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| **From:** | mwestover@cirruses.com |
| **To:** | Judith A. Seamons |
| **Subject:** | FW: Attention: Snow King On-mountain Improvements Project |
| **Date:** | Friday, October 5, 2018 12:50:56 PM |

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**From:** DeLong, Anita K -FS <akdelong@fs.fed.us> **On Behalf Of** FS-comments-intermtn-bridger-teton-jackson
**Sent:** Friday, October 05, 2018 9:26 AM
**To:** mwestover@cirruses.com
**Subject:** FW: Attention: Snow King On-mountain Improvements Project

**From:** American Avalanche Institute [mailto:avalanche.institute@gmail.com]
**Sent:** Thursday, October 04, 2018 1:07 PM
**To:** FS-comments-intermtn-bridger-teton-jackson <comments-intermtn-bridger-teton-jackson@fs.fed.us>; commissioners@tetoncountywy.gov
**Subject:** Attention: Snow King On-mountain Improvements Project

To whom it may concern:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Snow King proposal for improvement and expansion.

We value what Snow King offers to the town of Jackson and Teton County. Snow King has been a big supporter of our youth avalanche courses over the years. They have allowed us access to the ridgeline to take high school, middle school, and younger students to dig pits just west and southeast of the summit. This has served as an excellent classroom to dig in the typically shallow weak snowpack. Thank you, Snow King.

We are in support of Snow King being allowed to make improvements to the ski area, but feel that the current proposal, if taken in entirety, goes too far.

We support building a new gondola to replace the summit chair, but feel that it should be done while minimizing the impacts on Town of Jackson land. Can the gondola base station be built on Snow King land?

We support the new restaurant and facility at the summit.

A gondola and a restaurant at the summit, along with some thinning of trees on the north side within the existing terrain, would be great improvements to the Snow King Mountain.

We have concerns about the new road on the north facing side. This will impact the skier experience and push out into wildlife habitat outside the existing Snow King boundaries. This proposed road would travel through avalanche start zones and require additional avalanche control. The Leeks Canyon road on the backside has been used in the past and seems to be usable now.

We also have concerns about the proposed expansion into the back bowls of Leeks Canyon. The proposed expansion into this terrain includes multiple lifts/magic carpets, snowmaking, and a yurt camp. Expansion to this extent would have a large impact on field sites that we have used on the ridges west and east/southeast of the summit. But more importantly, the current proposal would create a large increase in human presence and infrastructure in that drainage.
It does not feel appropriate for an expansion of this magnitude into the Leeks Canyon.
The proposed expansion of infrastructure and usage should be balanced with the impact on wildlife habitat. An occasional skier or intermittent use of the Leeks Canyon Road is different than a full resort expansion into that terrain.

We support improvements at Snow King Mountain, but hope that it can be done in a balanced way. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this issue.

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