

ASPEN MOUNTAIN

∞ | MASTER 2018 | DEVELOPMENT PLAN

January 2018



ASPEN MOUNTAIN

∞ | MASTER 2010 | DEVELOPMENT 2012 | PLAN



January 2018

ACCEPTED BY:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Scott Fitzwilliams", written over a horizontal line.

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DATE: 3/2/2018

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Appendix 3. Natural Resource Plan

Note: all appendices are provided in electronic format only



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This 2018 Master Development Plan (MDP) amends and updates the existing 1997 Aspen Mountain Master Plan. This MDP provides a detailed assessment of existing facilities and operations on Aspen Mountain, as well as a comprehensive overview of planned elements within the Aspen Mountain special use permit (SUP) area and on private lands.

This MDP is presented in the following six chapters:

I. INTRODUCTION provides an MDP Overview.

II. DESIGN CRITERIA describes the design criteria used for mountain planning specific to Aspen Mountain.

III. SITE INVENTORY provides a site inventory of the resort, including topography, slope analysis, and information relating to the SUP boundary and surrounding land ownership.

IV. EXISTING FACILITIES describes existing resort facilities for both winter and summer, and evaluates the current balance of resort operations, facilities, and infrastructure. This includes lifts, terrain, guest services, snowmaking, and parking. This section provides the baseline conditions which drive the upgrade plan.

V. PREVIOUSLY APPROVED PROJECTS, NOT YET IMPLEMENTED discusses projects previously approved through Forest Service analysis, but not yet implemented.

VI. UPGRADE PLAN details proposed upgrades and improvements to the experience at Aspen Mountain.



Key Plan Elements

This MDP includes several previously approved projects that have not yet been implemented:

- 2011 – Aspen Skiing Company Forest Health Projects Environmental Assessment (EA), Decision Notice/Finding of No Significant Impact (DN/FONSI) (National Forest System [NFS] lands)
- 2015 – Aspen Mountain Shadow Mountain (Lift 1A) Realignment and Replacement Project Categorical Exclusion (CE), Decision Memo (DM) (NFS and private lands)

Newly-planned projects included in this MDP include the following:

Winter

Occurring on NFS Lands, Private Lands, and/or a Combination of NFS and Private Lands

- Pandora chairlift construction (66% [2,766 feet] on NFS lands and 34% [1,425 feet] on private lands)
- 153 acres of new trails and gladed terrain in the Pandora area (39% [60 acres] on NFS lands and 61% [93 acres] on private lands)
- Snowmaking infrastructure to the summit including underground pipelines, booster pump stations and additional storage ponds (49% [26 acres] on NFS lands and 51% [27 acres] on private lands)
- Replacement, realignment, and/or removal of the Bell Mountain chairlift
- Upgrade or removal of the Gent's Ridge chairlift
- Various glading projects
- Upgraded cell tower and data equipment sites
- Replacement or refurbishment of utilities, water systems and infrastructure including replacement of tanks, pumps and pipelines, Ruthie's Restaurant renovation, remodeling and/or redevelopment

Occurring on Private Lands Only

- Bonnie's Restaurant renovation
- Buckhorn Cabin expansion and renovation
- Upgraded Patrol Facility and remodel of the Gondola terminal building at the summit (private lands)
- Art/music/wedding and scenic venues near the summit (private lands)

As a result of proposed and previously-approved changes, Aspen Mountain's CCC will increase from the current 4,290 guests to 4,610 guests.

Summer

Occurring on NFS Lands and Private Lands

- Challenge Course, and climbing features, including bouldering and climbing apparatus not requiring belay system
- New hiking trails
- New mountain biking flow trails

Occurring on Private Lands Only

- Summit landscaping (ongoing)
- Art/music/wedding and scenic venues near the summit (private lands)