.06              | Valid Existing Rights                | 0                    |
| 149.07              | Special Forest Prod. Collection      | 0                    |
| 150                 | Trans. Sys. Mgmt (& non-rec. access) | 0                    |
| 150.01              | Rights-Of-Way                        | 0                    |
| 150.02              | Non-System, User-Created             | 0                    |
| 150.03              | Transportation Analysis              | 0                    |
| 151                 | Roads Management                     | 10                   |
| 151.01              | Road Construction, Maint.            | 3                    |
| 151.02              | Road Closure, Decomm.                | 2                    |
| 152                 | Trails Management                    | 0                    |
| 152.01              | Trails Construction, Maint.          | 0                    |
| 152.02              | Trails Closure, Decomm.              | 0                    |
| 153                 | Road/Trail Structures, Signs         | 0                    |
| 160                 | Recreation Mgmt                      | 10                   |
| 160.01              | Rec. Opportunity Spectrum            | 0                    |
| 160.02              | User Education                       | 0                    |
| 160.03              | User Fees                            | 0                    |
| 160.04              | Visual Resource Mgmt                 | 3                    |
| 161                 | Recreation Use Permits               | 0                    |
| 161.01              | Commercial Permits                   | 0                    |
| 161.02              | Non-commercial Permits               | 0                    |
| 162                 | Recreational Access                  | 7                    |
| 162.01              | Rec. Access Restrictions             | 0                    |
| 162.02              | Seasonal Closures/Access             | 0                    |
| 163                 | Developed Rec. and Facilities        | 7                    |
| 163.01              | Campgrounds/Picnic Areas             | 0                    |

| <b>Code #</b>       | <b>Code Name</b>                   | <b>Comment Count</b> |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Issue/Action</b> |                                    |                      |
| 163.02              | Restrooms                          | 0                    |
| 163.03              | Trailheads, Signs, Parking         | 18                   |
| 163.04              | Water Activities                   | 0                    |
| 164                 | Motorized Recreation Mgmt          | 10                   |
| 164.01              | OHV use                            | 0                    |
| 164.02              | Over-snow vehicle use              | 4                    |
| 164.03              | Motorized Watercraft use           | 0                    |
| 165                 | Dispersed Recreation Mgmt          | 17                   |
| 165.01              | Hiking, Backpacking                | 0                    |
| 165.02              | Dispersed Camping                  | 0                    |
| 165.03              | Hunting, Shooting                  | 0                    |
| 165.04              | Fishing                            | 0                    |
| 165.05              | Equestrian/Pack Animals            | 0                    |
| 165.06              | Bicycling                          | 0                    |
| 165.07              | Canoeing, Kayaking, Rafting        | 0                    |
| 165.08              | Spelunking                         | 0                    |
| 165.09              | Rec. in Wilderness, Roadless, etc. | 0                    |
| 170                 | Land Ownership, Uses               | 0                    |
| 170.01              | Special Use Authorizations         | 0                    |
| 170.02              | Land Use Changes                   | 0                    |
| 170.03              | Land Acquisition and Exchanges     | 0                    |
| 171                 | Land Designations/Mgmt             | 1                    |
| 171.01              | Roadless Areas                     | 1                    |
| 171.02              | Designated Wilderness Areas        | 0                    |
| 171.03              | Wilderness Study, Recommend.       | 0                    |
| 171.04              | Biosphere Reserve                  | 0                    |
| 171.05              | Research Natural Areas/ACECs       | 0                    |

| <b>Code #</b>                          | <b>Code Name</b>                 | <b>Comment Count</b> |
|--|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Issue/Action</b>                    |                                  |                      |
| 171.06                                 | Scenic Roads & Trails            | 0                    |
| 171.07                                 | Wild and Scenic Rivers           | 0                    |
| 180                                    | Econ. & Soc. Actions, Analyses   | 4                    |
| 181                                    | Econ. Actions, Analyses          | 8                    |
| 181.01                                 | Estimating Costs/Values          | 0                    |
| 181.02                                 | Comparing Costs/Benefits         | 0                    |
| 181.03                                 | Community Econ. Effects Analysis | 0                    |
| 182                                    | Social Actions or Analyses       | 3                    |
| 182.01                                 | Cultural, Hist., Anthro. Mgmt    | 1                    |
| 182.02                                 | Public Health, Safety            | 1                    |
| <b>Total Comments for Issue/Action</b> |                                  | <b>335</b>           |
| <b>Resource/Rationale</b>              |                                  |                      |
| 201                                    | Code TBD/Pending                 | 0                    |
| 202                                    | No Further Response Required     | 8                    |
| 202.01                                 | Beyond Scope                     | 0                    |
| 202.02                                 | Position, No Rationale           | 78                   |
| 202.03                                 | Already Addressed                | 0                    |
| 203                                    | Multiple Resources/Reasons       | 15                   |
| 210                                    | Persons, Groups                  | 1                    |
| 210.01                                 | Federal Government               | 0                    |
| 210.02                                 | Forest Service                   | 0                    |
| 210.03                                 | State, County, Municipal         | 0                    |
| 210.04                                 | American Indians/Tribes          | 1                    |
| 210.05                                 | Interest Groups, Stakeholders    | 2                    |
| 210.06                                 | General Public                   | 1                    |
| 220                                    | Laws, Policies, Courts           | 1                    |

| <b>Code #</b>             | <b>Code Name</b>                 | <b>Comment Count</b> |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Resource/Rationale</b> |                                  |                      |
| 220.01                    | Democracy                        | 0                    |
| 220.02                    | Federal Constitution, Rights     | 0                    |
| 220.03                    | Federal Laws                     | 4                    |
| 220.0301                  | NEPA                             | 0                    |
| 220.0302                  | NFMA                             | 0                    |
| 220.0303                  | Endangered Species Act           | 1                    |
| 220.0304                  | Heritage Laws                    | 0                    |
| 220.04                    | Tribal Treaties/Obligations      | 0                    |
| 220.05                    | Forest Service Directives        | 17                   |
| 220.06                    | Other Fed. Agency Policies       | 1                    |
| 220.07                    | State Laws, Policies             | 3                    |
| 220.08                    | County, Municipal Policies       | 5                    |
| 220.09                    | Court decisions                  | 0                    |
| 230                       | Natural Environment              | 10                   |
| 230.01                    | Env. Quality & Ecosys. Integrity | 0                    |
| 230.02                    | Inherent Worth of Nature         | 0                    |
| 230.03                    | Forest Health                    | 0                    |
| 231                       | Physical Elements                | 0                    |
| 232                       | Water Resources                  | 13                   |
| 232.01                    | Surface Water                    | 1                    |
| 232.02                    | Groundwater                      | 0                    |
| 232.03                    | Riparian Areas, Wetlands         | 3                    |
| 232.04                    | Water Quantity                   | 2                    |
| 232.05                    | Water Quality                    | 3                    |
| 232.06                    | Watershed Condition              | 1                    |
| 233                       | Air and Climate                  | 0                    |
| 233.01                    | Air Quality                      | 0                    |

| <b>Code #</b>             | <b>Code Name</b>                | <b>Comment Count</b> |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Resource/Rationale</b> |                                 |                      |
| 233.02                    | Climate Change                  | 1                    |
| 234                       | Soils                           | 1                    |
| 234.01                    | Disturbance, Erosion, etc.      | 1                    |
| 235                       | Minerals & Geol. Resources      | 0                    |
| 235.01                    | Minerals & Rock                 | 0                    |
| 235.02                    | Oil & Gas                       | 0                    |
| 235.03                    | Paleontological Resources       | 0                    |
| 235.04                    | Cave/Karst Resources            | 0                    |
| 236                       | Fire, Fire Risk                 | 0                    |
| 236.01                    | Wildland/Urban Interface Cond.  | 0                    |
| 236.02                    | Fuel Load                       | 0                    |
| 240                       | Biological Resources            | 6                    |
| 240.01                    | Ecosystem, Habitat Health       | 2                    |
| 240.0101                  | Disturbance Regimes             | 0                    |
| 240.0102                  | Fragmentation, Connectivity     | 0                    |
| 240.0103                  | Clearings, Canopy               | 0                    |
| 240.02                    | Diversity, Extinctions          | 0                    |
| 240.03                    | Species: TES, etc.              | 2                    |
| 241                       | Vegetation                      | 1                    |
| 241.01                    | Plant Species: TES, etc.        | 2                    |
| 241.02                    | Invasive, Noxious Plant Species | 2                    |
| 242                       | Timber Resource                 | 1                    |
| 243                       | Wildlife/Animals                | 4                    |
| 243.01                    | Animal Species: TES, etc.       | 5                    |
| 243.02                    | Indicator Species               | 0                    |
| 243.03                    | Invasive Animal Species         | 0                    |
| 249                       | Facilities, Structures          | 1                    |

| <b>Code #</b>             | <b>Code Name</b>                  | <b>Comment Count</b> |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Resource/Rationale</b> |                                   |                      |
| 249.01                    | Utility Corridors, Sites          | 1                    |
| 249.02                    | Research, Educ. Facilities        | 0                    |
| 249.03                    | Military Structures, Operations   | 0                    |
| 249.04                    | Hydroelectric                     | 0                    |
| 250                       | Transportation System             | 4                    |
| 260                       | Recreation                        | 56                   |
| 260.01                    | User Conflicts                    | 15                   |
| 260.02                    | Rec. Resource Usability           | 40                   |
| 270                       | Lands, Condition, Designation     | 2                    |
| 270.01                    | Potential for Special Designation | 0                    |
| 270.02                    | Wilderness, Roadless Character    | 1                    |
| 270.03                    | Adjacent Lands                    | 2                    |
| 270.04                    | Private Property/Inholdings       | 0                    |
| 270.05                    | Tribal Lands                      | 0                    |
| 280                       | Econ. & Social Conditions         | 21                   |
| 281                       | Econ. Conditions, Values          | 25                   |
| 281.01                    | Resource Value                    | 0                    |
| 281.02                    | Cost/Benefit Outcome              | 0                    |
| 281.03                    | Community Econ. Effects           | 0                    |
| 282                       | Social Conditions and Values      | 7                    |
| 282.01                    | Quality of Life                   | 0                    |
| 282.0101                  | Value to Families, Disabled, etc. | 0                    |
| 282.0102                  | Spiritual Values, Solitude        | 0                    |
| 282.0103                  | Traditional Way of Life           | 0                    |
| 282.0104                  | American Indian Values            | 0                    |
| 282.0105                  | Scenery, Visual Resources         | 0                    |
| 282.0106                  | Noise                             | 0                    |

| <b>Code #</b>                                | <b>Code Name</b>                   | <b>Comment Count</b> |
|--|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Resource/Rationale</b>                    |                                    |                      |
| 282.02                                       | Health, Safety                     | 18                   |
| 282.03                                       | Cultural, Hist., Anthro. Resources | 1                    |
| 282.04                                       | Future Generations                 | 1                    |
| 282.05                                       | Justice                            | 0                    |
| 282.06                                       | Demographics                       | 0                    |
| 282.07                                       | Trust, Credibility                 | 7                    |
| <b>Total Comments for Resource/Rationale</b> |                                    | <b>401</b>           |
| <b>Early Attention</b>                       |                                    |                      |
| 501  | Threat of harm                     | 0                    |
| 502  | Notice of appeal or litigation     | 0                    |
| 503  | Proposed new alternative           | 0                    |
| 504  | Requires detailed review           | 0                    |
| 505  | Government entities                | 0                    |
| 505.01                                       | Request Cooperating Status         | 0                    |
| 506  | Request public meeting, etc .      | 2                    |
| 507  | Requests for Information           | 0                    |
| 507.01                                       | FOIA                               | 0                    |
| 507.02                                       | Request Documents or Info          | 0                    |
| 507.03                                       | Mailing list or nothing to code    | 8                    |
| 507.04                                       | Remove from mailing list           | 0                    |
| 507.05                                       | Confirm receipt of letter          | 0                    |
| 508  | Comment Period Extension           | 1                    |
| <b>Total Comments for Early Attention</b>    |                                    | <b>11</b>            |

| <b>Code #</b>                   | <b>Code Name</b> | <b>Comment Count</b> |
|---------------------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Other</b>                    |                  |                      |
| <b>Total Comments for Other</b> |                  | <b>0</b>             |

| <b>Concern Response #</b> | <b>Concern</b>   |
|---------------------------|--|
| 1                         | General Public Support for Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion             |
| 2                         | General Project Opposition to Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion          |
| 3                         | NEPA Process Concerns  |
| 5                         | Changes to Motorized Trail Use   |
| 6                         | Impacts to Land Uses and Plan Compliance                               |
| 7                         | Changes to Ski Area and Local Community Social and Economic Conditions |
| 8                         | Backcountry Skier Safety and Infrastructure                            |
| 9                         | Cumulative Effects   |
| 10                        | Development of a Winter Travel Management Plan                         |
| 11                        | Winter Recreation Traffic and Parking                                  |
| 12                        | Impacts to Watershed Health  |
| 13                        | Recreation User Displacement   |
| 14                        | Snowmaking   |
| 15                        | Impacts to Fish and Wildlife Species, Habitat, and Movement            |
| 17                        | Diminished Air Quality and Climate Change                              |
| 18                        | Proposed Action and Technical Edits                                    |
| 19                        | Need for Ski Area Expansion  |
| 22                        | Timber Removal   |
| 23                        | Increased Road Density and Mileage                                     |
| 24                        | Impacts to Cultural Resources and Tribal Consultation                  |
| 26                        | Impacts to Visual Resources  |
| 27                        | Impacts to Plant Communities and Spread of Invasive Weeds              |



## Response and Concern Status Report

**Project:** Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion Third-Party EIS (43757)  
**Comment Period:** Scoping - Scoping period  
**Period Dates:** 4/4/2014 - 5/5/2014      **Generated:** 11/16/2015 9:35 PM

| Concern Response # | Status | Comment # | Comment Text | Code |
|--------------------|--------|-----------|--------------|------|
|--------------------|--------|-----------|--------------|------|

### Associated Comments

|   |                     |      |   |                                     |
|---|---------------------|------|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1 | Concern In Progress | #3-1 | I completely support this project. It will increase the economic viability of the ski area while increasing excellent outdoor recreation opportunities on Forest Service lands. It fits completely with the current efforts to get kids and adults off the couch and exercising in a healthy environment. |                                     |
|   |                     |      |   | 102.04      General Project Support |
|   |                     |      |   | 260      Recreation                 |
|   |                     |      |   | 281      Econ. Conditions, Values   |

| Concern Response # | Status | Comment # | Comment Text | Code |
|--------------------|--------|-----------|--------------|------|
|--------------------|--------|-----------|--------------|------|

**Associated Comments**

|   |                     |      |  |                                |
|---|---------------------|------|--|--------------------------------|
| 1 | Concern In Progress |      |  |                                |
|   |                     | #5-1 | I think expansion of the Lookout Pass ski area is a great idea and fully support it. The snow is generally good but the existing terrain is quite limited. More advanced terrain please.                 |                                |
|   |                     |      | Expansion would allow more skiers/snowboarders to ride and result in greater employment and economic activity in a region that needs it. Please support the expansion project.                           |                                |
|   |                     |      |  | 102.04 General Project Support |
|   |                     |      |  | 260 Recreation                 |
|   |                     |      |  | 281 Econ. Conditions, Values   |
|   |                     | #8-1 | I fully support the expansion of Lookout Pass. I am an avid backcountry skier and feel the expansion of this area is a positive move for the local economy , lift serviced skiers and backcountry users. |                                |
|   |                     |      | This expansion will not affect the spotted owl, bull trout or Bigfoot.   |                                |
|   |                     |      |  | 102.04 General Project Support |
|   |                     |      |  | 230 Natural Environment        |
|   |                     |      |  | 260 Recreation                 |
|   |                     |      |  | 281 Econ. Conditions, Values   |

| Concern Response # | Status | Comment # | Comment Text | Code |
|--------------------|--------|-----------|--------------|------|
|--------------------|--------|-----------|--------------|------|

**Associated Comments**

|   |                     |      |   |   |
|---|---------------------|------|---|---|
| 1 | Concern In Progress | #9-1 | <p>I think the proposed expansion would be a wonderful addition to an already great local ski area. Beginner runs would be welcomed as Missoula's local area doesn't do a good job of accommodating families and children learning to ski.</p> <p>I would like to see Lookout use some of their additional terrain to offer some new runs for more experienced skiers as well as beginners and novices.</p> <p>It's great to see public land being used for things like skiing that allow families and people of all ages and experiences to enjoy them and not just a few "hardcore" outdoor enthusiasts.</p> <p>As a Montana State taxpayer I support the proposed expansion 100% and can't wait for my family to be able to enjoy these new lifts.</p> | <p>102.04      General Project Support</p> <p>260.02      Rec. Resource Usability</p> |
|---|---------------------|------|---|---|

| Concern Response # | Status | Comment # | Comment Text | Code |
|--------------------|--------|-----------|--------------|------|
|--------------------|--------|-----------|--------------|------|

**Associated Comments**

|   |                     |       |   |   |
|---|---------------------|-------|---|---|
| 1 | Concern In Progress | #14-2 | <p>Resort owners have proven their ability to expand in such a way to mitigate the environmental consequences while maximizing the social and economic benefits that this great resort provides. I hope that 50 years from now many kids have the opportunity to look back with the same fond memories from the opportunity this expansion will afford them to pursue a healthy activity in the mountains.</p> <p>I urge support of the amendment to the current special use permit to implement this necessary expansion to enable Lookout Pass to provide viable healthy winter activity into the future.</p> | <p>102.04      General Project Support</p> <p>230            Natural Environment</p> <p>260            Recreation</p> <p>280            Econ. &amp; Social Conditions</p> |
|   |                     | #15-1 | <p>I really appreciate Lookout Pass and their ability to provide inexpensive family skiing. I strongly support the proposed expansion. It is a small expansion, but will greatly improve the skiing available. Minimum environmental impact is generated by expanding an existing facility. I have read of complaints from back-country skiers, but I do not agree. Back country goes on forever, but the least impact possible is seen by a modest expansion of an existing ski area.</p>  | <p>102.04      General Project Support</p> <p>230            Natural Environment</p>  |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text   | Code                           |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|--|--------------------------------|
| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |  |                                |
| 1                          | Concern In Progress |           |  |                                |
|                            |                     |           |  | 260 Recreation                 |
|                            |                     | #17-1     | I would like to state that I am in favor of the expansion of the Lookout Ski hill. they have done a very good job of running the area and provide not only great recreation for northern Idaho and Montana plus jobs in a depressed area of the state. Lookout has the best snow in the region along with the safest drive of any of our local hills, What it lacks is space and varied terrain and their lodge is inadequate on busy days. The expansion would not only help Lookout but would increase skier awareness of North Idaho as a regional ski destination and increase tourism dollars spent in our state. |                                |
|                            |                     |           |  | 102.04 General Project Support |
|                            |                     |           |  | 280 Econ. & Social Conditions  |
|                            |                     | #19-1     | My company is all in favor of the new expansion proposed. We have watch the hill grow and prosper in every expansion. It would be in the best interest for all in the community and surrounding states to excepted Lookouts expansion, because of monies trickledown effect it has. Zanettis in the past has been involved directly with the expansion, supplying material like crushed rock and concrete for the job. Again I would like to say this expansion is monumental to the children and parents of this community.   |                                |
|                            |                     |           |  | 102.04 General Project Support |
|                            |                     |           |  | 280 Econ. & Social Conditions  |
|                            |                     | #21-1     | Sounds great. Will benefit the Silver Valley. Can't the process be speeded up? We need more jobs in area and Lookout Pass Ski area will be a source of employment.   |                                |
|                            |                     |           |  | 102.04 General Project Support |

| Concern Response # | Status | Comment # | Comment Text | Code |
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**Associated Comments**

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| 1 | Concern In Progress |       |   |                                |
|   |                     |       |   | 281 Econ. Conditions, Values   |
|   |                     | #22-1 | As far as I'm concerned the expansion of Lookout Ski Area would be an asset to the broader community from Spokane to Missoula. Folks from all areas between those two cities recreate at Lookout, I think the current owners of Lookout Pass Ski Area are responsible stewards of the land. They have already had two expansions under their ownership and I can only see positive results from them. I cannot foresee any negative impacts from this expansion either. |                                |
|   |                     |       |   | 102.04 General Project Support |
|   |                     |       |   | 230 Natural Environment        |
|   |                     |       |   | 280 Econ. & Social Conditions  |
|   |                     | #23-1 | I strongly support the expansion of the Lookout Pass Ski Area. Please approve this project. It will be good for all outdoors people with year round benefits for enjoying this beautiful area. Skiing would be enhanced greatly as well....for an area that well known for its good snow and weather.   |                                |
|   |                     |       |   | 102.04 General Project Support |
|   |                     |       |   | 260 Recreation                 |
|   |                     | #25-1 | As a lift served and backcountry skier I support the expansion plans of Lookout Pass. The terrain that will be opened up will be great for the ski area and the potential economic benefit to the surrounding towns will be huge. This is one of those instances where the benefits to the many outweigh the benefits to the few.   |                                |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text   | Code                           |
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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |  |                                |
| 1                          | Concern In Progress |           |  |                                |
|                            |                     |           |  | 102.04 General Project Support |
|                            |                     |           |  | 260 Recreation                 |
|                            |                     |           |  | 280 Econ. & Social Conditions  |
|                            |                     | #28-1     | As an outdoor enthusiast and skier, I firmly believe that this expansion will not only benefit Skiers of all levels, but boost the local economy. Lookout Pass has provided affordable, family friendly skiing for years and this expansion will only add to that. I cant wait to see the developments start!  |                                |
|                            |                     |           |  | 102.04 General Project Support |
|                            |                     |           |  | 260 Recreation                 |
|                            |                     |           |  | 280 Econ. & Social Conditions  |
|                            |                     | #29-1     | I would like to show my support for the proposed Lookout Pass expansion project. I believe the project will provide many employment opportunities in the region be it direct employment on the resort or hotels, restaurants, fuel stations and taxes. It will also, as stated in the proposal, allow a greater recreational experience for a great many people. This management team is the most conscientious bunch of people I have met and know they will be top notch stewards of the land. Again, I support this endeavor! |                                |
|                            |                     |           |  | 102.04 General Project Support |
|                            |                     |           |  | 260 Recreation                 |
|                            |                     |           |  | 280 Econ. & Social Conditions  |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 1 | Concern In Progress | #32-1 | <p>I am writing this in support of the proposed expansion of the Lookout Pass Ski and Recreation Area on the Idaho-Montana border where Interstate 90 crosses. I have lived, worked and played in the mountains of Shoshone County, Idaho and Mineral County, Montana for the last 60 years. I have logged in these areas since the early 1980's until 2005. I gave up logging after realizing the federal government had ceased to operate the millions of acres of land it manages in my area for the multiple use concept. The tax base in Shoshone County has shrunk from around 14 billion dollars valuation (in the 80's) to less than nine hundred million dollars of assessed value due in large part to the federal government no longer paying land use fees that were remitted to county governments due to logging sales located on these vast forests. These Northern Region forests have more live trees today than any other time in recorded history.</p> <p>The largest tax payer in Shoshone County is Eagle Crest Corporation, owners of Silver Mountain Ski and Resort Area in Kellogg, Idaho. Their condo properties generate substantial tax revenue to a county whose coffers have diminished to the point of insolvency due to the huge volume of federally managed (non taxable) land located in Shoshone County, Idaho. The proposed Lookout Pass expansion has the potential to generate much needed tax income that could lower the burden on the homeowners within her boundaries. Mineral County, Montana would also profit from this expansion as new improvements would be located within its borders, too.</p> |                          |
|   |                     |       |   | 102.04                   |
|   |                     |       |   | 281                      |
|   |                     |       |   | General Project Support  |
|   |                     |       |   | Econ. Conditions, Values |

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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |   |   |
| 1                          | Concern In Progress | #32-2     | I know from personal experience Lookout Pass has shown consistent growth because of strong management, a desirable product (powdery, deep snow, skiable terrain and friendly, competent staff), and excellent marketing strategies in a stagnant inland northwest economy. Phil Edholm and staff have demonstrated a "can do" attitude that keeps guests coming back season after season. Season Pass sales have grown at this ski area while other regional ski areas have realized declining pass holder numbers.   | 102.04<br>282.07  |
|                            |                     |           |   | General Project Support<br>Trust, Credibility                     |
|                            |                     | #32-4     | Let's face the facts: an expansion of Lookout Pass Ski Area is an economically viable idea. It's beneficial to skiers and will not impact the area back country users (snowmobilers, snowboarders, skiers, etc.) recreate in.[...]Increased tax revenues for counties, recreation dollars for local businesses, even more home sales for local realtors (more tax revenue through new construction, remodels, etc.) just to mention a few. An expansion of Lookout Pass will enhance an already enjoyable recreation experience by increasing the amount of lift served skiing terrain available to the public. | 102.04<br>260<br>281  |
|                            |                     |           |   | General Project Support<br>Recreation<br>Econ. Conditions, Values |
|                            |                     | #35-4     | Mineral County has followed the scoping process and has held meetings in Superior to develop comments in regard to the proposed expansion. General support for the expansion has been expressed.  |   |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 1 | Concern In Progress |       |  |  |
|   |                     |       |  | 102.04      General Project Support    |
|   |                     |       |  | 202.02      Position, No Rationale     |
|   |                     | #36-1 | I am strongly in favor of allowing the Lookout Pass ski area expansion per the request. The increased terrain will be a direct benefit to the thousands who flock to this area over several others due to ease of access, superior snow conditions, and affordable charges. An increase in winter usage will benefit the resort and the traveler infrastructure in adjacent towns. |  |
|   |                     |       | I have enjoyed this general area for years for cross-country skiing in the winter and hiking in the summer. The impact of the lifts and the new runs will have minimal negative impact on these activities.  |  |
|   |                     |       | Please allow this expansion to occur.  |  |
|   |                     |       |  | 102.04      General Project Support    |
|   |                     |       |  | 260          Recreation                |
|   |                     |       |  | 280          Econ. & Social Conditions |
|   |                     | #37-3 | Having volunteered under the Lookout Pass Management team of Phil Edholm and Casey Hatfied, I can attest to the preoccupation with training and safety from the top on down. They can be trusted to mitigate any environmental concerns.   |  |
|   |                     |       |  | 102.04      General Project Support    |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 1 | Concern In Progress |       |  |                                |
|   |                     |       |  | 282.07 Trust, Credibility      |
|   |                     | #39-1 | <p>I am in favor of the Lookout Pass Expansion. Lookout Pass has been a destination resort for people in North Idaho for many years. And it was discovered by those out of region in the 60's and 70's. Local skiers have always known about it. Today my grandchildren ski with the Spokane Ski Racing Association. They go to Lookout for some of their events. The communities of Kellogg, Wallace, and Mullan benefit from that. When they aren't skiing with SSRA, They ski independently. I believe the I-90 corridor benefits from their trips to Idaho. When they come here, I go watch. We spend money over there.</p> <p>It's a good clean sport that injects a lot of fun into the area and I don't see why it cannot be expanded. Build it and they will come!! Lookout has always had ski schools for the kids in the area. When I was a kid a long time ago there was a ski school at Lookout. This is a great opportunity for the kids.</p> <p>I also appreciate the fact that just before Lookout shuts down for the year, they invite snowmobilers for a "Race the Face" competition. It's fun, hurts nobody, and snomobilers come from miles around. What is not to like about local commerce? This is a win win. How lucky can we be to have a mountain that just happens to attract the best snow and ski conditions in the State? It's just barely off I-90.</p> <p>There are some really good skiers in the area who got their first skiing opportunity at Lookout Pass. Expand it. There is lots of room.</p> |                                |
|   |                     |       |  | 102.04 General Project Support |
|   |                     |       |  | 260 Recreation                 |

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**Associated Comments**

1 Concern In Progress

#40-1 280 Econ. & Social Conditions  
 I am writing in support of the Lookout Pass Ski Area expansion project.

As a multi-generational family who has skied at Lookout Pass and utilized the Lookout Pass Free Ski School, which has operated for 50+ years, I cannot stress enough the impact this recreational sport has on family values. Each year hundreds of children participate in this program receiving free ski/snowboard instruction. The lodge is packed with families, parents spending time with their kids in a safe, healthy sport which instills important family values. In many cases this is a traditional event participated in by generations of families.[...]Lookout Pass Ski Area has been managed successfully on Public Lands for the benefit of the general public providing healthy, affordable family recreation to thousands of beneficiaries with increased skier visits each year indicating growth in the industry. This expansion would alleviate the congestion of additional skiers and maintain the safety of the sport. The need for expansion to be able to compete in the ski industry is a viable concept that must be considered for the continued success of Lookout Pass and for the resorts future existence. I cannot think of a better use for our public lands.

Please approve and expedite this Lookout Pass expansion process.

- 102.04 General Project Support
- 260 Recreation
- 282 Social Conditions and Values

| Concern Response # | Status | Comment # | Comment Text | Code |
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**Associated Comments**

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| 1 | Concern In Progress | #42-1 | I am writing a letter of support of the proposed expansion of the Lookout Pass Ski and Recreation Area on the Idaho-Montana border. I have lived in Shoshone County since 1954, started skiing at Lookout Pass in 1957 and learned to ski in the Free Ski School there. The Lookout Pass Free Ski School is still in existence, is the oldest free ski school in the nation and still accommodates over 300 children yearly to enhance their skier and snowboard ability. This process annually helps instruct a lifeskill sport to local children at an affordable price. This aids in growth to the ski/snowboard industry, increases the ability for family recreation and is an exceptional example of multiple use of national forest land. | 102.04 | General Project Support |
|   |                     |       |  | 260    | Recreation              |
|   |                     | #42-2 | The quality of these new runs must be emphasized because the clean cut sides, the slope gradient and selected fall line reach near perfect guidelines which approach ideal single fall line characteristics for enhanced skiing experience. Particularly, Hercules (Black Diamond) as a mogul/powder run has close to perfect characteristic, single fall line terrain even though there are direction changes on the run. This is of signature quality that Phil Edholm captures as he shapes the design of a ski run and enhances the overall ski area quality much like an architect designs a project. These qualities will be qualities which will enhance the proposed expansion.  | 102.04 | General Project Support |
|   |                     |       |  | 260    | Recreation              |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 1 | Concern In Progress | #42-3 | the family friendly attitude of the current management philosophy makes this expansion a plus for a vendor on National Forest lands and fits within the multiple use doctrine within the Forest.   |        |                              |
|   |                     |       |  | 102.04 | General Project Support      |
|   |                     |       |  | 220.05 | Forest Service Directives    |
|   |                     |       |  | 282    | Social Conditions and Values |
|   |                     | #42-4 | The additional acreage will help vault Lookout Pass into a new class of ski resorts. The additional elevation increase will put Lookout in those areas which have sought after 1500+ vertical elevation changes. With the movement to the 6300+ elevation level brings deeper, drier powder conditions which will increase the quality to some of the highest quality snow conditions available anywhere, and will revel Utah quality snow. With this addition brings the avid, powder snow enthusiast who now wants to buy property to annually partake of this adventure. It also brings investors who want to profit from this newly found experience. Eagle Crest invested in Silverhorn and now as Silver Mountain, the four season resort is the largest tax payer in Shoshone County which has two current operating silver mines.<br>This planned expansion stays within the percentage of acceptable terrain slope formula for ski area favorability. In this proposal the major portion will be trails of intermediate level, groomable terrain while adding smaller percentage of longer advanced powder snow runs to accommodate all but beginner level skier/boarders and therefore reinforces the expansion acreage. The proposal stays within timbered lands and thus does not impact present non-timbered slopes that are now available for snowmobile travel. Likewise, the boundary of this expansion stays out of current steep, avalanche prone areas. The |        |                              |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 1 | Concern In Progress |        | <p>additional trails will afford high quality conditions with no impact to snowmobile and backcountry skiing presently now available.</p> <p>This expansion will help with the economic improvements to local economies with increased revenues for the current lodging and restaurants in both Shoshone County and Mineral County, increase tax base as new lodging facilities (condominiums, hotels and support businesses appear). This adds jobs to the community and also will entice new business ventures to establish within the local community. The expansion will additionally add to Lookout Pass current payroll which supports more additional jobs within the local communities.</p> <p>This expansion adds the ability to establish ski patrol presence at higher elevations and offers a higher level of rescue to areas that are now utilized by snowmobile traffic, backcountry skiers, and other winter travelers who seek extreme adventure. As a member of the Shoshone County Search and Rescue I have traveled to recover bodies that possibly could have been rescued alive with quicker response.</p> |  |
|   |                     | 102.04 | General Project Support   |  |
|   |                     | 260    | Recreation  |  |
|   |                     | 280    | Econ. & Social Conditions   |  |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 1 | Concern In Progress | #42-5 | I support the Lookout Pass Expansion Proposal. Shoshone County continues to be a leader in unemployed workers and this proposal would bring more jobs, more revenue to support industries, lead to both indirect and direct increases in multiple state and multiple county tax bases, allows for more acreage of the Forest to be utilized by a larger number of people. The proposal falls within the recommended uses allowable, is beneficial to the forest as a whole and follows NEPA considerations toward productive harmony and support of local economic stability.   | 102.04 | General Project Support   |
|   |                     | #43-1 | I think the expansion of Lookout Ski Area is an excellent idea! It is the best family friendly ski destination in the area. This expansion would allow for more family members to partake in the wonderful sport of skiing and snowboarding. It would also add some great ski runs that more advanced skiers would enjoy as well.<br><br>I think my favorite thing about it would be the fact that more people will be able to see the excellent views from the expansion. Being a skier at Lookout for quite some time now, I know myself and many others often gaze over to where the expansion will be and wonder how great it would be to ski those slopes. It is a wonderful feeling being out in nature and experiencing its beauty. Skiing provides that opportunity to many who don't have the means to explore the back hills on their own, especially in winter. This expansion will help people of all ages experience the wonder and beauty of nature and get people excited about skiing/snowboarding. | 280    | Econ. & Social Conditions |

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**Associated Comments**

1 Concern In Progress

Economically, I could see this also having a great, positive impact. When you add more vertical feet and encourage more people and families to ski/snowboard it means more people will come to the area. This will mean more hotel/homes/condos are rented; more people will shop the stores and eat at the restaurants in town. It would be hard to predict exactly where the economic benefit would land but it's easy to see that there would be a positive trickle down affect when more skiers and families enter the area to ski at Lookout Pass.

To conclude, I want to thank you for getting these opinions on the expansion. I feel this expansion will be immensely positive to the people who ski at Lookout pass as well as the communities around it. People will get to experience nature in ways they haven't done before and see beauty that is hard to imagine unless you have seen it. I firmly agree with this expanse of the ski area and can't want to see what good opportunities come from it.

102.04 General Project Support  
 280 Econ. & Social Conditions

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**Associated Comments**

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| 1 | Concern In Progress | #44-1 | <p>The Lookout Pass expansion will improve the economy of both the Silver Valley and adjoining areas. First, Lookout is already at capacity during peak days, and this expansion will increase the number of visitors by making the lift lines significantly shorter during these times. Second, the higher elevation and aspect will result in a big improvement to the snow quality, already some of the best in the area but not quite as good as some other areas of the country. Third, the new terrain will improve the amount of long or challenging runs for the better skiers and boarders.</p> <p>These benefits are minor compared to the economic impact from backcountry skiers. The expansion is adjacent to some of the best backcountry terrain for skiers/boarders in the Inland NW, and this expansion will open this awesome area to a large number of people who are unable or otherwise cannot dedicate a full day to make a few runs there. Lookout Pass and the adjoining area could easily turn into the backcountry Mecca of the Inland NW, helping area restaurants, hotels, real estate, and retail. Backcountry safety courses should emerge to educate the new users, and guide services should cater to those who opt not to learn these skills. Backcountry recreation clubs should see increased membership as more people join their trips into this more accessible terrain. Ski shops should do well as more people buy backcountry gear such as fat skis, split-boards, skins, avalanche transceivers, shovels, probes, and waterproof/breathable shells.</p> |                          |
|   |                     |       |   | 102.04                   |
|   |                     |       |   | 281                      |
|   |                     |       |   | General Project Support  |
|   |                     |       |   | Econ. Conditions, Values |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 1 | Concern In Progress |       |  |   |
|   |                     | #44-2 | The expansion will also be good for the quality of life of our citizens and visitors. The adjoining areas are currently somewhat inaccessible to most people in the winter, unless they have expensive snowmobiles or the cardiovascular system of a horse. The improved access will allow many more people to enjoy this wonderful area than currently do, and these new users will experience reasonable cardiovascular exercise as they use this asset. |   |
|   |                     |       | I'm looking forward to seeing this expansion happen.   |   |
|   |                     |       |  | 102.04      General Project Support         |
|   |                     |       |  | 282            Social Conditions and Values |
|   |                     | #45-1 | I support Lookout Pass Ski Area expansion due to the multiple use, socio-economic, public health, safety, and welfare, and environmental opportunities it will provide to the people and visitors of the region I represent.   |   |
|   |                     |       |  | 102.04      General Project Support         |
|   |                     |       |  | 260            Recreation                   |
|   |                     |       |  | 280            Econ. & Social Conditions    |
|   |                     | #47-1 | I personally support this expansion for the following reasons.   |   |
|   |                     |       | ? The proposed expansion is in compliance with all Forest Service authorized uses.   |   |
|   |                     |       | ? Appears not to conflict with the Forest Service Travel Management Plans.   |   |
|   |                     |       | ? Proposed expansion does not impact the open slopes of the St. Regis Basin but remains in the timbered areas along the northern edge and on the adjacent north aspect.  |   |
|   |                     |       | ? Does not change current access by backcountry users on the southern boarder of the   |   |

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current ski area to the St Regis Basin.  
 ? Does not threaten existing backcountry skiing and snowmobiling.  
 ? It will provide easier access for backcountry users that do not normally have the time and energy to enjoy the upper reaches of the basin and terrain.  
 ? Phil Edholm has verified expertise in designing ski area expansions to best utilize existing terrain with minimal impact and mitigating any environmental concerns. He has verifiable experience in successfully managing these ski areas.  
 ? Expansion will enhance the skiing and riding opportunities for the vast majority of intermediate to expert levels with the planned new runs and available terrain.  
 ? It will upgrade Chair 1 to a high capacity lift to alleviate congestion on busy days and provide access to the new terrain which will improve overall mountain access.  
 ? There will be enhanced maintenance and guest services available.  
 ? It will positively impact the local and nearby economies with increased skier, rider and backcountry users.  
 ? It will facilitate expanded job opportunities in construction, lodging and service industries, to name a few, which also expands the local tax base.  
 ? Addition Ski Patrol presence will greatly improve Search & Rescue response to St. Regis Basin and adjoining non ski area terrain incidents. The Ski Patrol will also mitigate avalanche concerns within the ski area boundaries.  
 ? Lookout really does have the best snow conditions with nearly double the annual snow fall of many resorts (average 400+ inches/year). The higher aspect on the mountain will provide consistently outstanding conditions for more of the public to enjoy.

I fully support the planned Lookout Pass expansion and know that the management staff will fully deal with any concerns brought about by the EIS.

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**Associated Comments**

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| 1 | Concern In Progress |       |  |                                  |
|   |                     |       |  | 102.04 General Project Support   |
|   |                     |       |  | 220 Laws, Policies, Courts       |
|   |                     |       |  | 260 Recreation                   |
|   |                     |       |  | 282 Social Conditions and Values |
|   |                     |       |  | 282.07 Trust, Credibility        |
|   |                     | #51-3 | The caliber of the skiing opportunities will increase immensely with the elevations differences, caliber of the snow quality, diverse down hill skiing, the x-cross country trails, snow shoeing, snowmobiling and other winter festivals. The ease of access from I-90 in the states of Idaho & Montana will support area access. |                                  |
|   |                     |       |  | 102.04 General Project Support   |
|   |                     |       |  | 260 Recreation                   |
|   |                     | #53-1 | I have skied at Lookout Pass for the past 54 years and am in support of the expansion. Our area is in need of additional resources in terms of recreation and economic development. The expansion would be a wonderful addition to our area.   |                                  |
|   |                     |       |  | 102.04 General Project Support   |
|   |                     |       |  | 260 Recreation                   |
|   |                     |       |  | 281 Econ. Conditions, Values     |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 1 | Concern In Progress | #54-1 | <p>Shoshone County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) is in support of the Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion (LPSAE). We believe this proposed expansion will create jobs, will support existing business within the County and additionally in Mineral County, Mt, will attract new businesses to support the ski/snowboard industry and will improve the tax base in the County.</p> <p>As Shoshone County continually leads the State in unemployment figures and annually struggles to meet balance the budget, the LPSAE will help resolve these issues. The ski/snowboard industry has not shown much growth but Lookout Pass and the family friendly attitude continues to set new records for visitors year after year. This current management philosophy is a positive attribute that will carry forward through the project and exemplifies the intended uses of national forest lands under the multiple use concept and also typify the NEPA doctrine of productive harmony intended to sustain socio-economic viability of local communities.</p> | <p>102.04      General Project Support</p> <p>281            Econ. Conditions, Values</p> |
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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |   |   |
| 1                          | Concern In Progress | #54-3     | <p>The family friendly experience currently offered at Lookout Pass will continue with the expansion. The quality of trails and snow conditions however will improve with the proposed addition for at least two reasons. The increase in vertical skiing terrain and the attainment of higher elevation will add to the desirability of Lookout's overall rating because of better powder snow conditions and longer runs, will attract a new market of skiers to the mountain, and helps establish destination resort classification of Lookout Pass. This expansion will attract multi-day users interested in a ski vacation and will benefit current businesses throughout the Silver Valley, create jobs and enhance new business creation.</p> <p>In addressing this expansion Lookout's management team chose to select a timbered ridge which does little to impact snowmobile use, chose to use a flat topped ridge away from avalanche danger and limit the length of chair #6 to 2800' which limits impacts to the environment.</p> | <p>102.04      General Project Support</p> <p>260            Recreation</p> <p>280            Econ. &amp; Social Conditions</p> |
|                            |                     | #54-9     | <p>In summary the BOCC support this project and believe the benefits will include the following points for full consideration:</p> <p>1. Economic benefits to the local communities will be considerable.</p>   | <p>102.04      General Project Support</p> <p>281            Econ. Conditions, Values</p>                                       |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 1 | Concern In Progress | #54-11 | Quality of snow improvements from higher elevation, longer trails and increased vertical drop, and opportunities because of mountain top lift service will increase greater satisfaction for the public users.   | 102.04 | General Project Support      |
|   |                     |        |  | 282    | Social Conditions and Values |
|   |                     | #61-1  | I recently attended a meeting concerning Lookout Pass ski area expansion. I acquired all info regarding expansion, reviewed it, and at this time I am in total support of the expansion. I feel it would benefit many people with very little negative impact on the area. I also feel we need to encourage young people as well as everyone to get out and enjoy the forests that belong to the public. | 102.04 | General Project Support      |
|   |                     |        |  | 280    | Econ. & Social Conditions    |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 1 | Concern In Progress | #65-1 | <p>Because of a previous commitment I was late to arrive at the Wallace session explaining the expansion. My reason for attending the meeting was to express in person my support for this expansion project.</p> <p>The management of Lookout Pass have done a great job of improving this outstanding ski area. They have proven to be good stewards of the land they have leased from the Idaho Panhandle National Forest. The improvements they have made over the past several years are first class and have been well received by ski and snowboarding enthusiasts from all over the northwest.</p> <p>The increase in visits both winter and summer with the biking on the Hiawatha trail have been a great boost to economic development in the Silver Valley of North Idaho.</p> <p>I again express my support for this project and ask the decision makers to look favorably on this project so it can move forward as outlined in their expansion plans.</p> | <p>102.04      General Project Support</p> <p>281            Econ. Conditions, Values</p> <p>282.07        Trust, Credibility</p> |
|   |                     | #68-1 | <p>Please let this letter serve as an unqualified endorsement and letter of support for the proposed Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion ("the Proposed Expansion"). This endorsement is submitted on behalf of Magnuson Hospitality Group, a locally-owned and operated Silver Valley business.</p> <p>Magnuson Hospitality Group ("MHG") has had an opportunity to review the scope and terms of the Proposed Expansion. Seldom is a community presented with an opportunity such as this that will enhance local economic, recreational, and societal needs in a manner that brings little if any negative fiscal impact, while also representing the hallmark of</p>   |   |

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**Associated Comments**

1 Concern In Progress

responsible environmental stewardship. MHG is a locally-owned business which operates the Wallace Inn and the Stardust Motel (both located in Wallace). The Company was founded by my father, Harry F. Magnuson, who was born and raised in Wallace. It is no secret that the economies of the Silver Valley, including Wallace, have suffered more economically than most similarly-situated communities in America. The cyclical nature of the precious metals industry, coupled with greater regulations and costs, have caused the Silver Valley to undergo (or at least to attempt to undergo) a long-term transformation from a resource based community to a community promoting its recreational opportunities and its history. The transformation has not been easy and it has taken the efforts of many. It is still underway.

Those individuals who have assisted greatly in attempting to insure that our local economy can provide some meaningful employment opportunities include our friends at Lookout Pass. Lookout Pass, for decades, has played an integral role in the Silver Valley community in terms of environmental stewardship, job creation, and the promotion of recreational opportunities.

It is important to note that the recreational opportunities promoted by Lookout Pass are not limited to those who can afford the same. Lookout Pass, for in excess of fifty (50) years, has provided not only the Silver Valley but other portions of North Idaho and Western Montana with the

longest continuously operated free ski school in the United States. My four siblings and I were all fortunate enough to be able to participate in the programs offered by Lookout Pass during our youth.

MHG's facilities include 108 hotel rooms in Wallace, restaurant facilities, and meeting and

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**Associated Comments**

1                      Concern In Progress

convention space. The Stardust Motel was constructed over fifty (50) years ago, when the local economy was still driven primarily by natural resources, and when the town of Wallace boasted a population of a few thousand. The Wallace Inn was constructed approximately twenty-five (25) years ago, in an effort to provide some sort of economic impetus and employment to the local community given the issues facing our natural resource industry. Together, these facilities now employ up to forty-five ( 45) local people per year. This is a significant number considering that the population of the town of Wallace is now less than one thousand. It takes a team effort with team players to make our local community succeed under difficult circumstances. Lookout Pass provides an integral component to the local economy, providing recreational opportunities during a period of the year when tourist and visitor traffic is otherwise down. What makes this contribution all the more important, is that Lookout Pass brings with it community support (in the form of the free ski school and other programs) and responsible and appropriate concern for the environment. It is no understatement to say that the Proposed Expansion will have a long-term, positive impact on all facets of Silver Valley life (economic, recreational, environmental, and societal). I respectfully submit, on behalf of MHG and our employees, that there is no cogent reason not to approve and authorize the Proposed Expansion. We are lucky to have the operators of Lookout Pass as our neighbors. The Proposed Expansion will create additional employment and recreational opportunities that will be long -lasting. Further, Lookout Pass has an unparalleled history of prudent operations that are compatible and consistent with Forest Service objectives. Without projects of this nature, property that creates employment where it is needed without sacrificing the characteristics that make our region unique, we will continue to encounter

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**Associated Comments**

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| 1 | Concern In Progress |       | difficulties in making the long-term transition from an economy wholly-reliant on the natural resource industry. We ask that you approve the Proposed Expansion and that you consider the foregoing comments in support of a favorable Environmental Impact Statement. Our family is nearing its 125th anniversary in Silver Valley. Projects of this nature will insure that the community remains in place for our families and friends to call home the next 125 years.   |                           |
|   |                     |       |  | 102.04                    |
|   |                     |       |  | General Project Support   |
|   |                     |       |  | 230                       |
|   |                     |       |  | Natural Environment       |
|   |                     |       |  | 260                       |
|   |                     |       |  | Recreation                |
|   |                     |       |  | 280                       |
|   |                     |       |  | Econ. & Social Conditions |
|   |                     | #69-1 | This area sustains numerous uses throughout the year. Very few people utilize the area for anything other than recreation provided by Lookout Pass Ski area. This is a great benefit to the community for numerous reasons. Over the years I found it interesting that there are more and more people from Western Montana utilizing Lookout Pass as they have discovered it is a great family place with the best snow for skiing. As you are probably aware, skiing has become an expensive sport and has priced out many people. This is not so at Lookout Pass. It is reasonable and the free ski school is unique in the United States. I strongly urge you to support the expansion plans. Expansion will accommodate the ever increasing crowds at Lookout. Its success is based upon the great snow, great location and the fact that it offers the public a unique and reasonable skiing opportunity today. |                           |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 1 | Concern In Progress |       |  |                                |
|   |                     |       |  | 102.04 General Project Support |
|   |                     |       |  | 260 Recreation                 |
|   |                     |       |  | 280 Econ. & Social Conditions  |
|   |                     | #70-1 | I am a graduate of the Lookout Pass free ski school. I benefited from this program during my childhood and I personally know literally hundreds of other people who also benefited from the program over the past fifty (50) years. Lookout Pass is the best example of a good neighbor and community supporter.<br>All facets of Lookout Pass' operations have been responsibly managed, maintained, and operated for decades. I would expect that the Proposed Expansion would not be any different. Moreover, the Proposed Expansion would bring with it economic stability and growth, something we haven't seen in the Silver Valley for a long, long time. |                                |
|   |                     |       |  | 102.04 General Project Support |
|   |                     |       |  | 281 Econ. Conditions, Values   |
|   |                     |       |  | 282.07 Trust, Credibility      |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 1 | Concern In Progress | #79-1 | <p>I have had the opportunity to attend one public hearing and also review the scope and information of the Proposed Expansion. I whole heartedly endorse the plan offered by Lookout and hope that the expansion can move forward on an expedited manner. Personally I have had the opportunity both as a child as an adult to benefit from the recreational opportunities offered at Lookout Pass. I have also been greatly impressed with the previous expansion and improvements done by the current owners of Lookout Pass. We in the Wallace community me proud to have Lookout Pass as our neighbor. The owners have been extremely good corporate neighbors and also supportive of other business activities in Wallace and the Silver Valley. They have managed their businesses in a professional and responsive manner and we look forward to having them as our neighbors for many years to come.</p> <p>As some of you may know Wallace and the. Silver Valley have had difficult economic times for the past thirty years with the collapse of the mining industry in the early and mid 1980's. While we still consider ourselves a mining camp there has been a gradual evolvment towards a tourism based economy. This is a slow process but businesses such as Lookout Pass have helped this process to reach the level where it currently is. On behalf of the citizens of the city of Wallace I respectfully request that you approve this Proposed Expansion and we look forward to benefiting from the added recreational opportunities and tourism that this will bring to the Silver Valley.</p> |        |                          |
|   |                     |       |   | 102.04 | General Project Support  |
|   |                     |       |   | 281    | Econ. Conditions, Values |
|   |                     |       |   | 282.07 | Trust, Credibility       |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 1 | Concern In Progress | #80-1 | We are in favor of allowing the Lookout Ski Slope expansion to go forward. We have a small amount of developed recreational areas for families but acres of forest land that is not developed. Lookout Ski slopes not only allows an exceptional exercise area but helps Shoshone county financially. We need them and we need to develop businesses in Shoshone county. |                                       |
|   |                     |       |  | 102.04      General Project Support   |
|   |                     |       |  | 260          Recreation               |
|   |                     |       |  | 281          Econ. Conditions, Values |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 1 | Concern In Progress | #89-2 | <p>Lookout Pass has been a great tenant on National Forest lands and overall I appreciate their intention and direction with this expansion effort and generally support it. My support is built on several principles: First a lack of ecological concern due to the amount of human impact in these zones from mining and timber operations over the past 80 years. Secondly it is derived from the potential positive impact it will have on Lookout Pass and their business in the region. Due to elevation and location on the mountain range they are uniquely situated to survive the next 30 years of climate change our region will experience and in this light the investment is sound. Investing additional space into recreational access at this location in particular makes sense to me for a long term return unlike other lower elevation, less predictable sites. Third, of all the ski areas in the region Lookout Pass has consistently operated in a manner that keeps overhead low, encourages participation through low cost education programs, keeps access reasonable by keeping lift ticket and food prices low, and improves quality of recreation for winter users on an annual basis. Overall this model is the opposite of a high cost, high investment, property driven resort model that has failed so many times. Lookout offers predictable snow and good service to skiers of the Inland Northwest.</p> |        |                            |
|   |                     |       |  | 102.04 | General Project Support    |
|   |                     |       |  | 203    | Multiple Resources/Reasons |

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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |   |  |
| 2                          | Concern In Progress | #1-3      | IT IS TIME TO CLOSE DOWN THE USE OF OUR NATIONAL FOREST AREAS FOR SKI PROFITEERING. LET THESE DEVELOPERS BUY PRIVATE LAND TO USE FOR THEIR PROFITEERING. THIS LAND IS NATIONAL LAND, HOME FOR ANIMALS AND BIRDS AND VEGETATION. THEY ARE NOT THERE AS LUMBERYARDS FOR PROFITEERS TO DESTROY EITHER. THIS LAND IS NATIONAL LAND, NOT STATE LAND. DEVELOPERS LOOK TO LATCH ONTO CHEAP LAND. THIS SHOULD NOT BE CHEAP LAND. IT IS NATIONAL LAND AND VERY DEAR TO THE HEARTS OF THE PEOPLE IN THIS COUNTRY WHO CHERISH THAT OPEN SPACE THEY OWN. OUR GOVT AGENCIES TREAT IT LIKE CHEAP LAND TO BE EXPLOITED BY RICH DEVELOPERS EAGER TO EXPLOIT FOR THEIR OWN RICHES. |  |
|                            |                     |           |   | 102.05      General Project Opposition |
|                            |                     |           |   | 202.02      Position, No Rationale     |
|                            |                     | #24-1     | I would like to express my disapproval of the proposed expansion of Lookout Pass (reference "Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion Third Party E1S") for the following reasons:<br><br>-The expansion area is currently used by back country enthusiasts (skiers, snowboarders, snowshoers, snow machines). Expansion would push out these current users into other areas that are currently in a state of user conflict (backcountry skiiers and snowboarders are struggling to find areas that are not tracked out by heavy snow machines which leave deep tracks that are dangerous to people using human powered means to travel and slide in the backcountry).     |  |
|                            |                     |           |   | 102.05      General Project Opposition |
|                            |                     |           |   | 260.02      Rec. Resource Usability    |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 2 | Concern In Progress | #27-1 | I am strongly opposed to the Lookout Ski Area expansion plan for the following reasons:<br>Decreased Access to backcountry areas: The Lookout Ski Resort expansion creates a further erosion of public land that can be accessed by human-powered methods. Not only will the expansion remove over 650 acres of land from public use but we will no longer be able to use the Idaho-Montana state line ridge, a traditional route used to access the St. Regis and Stevens Lakes basins. | 102.05<br>260.02        | General Project Opposition<br>Rec. Resource Usability          |
|   |                     | #33-5 | Please understand once expanded there is no going back. This proposed expansion not only effects current users of the St. Regis/Steven's Peak area but future users. I have a 10 month old and a 2.5 year old. Please allow my children and others to ski and recreate in this natural basin,without commercial impediments.   | 102.05<br>260<br>282.04 | General Project Opposition<br>Recreation<br>Future Generations |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 2 | Concern In Progress | #48-1 | <p>I plan on attending the meeting in Wallace, Idaho on April 23, 2014 to state my opposition to Lookout Pass expansion. I have hiked up to Stevens Lakes with my family almost every summer since 1970 and we have always enjoyed this wonderful "wilderness" just a short distance from our front door. No four wheelers, jeeps or other modern noises to break the solitude! The only way up to the lakes was to hike like we did.</p> <p>This expansion puts this at risk. We used to hike into Saint Regis Lakes for the same experience but after encountering all the roads, ski trails and ski lifts put in during the last expansion, we decided to find other places to go. I don't want this to happen to Stevens and Lone lakes!</p> | <p>102.05      General Project Opposition</p> <p>260            Recreation</p> |
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| 2 | Concern In Progress | #50-1 | <p>After the initial review of the ski area expansion proposal I felt it would be a good use of PUBLIC lands. However after reconsideration, I find myself opposing it for the following reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. As a snowmobiler, I am keenly aware of what the Forest Service is capable of - namely kicking everyone off PUBLIC lands. They just completed the final installment of closing down the entire Great Burn area to snowmobiling, totaling 503,057 acres. The proposed expansion would close off another 653.4 acres to snowmobiling as I am sure they will not allow mixed use on the ski area.</li> <li>2. Allowing a corporation to control 653 acres of PUBLIC lands is not unlike giving it to them. And the restrictions they will impose will further limit the land's usability and suitability for hunting, snowmobiling, and various forms of summer recreation.</li> </ol> <p>I encourage you to DENY the application for expansion of the Lookout Ski Area.</p> | <p>102.05      General Project Opposition</p> <p>260.02      Rec. Resource Usability</p> |
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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |   |                                      |
| 2                          | Concern In Progress | #72-1     | <p>We can build or expand resorts forever, but another St. Regis basin with all its biological diversity we can never reconstruct. Once our wild lands are gone they are gone forever - and with them our beautiful wildlife, without which this world becomes more lonely and devoid of the beauty and inspiration unique to them.</p> <p>The fate of our public lands has reached the eleventh hour - are you going to allow our last best wild lands to be developed for the sole good of special interests, in this case a ski resort; or will you take a moral stand and defend a higher good that these public lands serve: the well being of invaluable wildlife and the right of all Americans, both living and unborn, to experience wildlife and wild untrammled public lands, that are the soul of America - and give life to one of its richest, most beautiful dimensions?</p> <p>Our National Forests and other public lands are too valuable as wild lands to be plundered for their natural resources or exploited for the benefit of corporate interests. Too much has already been lost - destroyed or ruined forever.</p> <p>Henry David Thoreau's haunting prophetic words are more vital today than ever: "In wilderness is the preservation of the world." Our survival literally depends on preserving and protecting our forests, for they are a life-giving force to our planet, benefiting their air we breathe, the water, wildlife, and climate in ways that are far from being understood; and their destruction forebodes an increase in global warming - a reality we can no longer ignore.</p> <p>Thomas Jefferson reminds this age of the technological exploitation of nature, that no generation has the right to trample on the rights and freedom of succeeding generations. It is time to begin protecting our "geography of hope," keeping it a vernal masterpiece and fountain of life for all generations to come.</p> | 102.05<br>General Project Opposition |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 2 | Concern In Progress |        |   |                                   |
|   |                     |        |   | 230 Natural Environment           |
|   |                     | #77-11 | This whole project will be a headache for the local people. It will turn into something our families won't be able to afford to enjoy, and we will have to foot the bills on services that Lookout doesn't pay a cent, so to speak. The ski areas present management is the biggest reason that the last FREE Ambulance service went of service. All the volunteer EMT's got burned out responding to calls on the ski hill and NO contributions from Lookout. I have been involved with the Shoshone County Groomer for 25 plus years and have dealt with all kinds of trouble with the ski area manager and workers. Most of which is in the groomer minutes. They have been brought to the USFS attention, but nothing was ever done. I have been called out for a fight on the ski hill parking lot, when myself and some friends were jeeping on the rail grade in the snow of May. We parked in the lot and were going to have lunch till the work crew came to us and stated that it's time to start taking out jeeps as well as atv's. It was reported, but nothing was done. So I think it is time to say enough, no more. The cross country skiers and others have started to ban together to fight this. |                                   |
|   |                     |        |   | 102.05 General Project Opposition |
|   |                     |        |   | 203 Multiple Resources/Reasons    |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 3 | Concern In Progress | #6-1 | Lookout pass has done an outstanding job of providing quality, affordable recreation on public lands. It cannot continue to do so if faced with more delays and cost increases from the US Forest Service. This project has tremendous public support and represents the best use of our public lands. Winter recreation is an essential part of our lifestyle in the northern Rockies but many of us are getting priced out of skiing. Much of the increased cost is due to Forest Service delays and cost increases. Please facilitate completion of the Lookout Pass NEPA process and Record of Decision in the next 2-3 years. Please explain why the ski area (the skiers) had to pay the EIS contractor an extra \$100,000 and if this will be the last Forest Service cost increase. |                               |
|   |                     |      |   | 110 Decision Process          |
|   |                     |      |   | 202.02 Position, No Rationale |

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**Associated Comments**

3 Concern In Progress

#7-1

It was recently brought to my attention some of the problems lookout pass ski area is facing regarding the permit process and environmental review process to allow for future expansion of the ski area. As you may have guest I am an avid snowboarder and outdoor enthusiast, and I absolutely love the lookout area for those recreational purposes. I recently move to the area and purchased a home in Wallace to enjoy just that. It makes me sick to hear the national forest is purposely creating delays and piling up unnecessary additional environmental impact studies.For the sole purpose of raising the cost to the ski area and preventing this from happening.

I have an Environmental Design degree from the University of Colorado so I completely understand why the studies need to take place. Im 100% pro protecting the environment, and responsible use. I believe it is extremely important to have responsible growth so future generations can enjoy the same activities we do now. However I recently learned about the problems the ski area "Snow Bowl" in Montana faced with the unnecessary \$1,000,000 fee and 10 year Environmental Review process! That is just crazy! The purpose of the National Forest Service is to protect it for responsible use of the people, NOT make it so we cant enjoy the very land we are trying to protect!

If the expansion of Look Out is anything like the scary story of SnowBowl, The forest service delays and cost increase will destroy the only affordable ski area left in our region. Which is down right sad.

Thank you for taking the time to hear my opinion and can you please do what you can to help facilitate completion of the lookout pass NEPA process and record of decision in the next 2-3 years.

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| 3 | Concern In Progress |       |  |                               |
|   |                     |       |  | 110 Decision Process          |
|   |                     |       |  | 202.02 Position, No Rationale |
|   |                     | #11-1 | I would like to express my concern about the expansion at Lookout Pass ski area. Why when this ski area caters to a lower budget citizen is the forest service not helping them along. My seasons pass at this ski area is \$129.00. This is the cost of one day at Vail,Colorado also on forest service land. Why not have the forest service be of help to the local people rather than a expensive hindrance. The taft bike tunnel is a prime example of wasteful policy and spending. The locals enjoyed this mountain bike ride then the forest service came and closed it up at a cost of nearly \$200,000.00 and then within a little over a year spent in excess of \$500,000.00 to open it back up. This is not common sense from a taxpayers view point. Be a partner with the local people and aid not hinder the Lookout Pass expansion. |                               |
|   |                     |       |  | 110 Decision Process          |
|   |                     |       |  | 202.02 Position, No Rationale |

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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |  |                               |
| 3                          | Concern In Progress | #12-1     | <p>Regarding the proposed expansion of the Lookout Pass Ski Area, I would urge the Forest Service to proceed with the approval of this project in an expeditious fashion. As a longtime skier at Lookout, I can attest that they have done an outstanding job of providing quality, affordable recreation, including a free ski school, on public lands for over 50 years. Skiers and snowboarders are not the only beneficiaries, as cross-country skiers, snowshoers, and hikers also enjoy the benefits of having Lookout Pass operate on these lands. The proposed expansion will only serve to enhance what is clearly a superior use of our public forests.</p> <p>Lookout, in comparison to many other ski areas, offers very affordable rates to its patrons, and is not an area, unlike others, that is dominated and driven by real estate (hotels, condominiums) development that often ignores the environment. The management of Lookout have demonstrated, over many years, their considerate stewardship of the environment in which they operate.</p> <p>Again, I would strongly urge the Forest Service to expedite the process by which Lookout Pass may expand the wonderful winter recreational experience that they have offered for so many years.</p> |                               |
|                            |                     |           |  | 110 Decision Process          |
|                            |                     |           |  | 202.02 Position, No Rationale |
|                            |                     | #15-2     | Please expedite the approval process so as to minimize cost impacts fro Lookout Pass. I look forward to taking my family to Lookout for years to come as long as they can provide good skiing at a low price.  |                               |

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| 3 | Concern In Progress |       |   |                                   |
|   |                     |       |   | 110 Decision Process              |
|   |                     |       |   | 202.02 Position, No Rationale     |
|   |                     | #16-1 | Why is there no meetings scheduled in and for the town of Mullan where this ski expansion effects the most? You have meetings scheduled in Wallace, DeBorgia and Coeur d' Alene but nothing in Mullan, as a resident of Mullan I don't feel I should have to travel to a meeting about something that is going to effect the area I live. We have elderly people who live in Mullan and don't drive who would like to attend a meeting on the area of where they live.[...]We would also like to have the meetings that affect our town in our own town. We shouldn't have to travel to another town that aren't affected by the impact of our land being used for personal gain by privet parties. |                                   |
|   |                     |       |   | 111.02 Collaboration, Meetings    |
|   |                     |       |   | 210.06 General Public             |
|   |                     |       |   | 506 Request public meeting, etc . |
|   |                     | #22-2 | I urge the Forest Service to expedite the permitting process as much as possible to allow the area to move forward.   |                                   |
|   |                     |       |   | 110 Decision Process              |
|   |                     |       |   | 202.02 Position, No Rationale     |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 3 | Concern In Progress | #55-1 | The only ones who seem to be dragging their feet are District Ranger Hudson and Forest Supervisor Farnsworth. Their actions to date have resulted in continuing delays and unnecessary increased costs. There seems to be no realization that time = money. Each day, week and month lost means thousands of dollars in increased costs for financing, design and construction and decreased revenues for businesses, lost taxes for local governments, lost wages for local workers and less money to support programs such as ski school. Every year of delay will result in a \$3-5 increase in lift ticket prices. |                                 |
|   |                     |       |  | 110 Decision Process            |
|   |                     |       |  | 281 Econ. Conditions, Values    |
|   |                     | #55-2 | In addition to costs due to delay, Supervisor Farnsworth and Ranger Hudson forced Lookout Pass Ski area to hire a third party contractor for \$100,000 more than the low bidder. The low bidder successfully completed dozens of similar ski area projects including the last NEPA process at Lookout Pass. This \$100,000 increase is more than the profit from an entire years lift ticket sales.  |                                 |
|   |                     |       |  | 112.03 Outsourcing, Contracting |
|   |                     |       |  | 202.02 Position, No Rationale   |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text  | Code                            |
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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |   |                                 |
| 3                          | Concern In Progress | #55-3     | I am especially concerned with the complete lack of experience in ski area NEPA projects of both the Forest Service ID team and the contractor. Neither the contractors' project manager nor the Forest Service Assistant Ranger-in-charge has ever worked on such a project. These are highly specialized projects requiring special expertise and experience to run smoothly. It is impossible to effectively manage these projects when you don't understand the potential impacts, their history, their analysis and their likely effect on the outcome. This lack of experience has already caused significant delays and are likely to cause more. Lookout Pass Ski Area attempted to avoid these problems by hiring an experienced third party contractor. The Panhandle and Lolo National Forests need to explain why they chose an inexperienced contractor and required the ski area (the skiers really) to pay \$100,000 more. You have not only created an extra \$100,000 cost but saddled the ski area with a contractor that will increase costs further by inefficiencies caused by inexperience. |                                 |
|                            |                     |           |   | 112.03 Outsourcing, Contracting |
|                            |                     |           |   | 210 Persons, Groups             |
|                            |                     | #55-4     | We encourage the US Forest Service to adjust the proposed NEPA schedule to complete the review sooner and at lower cost. We believe that you can reduce time and costs in several ways. Converting the process to an Environmental Analysis would eliminate the preparation of one entire document, the Final Environmental Impact Statement. Specialist input could be reduced to only those areas and levels of effort mandated by law or addressed in scoping comments. You could certainly conduct the fieldwork and complete the DEIS if you chose to, it has been done before. You have the ability and control to reduce the cost and timeline if you so choose.   |                                 |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 3 | Concern In Progress |       |   |                               |
|   |                     |       |   | 110 Decision Process          |
|   |                     |       |   | 202.02 Position, No Rationale |
|   |                     | #55-5 | The most common way that costs are increased unnecessarily is when more analysis is conducted than necessary. It is the responsibility of Forest Supervisor Farnsworth and District Ranger Hudson to ensure that this does not occur at Lookout Pass. Since none of your team or consultants seems to have any experience in NEPA for small ski area projects, I have provided the summary below. The main impacts at the proposed expansion are similar to other recent projects and are likely to include the following:  |                               |
|   |                     |       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Endangered species – Lynx: The expansion will not exceed established standards for lynx habitat preservation. No small ski area expansion project has been denied due to lynx. Active populations are common at ski areas across Canada and some in the US. Re-introduction in Colorado has proven successful.</li> <li>• Water Quality: All proposed activities on the Montana side are far from the St. Regis River which has been altered by a history of impacts. Downstream on the Idaho side is a large superfund site. Only road stream crossings will directly affect water quality and these impacts are temporary and easily mitigated with proven Best Management Practices. A wide variety of practices will be implemented to control both short and long-term erosion. These water quality impacts are so small they cannot be accurately modeled.</li> <li>• Water Quantity: Water quantity impacts from 85 acres of tree removal is miniscule and undetectable across these two watersheds. Every time water quality impacts have been modeled for small ski area expansions the results are a change of only a few percent which is likely less than the model accuracy.</li> <li>• Vegetation – Old-growth: There is no old-growth timber stands at Lookout Pass, the</li> </ul> |                               |

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**Associated Comments**

3 Concern In Progress

entire area burned in the 1910 fire and so every mature tree is 100 years old, too young for oldgrowth designation.

- Vegetation – Rare Plants: No endangered plants occur in Montana or Idaho. The probability of threatened plant species is low and not found in past surveys. No small ski area project has been halted by sensitive plants. Avoidance and other options are available if needed.
- Visual Quality: Portions of several ski runs may be visible from a short section of I-90 when driving east from Montana. These ski runs are likely to only be recognizable to most persons in winter when dark forest contrasts with white snow. This is one of the obvious impacts of ski hills and must be compared with the benefits.
- Fish – endangered species – bull trout and cutthroat trout

Soils and Erosion: The soils at Lookout pass are very stable, are quickly and easily re-vegetated and are very fertile.

- Geologic Hazards: Low seismic hazard zone, low mineral potential (all old claims closed), very localized slope stability hazards.
- Fire: The entire area is the 1910 burn. No one has found more than a few sentences to waste time and money on concerning fire at small ski areas. Ski runs provide increased access and act as fire breaks. Dying trees increase fire and other risks and will be removed if necessary.
- Recreation: An increase of 25,000 - 50,000 user-days per year or 2-3 million over the next 50 years.
- Recreation-backcountry skiing: I have backcountry skied in the Lookout pass area for over 40 years. While a few backcountry skiers/boarders may object, the enormous number of user-days on the expanded ski area far outweighs this small displacement of the few. In fact, the new lifts will greatly expand back-country opportunities in both Montana and

| Concern Response # | Status | Comment # | Comment Text | Code |
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**Associated Comments**

3 Concern In Progress

Idaho. A recreation management plan for the entire area should be developed for all winter recreation users.

- Recreation-snowmobiling: Although a few snowmobilers will be displaced by this expansion, the numbers are miniscule compared with the increased visitation at Lookout Pass Ski Area. A recreation management plan for the entire area should be developed for all winter recreation users.
- Socio-Economic: More revenue for ski area improvements, wages and facilities. More revenue to help support the Hiawatha Trail. More revenue for local businesses. More taxes for local governments. Continuing the culture of skiing as an important winter sports activity in the Rocky Mountains. More support for local athletes, schools and other organizations. Continuing support for the free ski school.

122 Effects Analysis

203 Multiple Resources/Reasons

| Concern Response # | Status | Comment # | Comment Text | Code |
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**Associated Comments**

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| 3 | Concern In Progress | #55-6 | <p>Montana Snowbowl recently gained approval for an expansion that took over 10 years and \$1 million to complete despite having no significant negative impacts and no extra alternatives. This project highlights some of the ways Forest specialists can make unreasonable comments and demands. It also shows large gaps in activity with no explanation of what the Lolo Forest was doing except delaying for no apparent purpose. There were often gaps of months when nothing seemed to happen and no progress was made by the Lolo Forest at all.</p> <p>The greatest problem throughout the Snowbowl project was a complete lack of management by Lolo Forest line officers. There was a revolving door of temporary and permanent district rangers, none of whom showed any interest in managing this project. None seemed to ask or care about the cost, the length of time it was taking or the multiple analyses of the same issues. Lolo forest managers seemed content to let forest specialists dictate the progress, schedule and tasks without regard for budgets or weighing the benefits of extra costs. Most of these specialists had never worked on a Ski Area National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) project and had no idea of the issues and potential impacts. All the Forest Service has to do is provide guidance and review work products – the 3rd Party Contractor did most of the work.[...]I encourage you to not repeat the fiasco at Snowbowl but to start acting like a recreation and community partner again. It is time to explain the \$100,000+ cost increase. It is time to reduce future costs and move forward with this project without further delay. I remind you that after the last expansion, the public responded, increasing annual visitor days from under 20,000 to over 65,000! This is the best use of our public lands there is with over 65,000 people recreating on only a few hundred acres.</p> |  |
|---|---------------------|-------|---|--|

110 Decision Process

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text  | Code                       |
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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |   |                            |
| 3                          | Concern In Progress |           |   |                            |
|                            |                     | #57-1     | Please convert this process to an Environmental Analysis and/or facilitate completion of the Lookout Pass NEPA process in the next 2-3 years.   | 202.02<br>110              |
|                            |                     | #57-2     | Please explain why the ski area (the skiers really) already had to pay the EIS contractor an extra \$100,000 and if this will be the last Forest Service cost increase.   | 202.02<br>110              |
|                            |                     | #57-3     | The main issues at the proposed Lookout Pass Expansion are continuing delays and cost increases from the Forest Service which will end affordable skiing. It shouldn't take over 15 years and \$1 million to complete a permit process like it just did at Montana Snowbowl. There do not seem to be any Forest Service employees with experience in ski area environmental impacts and review. This lack of experience creates uncertainty, miss-steps, un-needed effort and delays. | 202.02<br>112.02<br>202.02 |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 3 | Concern In Progress | #57-4 | The ski area applied for expansion over 5 years ago and the public scoping process has only just begun. Every year of delay will add \$1-5 to the price of a lift ticket. Each year of delay means the area does not get the extra post-expansion revenue but must still pay for it, pushing repayment out many more years. |                              |
|   |                     |       |   | 110 Decision Process         |
|   |                     |       |   | 281 Econ. Conditions, Values |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 3 | Concern In Progress | #57-5 | <p>This project should be reviewed an Environmental Analysis (EA) not a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). This would save years off the process and hundreds of thousands of dollars (remember \$100,000 is more than the profit from and entire season’s lift tickets). The Forest Service has never explained why this small expansion needs an EIS. Blacktail Mountain was permitted as an EA. Snowbowl should have been an EA. There are good reasons for an EA at Lookout:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Not a single small ski area expansion project in the northern Rocky Mountains has identified significant negative environmental or social impacts (Snowbowl, 49N, Blacktail, Discovery, Lost Trail, Lookout (last time). All have been approved and hailed as successes after completion. All identified tremendous benefits in the form of increased recreation opportunities, local revenues and taxes.</li> <li>b. The environmental and social impacts of these projects are well-documented, well-understood and not ‘rocket science’, they don’t take long to evaluate. Just sum them, disclose them, and let the public make a choice.</li> <li>c. No significant public opposition has occurred at any of these recent ski area expansion projects. No appeals were filed at most and no successful appeals have ever been made. Minor concerns prompted minor adjustments.</li> <li>d. An EA will more likely preserve affordable skiing and will increase local business income, tax income and infrastructure improvement funds.</li> <li>e. If significant impacts are identified at Lookout in the future or if public opposition explodes, an EA can be turned into an EIS.</li> </ul> |        |                             |
|   |                     |       |   | 120.02 | Analysis type (CE, EA, EIS) |
|   |                     |       |   | 203    | Multiple Resources/Reasons  |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 3 | Concern In Progress | #57-6 | The Forest Service is treating small ski area expansions like Strip Mines with long permit processes and endless cost increases. The original estimate for Snowbowl was 2 years and \$250,000 but the Forest Service pushed it to 15 years and over \$1 million. This huge time and cost was expended for a project that had no significant impacts and did not produce a single extra alternative – just do the proposed project or no action.   | 120    | Proposed Action, Decision |
|   |                     |       |   | 202.02 | Position, No Rationale    |
|   |                     | #57-7 | Scoping meetings will cost \$25,000-50,000 (preparation, advertising, consultant and agency attendance, travel, space rentals, follow-up data summaries, doughnuts). Similar meetings for other recent ski area expansions had more consultants and agency personnel than members of the public. These meetings are a way for consultants to make money and for the USFS to waste it. These meetings have provided little useful information in the past, especially compared with written comments. We believe in public speech and wish to promote it; we just think the actual experience shows it to be a waste of time and money. Scoping meetings have been eliminated from these processes before without comment or controversy. This is an example of the Forest Service not acting responsibly in containing costs, or even paying attention to costs. It is the skiers who are paying the bill. (The 'Friends' will be at these meetings to record attendance) | 111.02 | Collaboration, Meetings   |
|   |                     |       |   | 202.02 | Position, No Rationale    |

| Concern Response # | Status | Comment # | Comment Text | Code |
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**Associated Comments**

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| 3 | Concern In Progress | #57-8 | The Forest Service required Lookout Pass to hire a consultant to write the Environmental Impact Statement for \$100,000 more than the low bidder. The low bidder successfully completed the EIS for the last expansion and of course was in the best position to offer savings this time. The low bidder has successfully completed dozens of ski are projects. The Forest Service has offered no reason why the ski area (the skiers really) should pay an extra \$100,000. This is more than the profit from an entire season of lift ticket sales!!! (60,000 skier visits x \$30 average ticket price x 5% profit) |        |                          |
|   |                     |       |   | 112.03 | Outsourcing, Contracting |
|   |                     |       |   | 281    | Econ. Conditions, Values |
|   |                     | #57-9 | The Lolo Forest just put Montana Snowbowl through a 15 year, \$1 million permit process when most of that money should have been spent on facilities, wages, grooming and expansion infrastructure. Snowbowl has been plagued by complaints – most of which would be solved if they were not spending all their money on meaningless Forest Service studies.  |        |                          |
|   |                     |       |   | 122    | Effects Analysis         |
|   |                     |       |   | 202.02 | Position, No Rationale   |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text  | Code                             |
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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |   |                                  |
| 3                          | Concern In Progress | #57-10    | It took 9 months for the Forest Service to complete the cost recovery agreement for this project. This is a form that they call up a computer and fill in the blanks. The document identifies costs the ski area (skiers) will be billed for to cover the time Forest Service employees spend reviewing the project - mainly the work of the Third Party Contractor. The Forest Service used to consider these costs part of their job in providing multiple-resource management including recreation. Now the ski area (skiers) pay for everything with no control over or input on costs whatsoever.  | 112.01<br>Funding, General       |
|                            |                     | #57-11    | The Forest Service requested that the consultant provide a fire specialist who will no doubt spend thousands of dollars writing....what? Perhaps they should have Ms. Johnson's 3rd grade class write it since every school child from Wallace to St. Regis knows the fire history of Lookout Pass – it's called the 1910 Burn. Almost every single tree is 100 years old. The only other comments about fire at other recent ski resort projects are that the runs make for good access and fire breaks, snowmaking can help put out fires if available (not at Lookout) and trees will die and could burn. Is there really more expense needed on this subject? | 202.02<br>Position, No Rationale |
|                            |                     |           |   | 136<br>Fire and Fuels Mgmt       |
|                            |                     |           |   | 202.02<br>Position, No Rationale |

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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |  |   |
| 3                          | Concern In Progress | #57-12    | The scoping meetings revealed overwhelming support for the project and no significant negative impacts. If the written comments are similar, we suggest that this is a clear mandate to accelerate this project. We remind you that no similar small ski area project has been denied and all have been hailed as successful. Not a single appeal has been noteworthy and none altered the project in any way.<br>We encourage you to complete the fieldwork and Draft Environmental Impact Statement this calendar year in order to compensate for the delays and cost increases you have been responsible for to date. | 110<br>202.02   |
|                            |                     | #59-2     | Additionally, while we appreciate that meetings were held in De Borgia, MT, please consider holding public meetings in the Missoula area regarding this proposed expansion and other high-impact future plans in the western portion of Lolo National Forest. We are confident that our members and other Missoulians would appreciate the opportunity to meet Forest Service personnel and discuss the proposed Lookout Pass Ski Area expansion in person.  | Decision Process<br>Position, No Rationale  |
|                            |                     |           |  | 111.02<br>210.05<br>506   |
|                            |                     |           |  | Collaboration, Meetings<br>Interest Groups, Stakeholders<br>Request public meeting, etc . |

| Concern Response # | Status | Comment # | Comment Text | Code |
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**Associated Comments**

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| 3 | Concern In Progress | #82-1 | Also the map which you have provided is not very precise. Snowmobiles have been historically using a trail that goes back into the St. Regis Basin that is located next to the creek on the east side of the ski area. We can not tell whether that trail is inside or outside of the proposed boundary which concerns our access into the Basin. With these concerns and not being able to understand the map, we believe the comment period should be extended with changes made. | 111.03 | Comment Period            |
|   |                     |       |   | 260    | Recreation                |
|   |                     |       |   | 508    | Comment Period Extension  |
|   |                     |       |   |        |                           |
| 5 | Concern In Progress | #10-1 | I do not want to see any changes that will bring further restrictions to motorized trail use in this area.  | 164    | Motorized Recreation Mgmt |
|   |                     |       |   | 202.02 | Position, No Rationale    |
|   |                     |       |   |        |                           |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 5 | Concern In Progress | #16-2 | <p>When this deal with a privet party with our land is made, are all the roads and hunting access going to be closed off to the rest of the public. For the past 35 years I have lived here people were able to pick huckleberries on the ski hill, but when the people who run it now took over they got the roads shut off to the public. The elderly can no longer drive up the ski run to pick huckleberries nor can the hunters drive to the top of the mountain to hunt. I know for a fact that the employee's drive to the top of the mountain and they hunt on their way up and down, some employee's had bear bait set up off one of the ski runs and another shot a spike bull elk this past hunting season and he loaded it up in his truck and hauled it out. Why is it that the Forest Service closes the roads to the public and it is opened for employees of Lookout Ski? I have hunted the area where the new ski runs are going for the past 35 years and now I will be pushed out of an area where the public recreate. I understand more and more people are hiking and biking, and there have been more trails built for them and roads closed off and public land given to privet parties to make money. I have been a tax payer for most of my life and have lived I Idaho for the past 35 years, if the Forest Service is giving away public land, I would like to sign up for the free land as well. I know this wont make a difference because even though you have meetings the decision is already been made and the meetings are just a formality. We as the citizens would like to have some say on what happens with our land that the Forest Service manages.</p> |                      |
|   |                     |       |   | 151 Roads Management |
|   |                     |       |   | 260 Recreation       |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text   | Code                    |   |
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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |  |                         |   |
| 5                          | Concern In Progress | #26-2     | Roads & Access: Why are these roads being closed to the public use denying access to other recreation areas during construction? We dont close the whole Hiway during construction, if we we create a detour. This to me is denying access to public land so a comercial enterprise can profit. It is unclear which roads are being closed to motorized travel after completion. Example: 9132,4208,18951,3026A. Does the Special Use Permit authorize motorized traffic on these roads after completion. We just want to make sure, Hunters, Fisherman, ATV's & Snowmobiles can travel these roads, after inplentation of this project. | 151<br>260              | Roads Management<br>Recreation  |
|                            |                     | #31-6     | The plan calls for closure of several existing roads that are used year round by both motorized and non-motorized user groups. This no doubt is going to be unpopular and cause future conflicts.  | 151                     | Roads Management  |
|                            |                     | #46-2     | The ski area proposal looks to impact a critical route over Lookout Pass for OSV users. This route is important for maintainnig links to routes on both sides of the border. The impacts to these users needs to be taken into consideration.  | 260.02<br>164<br>260.02 | Rec. Resource Usability<br>Motorized Recreation Mgmt<br>Rec. Resource Usability |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text   | Code                           |
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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |  |                                |
| 5                          | Concern In Progress |           |  |                                |
|                            |                     | #56-4     | Concern for loss of trail access into the upper St. Regis River basin, south and west of LPSRA. The proposed actions may affect winter recreational access and travel over National Forest Service Road 18591 and other legal-use trails in the area.  |                                |
|                            |                     |           |  | 162 Recreational Access        |
|                            |                     |           |  | 260.02 Rec. Resource Usability |
|                            |                     | #63-2     | Access to the St. Regis Basin needs to be clearly defined on a map. It appears that the trail to the basin encroaches on Lookout's permit area. I don't believe it is Lookout's intention to exclude snowmobiles from the basin, but if the issue isn't addressed now, problems could arise in the future. |                                |
|                            |                     |           |  | 164.02 Over-snow vehicle use   |
|                            |                     |           |  | 260.02 Rec. Resource Usability |
|                            |                     | #66-4     | The map provided with this document is impossible to read. The road numbers to be left open or closed need to be better defined.   |                                |
|                            |                     |           |  | 123 Technical, Editorial       |
|                            |                     |           |  | 250 Transportation System      |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment #  | Comment Text  | Code   |                         |
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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |  |   |        |                         |
| 5                          | Concern In Progress | #66-5  | The road into the St. Regis basin is currently designated as motorized and has historically been used by snowmobilers. By looking at the map, one can determine that this road will now be closed to everything except administrative use. This is simply unacceptable. There is no other way to access the basin. If the road is closed to everything except administrative use, do the cross-country skiers and snow-sheers, who also have historically used this route, now have to purchase a lift ticket or find a way around? This road MUST remain open for all users. |        |                         |
|                            |                     |  |   | 151    | Roads Management        |
|                            |                     |  |   | 260.02 | Rec. Resource Usability |
|                            |                     | #66-6  | Groomed snowmobile trails in both Montana and Idaho share a border for the currently and proposed permitted areas. These trails should be clearly defined on the map not only to recognize this legitimately permitted activity but to settle any perceived "taking" from groomed trails and their uses.  |        |                         |
|                            |                     |  |   | 123    | Technical, Editorial    |
|                            |                     |  |   | 260    | Recreation              |
| #71-1                      |                     | Over the last few years Lookout Pass ski area has systematically eliminated any off season motorized use of the St. Regis basin area. Now that the Lolo N.F. has closed the atv trail from the R.R. grade up and over the stateline to TR. 16 and out Champion Cr. and also closed the old Glidden Pass Wagon Rd to ATV use. now the St. Regis basin is shutdown and we feel the F.S. should give back some ATV trails. The trail from Lookout Pass to Mullan Pass would be a start. There is a lot of volunteer help to make this happen. |   |        |                         |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text  | Code   |                           |
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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |   |        |                           |
| 5                          | Concern In Progress |           |   | 164    | Motorized Recreation Mgmt |
|                            |                     |           |   | 260.02 | Rec. Resource Usability   |
|                            |                     | #77-10    | How can the USFS and Ski hill close roads that are on Public Land. The Forest Service has double standards in gating and taking out roads that have been in existence since the early 1950's, locals used them for hunting, hiking, picking berries and they are gone. But now we have a private company that can build new roads and use them for profit?                                  |        |                           |
|                            |                     |           |   | 151    | Roads Management          |
|                            |                     |           |   | 202.02 | Position, No Rationale    |
|                            |                     | #78-2     | My second concern Is the possible closure to motorized use of some roads in the St Regis basin area. use the lookout ore as well as the St. Regis basin area both winter and summer. I need this to remain open to motorized as I commute from my home in Haugan over to Idaho numerous times a year. My family and I enjoy the numerous ways we can use to traverse from Montana to Idaho. |        |                           |
| 6                          | Concern In Progress |           |   | 164    | Motorized Recreation Mgmt |
|                            |                     |           |   | 260.02 | Rec. Resource Usability   |
|                            |                     | #41-1     | Existing Forest Service Plans - The proposed expansion does not appear to conflict with any existing Forest Service Resource or Travel Management Plan.   |        |                           |
|                            |                     |           |   | 110.04 | Laws, Policies            |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text  | Code   |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|---|--|
| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |   |  |
| 6                          | Concern In Progress |           |   |  |
|                            |                     | #41-4     | Forest Service Multiple Use Charter - The proposed ski area expansion appears consistent with all Forest Service authorized use programs. The Forest Service currently monitors the existing ski area operation for compliance with the terms of the Lookout Pass Special Use Permit. Forest Service monitoring staffing is paid for by permit fees and therefore will continue both during construction and into the foreseeable future. | 220.05<br>Forest Service Directives                                  |
|                            |                     | #49-25    | Highly recommend the use of a Construction Stipulation Plan (CSP) between the Forest Service and the Permit Holder during implementation and construction activities. This plan outlines those activities (lift design submittals, slash disposal, road construction and reconstruction, temporary and jeep/mine road obliterations, re-grading, seeding, fertilizing, etc.) that the Permit Holder will be responsible for completing.   | 160<br>Recreation Mgmt<br>220.05<br>Forest Service Directives        |
|                            |                     | #49-27    | Have land lines been established on the patented mining claim (private property) that is directly adjacent to the proposed special use permit boundary (expansion boundary)? The proposed permanent road on Forest Service land is pretty close to this boundary. Would the proposed permanent road within the special use permit boundary be used in the future to permit access to the private property?                                | 120<br>Proposed Action, Decision<br>202.02<br>Position, No Rationale |
|                            |                     |           |   | 120<br>Proposed Action, Decision                                     |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text  | Code   |
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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |   |        |
| 6                          | Concern In Progress |           |   |        |
|                            |                     |           |   | 202.02 |
|                            |                     |           | Position, No Rationale  |        |
|                            |                     | #49-28    | Are state line survey monuments going to be identified on the ground and protected from damage during the construction phase with the proposed special use permit boundary? Who will bear the cost of locating and protecting? The permit holder or the Forest Service? How will the survey monuments be protected? |        |
|                            |                     |           |   | 120    |
|                            |                     |           | Proposed Action, Decision   |        |
|                            |                     |           |   | 202.02 |
|                            |                     |           | Position, No Rationale  |        |
|                            |                     | #51-2     | Creating the additional "Destination Resort" this recreation area fully fits within Shoshone Counties recreational planning efforts being established and there planned implementation.   |        |
|                            |                     |           |   | 110.04 |
|                            |                     |           | Laws, Policies  |        |
|                            |                     |           |   | 220.08 |
|                            |                     |           | County, Municipal Policies  |        |
|                            |                     | #51-7     | County travel & recreational plans will be embellished by the expansion in both counties in Idaho and Montana.  |        |
|                            |                     |           |   | 110.04 |
|                            |                     |           | Laws, Policies  |        |
|                            |                     |           |   | 220.08 |
|                            |                     |           | County, Municipal Policies  |        |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text  | Code                             |
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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |   |                                  |
| 6                          | Concern In Progress | #54-7     | As the Shoshone County Building & Planning Administrator, I appreciate the opportunity to review and comment on the proposed Lookout Ski Resort expansion project. I had three initial concerns, "Allowed Uses" within the Natural Resource Zone, Site Disturbance Code regulations related to the construction of access roads, and Building Code regulations.   |                                  |
|                            |                     |           | I have reviewed the proposal and made the following determinations: From a Planning & Zoning perspective, I have no objections to the proposed uses, as they are allowed as Grandfathered uses within the zone of Natural Resource. Site Disturbance Code requirements; provide exceptions for access roads created under "Forest Practice Act Regulations" or for Federal ownership purposes. It was clarified that all proposed roads and accesses are to be designed and constructed under the permit requirements of the USFS, as well as ultimately the USFS will retain control and ownership of the proposed roads and access. |                                  |
|                            |                     |           |   | 110.04      Laws, Policies       |
|                            |                     |           |   | 220.07      State Laws, Policies |
|                            |                     | #54-8     | From a "Building" perspective, the Building Official (Kirk Dehn) and I had concerns and questions regarding jurisdictional authority and potential federal exemptions to the Local Building Code requirements. During a local "Open House" meeting, we spoke to a Deputy FS Ranger named Ryan Foote. He answered most of our questions very well, and he was to inquire within the agency for a confirmation that indeed the local county would have jurisdictional authority regarding all proposed structures to include the individual ski lift pole structures.   |                                  |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text  | Code                              |
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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |   |                                   |
| 6                          | Concern In Progress |           |   |                                   |
|                            |                     |           |   | 110.04 Laws, Policies             |
|                            |                     |           |   | 220.08 County, Municipal Policies |
|                            |                     | #54-10    | Creating an additional "Destination Resort" enhances existing recreational opportunities and falls within Shoshone County's recreational planning efforts being established and their planned implementation.   |                                   |
|                            |                     |           |   | 110.04 Laws, Policies             |
|                            |                     |           |   | 220.08 County, Municipal Policies |
|                            |                     | #54-15    | County travel and recreational plans will be embellished in Shoshone and Mineral Counties.  |                                   |
|                            |                     |           |   | 110.04 Laws, Policies             |
|                            |                     |           |   | 220.08 County, Municipal Policies |
|                            |                     | #58-25    | Executive Order 13423 requires federal agencies to achieve certain goals to strengthen environmental management. New construction or major renovation must comply with the Guiding Principles for Federal Leadership in High Performance and Sustainable Buildings. This and other related federal directives may be helpful to guide facility planning and conservation efforts. |                                   |
|                            |                     |           |   | 110.04 Laws, Policies             |
|                            |                     |           |   | 220.03 Federal Laws               |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text   | Code                                 |
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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |  |                                      |
| 6                          | Concern In Progress | #81-1     | <p>Previously Avista reviewed the plans to add Lift 5 (250 HP) 6000 feet from the lodge and Lift 6 (200 HP) approximately 2000 feet past the area. Avista does have the capacity to serve those new loads on a single three phase circuit that would start with a new set of fuses on a pole near the bottom of the hill. Depending on that route, Avista may need to install a line from the top of the hill to Lift 2 for an emergency loop feed. The existing transformer at the lodge is loaded to approximately 80% of its winter capacity at this time.</p> <p>Avista feels that the NEPA EIS needs to include that a redundant loop is likely to be needed from the top of the hill to Lift 2 for an emergency loop feed. Avista currently is under the SANS 100 permit with the USFS, which includes this area and we would prefer that any additional utilities that would need to be added for the Lookout Ski expansion be included in this NEPA review. This would assist Avista in not going through a separate review under the SANS 100 permit and therefore create a more efficient process for the installation of utilities for the expansion.</p> |                                      |
|                            |                     |           |  | 149.01 Utility Corridors, Facilities |
|                            |                     |           |  | 249.01 Utility Corridors, Sites      |
|                            |                     | #83-9     | <p>We support the idea that the Idaho Conservation League has that the ski area set aside a mitigation fund to purchase private in-holdings in the vicinity. If these in-holdings were purchased and transferred into federal ownership, it would ensure that these lands would not be developed for real estate, timber harvest, mining, or other purposes. This mitigation option might help to offset the cumulative impact on lynx.</p>  |                                      |
|                            |                     |           |  | 171 Land Designations/Mgmt           |

| Concern Response # | Status | Comment # | Comment Text | Code |
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**Associated Comments**

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| 6 | Concern In Progress | #83-20 | How will the expansion impact the nearby Stevens Peak inventoried roadless area? What will the impacts be on Wilderness characteristics and suitability for Wilderness designation.   | 230    | Natural Environment            |
|   |                     |        |   | 171.01 | Roadless Areas                 |
|   |                     |        |   | 270.02 | Wilderness, Roadless Character |
| 7 | Concern In Progress | #14-1  | Across America – and here locally – data shows that we are losing ground on fitness and obesity. Lookout Pass provides valuable social and physical alternatives to sitting in front of a computer or playing video games all day. The NEPA/EIS process needs to weigh heavily the health benefits to future patrons by approval of the special use permit and this expansion in terms of economic and social factors – i.e., both physical and mental benefits are derived from this great family-centered activity of skiing. | 182.02 | Public Health, Safety          |
|   |                     |        |   | 282.02 | Health, Safety                 |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text   | Code       |
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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |  |            |
| 7                          | Concern In Progress | #37-1     | <p>Mining and timber jobs have gone away in the last 30 years, with fewer opportunities for the families of Shoshone county. As a Social Worker in Shoshone I have seen the negative impact of a poor economy and a lack of jobs on the citizens of Shoshone County. This project would open up many more jobs in the maintenance of the mountain and service industry.</p> <p>I see the proposed expansion as a key element in making North Idaho a true ski destination that would attract tourists and provide employment and expand the tax base to a struggling Idaho economy. Although Lookout provides the "best snow in Idaho" based on amount and quality; the current physical operation also limits the type and number of skiers. the proposed expansion would allow visitors on a week long ski trip to divide their visit between 3 quality ski areas. When the weather is foggy at Schweitzer or windy at Silver Mountain, Lookout would offer another option. Backcountry skiers would be able to access additional peaks with the proposed expansion. North Idaho College outdoor pursuits as well as Boy Scouts often use the inbound and boundary areas of Lookout.</p> | 180<br>280 |
|                            |                     | #40-2     | <p>I am interested in the economic value this expansion would have on the community. With increased terrain we would see increased overnite skier visits in order to take advantage of two major ski areas. This would be reflected in our businesses such as motels, restaurants and other local businesses in the area.</p>  | 181<br>281 |

| Concern Response # | Status | Comment # | Comment Text | Code |
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**Associated Comments**

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| 7 | Concern In Progress | #46-4 | Economic viability. One of the key reasons for this expansion is the financial health of the ski area. IF that is the case, then there needs to be some financial analysis showing how the expansion will insure successful operation of the facility for years to come. One of the best things about Lookout pass is it's affordability. Expansion and addition of lifts will no doubt increase the cost to the users. Most of those users are those that can't afford to go to higher priced resorts. Expansion has long been used by the ski industry as an answer to their problems. Read Hal Clifford's "Downhill Slide" if you need some examples. I think Lookout could have more success by marketing staying small than trying to keep up with the big resorts. | 181<br>281 | Econ. Actions, Analyses<br>Econ. Conditions, Values |
|   |                     | #51-1 | Lookout Mountain Ski Area project on the United States Forest Service Public lands will contribute greatly to Shoshone Counties economic stability and viability.  |            |   |
|   |                     |       | Points of full consideration:  |            |   |
|   |                     |       | 1. Economic benefits to the local area will be considerable.   | 181<br>281 | Econ. Actions, Analyses<br>Econ. Conditions, Values |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text   | Code                               |
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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |  |                                    |
| 7                          | Concern In Progress | #51-4     | Tax base expansions from resort properties such as condominiums and other local business's, will increase the property values locally.   |                                    |
|                            |                     |           |  | 180 Econ. & Soc. Actions, Analyses |
|                            |                     |           |  | 280 Econ. & Social Conditions      |
|                            |                     | #51-5     | Special events for winter and summer activities will provide added cultural benefits locally to the depressed area, on both sides of the Stateline.  |                                    |
|                            |                     |           |  | 182 Social Actions or Analyses     |
|                            |                     |           |  | 282 Social Conditions and Values   |
|                            |                     | #51-6     | Employment will increase on many levels from construction to service positions.  |                                    |
|                            |                     |           |  | 181 Econ. Actions, Analyses        |
|                            |                     |           |  | 281 Econ. Conditions, Values       |
|                            |                     | #54-2     | Socio-economic values for local communities in both Shoshone County, Id. and Mineral County, Mt. must be considered during all phases of NEPA.[...]The BOCC supports the use of NEPA for emphasis on economic considerations in all phases of the project and believes diversity and the widest range of beneficial uses will help create safe, healthful, and productive harmony for all. The BOCC looks forward to coordination with USFS during this expansion. |                                    |
|                            |                     |           |  | 180 Econ. & Soc. Actions, Analyses |
|                            |                     |           |  | 280 Econ. & Social Conditions      |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text   | Code                             |
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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |  |                                  |
| 7                          | Concern In Progress | #54-12    | Increased tax revenues will be realized fro resort type properties such as condominiums and other lodging facilities will increase local property values.  |                                  |
|                            |                     |           |  | 181 Econ. Actions, Analyses      |
|                            |                     |           |  | 281 Econ. Conditions, Values     |
|                            |                     | #54-13    | Potential added special events for winter and summer activities will provide added cultural benefits to the depressed area in both Idaho and Montana.  |                                  |
|                            |                     |           |  | 182 Social Actions or Analyses   |
|                            |                     |           |  | 282 Social Conditions and Values |
|                            |                     | #54-14    | Increase employment on many levels, from construction to to service positions.   |                                  |
|                            |                     |           |  | 181 Econ. Actions, Analyses      |
|                            |                     |           |  | 281 Econ. Conditions, Values     |
|                            |                     | #58-2     | Indirect effects include growth inducing effects, generated traffic, and other effects related to induced changes in the pattern of land use, population density or growth rate, and related effects on air, water, habitat, and other natural systems, including ecosystems. Ski area expansions often promote and accelerate nearby land use changes, such as land acquisition and subdivision, home building, commercial services and developments to serve the increased number of skiers. These indirect effects, together with the direct effects of ski area expansion, need to be analyzed and disclosed in the NEPA document. |                                  |
|                            |                     |           |  | 122 Effects Analysis             |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text  | Code                           |
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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |   |                                |
| 7                          | Concern In Progress |           |   |                                |
|                            |                     |           |   | 203 Multiple Resources/Reasons |
|                            |                     | #58-3     | Another form of indirect effect is the potential for setting precedence. The NEPA document should identify whether anything in this proposed project would represent a precedent that, if approved, would spur requests for similar features by other resorts. For example, a potential need for snowmaking, or the potential for below market-average skier density that could result from the proposed project could, if granted by the Forest Service, make it difficult for them to deny a request for similar allowances at other ski areas in the future. If a determination is made that a project feature would likely cause requests for similar features at other resorts, the NEPA document should include a discussion of the potential environmental or economic effects of those additional requests. Conversely, if the proposed expansion is responding to market demand created by other ski area expansions or upgrades, that also should be disclosed. |                                |
|                            |                     |           |   | 122 Effects Analysis           |
|                            |                     |           |   | 203 Multiple Resources/Reasons |
|                            |                     | #64-2     | Economic analysis shall include all activities (summer and winter) conducted in this area by same corporation.  |                                |
|                            |                     |           |   | 181 Econ. Actions, Analyses    |
|                            |                     |           |   | 202.02 Position, No Rationale  |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text   | Code   |                                |
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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |  |        |                                |
| 7                          | Concern In Progress | #77-1     | The first issue is purpose and need just for the private company running the ski area it is supposed to be a small family affordable place to ski and it keeps going more and more on OUR FEDERAL lands. The only advantage is to the managers of the hill they pay little to no taxes and provide no support to the communities. Most of the people coming in are from out of the county and state. Sure there are some that stay, but not many. If the area gets to crowded they can limit the users just like a building has for occupancy. That would eliminate the over crowding and parking problems. The economic growth is for the hill managers not the local people. | 180    | Econ. & Soc. Actions, Analyses |
|                            |                     |           |  | 280    | Econ. & Social Conditions      |
|                            |                     | #83-3     | The DEIS should show project financial expectations and expected economic impacts (income and expenses) for the expansion. What will be the impact on lift ticket prices?  | 181    | Econ. Actions, Analyses        |
|                            |                     |           |  | 281    | Econ. Conditions, Values       |
|                            |                     |           |  |        |                                |
| 8                          | Concern In Progress | #2-2      | Avalanche abatement. This is to insure the safety of all personnel and the public.   | 132.03 | Snow management                |
|                            |                     |           |  | 282.02 | Health, Safety                 |
|                            |                     |           |  |        |                                |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text  | Code   |
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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |   |  |
| 8                          | Concern In Progress | #27-3     | Safety concerns: The expansion will encourage ill-advised off piste access into avalanche terrain by inexperienced resort users without adequate avalanche training. This endangers not only themselves but other, more experienced, users that have traditionally used this area. The increased OTV use into surrounding areas will create additional hazards from speeding snow machines to increasing the avalanche dangers.   | 102.05<br>282.02                             |
|                            |                     |           |   | General Project Opposition<br>Health, Safety |
|                            |                     | #30-5     | As stated in the Phase 1 Scoping Notice;<br>"It is anticipated that skiers would use Lookout Pass lands [sic] near the top terminals of Lifts 5 and 6, and the ski patrol station to access terrain outside of the proposed special use permit boundary, including the St. Regis Basin and Stevens Lake Basin."<br>This will encourage off-piste access into avalanche terrain by inexperienced resort users without adequate avalanche safety training and appropriate avalanche safety gear, endangering not only themselves but other, users of these areas as well as members of search and rescue organizations. Backcountry access, avalanche safety, and avalanche control procedures should be addressed. | 162<br>282.02                                |
|                            |                     |           |   | Recreational Access<br>Health, Safety        |

| Concern Response # | Status | Comment # | Comment Text | Code |
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**Associated Comments**

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| 8 | Concern In Progress | #32-3 | A concern was raised by a member of a local back country group that Lookout Pass was entering an area known for its dangerous winter avalanche conditions. As a member of Shoshone County Search and Rescue since 1997 let me say I can not recall an avalanche recovery (or rescue) in the St. Regis basin. Phil Edholm was a charter member of the National Ski Patrol Certified Patroller program and helped write many of the program's guidelines. He also managed a ski area in Southern California (on Forest Service managed land) and is familiar with the duties and requirements of a professional and volunteer ski patrol trained in avalanche control and evaluation. A ski patrol with this training is a great first responder/rescue unit. I know from my years as a certified National ski Patrol avalanche instructor the average avalanche victim has about 30 minutes of life left when they have been buried in a slide. I also know both Mineral County and Shoshone County SAR units would take a minimum of three hours to respond to the resort parking lot to begin a rescue mission. I have been a skier since 1957 and would put my trust in a rapid, competent rescue by the Lookout Pass ski patrol if I were trapped in an avalanche in the St. Regis basin area. |        |                    |
|   |                     |       |   | 132.03 | Snow management    |
|   |                     |       |   | 282.02 | Health, Safety     |
|   |                     |       |   | 282.07 | Trust, Credibility |
|   |                     | #33-2 | Lift 5 (proposed) would position skiers in an area that is ripe for avalanche potential and other safety issues for inexperienced skiers and boarders who enter St. Regis and Stevens Lake Basins from this lift. This would create a strain on local professional and volunteer SAR resources.   |        |                    |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text   | Code                          |
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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |  |                               |
| 8                          | Concern In Progress |           |  |                               |
|                            |                     |           |  | 162 Recreational Access       |
|                            |                     |           |  | 282.02 Health, Safety         |
|                            |                     | #37-2     | If there is concern about the avalanche danger, I can speak first hand that the best form of avalanche control is skier compaction where the snow does not build up do dangerous levels. Schweitzer Basin had frequent and damaging avalanches in the 1970's which were prevented when formerly closed areas of the south ridge were opened to skiers and controlled by the Ski patrol. Having a well trained Ski patrol in the new area will further mitigate the danger of avalanches. |                               |
|                            |                     |           |  | 132.03 Snow management        |
|                            |                     |           |  | 282.02 Health, Safety         |
|                            |                     | #46-3     | Avalanche Safety and risk to "out of bounds" skiers. The proposal seems to "market" the ability for resort skiers to leave the boundary of the ski area and ski into the St. Regis basin. While this may be fine for experienced backcountry skiers, it is a deadly risk for resort skiers. There is serious avalanche terrain in that basin and it will be inevitable that fatalities will occur.   |                               |
|                            |                     |           |  | 162 Recreational Access       |
|                            |                     |           |  | 282.02 Health, Safety         |
|                            |                     | #49-15    | What about the side country next to Lift #5? Where will the operational ski area boundary be? Special use permit boundary and ski area boundary are two different things.  |                               |
|                            |                     |           |  | 120 Proposed Action, Decision |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text  | Code                           |
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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |   |                                |
| 8                          | Concern In Progress |           |   |                                |
|                            |                     |           |   | 202.02 Position, No Rationale  |
|                            |                     | #49-32    | Where will the ski area boundary be located on this side of the development? A special use permit boundary is different than the ski area boundary. A ski area boundary identifies the outside perimeter of the ski area that is patrolled. |                                |
|                            |                     |           |   | 120 Proposed Action, Decision  |
|                            |                     |           |   | 202.02 Position, No Rationale  |
|                            |                     | #49-34    | Is a gate going to be installed here to prevent unauthorized entry into the permitted area?   |                                |
|                            |                     |           |   | 120 Proposed Action, Decision  |
|                            |                     |           |   | 202.02 Position, No Rationale  |
|                            |                     | #53-2     | I do encourage continued consideration of the issues that have been brought into the discussions regarding snowmobile parking, fire suppression, fuel tank and watershed.   |                                |
|                            |                     |           |   | 122 Effects Analysis           |
|                            |                     |           |   | 203 Multiple Resources/Reasons |
|                            |                     | #54-5     | Realizing that this expansion will create a larger number of skiers and with that more injuries and the impacts to emergency services will need consideration during the EIS.   |                                |
|                            |                     |           |   | 182 Social Actions or Analyses |
|                            |                     |           |   | 282.02 Health, Safety          |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text   | Code                    |
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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |  |                         |
| 8                          | Concern In Progress | #59-7     | As stated in the Phase 1 Scoping Notice;<br>"It is anticipated that skiers would use Lookout Pass lands [sic] near the top terminals of Lifts 5 and 6, and the ski patrol station to access terrain outside of the proposed special use permit boundary, including the St. Regis Basin and Stevens Lake Basin."  |                         |
|                            |                     |           | This will encourage off-piste access into avalanche terrain by inexperienced resort users without adequate avalanche safety training and appropriate avalanche safety gear, endangering not only themselves but other, users of these areas as well as members of search and rescue organizations. Backcountry access, avalanche safety, and avalanche control procedures should be addressed. |                         |
|                            |                     |           |  | 162 Recreational Access |
|                            |                     |           |  | 282.02 Health, Safety   |
|                            |                     | #67-4     | Additionally, the Phase 1 Scoping Notice states, "It is anticipated that skiers would use Lookout Pass lands near the top terminals of Lifts 5 and 6, and the ski patrol station to access terrain outside of the proposed special use permit boundary, including the St. Regis Basin and Stevens Lake Basin."   |                         |
|                            |                     |           |  | 162 Recreational Access |
|                            |                     |           |  | 282.02 Health, Safety   |
|                            |                     | #89-5     | Acknowledgement that users will be traveling beyond the ski area by creating infrastructure to support human powered travel including but not limited to: visual marking of designated ascent/decent routes, installation of 911 ready Evacuation locations, warming huts and overnight yurts, and possibly light human powered thinning   |                         |

| Concern Response # | Status | Comment # | Comment Text | Code |
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**Associated Comments**

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| 8 | Concern In Progress |  | <p>of designated descent runs. I have no doubt that an advocacy group would step up to work with the ski area in facilitating some of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Consider the "checkpoint" kiosk infrastructure that many mountain bicycle zones, such as Galbrath Mountain use for safety and evacuation locations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>§ <a href="http://galbraith-hiking.blogspot.com/p/galbraith-landmarks.html">http://galbraith-hiking.blogspot.com/p/galbraith-landmarks.html</a></li> <li>§ <a href="http://www.galbraithmt.com/">http://www.galbraithmt.com/</a></li> <li>§ <a href="http://wmbcmtb.org/galbraith/">http://wmbcmtb.org/galbraith/</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>§ Implementing a system like this will allow search and rescue as well as Ski Patrol to quickly and safely respond to the inevitable increase of rescue calls to these backcountry zones.</li> <li>o Consider the infrastructure that progressive no motorized ski areas are implementing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>§ Hankin Evelyn near Smithers BC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· <a href="http://backcountryskiingcanada.com/index.php?p=page&amp;page_id=Smithers">http://backcountryskiingcanada.com/index.php?p=page&amp;page_id=Smithers</a></li> <li>· <a href="http://www.tetongravity.com/story/ski/A-Lift-Free-Ski-Area-B-C39s-Hankin-Evelyn-5938349">http://www.tetongravity.com/story/ski/A-Lift-Free-Ski-Area-B-C39s-Hankin-Evelyn-5938349</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> |  |
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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |  |                                    |
| 8                          | Concern In Progress |           | <p>· <a href="http://www.offpistemag.com/permalink.asp?id=644[...]">http://www.offpistemag.com/permalink.asp?id=644[...]</a>Currently the ski industry is showing flat growth nation wide with a decrease in purchase of performance on-piste downhill skis and growth coming from Alpine Touring or Randonee style equipment allowing human powered uphill access. The trend of human powered access will continue over the next 20 years and building the unpatrolled, non-avalanche controlled infrastructure to support it will be the "next big thing" in the ski industry and this expansion marks a chance to support it.</p>   |                                    |
|                            |                     |           |  | 165 Dispersed Recreation Mgmt      |
|                            |                     |           |  | 249 Facilities, Structures         |
|                            |                     |           |  | 260 Recreation                     |
| 9                          | Concern In Progress | #30-6     | Beyond the actions proposed in the Phase 1 expansion, we know that LPSA's future expansion plans includes the addition of up to six lifts on the south side of St. Regis creek along the St. Regis-Copper Lake divide, in addition to the construction of a new ski area base (lodge and parking) in lower St. Regis basin near the railroad loop. We believe that future expansion plans should be addressed at this time. We believe that the evaluation of the proposed Phase 1 expansion should include a Cumulative Impact Analysis per 40 CFR 1508.7, of the proposed Phase 1 and foreseeable future expansions of LPSA that includes the impact on the winter recreation resource in the proposed Stevens Peak Backcountry Area and vicinity. |                                    |
|                            |                     |           |  | 122.01 Cumulative Effects Analysis |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 9 | Concern In Progress |       |   |                                    |
|   |                     |       |   | 260 Recreation                     |
|   |                     | #31-2 | The documents prepared to date only address Phase 1 of the LOP expansion. As Phase 2 is clearly a connected future action, it also must be addressed in the EIS so that the public can completely understand the longer term impacts. |                                    |
|   |                     |       |   | 122.01 Cumulative Effects Analysis |
|   |                     |       |   | 202.02 Position, No Rationale      |
|   |                     | #32-5 | Truthfully, an expansion will necessitate another day lodge near the "back side" of Lookout Pass which will mean a closer parking area for more immediate access to the basin.  |                                    |
|   |                     |       |   | 163 Developed Rec. and Facilities  |
|   |                     |       |   | 202.02 Position, No Rationale      |
|   |                     | #33-3 | The proposed expansion and subsequent evaluation of this project ignores the ski area's future expansion plans in St. Regis Basin.  |                                    |
|   |                     |       |   | 122.01 Cumulative Effects Analysis |
|   |                     |       |   | 202.02 Position, No Rationale      |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 9 | Concern In Progress | #58-19 | <p>The EPA has issued guidance on how we are to provide comments on the assessment of cumulative impacts, Consideration of Cumulative Impacts in EPA Review of NEPA Documents, which can be found on the EPA web site at <a href="http://www.epa.gov/compliance/resources/nepa.html">http://www.epa.gov/compliance/resources/nepa.html</a>. The guidance states that in order to assess the adequacy of the cumulative impacts assessment, five key areas should be considered. The EPA tries to assess whether the cumulative effects analysis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identifies resources, if any, that are being cumulatively impacted.</li> <li>• Determines the appropriate geographic area (within natural ecological boundaries) and the time period over which the effects have occurred and would occur.</li> <li>• Describes a benchmark or baseline.</li> <li>• Looks at all past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions that have affected, are affecting, or would affect resources of concern.</li> <li>• Includes scientifically defensible threshold levels. The NEPA analysis should take these steps to analyze and disclose cumulative impacts to identified resources of concern.</li> </ul> |                                    |
|   |                     |        |  | 122.01 Cumulative Effects Analysis |
|   |                     |        |  | 203 Multiple Resources/Reasons     |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 9 | Concern In Progress | #59-8 | Beyond the actions proposed in the Phase 1 expansion, we know that LPSA's future expansion plans includes the addition of up to six lifts on the south side of St. Regis creek along the St. Regis-Copper Lake divide, in addition to the construction of a new ski area base (lodge and parking) in lower St. Regis basin near the railroad loop. MBA believes that future expansion plans should be addressed at this time. MBA believes that the evaluation of the proposed Phase 1 expansion should include a Cumulative Impact Analysis per 40 CFR 1508.7, of the proposed Phase 1 and foreseeable future expansions of LPSA that includes the impact on the winter recreation resource in the proposed Stevens Peak Backcountry Area and vicinity. | 122.01 | Cumulative Effects Analysis |
|   |                     |       |  | 260    | Recreation                  |
|   |                     | #67-5 | Phase 1 implies that there will be additional phase(s). We know, the future expansion plans include the addition of four to six lifts on the south side of St. Regis creek along the St. Regis-Copper Lake divide, in addition to the construction of a new ski area base (lodge and parking) in lower St. Regis basin near west of the railroad loop. This needs to be addressed.   | 122.01 | Cumulative Effects Analysis |
|   |                     |       |  | 202.02 | Position, No Rationale      |
|   |                     | #76-8 | We recommend that cumulative impacts will be fully addressed at the project level in order to ensure that projects forest-wide will meet the desired conditions at the landscape level.  | 122.01 | Cumulative Effects Analysis |

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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |   |                                    |
| 9                          | Concern In Progress |           |   |                                    |
|                            |                     |           |   | 220.05 Forest Service Directives   |
|                            |                     | #83-4     | While we can understand Phase 2 cannot be predicted in specific detail, it seems to be an important component to making Phase 1 work, so we want to see the relationship. We also would like to know if there is a Phase 3 in the future - which would likely impact the roadless area.   |                                    |
|                            |                     |           |   | 122.01 Cumulative Effects Analysis |
|                            |                     |           |   | 270 Lands, Condition, Designation  |
|                            |                     | #83-13    | NEPA requires that cumulative impacts analysis include reasonably foreseeable actions. Lookout Pass ski area has said this is a Phase 1 development, and indicated a Phase 2 development on the other side of St. Regis basin would be next, as well as developing a new base area. How will Phase 1 and Phase 2 impact hydrology, wildlife and recreational access in the St. Regis Basin? |                                    |
|                            |                     |           |   | 122.01 Cumulative Effects Analysis |
|                            |                     |           |   | 203 Multiple Resources/Reasons     |
|                            |                     | #85-5     | Cumulative impacts on soil productivity must also be considered.  |                                    |
|                            |                     |           |   | 122.01 Cumulative Effects Analysis |
|                            |                     |           |   | 234 Soils                          |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text  | Code   |                             |
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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |   |        |                             |
| 9                          | Concern In Progress | #85-15    | We are aware that the ski area managers have even further ski area expansion plans. Future expansion plans include the addition of up to six additional lifts on the south side of St. Regis Creek along the St. Regis-Copper Lake divide, in addition to the construction of a new ski area base (lodge and parking) in lower St. Regis basin near the railroad loop. All reasonably foreseeable future expansion plans should be addressed within this EIS, as required under NEPA.   | 122.01 | Cumulative Effects Analysis |
|                            |                     |           |   | 260    | Recreation                  |
|                            |                     | #89-1     | In reviewing the notice of EIS and the Scoping Letter to the Public (which was very easy to read and review: THANK YOU) I am surprised the proposal does not include the ski area's full expansion plans for the next 20+ years including lifts 7 & 8. Ideally we could consider all of the ski areas potential expansion in one effort in order to maximize the understanding of scope and the impact it will have on the policies governing the surrounding national forests and the long term potential to the national forests. | 122.01 | Cumulative Effects Analysis |
|                            |                     |           |   | 260    | Recreation                  |
| 10                         | Concern In Progress | #24-2     | I support the Inland Northwest Backcountry Alliance's request for the creation of a 6,400 acrea winter non-motorized recreation area in the Stevens Peak backcountry.   | 165    | Dispersed Recreation Mgmt   |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 10 | Concern In Progress |       |  |                                   |
|    |                     |       |  | 260.02 Rec. Resource Usability    |
|    |                     | #24-3 | I support the concept and development of a winter recreation/travel management plan for the entire area that considers the needs of human-powered winter recreationists, OSV use and the ski area before proceeding with approval for the proposed expansion.  |                                   |
|    |                     |       |  | 110.04 Laws, Policies             |
|    |                     |       |  | 220.05 Forest Service Directives  |
|    |                     |       |  | 260 Recreation                    |
|    |                     | #27-4 | Sets a terrible precedent: The expansion is called Phase 1. This means other phases most likely will follow, further adding to the issues already stated. In addition, a winter management plan for this area has been requested. This is standard procedure for summer use and reflects a national trend for winter management. A management plan takes into consideration all users in an attempt to address concerns and alleviate user conflicts. It's grossly premature to allow a major expansion of a private ski resort on public lands that all of us can use without a written management plan in place. |                                   |
|    |                     |       |  | 102.05 General Project Opposition |
|    |                     |       |  | 220.05 Forest Service Directives  |
|    |                     |       |  | 270.03 Adjacent Lands             |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 10 | Concern In Progress | #30-7 | <p>During the IPNF Forest Plan Revision process, the INWBA, the Spokane Mountaineers, Montana Backcountry Alliance, Winter Wildlands Alliance and others asked for the creation of a winter management plan for the proposed Stevens Peak Backcountry Area that considers all users before proceeding with the evaluation of the proposed LPSA expansion. The aforesaid parties also asked the Forest Service to designate the Stevens Peak Backcountry Area as a winter non-motorized Recreation and Scenic Area MA3 (MA3-DC-AR-02). Following the IPNF Forest Plan Revision and FEIS, an objection was made regarding the above and the apparently arbitrary designation of Forest Service land west of LPSA as Primary Recreation, MA7. The objection Letter was filed by the above referenced parties on November 26, 2013. Objections are currently under review and no judgment has been made by the Reviewing Officer.</p> <p>In March of 2013, the exemption of OSVs from the Forest Service's 2005 Travel Management Rule was overturned in a Federal Court. Because of this ruling, the Forest Service is legally required to issue a rule managing OSVs in a similar manner to other off-road vehicles by September 9, 2014. We believe that it is premature for the evaluation of the proposed Phase 1 expansion of LPSA to proceed before a winter travel management plan can be developed for the Stevens Peak Backcountry Area</p> |        |                           |
|    |                     |       |   | 110.04 | Laws, Policies            |
|    |                     |       |   | 220.03 | Federal Laws              |
|    |                     |       |   | 220.05 | Forest Service Directives |
|    |                     |       |   | 260    | Recreation                |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text   | Code             |
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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |  |                  |
| 10                         | Concern In Progress | #31-1     | The area surrounding the current LOP ski area is used year round by multiple user groups including but not limited to: Off Road Vehicles, ATV's, snowmobiles, and non-motorized summer & winter backcountry recreationalists. As an avid snowmobiler, ORV user, former Shoshone County Groomer Board member, Montana Nightriders Snowmobile Club member, and Lookout Mountain Skyriders Snowmobile Club member, I have had the opportunity to work with both the motorized and non-motorized user groups who use the area surrounding the LOP ski area. Many hours have been spent trying to develop an overall plan that balances the management of this area between the multiple user groups. The proposed plan for the expansion appears to conflict with the grassroots' management plans that the groups have been developing over the last decade (The USFS Superior ranger district personnel attended several of the meetings). | 110.04<br>210.05 |
|                            |                     | #33-4     | A full scale examination and management plan needs to be developed of how winter travel in the proposed Stevens Peak Backcountry Area should be addressed prior to approval of Lookout Pass Ski Area Phase 1 expansion.  | 110.04           |
|                            |                     | #52-2     | Please consider developing a winter travel management plan before adopting this plan. Forest Service winter travel plans have been effectively used on several other forests to address conflicts.   | 260<br>110.04    |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 10 | Concern In Progress |       |  |                                  |
|    |                     |       |  | 260 Recreation                   |
|    |                     | #59-1 | The proposed expansion of Lookout Pass Ski Area greatly affects our membership and our ability to access high-quality recreation opportunities within a relatively short drive of Missoula. We feel strongly that a holistic management plan addressing the expansion of Lookout Pass Ski Area, over-the-snow vehicle use in St. Regis Basin, Copper Lakes, and the Boulder Creek areas, and non-motorized backcountry skiing and riding opportunities should be completed prior to permitting the expansion of Lookout Ski Pass Area. We have worked with the Inland Northwest Backcountry Alliance and support their effort to develop the Stevens Peak Backcountry area. We would welcome the chance to work with the Forests to develop a long-term winter recreation management plan for this area as well. |                                  |
|    |                     |       |  | 110.04 Laws, Policies            |
|    |                     |       |  | 220.05 Forest Service Directives |
|    |                     |       |  | 260 Recreation                   |

| Concern Response # | Status | Comment # | Comment Text | Code |
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**Associated Comments**

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| 10 | Concern In Progress | #59-9 | <p>During the IPNF Forest Plan Revision process MBA, the INWBA, the Spokane Mountaineers, Winter Wildlands Alliance and others asked for the creation of a winter management plan for the proposed Stevens Peak Backcountry Area that considers all users before proceeding with the evaluation of the proposed LPSA expansion. The aforesaid parties also asked the Forest Service to designate the Stevens Peak Backcountry Area as a winter non-motorized Recreation and Scenic Area MA3 (MA3-DC-AR-02). Following the IPNF Forest Plan Revision and FEIS, an objection was made regarding the above and the apparently arbitrary designation of Forest Service land west of LPSA as Primary Recreation, MA7. The objection Letter was filed by the above referenced parties on November 26, 2013. Objections are currently under review and no judgment has been made by the Reviewing Officer.</p> <p>In March of 2013, the exemption of OSVs from the Forest Service's 2005 Travel Management Rule was overturned in a Federal Court. Because of this ruling, the Forest Service is legally required to issue a rule managing OSVs in a similar manner to other off-road vehicles by September 9, 2014. MBA believes that it is premature for the evaluation of the proposed Phase 1 expansion of LPSA to proceed before a winter travel management plan can be developed for the Stevens Peak Backcountry Area.</p> |        |
|    |                     |       |  | 110.04 |
|    |                     |       |  | 220.05 |
|    |                     |       |  | 260    |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 10 | Concern In Progress | #67-6 | In the past the Forest Service has said that the Lookout Ski area expansion will provide an opportunity for the various user groups to come to a mutual agreement. INWBA has asked the Forest Service to create a winter management plan for the Stevens Peak backcountry area that considers all users before allowing the ski area expansion to proceed. INWBA has also asked the Forest Service to designate the Stevens Peak backcountry as a non-motorized winter recreation area. |                                       |
|    |                     |       |   | 110.04      Laws, Policies            |
|    |                     |       |   | 220.05      Forest Service Directives |
|    |                     |       |   | 260          Recreation               |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 10 | Concern In Progress | #75-2 | <p>A NEPA process to determine a special use permit as proposed by the Lookout Pass management and the U.S. Forest Service is not a desirable vehicle to settle winter use patterns in the St. Regis-Stevens Peak Area. This vehicle has been chosen because Lookout Pass has the funds to support the process while the Forest Service cannot find funds to support a process for the larger winter use planning negotiation.</p> <p>The Forest Service is under federal court order to expand its travel planning process to winter use. This is the proper process to settle through negotiation with all the user groups, the ultimate use of the area. Since the winter travel planning process is imminent due to the court decision, I suggest that the Lookout Pass NEPA process and the Lookout Pass Ski Area expansion proposal be postponed until the winter travel use is solved. Any decision on expansion prior to completion of a winter travel decision, prejudices that decision in favor of one user group, at least in part, over fair consideration of the use of the area by other groups.</p> |        |                           |
|    |                     |       |   | 110.04 | Laws, Policies            |
|    |                     |       |   | 220.05 | Forest Service Directives |
|    |                     |       |   | 260    | Recreation                |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text  | Code                                    |
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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |   |   |
| 10                         | Concern In Progress | #83-23    | The DEIS should have a discussion of the relationship to the ski area expansion proposal and the proposed winter non-motorized Stevens Peak Backcountry Area. The venue for this disucssion could be an alternative for the designation of one or more areas in the upper St. Regis Basin and Stevens Lakes Basin that are dedicated solely to the winter backcountry skiing experience. Such areas should be off-limits to future ski area expansion and snowmobile use.   | 165<br>260                              |
|                            |                     |           |   | Dispersed Recreation Mgmt<br>Recreation |
|                            |                     | #84-2     | My second concern may(?) be outside the scope of this project but I strongly recommend that both the IPNF and the Lolo NF's bite the bullet and engage in a joint "winter use" planning exercise to help delineate where motorized and non-motorized winter use will be allowed across the remainder of the upper St. Regis basin & Stevens Peak/Lakes backcountry area. Yes, it's difficult, and yes it's expensive, but it's important for all the users. Please, just get this going, and save yourselves a lot of future arguements, litigation and work. | 160<br>260                              |
|                            |                     |           |   | Recreation Mgmt<br>Recreation           |
|                            |                     | #85-2     | In our Draft EIS comments and Objection submitted during the process of Forest Plan revision for the Idaho Panhandle National Forests, we requested the creation of a winter management plan for the proposed Stevens Peak Backcountry Area. The Stevens Peak Backcountry Area must not take a back seat to the evaluation of the proposed downhill ski area expansion.   |   |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text  | Code                                  |
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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |   |                                       |
| 10                         | Concern In Progress |           |   |                                       |
|                            |                     |           |   | 110.04      Laws, Policies            |
|                            |                     |           |   | 220.05      Forest Service Directives |
|                            |                     |           |   | 260          Recreation               |
|                            |                     | #85-9     | The two national forests must complete travel planning, including identification of the minimum road system and designation of roads for decommissioning, prior to analyzing the ski area expansion proposal.   |                                       |
|                            |                     |           |   | 110.04      Laws, Policies            |
|                            |                     |           |   | 220.05      Forest Service Directives |
|                            |                     |           |   | 250          Transportation System    |
|                            |                     | #85-11    | The Forest Service must also issue a rule managing over-snow vehicles in a similar manner to other off-road vehicles by September 9, 2014. It would be premature to evaluate the proposed ski area expansion before a winter travel management plan can be developed for the Stevens Peak Backcountry Area in the context of this rule. |                                       |
|                            |                     |           |   | 110.04      Laws, Policies            |
|                            |                     |           |   | 220.05      Forest Service Directives |
|                            |                     |           |   | 260          Recreation               |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text   | Code   |                            |
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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |  |        |                            |
| 10                         | Concern In Progress | #89-3     | Updated forest management plans for adjacent forests that negotiate and restrict motorized use and provide designated human powered only zones. There is significant potential for user conflict between motorized and non-motorized use. By being pro-active and creating designated zones the forests will improve the inbounds downhill skier experience as well as the safety and experience of the human powered backcountry skier. | 110.04 | Laws, Policies             |
|                            |                     |           |  | 220.05 | Forest Service Directives  |
|                            |                     |           |  | 260    | Recreation                 |
|                            |                     | #89-4     | I would strongly support a non-motorized boundary that surrounds the ski area and the greater St. Regis drainages. Thanks to the ability of snow machine's ability to cover large distances they do not need close proximity to road terrain the way non-motorized users do.   | 164    | Motorized Recreation Mgmt  |
|                            |                     |           |  | 260.02 | Rec. Resource Usability    |
| 11                         | Concern In Progress | #26-1     | Parking:Why with the expansion of the parking area is snowmobile off loading & trailer parking being eliminated? Under the present special use permit, this is included.Why should thar provision be terminated?   | 163.03 | Trailheads, Signs, Parking |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text   | Code                              |
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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |  |                                   |
| 11                         | Concern In Progress |           |  |                                   |
|                            |                     |           |  | 202.02 Position, No Rationale     |
|                            |                     | #31-3     | Simply expanding the parking lot to the west as shown in the plan does not solve the LOP ski area parking problem. There is already insufficient parking for the existing ski area. Enlarging the ski area will only exasperate the problem.   |                                   |
|                            |                     |           |  | 163.03 Trailheads, Signs, Parking |
|                            |                     |           |  | 202.02 Position, No Rationale     |
|                            |                     | #31-4     | The current parking area creates conflicts with the NP Snowmobile trail. On numerous occasions, parked vehicles have blocked the passage of the snowmobile trail grooming equipment. In addition, plowing of the parking lot causes the snow to melt requiring snowmobiles and the grooming equipment to operate on bare ground when passing by the ski area. Expanding the parking lot will increase the distance snowmobiles and the grooming equipment will have to travel on bare ground to get by the ski area on the NP Trail. |                                   |
|                            |                     |           |  | 163.03 Trailheads, Signs, Parking |
|                            |                     |           |  | 260.02 Rec. Resource Usability    |
|                            |                     | #31-5     | A long term solution to parking at LOP must be developed and presented in the EIS.   |                                   |
|                            |                     |           |  | 163.03 Trailheads, Signs, Parking |
|                            |                     |           |  | 260.02 Rec. Resource Usability    |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text   | Code   |
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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |  |  |
| 11                         | Concern In Progress | #35-3     | While the plan addresses parking issues with proposed additional parking areas more discussion is needed to reduce safety concerns and clarify how non-ski recreationalist will access trail systems.  | 163.03 Trailheads, Signs, Parking<br>260.02 Rec. Resource Usability<br>282.02 Health, Safety |
|                            |                     | #54-4     | This expansion will have some overlapping issues with snowmobile use including parking lot issues relating to travel through Lookout's parking area when using the railroad grade that will need to be addressed in the EIS and as this LPSAE goes forward. The BOCC realizing that all winter recreation use is beneficial to businesses within the county, we support both the snowmobile industry and the skiing/snowboarding industry and believe that multiple use implicates resolving those issues to the benefit of those users exemplifies diversity and variety of individual choice as depicted in NEPA. The BOCC is committed to working through this process. | 163.03 Trailheads, Signs, Parking<br>260.02 Rec. Resource Usability                          |
|                            |                     | #56-1     | Safety for LPSRA visitors, snowmobilers and other winter recreationists who are using the (current) combined parking, road and snowmobile trail surfaces east of the ski area lodge. Under the proposed action, further expansion of the LPSRA access road and parking surfaces built on top of Snowmobile Trail 5 would exacerbate this concern.  |  |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text  | Code                              |
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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |   |                                   |
| 11                         | Concern In Progress |           |   |                                   |
|                            |                     |           |   | 163 Developed Rec. and Facilities |
|                            |                     |           |   | 282.02 Health, Safety             |
|                            |                     | #56-2     | The current distance that snowmobilers must travel through the LPSRA parking/road complex is approaching the operational limit of their machines. Traveling over plowed, gravel parking and road surfaces does not allow for sufficient lubrication of snowmobile track systems. Under the proposed action, further expansion of the LPSRA access road and parking surfaces built on top of Snowmobile Trail 5 would exacerbate this concern. |                                   |
|                            |                     |           |   | 163 Developed Rec. and Facilities |
|                            |                     |           |   | 260.02 Rec. Resource Usability    |
|                            |                     | #56-3     | Concern for continued access and parking for other winter recreational users (i.e., cross-country skiers, snowshoers and dog shedders) in the proximity of LPSRA.   |                                   |
|                            |                     |           |   | 163 Developed Rec. and Facilities |
|                            |                     |           |   | 260.02 Rec. Resource Usability    |
|                            |                     | #62-1     | Maintaining snowmobile access through the existing and any new parking areas as necessary.[...]Snowmobile right of way access across any new parking or walkway areas.  |                                   |
|                            |                     |           |   | 163.03 Trailheads, Signs, Parking |
|                            |                     |           |   | 260 Recreation                    |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text  | Code   |
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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |   |  |
| 11                         | Concern In Progress | #63-1     | Snowmobile traffic through the parking area at Lookout is a big issue. As the ski hill expands and the parking area expands it is only going to get worse. The time for cooperation and settlement is now. The Forest Service, Lookout managers and the snowmobile trail groomers need to meet on the ground and try to figure a way to keep snowmobile traffic away from skier traffic.  | 163.03<br>282.02                                       |
|                            |                     |           |   | Trailheads, Signs, Parking<br>Health, Safety           |
|                            |                     | #66-1     | Elimination of snowmobiler truck and trailer parking at the top of the pass. This parking is very limited but should be allowed to remain as such. I have customers that ride a loop from there to my business in Haugan for lunch. Without this start point, it causes disruption to their routine and they may go elsewhere.  | 163.03<br>281  |
|                            |                     |           |   | Trailheads, Signs, Parking<br>Econ. Conditions, Values |
|                            |                     | #66-2     | I find it very interesting that snowmobiler parking and perceived conflict is the only other recreational interest mentioned in this document. What about the snow-shoer, cross-country skier, dog-sledder, snow-biker, or any other conceived recreational interest? Will these people be allowed to park where the snowmobiler now does? Or, does everyone who parks here have to prove they have bought or will buy a lift ticket? | 163.03   |
|                            |                     |           |   | Trailheads, Signs, Parking                             |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 11 | Concern In Progress |       |   |                                   |
|    |                     |       |   | 260.02 Rec. Resource Usability    |
|    |                     | #66-3 | What is the status of the permit with regards to summer use? Does Lookout Recreation only have winter recreational interests on the permitted ground or does it extend to summer use? If summer use is included, what about the ATV trailer and truck? Will they be allowed to park at the ski area? Or, will you have to prove you are going to buy a bike ticket for the Route of the Hiawatha? |                                   |
|    |                     |       |   | 163.03 Trailheads, Signs, Parking |
|    |                     |       |   | 260.02 Rec. Resource Usability    |
|    |                     | #66-7 | The proposed parking area expansions need to be better defined on a better, more detailed map.  |                                   |
|    |                     |       |   | 123 Technical, Editorial          |
|    |                     |       |   | 202.02 Position, No Rationale     |
|    |                     | #66-8 | The lower parking lot is proposed for expansion. There is a groomed snowmobile trail shares this route. Cars and trucks parking, kids skiing and running around, and snowmobiles and groomers are not necessarily a good, safe mix. There should be consideration given to a designated snowmobile route along the edge of the parking lot to address this safety issue.                          |                                   |
|    |                     |       |   | 163.03 Trailheads, Signs, Parking |
|    |                     |       |   | 260.02 Rec. Resource Usability    |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 11 | Concern In Progress | #77-5 | Parking is a big problem and will always be. There is not enough room for the amount of people. And will just continue to get worse, the more it grows. The proposed solution is not even thinkable.  | 163.03 | Trailheads, Signs, Parking |
|    |                     |       |   | 202.02 | Position, No Rationale     |
|    |                     | #77-6 | They plan on plowing more of our trails and blocking them with their customer's vehicles. This has been a big problem and is documented in the Shoshone County Groomer minutes. The people who go to lookout to go cross country skiing, snowshoeing and snowmobiling, get the boot and have to find someplace else to park. It is Lookout Pass Ski and Recreation Area. does this not mean all recreation or just downhill skiers. | 163.03 | Trailheads, Signs, Parking |
|    |                     |       |   | 260.02 | Rec. Resource Usability    |
|    |                     | #77-7 | They plan on plowing more of our trails and blocking them with their customer's vehicles. This has been a big problem and is documented in the Shoshone County Groomer minutes. The people who go to lookout to go cross country skiing, snowshoeing and snowmobiling, get the boot and have to find someplace else to park. It is Lookout Pass Ski and Recreation Area. does this not mean all recreation or just downhill skiers. | 163.03 | Trailheads, Signs, Parking |
|    |                     |       |   | 260.02 | Rec. Resource Usability    |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text  | Code   |
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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |   |  |
| 11                         | Concern In Progress | #78-1     | Is the loss of parking for snowmobile parking at Lookout Ski area. This needs to remain for use by snowmobile motorized parking as It has been. Mutual use I'm sure can be designed in the parking design. This has been a common use area for many years and needs to remain as such.  | 163.03 Trailheads, Signs, Parking<br>260.02 Rec. Resource Usability          |
|                            |                     | #82-2     | With the expansion of the parking area it raises some safety issues. With the new snowmobiles going that far through a parking lot at slow speeds with no snow, causes major over heating problems with the engine. And, a snowmobiler does not dare go fast or risk the chance of getting hit or hitting someone. Also bringing our 12ft groomer through the area during the day is a safety hazard with all of the traffic. If there were a possibility to get a trail set aside for us that would cure this problem. We are willing to sit down with all interested parties and work this out. | 163.03 Trailheads, Signs, Parking<br>260 Recreation<br>282.02 Health, Safety |
|                            |                     | #82-3     | We also have very little snowmobile parking and unloading at the moment and we would like to keep it, the proposed action would eliminate this.   | 163.03 Trailheads, Signs, Parking<br>260.02 Rec. Resource Usability          |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 12 | Concern In Progress |       |   |                                 |
|    |                     | #2-1  | There needs to be mud slides from runoff and heavy precipitation prevention.  |                                 |
|    |                     |       |   | 134.01 Slope or Erosion Control |
|    |                     |       |   | 282.02 Health, Safety           |
|    |                     | #20-1 | The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) administers the Construction General Permit (CGP) in Idaho. Coverage under this NPDES general permit is required in Idaho for projects one acre or more in size that may discharge to waters of the U.S. We will expect to see coverage under this general permit for this project. Information can be found here: |                                 |
|    |                     |       | <a href="http://yosemite.epa.gov/R10/WATER.NSF/NPDES">http://yosemite.epa.gov/R10/WATER.NSF/NPDES</a>   |                                 |
|    |                     |       | &lt; <a href="http://yosemite.epa.gov/R10/WATER.NSF/NPDES+Permits/Region+10+CGP+resources">http://yosemite.epa.gov/R10/WATER.NSF/NPDES+Permits/Region+10+CGP+resources</a>  |                                 |
|    |                     |       | &gt; +Permits/Region+10+CGP+resources   |                                 |
|    |                     |       |   | 110.04 Laws, Policies           |
|    |                     |       |   | 220.03 Federal Laws             |
|    |                     |       |   | 232 Water Resources             |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 12 | Concern In Progress | #20-2 | <p>Willow Creek and its associated wetlands and tributaries are currently unassessed waterbodies and therefore, their support status is unknown at this time. In the last few years, we have seen many actions in this watershed that could cause moderate to severe water quality degradation which include development of mining claims, clear cutting of large tracks of forest in this watershed, and a poorly maintained, eroded, high density road system. This watershed appears that it would be affected by most of the proposed construction including Lifts 3, 5, and 6, parking lot construction and temporary and permanent road construction. Montana's St. Regis River headwaters, located just over the ridge from the Willow Creek watershed, are also located in the area of proposed lifts 5 and 6 and temporary and permanent road construction. The St. Regis River (including the headwaters) has sediment and temperature TMDLs.</p> <p>Experience with similar large upgrades to ski resorts in the Idaho Panhandle has been instructive to IDEQ as to how much damage to water quality a poorly executed project of this size and level of difficulty can cause. Due to the size of this upgrade, the elevation, high precipitation, short construction season, steep slopes and erodible soils, in close proximity to two streams, protection of water quality should be considered a significant issue. Measures taken to minimize these impacts should be part of the EIS.</p> |                       |
|    |                     |       |  | 132                   |
|    |                     |       |  | Water, Watershed Mgmt |
|    |                     |       |  | 232.05                |
|    |                     |       |  | Water Quality         |

| Concern Response # | Status | Comment # | Comment Text | Code |
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**Associated Comments**

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| 12 | Concern In Progress | #20-3 | <p>Converting forested land to intensively used recreational land in mountainous terrain, in itself, can degrade water quality. However, just as important are the design and construction methods used. These methods can either protect and maintain existing water quality or have a long-term adverse effect. If the conversion of land use is going to occur, it is then very important for the preferred alternative to fully examine the project's execution. For example, it may be necessary to modify standard forest practice methods to prevent water quality degradation. Slope stabilization, road building, riparian buffers, and stream crossings are a few areas which typical forest practices standards may not be adequate given the large scale of the project, the permanent change in land use, and the area of ground denuded and/or disturbed.</p> |                 |
|    |                     |       |   | 141             |
|    |                     |       |   | 232.05          |
|    |                     |       |   | Vegetation Mgmt |
|    |                     |       |   | Water Quality   |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 12 | Concern In Progress | #20-4 | To reduce or substantively eliminate adverse impacts to water quality during the construction phase of the project, we recommend that the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), required as part of the CGP permit, or similar site specific stormwater management plan be included in the DEIS for review and comment by agencies and concerned public. The construction phase of the project is governed by many standards and assurances, such as work completed to ASTM standards, manufacturer requirements, warranties, professional stamps, etc. However, no standard of construction is set by simply stating that the project will comply with the Construction General Permit, largely a self-administered permit with no agency review unless problems arise. Without a draft SWPPP, it will be difficult to fairly evaluate water quality protection and mitigation measures and disclose potential impacts related to construction of this project. | 110.04<br>220.03<br>232.05 | Laws, Policies<br>Federal Laws<br>Water Quality |
|    |                     | #20-5 | Observations made by IDEQ after the most recent installation of a new lift at Lookout Ski Area indicated that better attention should be paid to early identification and protection of wetlands (including springs) and intermittent streams. Runoff conditions should be observed and documented each spring prior to construction so it is known where runoff flows to and where seeps and springs exist. Often these features are hidden during the summer months due to vegetation or lack of a skilled observer. Wetlands can also exist on the mountain slopes which require careful reconnaissance to locate.  |                            |   |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text  | Code                            |
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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |   |                                 |
| 12                         | Concern In Progress |           |   |                                 |
|                            |                     |           |   | 132 Water, Watershed Mgmt       |
|                            |                     |           |   | 232.01 Surface Water            |
|                            |                     |           |   | 232.03 Riparian Areas, Wetlands |
|                            |                     | #41-2     | Watershed Protection - The subject area is covered under the NDPES General Permit issued for the State of Idaho. By existing Forest Service and EPA regulations, the proposed expansion will be required to adequately safeguard water quality through established best practices for logging, construction and operation. Adequate safeguards are in place through existing regulatory agencies to insure that the project initiation and later operation are rigorously monitored. Any concerns regarding potential violations are not supported by the existing evidence. It appears that no water bodies within the project area are subject to Corps of Engineers 404 permit requirements. |                                 |
|                            |                     |           |   | 132 Water, Watershed Mgmt       |
|                            |                     |           |   | 220.07 State Laws, Policies     |
|                            |                     |           |   | 232.04 Water Quantity           |
|                            |                     | #54-6     | Watershed considerations for this expansion in Willow Creek drainage and in the Montana watershed also need addressed in the EIS.   |                                 |
|                            |                     |           |   | 132 Water, Watershed Mgmt       |
|                            |                     |           |   | 202.02 Position, No Rationale   |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 12 | Concern In Progress | #58-12 | The NEPA document should indicate whether water bodies listed on the Clean Water Act Section 303( d) list of impaired water bodies occur in the project area and, if so, list the parameters of concern and any applicable TMDLs. Disclose which water bodies may be affected by the project, the nature of the potential impacts and the specific pollutants likely to affect those waters. Even if there are no 303( d) listed water bodies in the project area, the NEPA analysis should demonstrate that the proposed action would comply with anti-degradation provisions of the Clean Water Act. | 132                   | Water, Watershed Mgmt  |
|    |                     |        |  | 232                   | Water Resources  |
|    |                     |        |  | #58-13                | The NEPA document should indicate whether water bodies listed on the Clean Water Act Section 303( d) list of impaired water bodies occur in the project area and, if so, list the parameters of concern and any applicable TMDLs. Disclose which water bodies may be affected by the project, the nature of the potential impacts and the specific pollutants likely to affect those waters. Even if there are no 303( d) listed water bodies in the project area, the NEPA analysis should demonstrate that the proposed action would comply with anti-degradation provisions of the Clean Water Act. |
|    |                     |        | 132  | Water, Watershed Mgmt |  |
|    |                     |        | 232  | Water Resources       |  |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 12 | Concern In Progress | #58-15 | <p>Watersheds affected by proposed projects may also function as public drinking water supplies and/or their source areas. Source water is water from streams, rivers, lakes, springs or aquifers that is used as a supply of drinking water. Source water areas are delineated and mapped by the state for each federally regulated public water system. The 1996 amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act require federal agencies to protect sources of drinking water for communities. The NEP A document should identify:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Source water protection areas within the project area;</li> <li>• Activities that could potentially affect source water areas;</li> <li>• Potential contaminants that may result from the proposed project; and</li> <li>• Measures that would be taken to protect the source water protection areas.</li> </ul> | 132 | Water, Watershed Mgmt |
|    |                     |        |   | 232 | Water Resources       |
|    |                     | #58-23 | <p>The NEPA document should indicate whether water bodies listed on the Clean Water Act Section 303( d) list of impaired water bodies occur in the project area and, if so, list the parameters of concern and any applicable TMDLs. Disclose which water bodies may be affected by the project, the nature of the potential impacts and the specific pollutants likely to affect those waters. Even if there are no 303( d) listed water bodies in the project area, the NEPA analysis should demonstrate that the proposed action would comply with anti-degradation provisions of the Clean Water Act.</p>   | 132 | Water, Watershed Mgmt |
|    |                     |        |   | 232 | Water Resources       |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text   | Code   |
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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |  |  |
| 12                         | Concern In Progress | #73-1     | From the Department of Environmental Quality's viewpoint this construction is routine and may only require a construction storm water permit if the permitting threshold is reached. It may also require a 318 permit if any streams are disturbed. I am enclosing the Water Protection Bureau Pact Sheet that will allow you to plan permit needs according to your site conditions. If after looking at the fact sheet, you determine that your project may require further consultation with Water Protection Bureau staff please contact them at (406) 444-3080. | 110.04<br>220.07   |
|                            |                     | #76-5     | We recommend retaining a sufficient RHCA buffer in all riparian areas that lie within the expansion boundary.  | 132.01<br>232.03   |
|                            |                     | #77-4     | The lifts, themselves, are a scar on the mountain side. They have to build roads and tear up the mountain. The United States Forest Service is noted for taking roads out, and now you want to put in 2.2 miles adding to the 4.3 that they are claiming if not more. How much sediment goes down to the streams and South Fork, and how many trees and mountains are destroyed, for these lifts and roads?  | 163<br>230   |
|                            |                     |           |  | Laws, Policies<br>State Laws, Policies<br>Riparian Area Mgmt<br>Riparian Areas, Wetlands<br>Developed Rec. and Facilities<br>Natural Environment |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text  | Code   |
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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |   |  |
| 12                         | Concern In Progress | #77-9     | They want to put a shop and fuel storage on Public land, and area that will need to be filled in and by the snowmobile trail system. So we will put in a new road again. I seen some firewood on a ridge, can I put in a road to get to it? No, but if I wanted to put a lodge out there it would be fine. If you look at the existing shop, there is oil and fuel spillage, it's a mess. | 163<br>230   |
|                            |                     | #83-14    | The impacts of lift construction, operation and maintenance should be analyzed. Our observation of the recently expanded south side of Lookout Pass indicated logging in riparian areas, erosion and other adverse impacts. A mitigation plan incorporating best management practices should be included in the DEIS.   | 132<br>232.06  |
|                            |                     | #83-15    | A hydrology report that estimates the sediment, changes in water flow in the St. Regis basin, and long term impacts should also be included in the DEIS.  | 132<br>232   |
|                            |                     |           |   | Developed Rec. and Facilities<br>Natural Environment<br>Water, Watershed Mgmt<br>Watershed Condition<br>Water, Watershed Mgmt<br>Water Resources |

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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |  |                  |
| 12                         | Concern In Progress | #83-16    | The map in the scoping packet indicates the access road/trail between the base of Lift 2 and Lift 5 crosses or is very near to the St. Regis River. What will the impacts be from having this road in the riparian area? If any of the proposed ski trails are located in riparian habitat conservation areas (RHCA) as defined in the applicable forest plans, then alternative locations should be considered or the proposed ski trail should be relocated out of the RHCA. | 132.01<br>232.03 |
|                            |                     | #83-17    | Ski trails should also be located to avoid or minimize surface water crossings. Where crossings cannot be avoided, the impact to aquatic species should be taken into account.   | 132<br>240.03    |
|                            |                     | #83-18    | The scoping notice says any water crossings would have culverts. Please identify where those crossing are. Culverts or other crossing structures installed at surface water crossings should be designed to accommodate 100-year high flows. Such structures should be inspected annually to ensure that there are no obstructions to water flow. Inspections should also determine whether or not aquatic organism passage has become blocked.                                | 132.02           |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 12 | Concern In Progress |       |  |                                   |
|    |                     |       |  | 232 Water Resources               |
|    |                     |       |  | 240.03 Species: TES, etc.         |
|    |                     | #84-1 | I have visited the area numerous times in the summer months (and winter months), and know that the existing runs have suffered from soil erosion. I support nearly everything about this proposal, BUT would like to see a detailed plan to ensure these new runs & roads (as well as the existing runs!) are revegetated and waterbars are maintained. In this plan I would request that an annual monitoring plan be put in place to catch AND correct erosion right away. |                                   |
|    |                     |       |  | 134.01 Slope or Erosion Control   |
|    |                     |       |  | 234.01 Disturbance, Erosion, etc. |

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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |   |  |
| 13                         | Concern In Progress | #4-1      | <p>I request that the scope of the analysis investigate as its primary point the impact of the ski area expansion to backcountry recreation. The ski area expansion as proposed will result in the loss of prime backcountry ski terrain, and also interject downhill ski areas into backcountry areas bordering the ski area expansion. Further, the two-lift Phase One project would likely act as a catalyst for future expansion projects which would significantly alter if not totally eliminate backcountry skiing opportunities in the St. Regis Basin.</p> <p>This portion of the national forest has little terrain which can be easily accessed by backcountry skiers; the terrain targeted in the ski area's Phase One already requires a hike of approximately 3 hours to reach, yet this qualifies as "good access" for backcountry skiers in a region where most peaks require a full day or more to reach. At a minimum, the new lifts would seriously disrupt backcountry skiers seeking adventure and solitude; more likely, however, it would preclude the area as a backcountry ski destination altogether leaving local skiers with few if any alternatives.</p> | 165<br>260.02  |
|                            |                     | #27-2     | <p>Increased User Conflicts: The expansion will create even more pressure on remaining backcountry areas. There are already too many conflicts between snow machine users and other recreationists. The expansion will further encourage snow machine users into other areas such as Boulder, Copper and Stevens Lake basins. The increased noise and loss of solitude effectively destroys the human powered experience.</p>   | 102.05   |
|                            |                     |           |   | Dispersed Recreation Mgmt<br>Rec. Resource Usability<br>General Project Opposition |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 13 | Concern In Progress |       |  |                                |
|    |                     |       |  | 260.01 User Conflicts          |
|    |                     | #30-1 | The inclusion of nearly 650 acres along the Idaho-Montana state line ridge north of St. Regis basin in the proposed Phase 1 LPSA expansion will be a loss for human-powered winter recreationists. Although the footprint of the proposed Phase 1 expansion does not overlap directly with the proposed Stevens Peak Backcountry Area proposed by the Spokane Mountaineers and Inland Northwest Backcountry Alliance (INWBA), the area of the Phase 1 expansion has been used by backcountry skiers and snowboarders, cross-country skiers and snowshoers for many years, including the Spokane Mountaineers and Panhandle Nordic Club. This area is popular and regionally unique because of its accessibility. There is also currently a marked cross-country trail system to St. Regis Pass that will be destroyed. The draft environmental impact study should address the impact to other recreationists due to the loss of accessible, high-quality winter backcountry terrain associated with proposed Phase 1. |                                |
|    |                     |       |  | 165 Dispersed Recreation Mgmt  |
|    |                     |       |  | 260.02 Rec. Resource Usability |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 13 | Concern In Progress | #30-2 | Skiers and boarders will use proposed Lift 5 to take the fall line off-piste (and out of the Phase 1 boundary) into St. Regis basin. Numbers of out-of-bounds skiers and boarders returning to existing Lift 2 and proposed Lift 5 will force the OSV traffic that currently uses the route up the north side of St. Regis creek to use the cross-country ski trail on the south side of the creek. Our members have worked with snowmobile groups in the past to promote the idea of keeping OSVs on the north side of St Regis creek, saving the south side of the creek for cross-country skiers, snowshoers, and backcountry snowboarders and skiers. The draft EIS needs to address displacement of motorized recreation by the proposed expansion, and potential for increased conflicts between motorized and non-motorized users. | 164<br>260.01 | Motorized Recreation Mgmt<br>User Conflicts          |
|    |                     | #30-3 | The proposed Phase 1 expansion will destroy the existing cross-country ski trail system in St. Regis basin and the St. Regis Pass areas. The loss of the cross-country ski trail system in St. Regis basin needs to be addressed.   | 165<br>260.02 | Dispersed Recreation Mgmt<br>Rec. Resource Usability |

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| 13 | Concern In Progress | #30-4 | As proposed, Phase 1 will add to the pressure causing OSV users to ride and high mark in other areas of the proposed Stevens Peak Backcountry Area. User conflict already exists between OSV users and human-powered winter recreationists in the proposed Stevens Peak Backcountry Area, and the expansion will further encourage OSV users into the Copper Lake, Stevens Lake, Lone Lake and Boulder Creek drainages and adjoining terrain of the Stevens Peak area. The compaction of snow, increased noise and loss of solitude degrades the experience backcountry skiers, snowboarders and snowshoers seek in this area. An "all lands" approach to analysis compels the Forest Service to consider impacts both within, and adjacent, to this proposed expansion during planning. |                              |
|    |                     |       |  | 164.02 Over-snow vehicle use |
|    |                     |       |  | 260.01 User Conflicts        |
|    |                     |       |  | 270.03 Adjacent Lands        |

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| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |   |   |
| 13                         | Concern In Progress | #33-1     | <p>I have great concerns about how the proposed expansion may affect/displace the current over-snow vehicle (OSV) users to the South Side of St. Regis Basin. This would in essence put an end to the St. Regis Basin cross-country ski trails, create increased pressure for OSV riders to use other areas of the proposed Stevens Peak Backcountry Area.</p> <p>The destruction of over 500 acres of accessible winter backcountry terrain in St.Regis Basin should not be taken lightly, nor should it succumb to another commercial use endeavor as we have seen elsewhere.<br/>Displace over-snow vehicle (OSV) use to the South Side of St. Regis Basin dealing a deadly blow to the St. Regis Basin cross-country ski trails.<br/>Create increased pressure for OSV riders to use other areas of the proposed Stevens Peak Backcountry Area.</p> | <p>160 Recreation Mgmt</p> <p>260.01 User Conflicts</p> <p>260.02 Rec. Resource Usability</p> |
|                            |                     | #34-1     | <p>Lookout expansion plans into St Regis Basin should not worsen human powered Winter access to the upper basin. Non-motorized access to St Regis Basin should be specifically addressed in any future planning for expansion</p>   | <p>165 Dispersed Recreation Mgmt</p> <p>202.02 Position, No Rationale</p>                     |

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**Associated Comments**

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| 13 | Concern In Progress |       |  |                               |
|    |                     | #35-2 | The historic winter access to the St. Regis basin should be insured.   |                               |
|    |                     |       |  | 162 Recreational Access       |
|    |                     |       |  | 202.02 Position, No Rationale |
|    |                     | #38-1 | As a regular user of our nation’s forests and parks, I have some strong concerns about the expansion of this privately operated business onto National Forest lands. In general I believe the National Forest should be managed and administered for multiple use by a wide range of users. This ski resort is already well represented at Lookout Pass and further expansion would be at the expense of other users.  |                               |
|    |                     |       | I am a skier who has enjoyed touring the backcountry of the Lookout Pass-Stevens Peak area for about 32 years. This area, particularly the St. Regis Basin, is one of the few places in the region where skiers, snowboarders and snowshoers can access the backcountry within a day’s tour. That point is critical because, considering the wide expanse of the Coeur d’Alene and Lolo National Forests, the majority of it is not accessible in the winter without a snow machine. Any expansion of the Ski Area into the St. Regis Basin will decrease access and further limit human powered activities in this unique basin |                               |
|    |                     |       | I say further limit because the increase of snow-machine use has further limited skier access into the St. Regis Basin. I believe a balanced compromise must be reached between not only the ski resort’s presence on the Forest but also with snow-machine users and skiers/snowshoers. The reality that is skiers and snowmobilers don’t mix well in the backcountry—skiers tend to seek out a quiet, pristine environment which just isn’t possible   |                               |

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**Associated Comments**

13 Concern In Progress

where snow-machines are also present. It seems inevitable that a ski area expansion, as proposed as well as possible future expansion, will force snowmobilers out of this basin and into other areas that are popular with backcountry skier such as Copper basin, Boulder Creek Basin and the West Willow Ridge area.

I have already purchased a season pass for this resort for the 2014-2015 ski season, so I am definitely not anti-ski resort development. But I do feel strongly that this particular expansion is not in the best interest of all users on these federal forests.

160 Recreation Mgmt

260.01 User Conflicts

260.02 Rec. Resource Usability

#46-1

Impacts to human powered winter recreation users. All forms of human powered winter recreation are exploding. Snow shoing, backcountry skiing, cross country skiing, and winter mountain biking are just a few of these activities. Skiing at alpine ski areas seems to be declining primarily due to cost and winters that are not like they use to be. The backcountry ski community is at most risk with expansion of Lookout Pass and this is an unfortunate confilict with many skiers like myself who enjoy both backcountry and lift serviced skiing. The ski area expansion must look closely at these impacts. It should also work to incorporate teh comprehensive plan for the Stevens Peak backcountry that has been proposed by the Inland NW Backcountry Alliance.

165 Dispersed Recreation Mgmt

260.01 User Conflicts

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**Associated Comments**

|    |                     |       |   |                         |  |
|----|---------------------|-------|---|-------------------------|--|
| 13 | Concern In Progress | #52-1 | I am a Missoula resident who has backcountry skied in and around the proposed resort expansion area for more than a decade. Lookout Pass is one of the few areas accessible in the winter by non-motorized backcountry skiers. However, the expansion of Lookout Pass Ski Resort will create "side-country" into St. Regis Basin displacing many backcountry skiers and snowmobilers. Displaced snowmobilers will move into the very popular backcountry and cross country ski area on the east side of St. Regis Basin. This area is already a source of great conflict between the motorized and non-motorized community. [...]Before giving approval to this plan, a full analysis of the impacts to backcountry skiers and other winter users (skiers, snowboarders, cross country skiers, snowshoers, winter campers - such as the boy scouts) should be undertaken to ensure this plan does not create additional user conflicts in the area. | 160<br>260.01<br>260.02 | Recreation Mgmt<br>User Conflicts<br>Rec. Resource Usability |
|    |                     | #59-3 | The area of the Phase 1 expansion has been used by backcountry skiers, snowboarders, cross-country skiers and snowshoers for many years. This area is popular and regionally unique because of its accessibility. An existing marked cross-country trail system to St. Regis Pass draws skiers and snowshoers from Missoula to Spokane for non-groomed winter recreation. Despite seemingly endless opportunities for human-powered winter recreation in Western Montana and North Idaho, Lookout Pass provides unique and highly valued access for our members and the public at large. The draft environmental impact study should address the impact to other recreationists due to the loss of accessible, high-quality winter backcountry terrain associated with proposed Phase 1.  |                         |  |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text  | Code                           |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|---|--------------------------------|
| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |   |                                |
| 13                         | Concern In Progress |           |   |                                |
|                            |                     |           |   | 165 Dispersed Recreation Mgmt  |
|                            |                     |           |   | 260.02 Rec. Resource Usability |
|                            |                     | #59-4     | <p>This proposed expansion will provide access to areas currently used by both backcountry skiers and riders and backcountry snowmobilers. Additionally, the increased infrastructure and additional access will provide on-resort skiers and riders easy opportunities to ski out of bounds, further expanding the affect on backcountry skiing opportunities. Currently, most snowmobilers access St Regis Basin via an unmarked trail on the north side of the creek, while backcountry skiers access St. Regis Basin via the marked cross-country ski trail on the south side of St. Regis Creek. Enforcement of the non-motorized trail is limited, and it is regularly used as a snowmobile route currently, causing safety and user conflicts. The proposed expansion of LPSA will exacerbate this situation, displacing snowmobilers onto the marked cross-country ski trail. MBA and INWBA members have worked with snowmobile groups in the past to promote the idea of keeping OSVs on the north side of St Regis creek, saving the south side of the creek for cross-country skiers, snowshoers, and backcountry snowboarders and skiers. The draft EIS needs to address displacement of motorized recreation by the proposed expansion, and potential for increased conflicts between motorized and non-motorized users.</p> |                                |
|                            |                     |           |   | 164.02 Over-snow vehicle use   |
|                            |                     |           |   | 260.01 User Conflicts          |
|                            |                     | #59-5     | <p>The proposed Phase 1 expansion will destroy the existing cross-country ski trail system in St. Regis basin and the St. Regis Pass areas. The loss of the cross-country ski trail system in St. Regis basin should be addressed.</p>  |                                |

| Concern Response # | Status | Comment # | Comment Text | Code |
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**Associated Comments**

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|----|---------------------|-------|---|--------------------------------|
| 13 | Concern In Progress |       |   |                                |
|    |                     |       |   | 165 Dispersed Recreation Mgmt  |
|    |                     |       |   | 260.02 Rec. Resource Usability |
|    |                     | #59-6 | As proposed, Phase 1 will add to the pressure causing OSV users to ride and high mark in other areas of the proposed Stevens Peak Backcountry Area. User conflict already exists between OSV users and human-powered winter recreationists in the proposed Stevens Peak Backcountry Area, and the expansion will further encourage OSV users into the Copper Lake, Stevens Lake, Lone Lake and Boulder Creek drainages and adjoining terrain of the Stevens Peak area. The compaction of snow, increased noise and loss of solitude degrades the experience that backcountry skiers, snowboarders and snowshoers seek in this area. An "all lands" approach to analysis compels the Forest Service to consider impacts both within, and adjacent, to this proposed expansion during planning. |                                |
|    |                     |       |   | 160 Recreation Mgmt            |
|    |                     |       |   | 260.01 User Conflicts          |
|    |                     |       |   | 260.02 Rec. Resource Usability |
|    |                     | #62-2 | Perpetual motorized access to the St. Regis Basin similar to the access that currently exists now   |                                |
|    |                     |       |   | 164 Motorized Recreation Mgmt  |
|    |                     |       |   | 260.02 Rec. Resource Usability |
|    |                     | #64-1 | Historical use of area for back-country skiing will be effectively terminated.  |                                |

| Concern Response # | Status | Comment # | Comment Text | Code |
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**Associated Comments**

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|----|---------------------|-------|--|-------------------------------|
| 13 | Concern In Progress |       |  |                               |
|    |                     |       |  | 165 Dispersed Recreation Mgmt |
|    |                     |       |  | 202.02 Position, No Rationale |
|    |                     | #67-1 | As proposed, the Phase 1 will affect opportunities for quiet human-powered winter recreation in a negative way.<br>* Backcountry skiers will no longer be able to ski on the ID-MT state-line ridge in the proposed expansion area.  |                               |
|    |                     |       |  | 165 Dispersed Recreation Mgmt |
|    |                     |       |  | 202.02 Position, No Rationale |
|    |                     | #67-2 | Phase 1 would further displace over-snow vehicle (OSV; i.e. snowmobile, snow motorcycle, etc.) traffic that currently uses St. Regis basin to the south side of the creek It will also force OSV users into the Stevens Peak backcountry (Boulder, Lone Lake, Stevens Lake, and Copper Lake basins). |                               |
|    |                     |       |  | 164.02 Over-snow vehicle use  |
|    |                     |       |  | 260.01 User Conflicts         |
|    |                     | #67-3 | The loss of the cross-country ski trail system in the St. Regis basin needs to be addressed.   |                               |
|    |                     |       |  | 165 Dispersed Recreation Mgmt |
|    |                     |       |  | 202.02 Position, No Rationale |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text  | Code                          |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|---|-------------------------------|
| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |   |                               |
| 13                         | Concern In Progress | #75-1     | Expansion of the Lookout Ski Area without consideration of the consequential impact on the backcountry ski/snowshoe and snow machine groups is not a fair action. The use of all groups must be considered and accommodated, not just that of alpine skiers.  | 160                           |
|                            |                     |           |   | Recreation Mgmt               |
|                            |                     |           |   | 260.02                        |
|                            |                     |           |   | Rec. Resource Usability       |
|                            |                     | #77-3     | The ski trails and terrain is way too much and imposes on other users such as cross country skiers, snowmobilers and others that enjoy the forest in the winter. I have been a snowmobiler my whole life and have had to give up a lot when this ski area came down to the trail on the old rail grade and my opinion now, is they can go to **** I am not giving up any more it imposes on all users, in the summer and winter. A big argument continually is the ski hill managers think they can dictate to us on the land and think it is owned by them and we cannot use it anymore. | 160                           |
|                            |                     |           |   | Recreation Mgmt               |
|                            |                     |           |   | 202.02                        |
|                            |                     |           |   | Position, No Rationale        |
|                            |                     | #77-8     | The proposed section for the Montana side is not an option. They will have to plow the cross country trail, which will force them onto the snowmobiler's trails, which makes everything more congested. The snow can get up to 12 feet deep, so where and how are they going to plow and maintain the parking lot and road. There are mountain streams and steep hills; they can't control the runoff every year. The road is too steep and doesn't have any guard rail protection for vehicles and the runoff.   | 163                           |
|                            |                     |           |   | Developed Rec. and Facilities |

| Concern Response # | Status | Comment # | Comment Text | Code |
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**Associated Comments**

|    |                     |        |   |                                |
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| 13 | Concern In Progress |        |   |                                |
|    |                     |        |   | 260.01 User Conflicts          |
|    |                     |        |   | 282.02 Health, Safety          |
|    |                     | #83-5  | Impacts to cross country and back country skiers access, particularly in the St. Regis basin should be analyzed. The expansion of the ski area will likely displace other recreational users, such as backcountry skiers and hikers. The upper St. Regis Basin and Stevens Lakes Basin are popular with both user groups. We encourage the ski area to work with recreational user groups to minimize the effects of the expansion to recreational user groups and find a dedicated area on neighboring national forest lands where these activities can take place without being threatened by future expansion of the ski area. |                                |
|    |                     |        |   | 160 Recreation Mgmt            |
|    |                     |        |   | 260.01 User Conflicts          |
|    |                     |        |   | 260.02 Rec. Resource Usability |
|    |                     | #83-12 | Impacts to snowmobilers using the St. Regis basin itself, and as access to St Regis lake, Stevens Peak and other nearby areas should be analyzed. By eliminating snowmobile use in the St. Regis basin, will snowmobilers push into other areas, and create conflict with backcountry non-motorized users?  |                                |
|    |                     |        |   | 164 Motorized Recreation Mgmt  |
|    |                     |        |   | 260.01 User Conflicts          |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text   | Code          |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|--|---------------|
| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |  |               |
| 13                         | Concern In Progress | #83-24    | The impacts of the proposed expansion on summer hiking trails that access St. Regis and Stevens Lakes during the summer and fall months should be analyzed. These trails include St. Regis Lakes Trail # 267 and Stevens Lakes Trail #165. An alternative should be developed that avoid development of ski trails in these areas. The hiking experience would be negatively affected if new ski trails were developed across or in close proximity to these trails. | 165<br>260    |
|                            |                     | #85-8     | The EIS must disclose impact to other recreationists due to the loss of accessible, high-quality winter backcountry terrain associated with the ski area expansion.  | 165<br>260.02 |
|                            |                     | #85-13    | The EIS must consider likely displacement of motorized recreation by the proposed expansion, and likely increased conflicts between motorized and non-motorized recreationists.  | 164<br>260.01 |
|                            |                     | #85-14    | The impacts on the cross-country ski trail system in St. Regis basin must also be disclosed.   | 165           |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text  | Code                           |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|---|--------------------------------|
| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |   |                                |
| 13                         | Concern In Progress |           |   |                                |
|                            |                     |           |   | 202.02 Position, No Rationale  |
|                            |                     | #86-1     | The expansion of Lookout Ski Area will displace winter and summer users of the upper St. Regis River Basin. This will be particularly aggravated in the winter when snowmobiles are displaced causing more user conflicts with motorized and non-motorized users in the St. Regis River basin to the west of Lookout Pass.  |                                |
|                            |                     |           | The scope of the EIS needs to include the impact of user conflicts in the St. Regis Basin due to ski area expansion, how access will be affected for summer and winter users of the basin and how to improve the experience of those non-downhill skiers that use and recreate in that area both summer and winter.   |                                |
|                            |                     |           |   | 160 Recreation Mgmt            |
|                            |                     |           |   | 260.01 User Conflicts          |
|                            |                     |           |   | 260.02 Rec. Resource Usability |
|                            |                     | #89-6     | consider the resort expansion happening at Sugarloaf making it one of the largest ski areas in the east coast... without lift service to half of the ski area. They are supporting, and encouraging the implementation of human powered uphill travel in conjunction with ski areas. This is the realistic model that must be realized for use of the terrain, including Stevens Peak, surrounding the proposed lookout pass expansion. |                                |
|                            |                     |           |   | 165 Dispersed Recreation Mgmt  |
|                            |                     |           |   | 260 Recreation                 |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text   | Code                              |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|--|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |  |                                   |
| 14                         | Concern In Progress | #1-4      | THE GOAL OF THE NATIONAL FS SHOULD NEVER BE TO PROVIDE SKI AREAS FOR PROFITEERING DEVELOPERS, ESPECIALLY WHEN THE SNOW IS MELTING AWAY WITH CLIMATE CHANGE. WILL THIS SKI AREA THEN WANT TO TAKE ALL THE WATER IN THE AREA FOR ITS SNOWMAKING? THAQT IS A HUGE WATER TAKING FOR SNOW MAKING. |                                   |
|                            |                     |           |  | 132.03 Snow management            |
|                            |                     |           |  | 232.04 Water Quantity             |
|                            |                     | #58-22    | A potential effect from climate change on the project could be reduced snow accumulation at Lookout Pass Ski Area. If snowmaking is planned or foreseen as a potential need or demand, the effects of this activity would need to be fully analyzed and disclosed in the NEP A document.     |                                   |
|                            |                     |           |  | 132.03 Snow management            |
|                            |                     |           |  | 233.02 Climate Change             |
| 15                         | Concern In Progress | #41-3     | Fisheries & Wildlife - The proposed project does not appear to conflict with any existing endangered or threatened species management plan.  |                                   |
|                            |                     |           |  | 140 Biological Resources Mgmt     |
|                            |                     |           |  | 220.05 Forest Service Directives  |
|                            |                     |           |  | 220.06 Other Fed. Agency Policies |

| Concern Response # | Status | Comment # | Comment Text | Code |
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**Associated Comments**

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|----|---------------------|-------|---|---------------------------|
| 15 | Concern In Progress | #46-5 | Environmental Impacts. This goes without saying. The project must look at impacts to water, wildlife, and plant life.   | 140                       |
|    |                     |       |   | Biological Resources Mgmt |
|    |                     |       |   | 202.02                    |
|    |                     | #56-5 | The proposed area of expansion for the LPSRA includes the headwaters of the St. Regis River in Montana. Stream reaches immediately downstream of the project support genetically pure westlope cutthroat trout, a Montana Species of Concern (SOC). The lower St. Regis River supports remnant bull trout , as well as several other trout and native fish species.   |                           |
|    |                     |       | Also, it is likely that the project area supports Idaho Giant salamanders , and SOC species in Montana. The upper St. Regis basins along the Idaho border are the only locations in Montana where this species has been documented.   |                           |
|    |                     |       | Given the high resource values, any installation of new infrastructure, roads and ski runs should be planned cautiously, with wide riparian buffers along any perennial or seasonal (intermittent) stream segments. In addition, any stream crossing should be designed to "stream simulation" standards that accommodate unrestricted passage of fish and aquatic wildlife, and can accommodate >100-year frequency flow events. |                           |
|    |                     |       | The expectation is that road densities and ground disturbance will be kept to an absolute minimum and that all roads, relief culverts and stream crossings will meet or exceed best management practice (BMP) standards to minimize sediment delivery to surface waters.  |                           |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text  | Code                          |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|---|-------------------------------|
| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |   |                               |
| 15                         | Concern In Progress |           |   |                               |
|                            |                     |           |   | 140 Biological Resources Mgmt |
|                            |                     |           |   | 232 Water Resources           |
|                            |                     |           |   | 240 Biological Resources      |
|                            |                     | #58-18    | Wildlife and Habitat<br>Project activities may directly and indirectly impact habitat quality and connectivity. Recommendations: To describe the affected environment, evaluate potential project effects, and avoid and minimize impacts, the NEP A document should:   |                               |
|                            |                     |           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe the current quality of habitat within and near the proposed project area.</li> <li>• Identify known fish and wildlife movement corridors, migration routes, and areas of seasonal fish and wildlife congregation or use.</li> <li>• Evaluate the cumulative alteration and fragmentation of aquatic and terrestrial habitat caused by roads, land use, management and other human activities.</li> <li>• Evaluate effects on vegetation, fish and wildlife that would result from habitat removal and alteration, aquatic and terrestrial habitat fragmentation due to proposed activities, such as, road construction and other treatments, land uses, management and other human activities.</li> <li>• Identify landscape-level planning and alternatives that would minimize impacts and provide for adequate, suitable habitat and habitat connectivity for identified species of concern, and for the full suite of project area fish and wildlife.</li> <li>• Describe how proposed actions would contribute to the recovery of ESA-listed species and candidate species in the project area.</li> <li>• Discuss if and how the proposed activities would support the retention of large snags, downed logs, and large wood in streams.</li> </ul> |                               |

| Concern Response # | Status | Comment # | Comment Text | Code |
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**Associated Comments**

|    |                     |        |   |                                  |
|----|---------------------|--------|---|----------------------------------|
| 15 | Concern In Progress |        |   |                                  |
|    |                     |        |   | 143 Wildlife/Animals Mgmt        |
|    |                     |        |   | 243.01 Animal Species: TES, etc. |
|    |                     | #58-27 | We recommend that the project include a monitoring program designed to assess impacts from the project, and the implementation and effectiveness of measures taken to mitigate impacts. Describe the monitoring program, how it would be used in present and future resources management, and the likely extent to which it would be adequately implemented/funded.   |                                  |
|    |                     |        |   | 130.01 Monitoring                |
|    |                     |        |   | 203 Multiple Resources/Reasons   |
|    |                     | #60-1  | I am writing about the Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion. I am not totally thrilled about public land developed for private profit. I feel there should be compensation for wildlife habitat lost. I did not see anything about year round activities. If it is not in place it certainly will be soon.<br>For every mile of new road I would like to see 3 miles obliterated or decommissioned. I would also like to see for every acre in the expansion, 3 to 5 acres put in at restricted access for wildlife security habitat. The reason for the higher ratio is the land adjacent to the expansion will also be affected.<br>I have lived in MT my whole life (67 years) and have seen many changes. Some good, but mostly bad for wildlife. With more people moving into both states and an emphasis on outdoor activities we're running out of room for everything. Compensation must be done, because our areas of little human compact are being reduced at an alarming rate. |                                  |
|    |                     |        |   | 130 Resource & Area Mgmt         |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text   | Code  |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|--|---|
| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |  |   |
| 15                         | Concern In Progress |           |  |   |
|                            |                     | #76-1     | There is the potential for increased motorized vehicle use, including wheeled motor vehicle use in the summer and over snow vehicle use in early and late winter periods with the parking area expansion. The concern exists for wildlife disturbance during that period of time. The proposal does state that these permanent roads upon completion of the project will be closed to public travel, except as authorized in the special use permit. | 243<br>Wildlife/Animals                                     |
|                            |                     | #76-2     | It will be important to address landscape level habitat connectivity, travel corridors, and core areas for sensitive species such as wolverine, fisher, lynx, and grizzly bears. The Bitterroot Mountain Range bordering Idaho/Montana is an important travel corridor, particularly for range expansion of larger mammalian species.  | 164<br>Motorized Recreation Mgmt<br>243<br>Wildlife/Animals |
|                            |                     | #76-3     | To benefit snag dependent wildlife, the project should retain snag densities that meet or exceed Northern Region Snag Retention Protocol Landings, skid trails, all temporary roads, and any other disturbed sites should be seeded with native grass/forb mix to benefit elk summer forage and minimize invasive plant establishment.   | 140<br>Biological Resources Mgmt<br>243<br>Wildlife/Animals |
|                            |                     |           |  | 143<br>Wildlife/Animals Mgmt                                |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text  | Code                             |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|---|----------------------------------|
| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |   |                                  |
| 15                         | Concern In Progress |           |   |                                  |
|                            |                     |           |   | 243 Wildlife/Animals             |
|                            |                     | #76-4     | We recommend Inland Native Fish Strategy standards and guidelines are followed throughout the project implementation.   |                                  |
|                            |                     |           |   | 110.04 Laws, Policies            |
|                            |                     |           |   | 240 Biological Resources         |
|                            |                     | #76-9     | It was not clear during our review of the proposal that the proposed action for Lookout Pass expansion included some area within the designated Coeur d'Alene River Ranger District of the Idaho Panhandle National Forest Lynx Analysis Unit, and recommend this be clarified.   |                                  |
|                            |                     |           |   | 140 Biological Resources Mgmt    |
|                            |                     |           |   | 243.01 Animal Species: TES, etc. |
|                            |                     | #76-10    | This project presents an opportunity for IPNF and Lookout Pass Ski Area to show future ski industry expansion projects a plan that includes measures to minimize their long-term impacts to the area's fish and wildlife resources.   |                                  |
|                            |                     |           |   | 140 Biological Resources Mgmt    |
|                            |                     |           |   | 240 Biological Resources         |
|                            |                     | #83-6     | Old growth stands and sensitive species habitat should be identified. Fragmenting of old growth habitat has negative impacts on a variety of species, the expansion alternative(s) should avoid habitat fragmentation. Old growth stands should be retained and buffered from proposed ski trails, lifts, or other ski area facilities. |                                  |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text  | Code                             |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|---|----------------------------------|
| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |   |                                  |
| 15                         | Concern In Progress |           |   |                                  |
|                            |                     |           |   | 140 Biological Resources Mgmt    |
|                            |                     |           |   | 240 Biological Resources         |
|                            |                     | #83-7     | The proposed expansions must satisfy the requirements of the Endangered Species Act.  |                                  |
|                            |                     |           |   | 110.04 Laws, Policies            |
|                            |                     |           |   | 220.0303 Endangered Species Act  |
|                            |                     | #83-8     | The environmental analysis should describe whether or not the proposed action is consistent with the Northern Rockies Lynx Management Direction, which is an amendment to the Idaho Panhandle and Lolo National Forest Plans. This direction includes management goals, objectives, standards and guidelines for activities proposed in designated lynx analysis units and linkage zones. We are very concerned about the effects of the expansion to lynx. |                                  |
|                            |                     |           |   | 110.04 Laws, Policies            |
|                            |                     |           |   | 220.05 Forest Service Directives |
|                            |                     |           |   | 243.01 Animal Species: TES, etc. |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text   | Code          |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|--|---------------|
| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |  |               |
| 15                         | Concern In Progress | #83-10    | The environmental analysis should describe the potential impact of ski area development on wolverine habitat availability and connectivity. Wolverines need consistent later winter and early spring snowpack for successful reproductive denning and rearing. The area where the proposed expansion is located provide the conditions that wolverines need to successfully reproduce and rear their young. The Idaho Department of Fish and Game has documented at least two wolverines in the area during recent survey efforts. | 140<br>243.01 |
|                            |                     | #83-11    | We are also interested in knowing what the impacts on Pacific fisher and Goshawk are as well.  | 140<br>243.01 |
|                            |                     | #85-3     | We are also concerned about increased wildlife disturbance posed by the proposed expansion. Habitat for big-game species and wide-ranging carnivores (including species listed under the Endangered Species Act) would be adversely affected by ski area expansion.  | 140<br>240.01 |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text  | Code                 |   |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|---|----------------------|---|
| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |   |                      |   |
| 17                         | Concern In Progress | #49-10    | Who is doing the burning? Forest Service or Permit Holder? Will the slash be hand piled, dozer piled, or grapple piled?   | 120<br>202.02        | Proposed Action, Decision<br>Position, No Rationale                     |
|                            |                     | #58-20    | Effects of climate change may include changes in hydrology, weather patterns, precipitation rates, chemical reaction rates, susceptibility to fire and insect outbreaks, and more. The NEPA document should discuss the potential effects of climate change within and near the project area and how resources may be affected. Discuss how the Forest Service is addressing climate change with respect to both adaptation and mitigation, i.e., how climate change is being factored into project planning and decision making, both in terms of how climate change may affect the project and resources, and how implementation of the project may contribute to or mitigate for climate change. | 133.02               | Climate Change  |
|                            |                     | #58-21    | Also, the NEPA document should quantify and disclose greenhouse gas emissions from project activities and offer mitigation measures to reduce emissions.  | 203<br>133<br>202.02 | Multiple Resources/Reasons<br>Air and Climate<br>Position, No Rationale |

| Concern Response #         | Status  | Comment # | Comment Text   | Code   |   |
|----------------------------|---|-----------|--|--------|---|
| <b>Associated Comments</b> |   |           |  |        |   |
| 17                         | Concern In Progress   | #58-24    | Maintenance of good air quality should be a goal of the ski area expansion. Consider incorporating mitigation for vehicular emissions due to increased skier visits and projected increase in vehicle traffic. Mitigation could include skier shuttles or public transport to and from the ski area from key points of origin. | 133.01 | Air Quality Mgmt  |
|                            |   |           |  | 250    | Transportation System   |
|                            |   |           |  | #85-12 | The EIS must consider snow conditions under likely scenarios of climate change in upcoming decades. |
|                            |   | 232       | Water Resources  |        |   |
|                            |   | 18        | Concern In Progress  | #49-16 | Will this be a high speed quad?   |
| 202.02                     | Position, No Rationale  |           |  |        |   |
| #49-18                     | It looks like a portion of the power-line would be buried in the permanent road by the bottom of Chair 6. |           |  | 120    | Proposed Action, Decision   |
|                            |   |           |  | 202.02 | Position, No Rationale  |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text  | Code                          |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|---|-------------------------------|
| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |   |                               |
| 18                         | Concern In Progress | #49-21    | So there would be a CFR area closure?   |                               |
|                            |                     |           |   | 120 Proposed Action, Decision |
|                            |                     |           |   | 202.02 Position, No Rationale |
|                            |                     | #49-23    | What will be the width of the small track-hoe?  |                               |
|                            |                     |           |   | 120 Proposed Action, Decision |
|                            |                     |           |   | 202.02 Position, No Rationale |
|                            |                     | #49-24    | Will the various projects (lifts, parking lots, etc.) be implemented in phases? It seems that the Chair One upgrade would be priority one if crowding is such an issue.   |                               |
|                            |                     |           |   | 120 Proposed Action, Decision |
|                            |                     |           |   | 202.02 Position, No Rationale |
|                            |                     | #56-6     | FWP found use of the phrase "Lookout Pass" confusing as a shorthand abbreviation for the name of Lookout Pass Ski and Recreation Area. This is because of confusion with the actual geographic feature and area named Lookout Pass (as in, "heading east on Interstate Highway 90 from Lookout Pass"). We believe it might help avoid confusion if an acronym like LPSRA or perhaps the term "ski/recreation area" were defined and used in lieu of "Lookout Pass" for the actual ski/recreation area in documents. |                               |
|                            |                     |           |   | 123 Technical, Editorial      |
|                            |                     |           |   | 202.02 Position, No Rationale |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text   | Code                          |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|--|-------------------------------|
| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |  |                               |
| 19                         | Concern In Progress | #1-2      | THERE IS NO NEED FOR THIS SKI AREA TO GROW BIGGER AT THIS SITE. THE PEOPLE OF THIS NATION HAVE NOT BEEN CRYING FOR ANOTHER SKI AREA. ATTENDANCE AT SKI AREAS IS DOWN. 98% OF ALL LAND HAS ALREADY BEEN TAKEN UP BY HUMANS. LEAVE SOME FOR OTHER SPECIES. DENY AKK OERNUTS FOR THIS HUGE DEVELOPMENT. EVIDENTLY A PROFITEER CAME UP SAYING HE WOULD NOT DESTROY MUCH, NOW HE WANTS TO DESTROY HUNDREDS MORE ACRES. IS THAT LYING TO THE PUBLIC? IT CERTAINLY DOES NOT SOUND ETHICAL. THE "MARKET DEMANDS" ARE MYTHICAL AND HAVE NO SUBSTANCE OR FOUNDATION. THE PEOPLE CAN SKI IN OTHER AREAS ALREADY DEVELOPED. SUN VALLEY-WHICH IS NEVER CROWDED. THIS SITE WAS NEVER MEANT TO BE ASPEN OR VAIL. WITH THE ECONOMY GOING DOWNHILL IN AMERICA, THERE APPEARS TO BE NO REAL NEED TO ANTICIPATE AN UPSWING IN SKIERS, WHICH IS A VERY EXPENSIVE SPOT - WITH LIFT TICKETS APPROACHING \$100 FOR THE DAY. MORE AND MORE MIDDLE CLASS ARE BEING PRICED OUT OF THIS. \$350 BOOTS. SKIS OF \$500. OUTFITS OF \$600 - IT IS NOT THE KIND OF THING THAT MIDDLE CLASS AMERICA NEEDS WITH ITS OPEN SPACE.[...]THIS MAULING OF THE FOREST IS DESTRUCTIVE. THE BIRDS/ANIMALS, TREES NEED THIS LAND. IN NO WAY IS THIS NEEDED OR WANTED. THEIR BURNING OF SLASH PLAN IS AIR POLLUTING. NOBODY NEEDS THAT BECAUSE IT FLIES ACROSS THE ENTIRE USA WITH AIR POLLUTION. THATS AN UGLY AIR POLLUTION PLAN. I OPPOSE 2 MILES OF NEW ROADS, 1.6 MILS OF TEMP ROADS AND ROADS FOR LIFTS. DENY THE PERMITS |                               |
|                            |                     |           |  | 120.01 Purpose and Need       |
|                            |                     |           |  | 202.02 Position, No Rationale |
|                            |                     | #49-1     | 1- How is the terrain insufficient? What are the market demands specifically?  |                               |

| Concern Response # | Status | Comment # | Comment Text | Code |
|--------------------|--------|-----------|--------------|------|
|--------------------|--------|-----------|--------------|------|

**Associated Comments**

|    |                     |       |  |                               |
|----|---------------------|-------|--|-------------------------------|
| 19 | Concern In Progress |       |  |                               |
|    |                     |       |  | 120.01 Purpose and Need       |
|    |                     |       |  | 202.02 Position, No Rationale |
|    |                     | #49-2 | Where is the overcrowding occurring? Long lift lines only on weekends? Are the ski runs crowded on weekends?                                       |                               |
|    |                     |       |  | 120.01 Purpose and Need       |
|    |                     |       |  | 202.02 Position, No Rationale |
|    |                     | #49-3 | What are the unsafe operating conditions that exist?   |                               |
|    |                     |       |  | 120.01 Purpose and Need       |
|    |                     |       |  | 202.02 Position, No Rationale |
|    |                     | #49-4 | This statement seems contradictory.[...]Check the original EIS to see if the three factors listed here are the same factors that were in that EIS. |                               |
|    |                     |       |  | 120.01 Purpose and Need       |
|    |                     |       |  | 202.02 Position, No Rationale |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text   | Code   |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|--|--|
| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |  |  |
| 19                         | Concern In Progress | #49-5     | Current ski terrain breakdown by category is as follows per ski hill website:<br>20% - Easiest<br>50% - Intermediate<br>20% - Advanced<br>10% - Expert<br>What would the percentage distribution look like if this proposed expansion takes place?<br>What kind of terrain distribution does Lookout desire? Does it appear that the expansion will just result in more novice and intermediate advanced terrain? Will any additional expert terrain be added? | 120.01 Purpose and Need<br>202.02 Position, No Rationale |
|                            |                     | #49-6     | What are the concerns over economic viability? The visitor use has been increasing steadily over the years so is Lookout Pass endangered financially?  | 120.01 Purpose and Need<br>202.02 Position, No Rationale |
|                            |                     | #49-7     | See Item 5. So why not upgrade all lifts (1, 2, 3), at least Chair One, from doubles to triples or quads to reduce the lift lines on weekends? Will lifts 5 and 6 be open on weekdays?   | 120.01 Purpose and Need<br>202.02 Position, No Rationale |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text  | Code                           |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|---|--------------------------------|
| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |   |                                |
| 19                         | Concern In Progress | #58-1     | <p>The scoping notice mentions overcrowding at the ski area, but does not provide any data to support an actual need for the proposed expansion. The purpose appears to focus upon meeting market demand and economic viability of the ski area, and the belief or hope that expansion would attract adequate use to generate a profitable return and increased economic activity for the area. We recommend that the EIS define "market demand" and provide more information regarding the number, timing and use preferences of recreational users at Lookout Pass Ski Area. Present evidence that a clear public need exists for the expansion, including the current percentage utilization of the existing facility, on-slope skier densities and lift line length.</p> <p>The previous Lookout Pass Ski Area expansion, which occurred in the 2001-2002 timeframe, should be discussed as part of the background information. Any information or insights regarding the projected vs. actual need or demand for the expansion, as well as the anticipated vs. actual effects of that expansion should be disclosed to inform this proposed expansion project.</p> | 120.01<br>260                  |
|                            |                     | #83-2     | <p>The need for expansion should be analyzed with a look at whether expansion is financially viable. Nationwide ski visits are on the decline, in part due to the aging population, in part to the expense of alpine skiing, and in part to the other options that people have in the winter. It would be helpful to show a chart of skier/snowboard visits in the Inland Northwest over the past decade, as well as population data for the greater Spokane/Coeur d'Alene area. In addition, other nearby ski areas are planning additional lifts, how will this impact the visitor numbers to Lookout Pass?</p>   | Purpose and Need<br>Recreation |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text   | Code                          |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|--|-------------------------------|
| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |  |                               |
| 19                         | Concern In Progress |           |  | 120.01 Purpose and Need       |
|                            |                     |           |  | 260 Recreation                |
| 22                         | Concern In Progress | #49-8     | Will the dead trees be merchantable? For pulplogs? For sawlogs? These bug killed trees have been dead for several years now.   | 120 Proposed Action, Decision |
|                            |                     |           |  | 202.02 Position, No Rationale |
|                            |                     | #49-9     | Are you sure that the slopes on the proposed runs are less than 45% to allow ground based systems? Any slopes over 45% would normally be considered cable of skyline logging system terrain. | 120 Proposed Action, Decision |
|                            |                     |           |  | 202.02 Position, No Rationale |
|                            |                     | #49-11    | What about any dead trees within the leave islands? Will these trees be felled and left or removed?  | 120 Proposed Action, Decision |
|                            |                     |           |  | 202.02 Position, No Rationale |
|                            |                     | #49-13    | What about dead trees on other portions of the proposed expansion area?  |                               |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text  | Code                          |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|---|-------------------------------|
| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |   |                               |
| 22                         | Concern In Progress |           |   |                               |
|                            |                     |           |   | 120 Proposed Action, Decision |
|                            |                     |           |   | 202.02 Position, No Rationale |
|                            |                     | #49-14    | Who gets the firewood? The public or the Permit Holder?   |                               |
|                            |                     |           |   | 120 Proposed Action, Decision |
|                            |                     |           |   | 202.02 Position, No Rationale |
|                            |                     | #49-20    | Will the Permit Holder be responsible for the timber harvesting? Will the dead and/or live trees be harvested thru the use of a commercial timber sale contract or a timber settlement contract?  |                               |
|                            |                     |           |   | 120 Proposed Action, Decision |
|                            |                     |           |   | 202.02 Position, No Rationale |
|                            |                     | #49-29    | Is this area going to end up as glade ski runs instead of defined ski runs? I would suggest that the planners of this project look at Google Earth photo imagery layer for either 2012 or 2013 for this area. The photo imagery shows numerous dead trees in this area. |                               |
|                            |                     |           |   | 120 Proposed Action, Decision |
|                            |                     |           |   | 202.02 Position, No Rationale |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text  | Code          |   |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|---|---------------|---|
| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |   |               |   |
| 22                         | Concern In Progress | #49-33    | Will skiing be allowed south of Lift #5 to the proposed special use boundary? If so will all of the dead trees be felled for safety? Look at Google Earth 2012/2013 photo layers. There are numerous dead trees. How will the felled material be disposed of? Hand pile? Dozer piled? Grapple piled? Can a piece of equipment get on these slopes? If felled material is left on site would this create a fire hazard and threat to the new lift? You know that skiers are going to use this side country. Again where will the ski area boundary be? Is the permit holder responsible for safety within the entire special use permit boundary? Are there woody debris requirements to protect the soil? | 120<br>202.02 | Proposed Action, Decision<br>Position, No Rationale |
|                            |                     | #49-36    | Will the dead trees that can hit this portion of the permanent road be felled by the permit holder for safety?  | 142<br>282.02 | Timber Mgmt<br>Health, Safety                       |
|                            |                     | #58-9     | Discuss in the NEPA document how logging would proceed in sensitive areas, such as, fragile soils, steep slopes, riparian areas, watersheds with sedimentation problems, and fish refugia and strongholds.  | 142<br>203    | Timber Mgmt<br>Multiple Resources/Reasons           |
|                            |                     | #58-10    | Consider how the timing of entry could be adjusted to minimize environmental impacts, such as, to wildlife use and soil conditions.   |               |   |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text   | Code                           |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|--|--------------------------------|
| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |  |                                |
| 22                         | Concern In Progress |           |  |                                |
|                            |                     |           |  | 142 Timber Mgmt                |
|                            |                     |           |  | 203 Multiple Resources/Reasons |
|                            |                     | #58-11    | Where conditions allow, consider using a cut-to-length harvester/forwarder system, and/or low impact horse logging.  |                                |
|                            |                     |           |  | 142 Timber Mgmt                |
|                            |                     |           |  | 242 Timber Resource            |
|                            |                     | #58-14    | As discussed above, tree removal and road construction disturbs soils, accelerates erosion, and can contribute sediment to streams, especially in areas with steep slopes. The NEPA analysis should address how these and other management activities would affect sediment delivery, temperature, fish habitat and hydrology. |                                |
|                            |                     |           |  | 142 Timber Mgmt                |
|                            |                     |           |  | 232 Water Resources            |
|                            |                     |           |  | 240 Biological Resources       |
|                            |                     | #76-7     | It will be particularly important to ensure that watershed modifications from timber harvest and road construction are done in a manner that preserves the hydrologic integrity of the upper South Fork Coeur d'Alene basin, and minimizes impacts to the downstream watershed and the Mullan (Hale) fish hatchery.            |                                |
|                            |                     |           |  | 142 Timber Mgmt                |
|                            |                     |           |  | 232 Water Resources            |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text   | Code                          |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|--|-------------------------------|
| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |  |                               |
| 23                         | Concern In Progress | #35-1     | The Environmental Impact Statement lacked clarity on how the area roads will be managed after the expansion.   |                               |
|                            |                     |           |  | 151 Roads Management          |
|                            |                     |           |  | 202.02 Position, No Rationale |
|                            |                     | #49-12    | What happens to any of the other jeep/mine roads within the proposed special use permit boundary? Will they be obliterated and rehabilitated to improve watershed function?  |                               |
|                            |                     |           |  | 120 Proposed Action, Decision |
|                            |                     |           |  | 202.02 Position, No Rationale |
|                            |                     | #49-17    | Will these roads be seeded and fertilized to reestablish vegetation cover after the lift upgrade?  |                               |
|                            |                     |           |  | 120 Proposed Action, Decision |
|                            |                     |           |  | 202.02 Position, No Rationale |
|                            |                     | #49-19    | Will the Permit Holder have to hire an engineer to layout the new permanent road location and develop the engineering plans for Forest Service approval for both the reconstruction and construction of the permanent road? How will the Forest Service administer this? |                               |
|                            |                     |           |  | 120 Proposed Action, Decision |
|                            |                     |           |  | 202.02 Position, No Rationale |
|                            |                     | #49-26    | Will rolling dips be designed into the road plans and installed on the permanent road system to facilitate water drainage and reduce the potential for soil erosion?   |                               |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text   | Code                           |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|--|--------------------------------|
| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |  |                                |
| 23                         | Concern In Progress |           |  |                                |
|                            |                     |           |  | 120 Proposed Action, Decision  |
|                            |                     |           |  | 202.02 Position, No Rationale  |
|                            |                     | #49-30    | There are several old jeep/mine roads that enter the proposed special use permit boundary. Will portions of these old roads be obliterated to prevent unauthorized entry into the special use boundary?  |                                |
|                            |                     |           |  | 120 Proposed Action, Decision  |
|                            |                     |           |  | 202.02 Position, No Rationale  |
|                            |                     | #58-4     | Road construction and reconstruction are of concern because roads contribute more sediment to streams than any other management activity and interrupt the subsurface flow of water, particularly where roads cut into steep slopes. In addition, roads and their use contribute to habitat fragmentation, wildlife disturbance, the introduction or exacerbation of noxious weeds and increased fire danger from recreational activities. |                                |
|                            |                     |           |  | 151 Roads Management           |
|                            |                     |           |  | 203 Multiple Resources/Reasons |
|                            |                     | #58-5     | Include in the NEPA document a description of how roads in the affected watershed currently impact resources, and describe the change in road miles, density, and traffic levels that would occur as a result of the proposed project.   |                                |
|                            |                     |           |  | 151 Roads Management           |
|                            |                     |           |  | 203 Multiple Resources/Reasons |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text  | Code                          |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|---|-------------------------------|
| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |   |                               |
| 23                         | Concern In Progress | #58-6     | As alternatives are developed, seek opportunities to reduce the number of roads needed to conduct the proposed timber removal and proposed project operations.  |                               |
|                            |                     |           |   | 151 Roads Management          |
|                            |                     |           |   | 241 Vegetation                |
|                            |                     |           |   | 260 Recreation                |
|                            |                     | #58-7     | Describe the specific methods for how single purpose and temporary roads would be closed, and for how system roads would be decommissioned or obliterated. Include the number of miles and the rationale for each treatment. If the project includes administrative road closures, describe what enforcement and monitoring measures would be used to ensure they are effective. For road obliteration, describe the removal and restoration measures that would be used, including those for soil stabilization. |                               |
|                            |                     |           |   | 151.02 Road Closure, Decomm.  |
|                            |                     |           |   | 202.02 Position, No Rationale |
|                            |                     | #58-8     | Consider obliterating as well as, or instead of, closing or blocking any existing unmapped roads to prevent unauthorized vehicle use, other unauthorized activities (e.g., dumping), and to protect sensitive resources.  |                               |
|                            |                     |           |   | 151.02 Road Closure, Decomm.  |
|                            |                     |           |   | 230 Natural Environment       |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text   | Code                             |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|--|----------------------------------|
| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |  |                                  |
| 23                         | Concern In Progress | #76-6     | Plans to re-grade roads should include water bars and adding culverts of appropriate size to ensure fish passage on any fish bearing streams. This will reduce concerns of impacts to aquatic systems.   | 151.01 Road Construction, Maint. |
|                            |                     |           |  | 240 Biological Resources         |
|                            |                     | #83-19    | The amount of new and temporary roads should be limited to the maximum extent possible. Roads are a source of sediment that will affect water quality in and around the ski area. Roads almost always bring invasive species. New or temporary roads could be eliminated from the proposal by utilizing helicopters to yard trees instead of using ground-based methods. | 151.01 Road Construction, Maint. |
|                            |                     |           |  | 232 Water Resources              |
|                            |                     | #85-4     | The road construction and reconstruction and the effects of altered slope hydrology due to clearcutting would add pollution to already degraded streams. Habitat for native fish species would be degraded.  | 151.01 Road Construction, Maint. |
|                            |                     |           |  | 232 Water Resources              |
|                            |                     |           |  | 240.01 Ecosystem, Habitat Health |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text  | Code   |   |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|---|--------|---|
| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |   |        |   |
| 23                         | Concern In Progress | #85-10    | The EIS must include all road management scenarios, and also disclose impacts to inventoried roadless and other unroaded areas in the vicinity.   | 151    | Roads Management  |
|                            |                     |           |   | 270    | Lands, Condition, Designation   |
|                            |                     |           |   |        |   |
| 24                         | Concern In Progress | #58-26    | Development of the NEPA analysis should be done in consultation with all affected tribal governments, consistent with Executive Order 13175, Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments. Discuss whether or not the proposed project would affect tribal natural and/or cultural resources and address any concerns of the tribes in accordance with federal tribal trust responsibilities. | 110.02 | Coordination, Consultation  |
|                            |                     |           |   | 210.04 | American Indians/Tribes   |
|                            |                     |           |   | #90-1  | we are very concerned about the impact of the project on an original, and very visible, portion of the historic Mullan Military Trail. This resource seems to be located directly within the area of roadway and ski run construction. Could you please let me know if this is being addressed within the EIS and if not, how can we make sure it is fully analyzed and mitigated within the document. This reach of original trail is a small portion of original and locatable trail that was built in the early 1860s as the first engineered military road from Fort Benton to Walla Walla, Washington. |
|                            |                     |           |   | 182.01 | Cultural, Hist., Anthro. Mgmt   |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text  | Code                                      |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|---|---|
| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |   |   |
| 24                         | Concern In Progress |           |   |   |
|                            |                     |           |   | 282.03 Cultural, Hist., Anthro. Resources |
| 26                         | Concern In Progress |           |   |   |
|                            |                     | #49-35    | Will this road cut be visible from I-90?  | 160.04 Visual Resource Mgmt               |
|                            |                     |           |   | 250 Transportation System                 |
|                            |                     | #77-2     | Why should the residents of Mullan have to look at clear cuts for ski runs, I enjoy looking at trees. The acreage is too much, they need to stay the size they are or get smaller.  | 160.04 Visual Resource Mgmt               |
|                            |                     |           |   | 202.02 Position, No Rationale             |
|                            |                     | #83-25    | The proposed ski area expansion will also change the visual appearance of the area to recreationists. The EIS should include a thorough visual effects analysis. Alternative should be developed that limit the effects to the visual appearance of the area as viewed by other recreationists. | 160.04 Visual Resource Mgmt               |
|                            |                     |           |   | 260 Recreation                            |

| Concern Response #         | Status              | Comment # | Comment Text  | Code          |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|---|---------------|
| <b>Associated Comments</b> |                     |           |   |               |
| 27                         | Concern In Progress | #58-16    | Vegetation removal and soil disturbance enable invasive weeds to become established. The NEPA document should identify management actions that would be taken to comply with Executive Order 13112 on Invasive Species. We recommend including the Forest Service direction for invasive weed management, a description of current conditions and best management practices that would be used to reduce the likelihood of introduction and spread of invasive species. Describe any invasive weed control projects planned in the action areas, and future/ongoing weed monitoring and control activities. | 141<br>241.02 |
|                            |                     | #58-17    | The NEPA document should identify whether there are any threatened, endangered, candidate, sensitive or other plant species of concern within or near the project area that could be affected by proposed actions. Include general locations of rare or special status plants, and how these sites would be managed to avoid impacts on the plants.   | 141<br>241.01 |
|                            |                     | #85-6     | The EIS must fully analyze and disclose the current incidence and impacts of noxious weeds, as well as the cumulative impacts from the proposed expansion activities.   | 141<br>241.02 |
|                            |                     | #85-7     | The EIS must analyze and disclose the impacts on the Sensitive (and "Warranted" for ESA listing) whitebark pine.  |               |

| Concern Response # | Status | Comment # | Comment Text | Code |
|--------------------|--------|-----------|--------------|------|
|--------------------|--------|-----------|--------------|------|

**Associated Comments**

|    |                     |  |                          |        |
|----|---------------------|--|--------------------------|--------|
| 27 | Concern In Progress |  |                          |        |
|    |                     |  |                          | 141    |
|    |                     |  |                          | 241.01 |
|    |                     |  | Vegetation Mgmt          |        |
|    |                     |  | Plant Species: TES, etc. |        |

**Unassociated Comments**

|       |  |  |  |        |
|-------|--|--|--|--------|
| #13-1 | Letter attached                                    |  |  |        |
|       |  |  |  | 102    |
|       |  |  |  | 202    |
|       |  |  |  | 507.03 |
| #18-1 | Duplicate of Letter #14.                           |  |  |        |
|       |  |  |  | 102    |
|       |  |  |  | 202    |
|       |  |  |  | 507.03 |
| #74-1 | duplicate of letter #31, submitted electronically. |  |  |        |
|       |  |  |  | 102    |
|       |  |  |  | 202    |

| Concern Response #           | Status | Comment # | Comment Text   | Code                            |
|------------------------------|--------|-----------|--|---------------------------------|
| <b>Unassociated Comments</b> |        |           |  |                                 |
|                              |        |           |  | 507.03                          |
|                              |        | #83-1     | Please keep me on the mailing list for projects updates, documents, and opportunities for further comment. | Mailing list or nothing to code |
|                              |        |           |  | 102                             |
|                              |        |           |  | 202                             |
|                              |        |           |  | 507.03                          |
|                              |        | #85-1     | Please keep us on the mailing list to receive all future public notifications.                             | Mailing list or nothing to code |
|                              |        |           |  | 102                             |
|                              |        |           |  | 202                             |
|                              |        |           |  | 507.03                          |
|                              |        | #87-1     | Please keep me on the project mailing list and let me know if you have any questions about our comments.   | Mailing list or nothing to code |
|                              |        |           |  | 102                             |
|                              |        |           |  | 202                             |
|                              |        |           |  | 507.03                          |
|                              |        | #87-2     | Duplicate of Letter #30. Not recoded.  | Mailing list or nothing to code |
|                              |        |           |  | 102                             |

| Concern Response # | Status | Comment # | Comment Text | Code |
|--------------------|--------|-----------|--------------|------|
|--------------------|--------|-----------|--------------|------|

**Unassociated Comments**

|       |  |  |  |        |                                 |
|-------|--|--|--|--------|---------------------------------|
|       |  |  |  | 202    | No Further Response Required    |
|       |  |  |  | 507.03 | Mailing list or nothing to code |
| #88-1 |  |  | Please keep me on the mailing list for the Lookout Ski area Expansion Third Party EIS. |        |                                 |
|       |  |  |  | 102    | No Further Response Required    |
|       |  |  |  | 202    | No Further Response Required    |
|       |  |  |  | 507.03 | Mailing list or nothing to code |



## **Attachment G: Demographics Report**

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**Ecosystem Management Coordination**  
**CARA** | Comment Analysis and Response Application

## Delivery Type Report

**Project:** Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion Third-Party EIS (43757)

**Comment Period:** Scoping - Scoping period

**Period Dates:** 4/4/2014 - 5/5/2014

**Generated:** 11/16/2015 2:04 PM

| <b>Delivery Type</b>            | <b>Letter Count</b> | <b>Signature Count</b> |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| CARA Web-portal                 | 38                  | 38                     |
| Carrier: USPS, UPS, FedEx, etc. | 10                  | 10                     |
| Email                           | 30                  | 31                     |
| FAX                             | 2                   | 2                      |
| Meeting Comment Card            | 7                   | 7                      |
| Personally delivered, written   | 3                   | 3                      |



## Letter Type Report

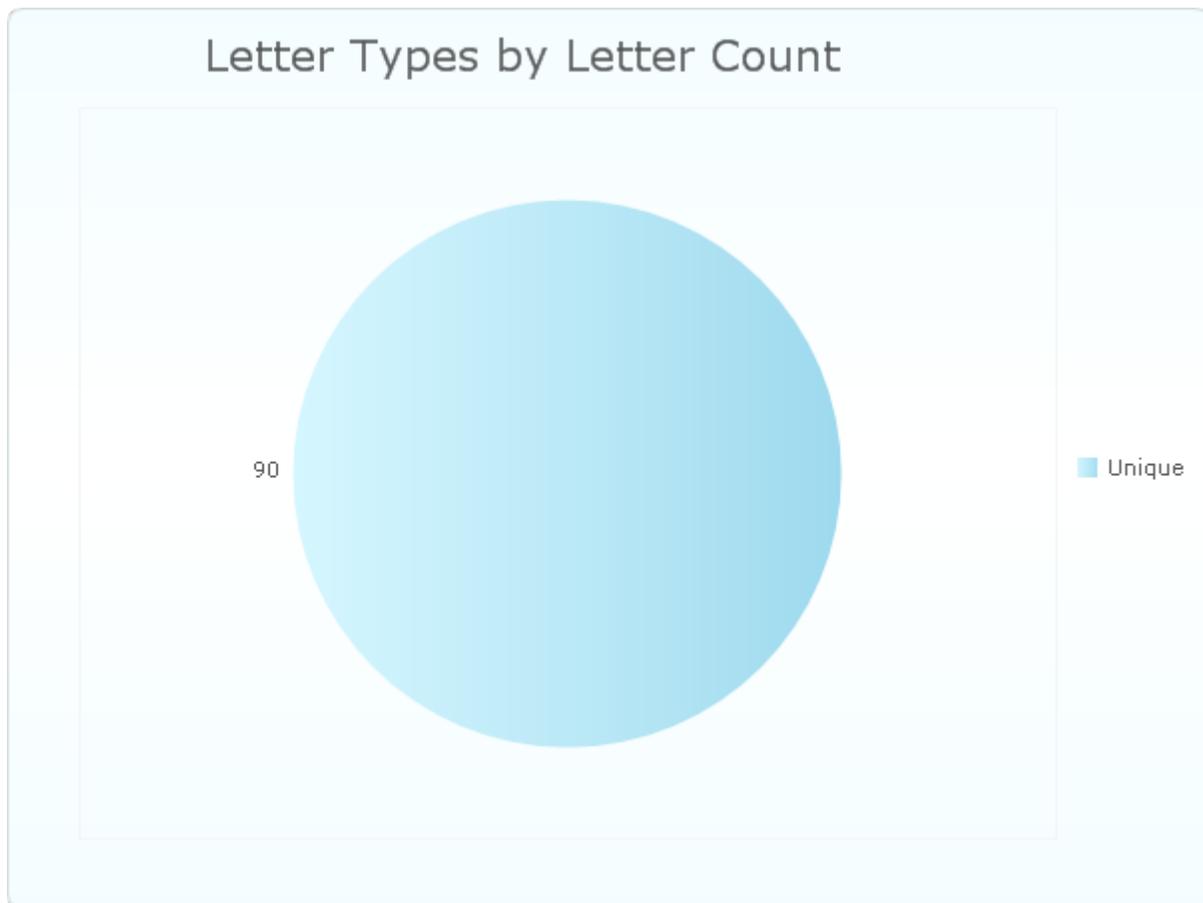
**Project:** Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion Third-Party EIS (43757)

**Comment Period:** Scoping - Scoping period

**Period Dates:** 4/4/2014 - 5/5/2014

**Generated:** 11/16/2015 2:04 PM

| Letter Type | Letter Count | Signature Count |
|-------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Unique      | 90           | 91              |





**Ecosystem Management Coordination**  
**CARA** | Comment Analysis and Response Application

## Origin of Letters Report

**Project:** Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion Third-Party EIS (43757)

**Comment Period:** Scoping - Scoping period

**Period Dates:** 4/4/2014 - 5/5/2014

**Generated:** 11/16/2015 2:04 PM

| State      | Letter Count | Signature Count |
|------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Idaho      | 35           | 36              |
| Montana    | 14           | 14              |
| New Jersey | 1            | 1               |
| Unknown    | 27           | 27              |
| Washington | 13           | 13              |



## Responding Organization Report

**Project:** Lookout Pass Ski Area Expansion Third-Party EIS (43757)  
**Comment Period:** Scoping - Scoping period  
**Period Dates:** 4/4/2014 - 5/5/2014      **Generated:** 11/16/2015 2:04 PM

| Organization                              | Letter # | Name             | Address                       | City          | State | ZIP              |
|---|----------|------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|-------|------------------|
| Alliance For The Wild Rockies             | 85       | Juel, Jeff       | P.O. Box 505                  | Helena        | MT    | 59624            |
| AMERICAN CITIZEN                          | 1        | PUBLIC , JEAN    | NOT AVAILABLE                 | NOT AVAILABLE | NJ    | 08822            |
| Avista                                    | 81       | Bekkedahl, Robin | PO Box 3727 MSC-21            | Spokane       | WA    | 99220            |
| City of Wallace                           | 79       | Vestor, Dick     | 703 Cedar Street              | Wallace       | ID    | 83873            |
| Environmental Protection Agency           | 58       | Somers, Elaine   | 1200 Sixth Avenue             | Seattle       | WA    | 98101            |
| Friends of Lookout Pass                   | 57       | Dutton, Barry    |                               |               |       |                  |
| Idaho Citizen                             | 37       | Owens , Phil     | 12179 Kelly Rae Dr.           | Hayden        | ID    | Hayden,<br>83835 |
| Idaho Department of Environmental Quality | 20       | Bergquist, June  | Coeur d'Alene Regional Office | Coeur d'Alene | ID    | 83814            |
| Idaho Department of Fish and Game         | 76       | Corsi, Charles   | 2885 West Kathleen Avenue     | Coeur d'Alene | ID    | 83815            |
| Idaho Department Of Parks And Recreation  | 88       | Cook, Jeff       | P.O. Box 83720                | Boise         | ID    | 83720-<br>0065   |
| Idaho Resident                            | 47       | Crum, Kirk       | 2225 S Whitetail Crossing     | Coeur d Alene | ID    | 83814            |

| <b>Organization</b>   | <b>Letter #</b> | <b>Name</b>                 | <b>Address</b>          | <b>City</b>   | <b>State</b> | <b>ZIP</b> |
|---|-----------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|--------------|------------|
| Individual Citizen  | 23              | Keller, Gary                | 12816 E. Apache Pass Rd | Spokane       | WA           |            |
| Inland Northwest Backcountry Alliance                               | 30              | Latta, John                 | 808 W 26th Ave          | Spokane       | WA           | 99203      |
| Inland Northwest Backcountry Alliance                               | 33              | Phillips, Chris             | 802 E 31st Ave          | Spokane       |              | 99203      |
| Inland Northwest Backcountry Alliance                               | 38              | Drzymkowski, Robert         | 4015 S Hogan St         | Spokane       | WA           | 99203      |
| Inland Northwest Backcountry Alliance and Winter Wildlands Alliance | 87              | Latta, John                 | 808 W 26th Ave          | Spokane       | WA           | 99203      |
| Local citizen   | 32              | Yergler, Gary               | 9 Access Road           | Kingston      | ID           | 83839      |
| Magnuson Hospitality Group  | 68              | Magnuson Sheppard, Kathleen | PO Box 469              | Wallace       | ID           | 83873      |
| Mineral County  | 35              | , Commissioners             | PO Box 550              | Superior      | MT           | 59872      |
| Mineral County Historical Society and Museum                        | 90              | Temple, Peggy               |                         |               |              |            |
| Montana Backcountry Alliance  | 59              | Peters, Greg                | PO Box 8691             | Missoula      | MT           | 59807      |
| Montana Department of Environmental Quality                         | 73              | Lovelace, Bonnie            | PO Box 200901           | Helena        | MT           | 59620-0901 |
| Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks                                      | 56              | Rose, Sharon                | 3201 Spurgin Rd.        | Missoula      | MT           | 59804      |
| Montana Nightriders   | 62              | Nelson, Alan                | 1334 S Nugget Drive     | Coeur d'Alene | ID           | 83814      |
| Montana Nightriders   | 82              | Teeters, Brennan            | PO Box 420242           | Haugan        | MT           | 59842      |
| MT Nightriders Snowmobile Club                                      | 63              | Sverdsten, Mark             | 24695 E Meadow Rd       | Cataldo       | ID           | 83810      |
| National Rifle Association  | 28              | Black, anastasia            |                         |               |              |            |
| None  | 44              | Stambaugh, Mark             | 5251 E. Inverness Dr    | Post Falls    | ID           | 83854      |
| Osburn Drug Co.   | 65              | Lavigne, Dale               | PO Box 2170             | Osburn        | ID           | 83849      |

| Organization                 | Letter # | Name                            | Address                   | City           | State | ZIP   |
|------------------------------|----------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|-------|-------|
| private citizen              | 41       | Yake, Daniel                    | 3103 E FERNAN HILL RD     | COEUR D ALENE  | ID    | 83814 |
| Shoshone County              | 54       | , Board of County Commissioners | 700 Bank Street           | Wallace        | ID    | 83873 |
| Shoshone County, Idaho       | 51       | Podsaid, Sandy                  | 700 w Bank st, #120       | Wallace        | ID    | 83873 |
| Spokane Mountaineers         | 46       | Ryan, Eric                      | 4403 W. Winston Ct #29    | Spokane        | WA    | 99205 |
| Spokane Mountaineers         | 86       | Ashmore, Andrew                 | P.O. Box 1013             | Spokane        | WA    | 99210 |
| State of Montana Legislature | 45       | Fielder, Jennifer               | P.O. Box 2558             | Thompson Falls |       |       |
| The Lands Council            | 83       | Petersen, Mike                  | 25 W. Main Ave, Suite 222 | Spokane        | WA    | 99201 |
| WEST END ATV ASSOC           | 26       | Garr, Donal                     | 229 Silver Crk Rd         | Saltese        | MT    | 59867 |
| Zanetti Bros. Inc.           | 19       | Zanetti, Herb                   |                           |                |       |       |