

Name: A Scheumann
Email: Alli.scheumann@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 14:40:26

Your Comment:

To whom it concerns, The Mission Ridge expansion plan as outlined will set our valley back. There are many great things about Wenatchee, few of which are little to no traffic, local ski hill that is family friendly and not crowded, and access to recreation without the buzz of a bigger city. The MR expansion will negate all of those wonderful qualities Wenatchee offers. It will contribute to more pollution from car traffic. Additionally, squilchuck road will not be able to support the increased vehicular traffic. I hope the lack of Wenatchee residential support for this project will be enough to have project managers rethink this expansion.

Name: Adam Vognild
Email: highalpine@hotmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 19:28:42

Your Comment:

October, 20 2025 Mike Kaputa, Director Chelan County Department of Natural Resources SEPA Responsible Official missionridgeeis@outlook.com 411 Washington St. Suite 201 Wenatchee, WA, 98801 RE: Mission Ridge Master Planned Resort Expansion Draft Environmental Impact Statement Concerns Dear Mr. Kaputa, Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments regarding the DEIS for the proposed development adjacent to Mission Ridge ski area. The DEIS is full of omissions of impacts, inadequate mitigation of the potential effects, and incorrect assertions. Additionally, the proposed development violates Chelan County Codes. Because of this, I oppose the development and urge you to support the No Action Alternative. Below, I highlight a small sample of the many issues in the DEIS:

Traffic on Squilchuck and Mission Ridge Road: The project predicts 10,000 vehicle trips per day on the Mission Ridge Road, which is roughly double the traffic on both Stevens Pass and Blewitt Pass. The DEIS predicts that the development will snarl traffic to a condition below minimum Chelan County standards, yet the DEIS does not include mitigation or improvements to the Mission Ridge Road. The Chelan County Comprehensive Plan Goal 1.9 is "...deny approval of any development proposal that would cause a roadway segment to fall below the adopted minimum level of service...". Our community should not be burdened by snarled traffic that financially benefits a developer but hurts the rest of us. Additionally, the impacts on the wildlife of this massive increase in traffic, from Mission Ridge all the way to the south end of town, have not been addressed. If the master plan is completed as planned, there will be 20 years of heavy construction vehicles traveling up and down the road. This isn't just light vehicle traffic, but large and heavy trucks and semi's. These trucks will primarily utilize diesel fuel, which will impact the surrounding wildlife and residents of Chelan County. The DEIS States: 5.6.3.1

Direct Impacts from Construction City of Wenatchee, Squilchuck Road Corridor, Chelan PUD Easements: Construction of the Proposed Project would require worker, equipment, and materials trips to and from construction sites. Construction sites would include all areas where construction related to the Proposed Project would occur. This would include intersections with necessary improvements in the City of Wenatchee, PUD utility infrastructure improvements along existing or expanded easements, construction of the new access road, and construction within the Project Area during each phase of Proposed Project. Construction-related traffic was not evaluated in the TIA; however, it is reasonable to expect that construction traffic would result in temporary increases in traffic interference and congestion on local roads throughout periods of construction. Construction would likely occur during off-season months, not to conflict with the higher uses of the area roadways during the ski season. Due to the limited roadway options in the area, only short-term and partial roadway closures will be allowed except where detour routes are available. Additionally, the impacts on the wildlife of this massive increase in traffic, from Mission Ridge all the way to the south end of town, have not been addressed. If the master plan is completed as planned, there will be 20 years of heavy construction vehicles traveling up and down the road. This isn't just light vehicle traffic, but large and heavy trucks and semi's. These trucks will primarily utilize diesel fuel, which will impact the surrounding wildlife and residents of Chelan County. The current roads, as built, could not handle this increase in traffic, both in the short term (20 years) during build-out and if completed to plan in 20 years. This will lead to massive traffic congestion and an increase in exhaust (due to idling vehicles while waiting for an under-designed traffic system). This will both impact

Name: Al Hagen
Email: amhalh@nwi.net
Completion time: 2025-09-20 15:17:01

Your Comment:

Mission Ridge has never been fully financed for the long term; hence that's why it has been sold many times. Completion of his project will contribute to the ability of Mission Ridge to stay in business long term. This project will bring a lot of additional tax monies to Chelan County. This project will provide additional parking. For skiers and snowboarders this project will provide additional acreage of new runs.

Name: Alex Hatcher
Email: hatcher_alexander@wheatoncollege.edu
Completion time: 2025-10-14 23:14:54

Your Comment:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments regarding the DEIS for the proposed development adjacent to Mission Ridge ski area. The DEIS is full of omissions of impacts, inadequate mitigation of potential impacts, and incorrect assertions. Additionally, the proposed development violates Chelan County Codes. Because of this, I oppose the development and urge you to support the No Action Alternative.

Name: Alicia O'Dell
Email: alicia.odell@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-18 14:44:57

Your Comment:

I am strongly opposed to this proposal due to its serious and far-reaching implications. The environmental impact of such a massive construction project would be significant and detrimental to the area. The scale of the proposed development is comparable to building a new city—on the size of Chelan at the high end, or Cashmere or Leavenworth at a more conservative estimate. Beyond environmental concerns, the region simply does not have the infrastructure or resources to support a development of this magnitude. There would be a dramatic increase in traffic, greater demand for road maintenance, and significant challenges with winter snow removal and safety. Additionally, the disproportionate consumption of water and power from the PUD would place an unsustainable burden on the local community. This development is not in the best interest of Wenatchee's long-term well-being. The involvement of outside corporate interests introduces legal, financial, and environmental risks to the City of Wenatchee, the PUD, and local citizens. Approving this proposal would come at great cost to our community.

Name: Allen McCulloch
Email: al.mcculloch@comcast.net
Completion time: 2025-09-11 11:06:45

Your Comment:
Glad to see the project is moving along.

Name: Allie Walsh
Email: allienicolewalsh@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-16 10:56:05

Your Comment:

We love Mission Ridge and have been season pass holders for over a decade, and now are young kids are learning to ski on the mountain. This expansion worries me as I fear we will continue to lose the local charm we love. Parking last season was much more difficult — how will increased housing and more user impact this? Prices in the lodge have risen considerably without commensurate improved quality of food. The expansion is not adding more exciting advanced terrain for dedicated skiers like us. I'm not opposed to growth but I worry we are created a mountain for "them" and not for "us."

Name: Alvaro M
Email: October3007@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 00:44:37

Your Comment:

No, mission ridge can not support more people. The prices of the daily tickets rival that of Steve's with half the chairs. The road going up to mission ridge can't support more traffic.

Name: Alysia Peterson
Email: Alysiamonee@msn.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 09:15:14

Your Comment:

The expansion size proposed is a terrible idea. The road and local infrastructure cannot accommodate the traffic. Wenatchee roads are already congested. Mission ridge roads are not built for that amount of traffic. The quaint small town charm will be ruined and replaced with overcrowded chaos. No thank you.

Name: Alyssa Bones
Email: alyssa.s.bones@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 15:47:32

Your Comment:

As Mission Ridge season pass holders, we appreciate the resort's role as a family-friendly, affordable recreation area. However, after reviewing the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and related materials, we are deeply concerned about three major issues that must be addressed before any approval proceeds.

- 1. Highway Traffic and Safety** The DEIS notes that the project would generate roughly 10,000 vehicle trips per day, twice the average daily traffic at Stevens Pass. The increased load on Squilchuck and Mission Ridge Roads would create a level of service condition below the minimum accepted Chelan County standard, yet no mitigation is proposed. As frequent users of this corridor, we already experience dangerous winter driving, narrow shoulders, and poor visibility. Without major upgrades to include turn lanes, additional snow-removal resources, or controlled access points, this added traffic represents an unacceptable public-safety risk. The DEIS should include a comprehensive traffic impact analysis with realistic winter conditions and enforce mitigation requirements prior to project approval.
- 2. Costs and Loss of Affordability** The expansion envisions 7,812 new beds and lodging for 4,000 people, almost twice the population of Leavenworth. This transformation into a luxury, high-capacity resort contradicts Mission Ridge's long-standing community role. The DEIS relies on the Master Planned Resort (MPR) overlay to justify dense, urban-style development outside the urban-growth boundary. Yet the analysis itself admits the proposal violates MPR criteria: it is not self-contained, not primarily a destination resort, and does not provide affordable employee housing or preserve rural character. We ask Chelan County to preserve equitable access by requiring binding commitments for local season-pass discounts, youth programs, and public recreation access, and to reconsider whether the MPR overlay is appropriate at all for this project.
- 3. Fire Risk and Watershed Protection** Sections 4.2.1–4.2.3 of the DEIS severely understate wildfire danger. The report's claim that the "worst-case wildfire scenario would be contained in several days or weeks" is irresponsible and based on outdated forest conditions. The analysis further downplays the risk of a single blocked access road, though the same document admits that such a road could trap residents and visitors with no redundancy and increased danger. The Labor Mountain Fire threatened Mission Ridge directly, proof that wildfire risk is not hypothetical. The DEIS must be revised to:
 - Require a secondary access road (currently treated as optional despite code mandates for life safety redundancy).
 - Ensure all fire-protection costs, including a fully staffed station, are borne by the developer.
 - Analyze and mitigate watershed impacts, including water withdrawal, septic leachate, and contamination of the Squilchuck Creek headwaters. The resort lies in a critical watershed supplying both domestic and agricultural users; any expansion must account for fire-induced erosion, runoff, and degraded water quality.

The DEIS, as written, fails to meet the National Environmental Policy Act's standards for public safety, environmental protection, and community equity. We respectfully urge Chelan County to:

1. Reject the DEIS as inadequate until it fully addresses highway safety and secondary access;
2. Reassess the use of the MPR overlay and require affordability safeguards;
3. Mandate comprehensive wildfire and watershed protections reflecting the post-Labor Mountain Fire reality.

Mac & Alyssa Bones Wenatchee, WA

Name: Amanda McLaren
Email: Mandy.j.mclaren@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 10:11:47

Your Comment:

Don't it always seem to go that you don't know what you've got 'till it's gone? Let's call this proposal what it is- a land grab fueled by greed. Please help protect our public lands and Vote no on this project. This is a private real estate development, not a ski area expansion. It is at the expense of our natural resources and residents of Chelan County to profit one individual.

Name: Amaya Rodriguez
Email: amayagr36@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 17:28:08

Your Comment:

I am a Nordic skier, hiker/snowshoer, and resident of Wenatchee. I was hiking the Lake Clara trail 2 weeks ago, and I am worried access will be significantly affected. The Draft EIS indicates that the proposed road will reduce parking availability in the existing main lot, which is used to access the popular Clara and Marion Lakes trailhead and non-motorized zone. As a resident of Wenatchee, this development is expected to bring a substantial increase in visitation to the Mission Ridge area, which may place additional pressure on the surrounding environment and recreation resources. I have participated in company alpine ski nights, helped support members of the community to be able to access the free bus to the resort and affordable lift tickets, for people that have not had that access before. This resort gives access to locals, but with the estimate more than doubling the amount of people daily, it is prioritizing the privileged rather than increasing local access. At the bare minimum, I believe a Community Benefit Agreement is necessary, but on the whole, I don't think this development will benefit the community.

Name: Amy Bridges
Email: amybridges113@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 21:21:18

Your Comment:

I strongly oppose the proposed Mission Ridge Expansion Master Planned Resort due to its extensive and irreversible environmental consequences. The project would negatively impact the region's wildlife, watershed, and climate resilience—three interconnected systems that are already under significant stress. **Wildlife Impact:** The proposed expansion area includes critical habitat for a range of native species that depend on the alpine and subalpine ecosystems for survival. Increased human activity, road construction, and year-round resort operations will fragment habitats, disrupt migration and breeding patterns, and introduce light and noise pollution into areas that have remained largely undisturbed. The DEIS fails to fully account for these cumulative impacts on wildlife movement and long-term population stability. **Watershed Impact:** The Mission Ridge area plays a vital role in maintaining the health of the Wenatchee watershed. Large-scale grading, vegetation removal, and construction will increase erosion, sedimentation, and stormwater runoff, degrading water quality downstream. These effects threaten aquatic life, including salmon and trout populations that rely on clean, cold water for spawning. The DEIS underestimates how expansion-related infrastructure—such as roads, parking areas, and snowmaking operations—will alter natural hydrology and reduce water availability during critical seasonal periods. **Climate Impact:** At a time when mountain ecosystems are already experiencing rapid changes from climate warming, this expansion would accelerate environmental degradation. Increased energy demand for snowmaking, heating, and transportation contradicts regional and global goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The clearing of forested areas will eliminate carbon-sequestering vegetation, further contributing to climate stress. Additionally, the project's reliance on artificial snow and expanded infrastructure is not sustainable as winters become shorter and less predictable. Protecting this area is essential to preserving biodiversity, clean water, and climate stability for future generations. Sustainable recreation and conservation—not large-scale resort development—should guide the future of Mission Ridge. For these reasons, I urge that the Mission Ridge Expansion be denied as proposed in the DEIS.

Name: Amy Kerker
Email: amykerker@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-19 16:05:14

Your Comment:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments regarding the DEIS for the proposed development adjacent to Mission Ridge ski area. I am concerned about the ramifications of building a small city in the upper Squilchuck basin for many reasons. Here are a few of my concerns: 1. Lack of road improvements: The developer has predicted an estimate of 10,000 car trips per day up and down Squilchuck/Mission Ridge road without any improvements to the road. As a resident of the area, I use the road every day to drive to town and I often walk, bike, or run on the shoulder between my house and Squilchuck State Park, Beehive Road, or Mission Ridge. Adding this amount of traffic would make the road downright dangerous for drivers, pedestrians, bicyclists, and wildlife. The DEIS downplays the impact that this increase in traffic will have on the road surface and the safety and well-being of those that live or drive in the area. 2. Secondary access: The plans do not currently include a reasonable secondary access road. There are many reasons a secondary access road is necessary for a development this large (fire/flooding/landslides - all of which are common in the Squilchuck basin), but the plans do not show a solution to this problem that would legitimately work in the event of an emergency. 3. Wildlife: I am concerned that the DEIS incorrectly stated that the area is not a habitat for some of our most vulnerable wildlife, including pika, marmots, golden eagles, bobcats, mountain lions. The area is also in the path of deer and elk migration. I have more concerns regarding the proposed plans for water, sewer, and the sheer density of the proposed city. The density of this plan is far greater than anything that has been allowed in the Squilchuck basin previously, and it is unclear why this is suddenly being touted as a "need" for the ski area to continue to operate. I hope that all of the concerns that are brought up during the comment period are thoroughly examined so that this project can be carried out in a responsible manner and will consider the permanent and irreversible impacts on such a delicate ecosystem.

Name: Amy Lindman
Email: 4lindmans@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 11:38:55

Your Comment:

Please do not do this proposed expansion! Impossible to sustain. Only one road is not enough in case of emergency evacuation. Also terrible for wildlife. Plus it's greedy and ugly.

Name: Amy Massey
Email: masseyamy2@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 10:33:22

Your Comment:

The Environmental Impact of a large development on Mission Ridge is harmful to human life. It is excessively dangerous to allow a development in the wildland-urban interface where egress is limited, where wildfire is likely, and raise homeowner insurance for all. After the recent Labor Mountain fire, this should be absolutely clear. Humans and infrastructure will be lost. The cost of defending a large development from fire will drain the firefighting budgets, and put firefighters at risk. This is a misguided project that needs to be halted.

Name: Andrea Keyser
Email: thekeyzers@AOL.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 13:48:01

Your Comment:

I am very concerned about the proposed Mission Ridge expansion. My biggest concern is the limited road capacity in case of emergency such as fire. I am also unconvinced that issues around water and wildlife have been adequately addressed. Please do not be in a rush on the project. Make sure it will be safe for the folks who live around here and our wild life.

Name: Andrea Serrano
Email: Andreakeen06@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 10:24:26

Your Comment:

This shouldn't be so carelessly thought out. It needs to be better planned out and roads need to be improved

Name: Andrew Crampton
Email: andrew.crampton@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 10:23:59

Your Comment:

I oppose the expansion of Mission Ridge. The proposed area does not have good enough snow cover to warrant expansion. The proposal includes no upgrades to already aging lifts and main area amenities. We do not need more homes up there. Part of what brought me to this area was a small owner ski area. These improvements feel like steps towards an Alterra or Vail acquisition which has NEVER been a good result for a small community.

Name: Andy mcconkey
Email: fishbag28@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 08:18:26

Your Comment:

I'm suspicious and mostly opposed to the MR expansion. I believe that the affect on economically on Wenatchee will not outstrip the adverse outcome of increased traffic, environmental harm and the increased cost of winter sports at MR. It feels mostly like a money grab, a last ditched effort to weasel cash out of what's been a pretty great community resource.

Name: Angela Hendrick
Email: achanger710@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-22 18:37:42

Your Comment:

These are my initial thoughts on the Mission Ridge expansion/DEIS upon listening to the workshop. I will provide more of my thoughts after I have thoroughly read the the DEIS. My first thought is WHY DO THIS???? For money and jobs? Looking at the risk of lives from not being able to escape a big fire that the place is due for, no money or job is worth it. The area is overdue for a big fire - it is for sure going to happen. The mitigation techniques that need to be considered is DO NOT BUILD more homes in the area. Nothing in this project will solve the problems in the Wenatchee area - homelessness, mental health issues and severe drug use. This will not improve the health and well being of my family, my friends and the other residents of this region.

Name: Angela Hendrick
Email: achanger710@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-19 12:28:20

Your Comment:

The part where 10,000 cars are expected to pass through a narrow steep road should already stymie this ridiculous plan of putting more houses in a place that should not have more human activity than it already has. This poses a danger to my children who are growing up on this road to go to school. This will cause danger for us to be able to evacuate when there is a fire - because there will be a large fire in this area - it is not theoretical - it is DUE for a fire. How would we be able to evacuate safely - secondary escape routes? Do the developers care about the people who already live in the area, the wildlife who was there before and the utter rape of the land that will happen if this will come to pass? Please STOP the madness of thinking that millionaires should be allowed to put more houses and human activity in this beautiful place and STOP so-called progress. Label it as it should be - a ravaging and defiling of a place that is beautiful.

Name: Angie

Email: Angie6643@hotmail.com

Completion time: 2025-10-20 21:48:05

Your Comment:

Not supportive of this expansion. It should be geared toward expanding the runs without creating housing for more out of town people. Locals will not be able to afford this housing. Locals already struggle with the mountain being overcrowded and being pushed out by tourists. This expansion feels geared for out of towners vs locals. I think the valley would support the expansion if the real estate housing development was not included.

Name: Angie Schmitten
Email: Schmittenangela@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 17:19:37

Your Comment:

No to an expansion to Mission Ridge. I have witnessed ski hills expand and how it changes way too much! Schweitzer is a great example! It used to be the best ski hill but now it is way too big! It lost the family feel and I don't want this to happen to Mission Ridge as well! Not to mention the impact it would have on the ecosystem! Keep Mission Ridge the same!

Name: Angileen Bates
Email: angileen.m.bates@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-16 18:49:50

Your Comment:

Please don't go through with this real estate deal. It makes a few people richer, adds a few green runs while taking business away from downtown, and completely changes the vibe of the resort. It destroys and disrupts this extremely unique habitat for vital elk and pika, cuts down old growth white bark pine and larch and Doug Fir, and puts undo strain on the entire Squilchuck and Stemilt basin surface and around the water system. This will make fire inevitable and make Squilchuck Road as busy as Blewett Pass without a deal for enhancements. Not to mention the massive visual stain it will have on the hillside forever.

Name: Anna

Email: nnkyrcksn@gmail.com

Completion time: 2025-09-24 19:25:04

Your Comment:

I oppose this development. There is only one road in and out. This road is very trafficky now and is windy and narrow. Access is limited at best. The fire risk is huge and we don't need to infest the beautiful forest with more homes.

Name: Anna jandreau
Email: Annajandreau18@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 10:42:04

Your Comment:

I am opposed to this idea and i believe it will bring more harm than good. I also would like to keep the forests around me pristine, because so much of it is beijg deforested for horrible ideas like this

Name: Annabella Polizzi
Email: Abellap@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 22:20:46

Your Comment:

I have been a resident of the Wenatchee valley for almost a decade and I strongly oppose the proposed expansion to Mission Ridge. I snowboard every year at Mission and worked there last year- this year my husband is working up there. We love Mission for many reasons but the main reasons are the small size, shorter lift lines, and the overall "small town" feel of a mountain for working class folks. I encourage Larry and the Mission Ridge team to follow through with two actions that would create a huge positive impact: First, thin some of the trees to create a more fire-safe area. There is no need for any condos in order to do the responsible thing and ensure fire safety. Two, pay your employees more- especially those in dangerous and highly skilled professions such as lift mechanics and ski patrol. There are many ways to take care of Mission and support the community- this expansion just isn't it. Please don't ruin such a precious and wonderful space with this unnecessary and potentially harmful expansion. We love mission and this community so much but these are the actions that can cause negative repercussions to a community- both tangible and intangible. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Name: Anthony mason
Email: Anthonym2297@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 10:15:24

Your Comment:
No Luke 12:15

Name: Anthony moscatel
Email: Mdsanthy@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 13:02:09

Your Comment:

I oppose the development of mission ridge. The impact of the mountain community and rural life of the residents.

Name: Ariel Edwards
Email: arielnautched@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 15:55:07

Your Comment:

Dear Mr. Kaputa, Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments regarding the DEIS for the proposed development adjacent to Mission Ridge ski area ("Mission Ridge Expansion Master Planned Resort"). The DEIS fails to adequately address impacts to wildlife, habitat, and public safety, and for that reason I am urging you to select the No Action Alternative for the proposed development.

Impacts on Wildlife and Habitat: The proposed project area currently provides crucial habitat to numerous wildlife species. Mule deer, Colockum elk, golden eagles, goshawks, pika, marmots, bobcats, mountain lions, coyotes, and black bears regularly use the section's habitat for travel corridors, feeding, bedding, fawn and calf rearing, and breeding. The DEIS posits that "adjacent lands contain potentially suitable habitat and migration corridors (e.g., riparian corridors) that are similar to habitats in the study area" (pg 5-44). This statement does not recognize the unique habitats and species that this area supports and does not examine the harm caused by habitat fragmentation – a well-studied ecological concept. Fragmenting these connected habitats would cause long-term harm to wildlife movement, watershed health, and overall ecosystem resilience. Additionally, while the DEIS does state that the project site includes multiple categories of critical areas and fish and wildlife conservation areas, it does not include proof of compliance with CCC Chapters 11.77 and 11.78. The DEIS should be revised and required to show responsible compliance with these requirements. Shockingly, the DEIS fails to list American pika, a species of greatest conservation need under the State Wildlife Action Plan, within the species list (Table 5.4-1). Pika have regularly been documented throughout the project area, and the proposed development would destroy critical talus habitat for this species. In section 5.4.3.1 and table 5.4-2 the DEIS fails to identify talus zones as pika habitat within their construction impacts analysis. However, most of the talus fields in section 19 seem to be scheduled for grading and removal. The DEIS should adequately discuss and assess the destruction of this talus habitat, particularly as it relates to pika, and offer appropriate mitigation plans.

Impacts on Public Safety: A second access road is required to provide an alternate escape route if needed. However, the DEIS only presents secondary access as an alternative. Secondary access is not an alternative; it is a code requirement. Chelan County should not bend its rules on secondary access to benefit a developer at the jeopardy of the safety of residents and visitors of the development. The DEIS should be updated to include secondary access as an integral part of the project. Furthermore, the DEIS does not identify impacts that increased traffic may pose to emergency access through Squilchuck Road. The DEIS estimates 10,000 vehicle trips per day on the Mission Ridge Road, or roughly double the traffic on Stevens Pass. The DEIS should properly analyze the increased risk associated with such a dramatic increase in traffic. The DEIS also does not include mitigation or improvements to the Mission Ridge Road. Currently, this road does not meet the minimum level of service requirements as established by Chelan County. Our community should not have to bear the burden of double the traffic, particularly without any mitigation or improvement plans. The DEIS should be reviewed and updated to account for this. These are just a few of the unclear, misleading, and incomplete statements in the DEIS. I strongly encourage Chelan County to follow the established codes and not bend the rules for the benefit of a developer. Please select the No-Action Alternative and protect the Mission Ridge landscape for wildlife, human, and ecosystem health alike. Thank you for considering my comments. Ariel Edwards arielnautched@gmail.com 1225 Johnson St, Wenatchee WA

Name: Ashleigh stephens
Email: Stephens.ashleigh1@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 10:26:42

Your Comment:

I oppose chair five that goes up to Windy Ridge area. It is what makes Mission Ridge Special and it is what a lot of Die Hard Mission Ridge fans love about the mountain that is hiked to only therefore it limits access and keeps the snow better longer. But there is a chair five for anybody to go up it will destroy the snow and therefore in my opinion destroy the mountain. It doesn't seem like a necessary thing to have. Maybe instead a tram or a track that takes people around instead

Name: Ashley
Email: ashley@endurancerehab.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 15:53:18

Your Comment:

I am completely against this proposed expansion. If this happens, it makes a few people rich, but everyone else sacrifices so much. It is our duty to protect the land, animals and water. It would decrease the quality of life for Wenatchee residents by increasing traffic dramatically. The elk that use the area as a migration path would be impacted. This would also strain our firefighting resources by creating so many more condos that would need protection from a potential forced fires. The upside of this expansion is so minuscule compared to the downside of this expansion. Too many people wanting to get rich at the expense of the residents , the land and the animals.

Name: Ashton Kalhorn
Email: imashton17@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 21:47:36

Your Comment:

I moved here to ski! So I am all in favor of Mission Ridge growing and expanding its footprint. I think a lot of people who have been here for a while are going to resist change and growth, but the crowds get worse at Mission every year so not allowing them to grow is only going to worsen the overcrowding. Most successful ski communities are closely linked to the success of their ski resort. I would just say Mission should be responsible to invest in the necessary infrastructure demands it will take to support their project. Just as the Wiedner apartments are investing \$10-15million in public infrastructure downtown. Mission Ridge can do the same.

Name: Audrey Dorshimer
Email: dorshim2@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-17 12:04:27

Your Comment:

The overlook of the road capacity for the Mission Ridge Expansion is a huge safety concern. The DEIS presents two road capacity analysis approaches that were analyzed in the 2025 Kimley Horn Traffic Impact Analysis Report. These include an alternative v/c (volume over capacity) approach, and the traditional Highway Capacity Manual approach. The Kimley Horn traffic analysis is faulty for both methods. Although not discussed in the traffic section of the DEIS, the new public access road is proposed to be 28 feet wide. This is introduced in the 2019 Aegis Fire Protection Plan where Chelan County Code section 15.30.230(4)(B) is cited, which specifies that when secondary access is not provided, then the minimum traveled surface road width must be 28 feet wide. References throughout the DEIS to this single access road use the phrase "single wider" access road, which implies that the proposed design exceeds County requirements. This is not true. The 28 foot minimum is for any development without interconnectivity. A 28 foot width may exceed the access roadway requirements for a 3 lot subdivision, but this development is not that. As discussed in the section above, the existing 28 foot wide Mission Ridge Road is inadequate to support projected traffic within the minimum adopted rural level of service set by Chelan County. The proposed access road is a rural connector. The Transportation Element of the 2017-2037 Chelan County Comprehensive Plan, Chapter 4, Goal II - PROVIDE A SAFE SYSTEM - requires design in accordance with Chelan County Code section 15.30 which requires Rural Collectors up to 4000 ADT to have a paved width of 32 feet. How can this project be allowed to not meet Chelan County Codes, when those of us who live and work in Wenatchee must abide by regulations? This is a safety concern along with many other issues that the DEIS clearly is cutting corners and letting money talk rather than true care for the public.

Name: Austin Siadak
Email: austin.siadak@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 16:03:29

Your Comment:

Dear Mr. Kaputa, Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments regarding the DEIS for the proposed development adjacent to Mission Ridge ski area. I oppose the development and urge you to support the No Action Alternative. Below I highlight a small sample of the many issues in the DEIS:

Traffic on Squilchuck and Mission Ridge Road: The project predicts 10,000 vehicle trips per day on the Mission Ridge Road, which is roughly double the traffic on both Stevens Pass and Blewitt Pass. The DEIS predicts that the development will snarl traffic to a condition below minimum Chelan County standards, yet the DEIS does not include mitigation or improvements to the Mission Ridge Road. The Chelan County Comprehensive Plan Goal 1.9 is "...deny approval of any development proposal that would cause a roadway segment to fall below the adopted minimum level of service...". Our community should not be burdened by snarled traffic that financially benefits a developer but hurts the rest of us.

Secondary access to the development: A second access road is required to provide an alternate escape route if needed. However, the DEIS only presents secondary access as an alternative. Secondary access is not an alternative; it is a code requirement. The DEIS recognizes that the secondary access would make a safer situation, stating in section 4.2.1.6 that: "Having more than one evacuation route provides redundancy and increased safety, particularly during unexpected or fast-moving events." Yet, the developer argues that providing a single "wider" 28-foot access road will make up for the danger of not having an emergency exit. This offering of a single "wider" road is misleading. The current Mission Ridge Road is 28 feet wide and is not adequate for the proposed development's traffic. The proposed "wider" road is the same width as the existing road and won't even meet minimum County standards. Chelan County should not bend its rules on secondary access to benefit a developer.

WDFW Land Exchange: Section 25 is owned by the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife and encompasses Windy Ridge and Bowl 4, the upper half of Chair 4, and overlaps with the proposed project. Per the DEIS, WDFW said: "...an expanded, year-round ski resort is not an allowable use of the land under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) contract that funded WDFW's purchase of the property." The DEIS discusses a land exchange between WDFW and Washington State DNR that would result in DNR owning Section 25 and implying that an expanded year-round resort would be allowable on DNR-owned Section 25. However, the DEIS further states that: "The land swap is not part of the current Proposed Project...". With the land exchange not on the table, the likelihood that it is illegal for DFW to swap the land, and DFW indicating that expanded year-round activity is not an allowable use of Section 25, Section 25 should be excluded from any expanded ski resort or development activity.

Master Planned Resort Overlay: Without the Master Planned Resort Overlay (MPR), the proposed level of development would violate the Urban Growth Act and could not be allowed. The developer is depending on this land use strategy which allows dense urban-style development outside the urban growth boundary. Despite depending on this planning tool, the development violates the requirements of MPRs including: Impacts are not fully mitigated, costs of public services are not fully borne by the developer, the development is not primarily a destination resort, is not self-contained, does not consist of short-term visitor accommodations, does not consider affordable employee housing, and does not preserve the rural character or natural resource it uses. Since the proposal does not meet the requirements for an MPR, the development should not benefit from the housing density allowed by an MPR. Thank you, Austin Siadak 6299 Kimber Road, Cashmere, WA

Name: Barbara Cecie

Email: Bcecie@nwi.net

Completion time: 2025-10-20 11:05:37

Your Comment:

Please do not allow this development to go forward. We enjoy the small town feel of this valley. We are already struggling with traffic. If we wanted to be like Vail or Issaquah or CleElum, we would live there. Please consider keeping this valley the way we all already love it. Thank you!

Name: Barbara Rossing
Email: brossing@lstc.edu
Completion time: 2025-10-21 12:44:57

Your Comment:

Please support the "No Action" alternative. I have read the Draft EIS. The proposed real estate development is far too large for a fragile headwaters valley with just one access road. Please do not approve this 900-unit housing development in its current form. It needs to be drastically scaled back. Wildfire danger is too high for year-round housing, with only one egress road. Recall the recent night of Sept 25, 2025 when high winds caused both the Lower Sugarloaf fire and Labor Mountain fire to blow up in the middle of the night, with Chelan County Emergency Management ordering Level 3 evacuations. If that had happened on the Squilchuck Road it would have been chaos! Claiming that secondary access is everyone sheltering in place in the parking lot is ridiculous. High winds will blow ember firestorms onto people standing in parking lots. I would support Employee Housing, seasonal housing (hotel, maybe a few condos) but not the huge year-round housing development. There is not enough water for all these proposed housing units. Wildlife migration would be threatened by such a concentration of permanent housing. I am a loyal Season Pass holder, and I love to ski at Mission Ridge in the winter. I love to hike at Mission Ridge in the summer, and value the solitude and quiet. All that would be ruined by such a large-scale year-round real estate development. The developer claims it is a "village" but in fact it is a "city"-- larger than Leavenworth! Please choose the "NO ACTION Alternative." Thank you.

Name: Barbara wolfe
Email: Bwolfe41@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 15:25:45

Your Comment:

This will be horrible for wildlife and the whole nature of the valley. This will be a detriment to the valley.
Totally against this.

Name: Becky Riddle
Email: bjriddle55@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 10:58:24

Your Comment:

Mission St has a very high traffic load now. Heading south from town toward mission ridge the road is narrow and not well maintained. There is such limited parking at the ridge. When people park on the road it is dangerous . Long long lines for the ski runs now will only get worse. The environmental impact to the mission ridge area will be devastating and irreversible. Our area needs affordable housing , there is very little. Where will the employees needed to work here live?

Name: Ben Edwards
Email: ben@alttext.com
Completion time: 2025-10-19 11:28:29

Your Comment:

As a fan and supporter of the Mission Ridge Ski Resort and someone who enjoys the skiing and hiking in the area, I AM AGAINST the proposed expansion as currently envisioned. There are several areas of concern that the developer seems either unwilling or unable to adequately address and these failures add up to several issues that are most likely to result in a lawsuit against the County if ignored. My primary concerns in this regard are as follows: Traffic on the the road leading to this development is not rated for anywhere near the traffic estimates provided and pose a public safety hazard. The County's own standards would not be adhered to, yet no mitigation is proposed. In addition there the code is clear that secondary access is required, yet the developer presents inappropriate loopholes such as access via a single track path, to avoid this safety requirement. Secondary access is especially important when considering the area's propensity of wildfires. The DEIS understates fire behavior suggesting that the worst case wildfire scenario would be contained in several days or weeks—which is v4ry unrealistic. The Wenatchee community has been exposed to several wildfires in the past decade that burned millions of acres—including one that was very close to entering the area IN THE LAST MONTH—and were never contained, extinguishing only after the change of seasons brought snowfall. The DEIS should be updated to acknowledge the possibility of very large uncontrollable wildfires and to assess risk associated with the current, not historical, condition of the surrounding forest. Water and waste plans are not adequate for the the planned development. he wastewater strategy described in the DEIS is to use individual or group on-site septic systems that discharge through drainfields to groundwater for the early phases of the project, and eventually, if needed, install a centralized municipal wastewater treatment plant. Both of these options have been previously studied and found to inadequate given conditions on the site. This says nothing for the water rights or usage plans that also appear to have not been thought through. Last of the issues that put the County (and its residents) at risk of future challenges and costly lawsuits revolve around the County's own codes about how the area is zone and what types of developments are allowed. The DEIS states: "The County has undertaken a preliminary analysis of the proposed project's consistency with the MPR standards of CCC Chapter 11.89, which indicates the project is generally consistent with the MPR standards pending results of the SEPA EIS." The project is NOT consistent with MPR standards. Chelan County Code Chapter 11.89.010 - Purpose allows "the development of master planned resorts that complement the natural and cultural attractiveness of the area without significant adverse effects on natural and environmental features..." The title of an entire chapter of the DEIS, almost 90 pages long, contains the phrase "IMPACTS WITH SIGNIFICANT AND UNAVOIDABLE IMPACTS" This project is not without significant adverse effects on natural and environmental features and therefore does not meet THE VERY FIRST Chelan County code requirement for MPRs. It is for the reasons above (and myriad others) that this development should be scaled back and revisited until such a time as it can adhere to existing codes and account for and plan for the safety of area residents. Thank you.

Name: Ben Hawthorne
Email: benhawthorne@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 10:30:50

Your Comment:

I am opposed to the Mission Ridge development in it's current form. I am concerned that it involves adding in far too much capacity to the road leading to the mountain as well as the skiing terrain of the mountain. Adding beginner terrain will not substantively improve the skiing experience for most of us that come to Mission Ridge for the harder terrain. In particular, I believe that the minimum this project should include: -Definite plans for road upgrades (ie 2 lane each way) for the road leading from Wenatchee to Mission Ridge. -Immediately replace Chair 1 with a more modern chairlift. Otherwise more capacity is just going to create more of a bottleneck at the base area.

Name: Ben Rusch
Email: benrusch@hotmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 07:27:44

Your Comment:

I am not in favor of the expansion of mission ridge ski area. The environmental impact that a new recreational community will make is too great on the landscape in the proposed area. It will effectively destroy a mule deer herd and an elk herd as people move in and displace our wildlife as they try to reproduce. There is a very limited amount of winter range for elk and mule deer in Washington State, and this development will destroy some of the best we have left. The economic value that our wildlife brings needs to be considered against a housing development for a select few people. Our wildlife and wild places provide value for all Washington residents and that needs to be placed above the economic gains of the private interests involved in this mission ridge expansion. We cannot continue to develop our still wild lands without more consideration. Please do not approve. Thank you.

Name: Benjamin Reese
Email: newreeses@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-18 11:16:21

Your Comment:

After reviewing the available information concerning the environmental impact of the Mission Ridge expansion project I think the risks and impact are low enough to allow the project to move forward. The project proposal starts to have sufficient forethought included to minimize the impact on the mountain ecosystem.

Name: Benjamin Sidor
Email: Benjamin.sidor@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 06:36:32

Your Comment:

I am writing to urge you to select the No Action Alternative for the proposed Mission Ridge development. The DEIS fails to adequately address impacts to wildlife, habitat, and public safety, and does not meet Chelan County's standards for responsible growth. The area surrounding Mission Ridge provides critical habitat for mule deer, elk, and wide-ranging carnivores such as black bears and cougars, as well as for species of greatest conservation need, including northern goshawks, golden eagles, whitebark pine, and American pika. These mountain and shrub-steppe transition zones are particularly sensitive to disturbance, serving as essential corridors for seasonal migration and climate adaptation. Fragmenting these connected habitats would cause long-term harm to wildlife movement, watershed health, and overall ecosystem resilience. These foothills and forested slopes are part of a larger ecological network linking the Cascade crest to the Columbia Basin. Protecting their continuity supports not only iconic wildlife but also the long-term resilience of forests and watersheds, which face increasing drought, heat, and fire risks under a changing climate. The proposal also depends on exceptions to Chelan County codes, enabling expanded human development in a fire-prone, high-elevation landscape. Increased human activity would elevate wildfire risk, strain emergency response capacity, and degrade sensitive habitats that wildlife depend on for survival. These risks are precisely why county planning standards exist: to safeguard public safety and ecological integrity alike. Conservation and community are not opposing goals. Upholding existing land use protections honors both people and place by ensuring that wildlife, clean water, and natural character remain part of what makes this region special. Thoughtful planning today ensures that future generations can continue to hunt, hike, ski, and find connection in landscapes that remain wild and whole. Please select the No Action Alternative to protect the Mission Ridge landscape and the shared benefits it provides for wildlife and the community alike.

Name: Beth
Email: Bethstorme@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 10:57:50

Your Comment:

Please, deny this expansion. While it may be good for a few persons bank accounts it will decimate the area in more ways than you can imagine.

Name: Beth Buehn
Email: quadsquad@nwi.net
Completion time: 2025-10-20 14:23:40

Your Comment:

NO to the Mission Ridge expansion resort! The mountain can't handle that amount of people living, staying and skiing. The area will be overrun with people, especially the hiking/biking trails. The Wildlife and plant life will never be the same. We don't need this! Right now people come here for a special family atmosphere/small resort experience to ski. Wenatchee itself benefits when they stay and eat in town. Update the lifts, buildings and runs first! We don't need another "Suncadia" type problem here!!!!

Name: Blair Tuck
Email: btuck@halbar.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 19:55:16

Your Comment:

I grew up and live on the west side, but have been coming to Mission for 40+ years. As a child, we would make at least one annual weekend trip, staying in local motels and driving up each morning. Great memories of multi-family excursions introducing friends to the wonders of Mission. Then in college, day trips leaving early AM with friends, stopping at Stevens for a 2nd round of night skiing, killing our bodies and getting home after midnight broke and exhausted. Even after raising a family, we still make an annual RV trip staying in the parking lot for a weekend. It's always a special event, far enough that it's an adventure, but close enough that we're still "local". We're a skiing family, with relatives that have time-shares at Whistler and Sun River. Admittedly, we are spoiled having access to those wonderful and special locations. But the time, effort, and coordination required to go out of state on a specific week makes it a one-off dedicated trip. Not to mention the financial impact of a resort, that frankly not enough people ever get to experience. WA state families deserve to have something we can call our own, a good well-run mountain with a small village experience. Growth and expansion should not be viewed as a negative for the Mission community, which is still far enough away that you won't be hit with an onslaught of day skiers like Stevens or Crystal. The increase in skiers from adding a marginal amount of on-mountain lodging would not be excessive, and would only add to the charm of this wonderful mountain. And sign me up for a condo/townhome, I'm coming anyway!

Name: Bob Carlstrom
Email: bob.carlstrom@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-08 12:21:38

Your Comment:

I am excited to see progress on this planned expansion. It will be great to add more beginner terrain and expand the retail footprint and lodging accommodations.

Name: Brad Whiting
Email: bradwhiting72@outlook.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 23:44:05

Your Comment:

Having worked at Mission for 27 years, and after extensive review of the Expansion Plan, I feel that this project is a blessing for the valley. The plan addresses many issues that affect the current ski area. Lack of beginner terrain Lack of parking needed to accommodate the growth in town and the region No slope side accommodations Increased lift and snowmaking capacity Local Nordic ski trails And one of my personal favorites, since I reside in the Squilchuck drainage; improved forest health measures to combat the spread of wildfire and maintenance of healthy forest stands. This project is thoughtful and will only improve the experience at Mission while providing jobs for local residents and increased tax revenue for the county. I whole heartedly support this project. Brad Whiting

Name: Brad yaple
Email: bradyaple@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-22 12:54:46

Your Comment:

I think this would be a great addition to the wenatchee valley and can't wait to see the expansion begin.

Name: Brandon Hughes
Email: 1980.brandon@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-13 09:31:00

Your Comment:

I am against the Mission Ridge "expansion". I love skiing on that mountain and support the ski resort as a pass holder but I believe the lodging build-out for thousands of new condos will have very negative effects on the ecology and the current positive operations that are happening up there. PROTECT THAT ECOSYSTEM!

Name: Brandon Mann
Email: Brandonmann@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-18 09:59:19

Your Comment:

Why does the county continue to fight this expansion? As a 3rd generation Ridge skier this place is the glue for our community during the long winter. Please let us make our mountain better for everyone.

Name: Brandon Schmidt
Email: reggie32_98925@hotmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 10:39:00

Your Comment:

As a very long time Mission Ridge skier and several time season pass holder, I think a total buildout of this plan is insane. It would completely ruin the atmosphere and the infrastructure can handle it. Half or 1/3 of that buildout would be ok and an additional chair/terrain isn't terrible but that many residences and condos is crazy.

Name: Brennen Balcom
Email: brennenbalcom@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 20:45:30

Your Comment:

Below I highlight a small sample of the many issues in the DEIS: Traffic on Squilchuck and Mission Ridge Road: The project predicts 10,000 vehicle trips per day on the Mission Ridge Road, which is roughly double the traffic on both Stevens Pass and Blewitt Pass. The DEIS predicts that the development will snarl traffic to a condition below minimum Chelan County standards, yet the DEIS does not include mitigation or improvements to the Mission Ridge Road. The Chelan County Comprehensive Plan Goal 1.9 is "...deny approval of any development proposal that would cause a roadway segment to fall below the adopted minimum level of service...". Our community should not be burdened by snarled traffic that financially benefits a developer but hurts the rest of us. Secondary access to the development: A second access road is required to provide an alternate escape route if needed. However, the DEIS only presents secondary access as an alternative. Secondary access is not an alternative; it is a code requirement. The DEIS recognizes that the secondary access would make a safer situation, stating in section 4.2.1.6 that: "Having more than one evacuation route provides redundancy and increased safety, particularly during unexpected or fast-moving events." Yet, the developer argues that providing a single "wider" 28-foot access road will make up for the danger of not having an emergency exit. This offering of a single "wider" road is misleading. The current Mission Ridge Road is 28 feet wide and is not adequate for the proposed development's traffic. The proposed "wider" road is the same width as the existing road and won't even meet minimum County standards. Chelan County should not bend its rules on secondary access to benefit a developer at the jeopardy of the safety of residents and visitors of the development he wants to build. WDFW Land Exchange: Section 25 is owned by the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife and encompasses Windy Ridge and Bowl 4, the upper half of Chair 4, and overlaps with the proposed project. Per the DEIS, WDFW said: "...an expanded, year-round ski resort is not an allowable use of the land under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) contract that funded WDFW's purchase of the property." Hunters use the section during archery and rifle seasons as well as for forest grouse hunting. The DEIS discusses a land exchange between WDFW and Washington State DNR that would result in DNR owning Section 25 and implying that an expanded year-round resort would be allowable on DNR-owned Section 25. However, the DEIS further states that: "The land swap is not part of the current Proposed Project...". With the land exchange not on the table, the likelihood that it is illegal for DFW to swap the land, and DFW indicating that expanded year-round activity is not an allowable use of Section 25, Section 25 should be excluded from any expanded ski resort or development activity. Master Planned Resort Overlay: Without the Master Planned Resort Overlay (MPR), the proposed level of development would violate the Urban Growth Act and could not be allowed. The developer is depending on this land use strategy which allows dense urban-style development outside the urban growth boundary. The development violates the requirements of MPRs including: Impacts are not fully mitigated, costs of public services are not fully borne by the developer, the development is not primarily a destination resort, is not self-contained, does not consist of short-term visitor accommodations, does not consider affordable employee housing, and does not preserve the rural character or natural resource it uses. Since the proposal does not meet the requirements for an MPR, the development should not benefit from the housing density allowed by an MPR. Since the development breaks County Codes, I urge you to select the No-Action Alternative, which is the only alternative besides the full development build-out that is presented in the DEIS.

Name: Brent Roberts
Email: unicycblebrent@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 23:15:07

Your Comment:

I have been a supporter of Mission Ridge Resort for many years now. I am highly concerned with the volume of traffic through the intersection at Squilchuck Road and Forest Ridge Drive. I noticed it was left of the Traffic section of the DEIS document. There are about 75 homes in the quiet community. It is a safety concern that it is challenging to turn from Forest Ridge Drive onto Squilchuck Road either in the morning to go ski or at the end of the day to go into Wenatchee. I have been nearly hit in my truck in both situations. This would also include trying to turn right, back into the neighborhood on Forest Ridge Drive after a day on the slopes. I have almost been rear ended in this turning situation. This intersection needs to be addressed for safety concerns. Maybe a stop light, reduced speed limits in this limited sight area? It seems you have forgotten about these neighbors completely. Also, having a second access point through this neighborhood is risky at best given the steep and sharp turns throughout the Forest Ridge Drive Community. also, many neighbors walking in the community will not be able to walk any more. This is the reason many bought in and live in this community to walk the hills. If you put 10,000 cars in this neighborhood people will not be able to walk anymore with pets, friends or neighbors. Please rethink this/these options. Thank you.

Name: Bret Greenheck
Email: bcgreenheck@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 18:45:31

Your Comment:

This is not what the local community wants. As an avid skier and longtime Wenatchee resident, I can see why this expansion would make sense. It would make money. But that's not what should be taken into consideration as the main reason to complete the expansion. The environmental impact of disruption to the elk migration, the increase in traffic on the roads and the lifts would be harmed. The esthetic of a small mountain resort would be lost. Please, for the sake of the community and the joy of bringing young kids to the ridge, bigger isn't always better.

Name: Breyden Holoubek
Email: breydenholoubek@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 08:21:16

Your Comment:

As a community member, I do not support this project. While there are aspects of the project that would benefit the community - namely, nordic trails, enhanced beginner terrain, expanded parking, snow tubing, new dining options, increased access to backcountry terrain - the net benefits to the community do not outweigh the negatives. While I am not opposed to onsite lodging, the sheer amount of proposed lodging will have negative impacts to the quality of skiing while providing little benefit to the people who currently live in the area and ski at Mission Ridge. I would support a future project if that project included upgrading existing lifts, adding more than the proposed 6.3 miles of Nordic trails, and reduced the proposed amount of onsite lodging that would cause congestion on the access road and crowding of the ski area. While I understand the need and desire for Mission Ridge to expand, the proposed expansion focuses too little on the quality of skiing and recreation opportunities for the community and too much on real estate to be supported.

Name: Brian
Email: Round2it@nwi.net
Completion time: 2025-10-20 13:09:03

Your Comment:

Wenatchee already has an unsolved traffic problem, declining numbers of wildlife in our area and orchards being removed for housing. This project would devastate our area with it's foreseen and unforeseen implications. I strong oppose expanding Mission Ridge Expansion.

Name: Brian

Email: brian.peterson303@comcast.net

Completion time: 2025-10-21 06:17:23

Your Comment:

I really do appreciate that you're trying keep the feel of this place the same. I'm just don't think that's possible with this expansion. So much of it is about the small town feel. I live in Leavenworth and have been getting a season pass to Mission and to Stevens pass every year for years now. Last year I gave up skiing at Stevens and only get a Mission Ridge pass. The crowds and lack of skiers etiquette at Stevens pass and almost every resort, except Mission is the reason for that decision. I am almost always for growth and expansion when these controversial things come up. This is the exception. There is just a different mindset at Mission Ridge that will be lost in this expansion even with genuine attempts to control it. Adding additional ski terrain without adding the overnight stay accommodations and things that bring in destination resort feel would grow Mission ridge in a much more desirable and responsible way.

Name: Brian Barry
Email: briansbarry@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 08:09:31

Your Comment:

Not in favor of the expansion. I have had the opportunity to review many of the points made in the Environmental Impact Statement materials and find this project noteworthy in many ways of adding to the recreational areas available to north central Washington. Despite the well thought out and planned vision for the expansion, I find the value of the expansion not exceeding the impact to the area. The sustained 20-year phased construction timeline and the well documented unfavorable impacts to the forest, the access roads, the wetlands, the wildlife and the pristine characteristics of this immediate area are just too large to overcome by a master facility plan that includes 1,000 residential units, a 110,000 SF retail environment and expanded ski and recreational areas. I wish you all the best in your deliberation.

Name: Brian Bourgeois
Email: bourgeoisbe@hotmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-19 09:17:34

Your Comment:

As a 35 year Wenatchee resident, long term Mission Ridge skier and past employee, I oppose the proposed expansion plans. In addition to losing the vibe of our community jewel, more importantly Squilchuck Road, the only way up, is not designed to handle the increased projected demand. Skiers come to Mission come for the shorter lines, excellent terrain and a family friendly experience. Please deny the proposal to expand Mission Ridge. Thank you.

Name: Brian Feucht
Email: brianfeucht@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-19 18:01:13

Your Comment:

This draft EIS does not adequately describe wildlife and fire risk impacts of this housing development. In order to properly mitigate these impacts they need to be included and ultimately addressed

Name: Brian Grater
Email: graterbrian @gmail .com
Completion time: 2025-10-14 09:56:26

Your Comment:

Dear Mr. Kaputa, Thank you for allowing comments regarding the DEIS for the proposed Mission Ridge expansion. Water! I'm not sure you recall, but 4-5 years ago I paid a personal (uninvited) visit to your office to express my concerns about private wells being drilled in the vicinity of a spring on Wheeler Hill that provides irrigation water to a group of seven shareholders that I am a part of. We are a small group, with a total of 2 1/2 shares of Miller water. Having lived here almost 40 years, a distinct reduction in flow is evident. The first 10 years we were here there was always plenty of water, now we have to be very careful with it. Strict hours or every other day watering is the only way we get by. I can't help but compare our very small sample to the monster proposal for private wells for hundreds, or even thousands of individuals at Mission Ridge. I know I have no data, but it seems Mission Ridge has little or no data either, other than saying it will be ok. It seems the only way to truly prove it is to go ahead and drill umpteen wells and feed a thousand mouths, and then when the farmers suffer, it will be too late. One of my other major concerns is Traffic! Studies saying 10,000 cars/day shout out to me that we have a major problem. Do we want a line up like they get at Crystal Mountain? Even 40 years ago it was crazy. Now is the time to stop this madness! Thank you, Brian Grater

Name: Brian Hall

Email: bhall4@mac.com

Completion time: 2025-10-21 10:29:07

Your Comment:

As a lifelong ski industry salesman, I'm in support of the expansion. Washington needs better access to our ski areas, with more options for overnight accommodation. Bringing housing, retail, and restaurants to the mountain will improve everyone's experience to Mission Ridge.

Name: Brian Izdepski
Email: Brian@lakeeast.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 13:09:49

Your Comment:

I own a house in Wenatchee and a ski house 6 miles from Mission Ridge. I am strongly in favor of the expansion, as I fear that without it, the area could go away. In addition, this will help the area become profitable enough, to replace those antique lifts that become more of a hazard every year. I understand that the area serves as prime animal habitat, but as a backcountry skier, and hiker, I am well aware of the virtually limitless areas nearby that these animals can relocate to. Mission Ridge is a great asset for this small town, and by becoming a semi- destination resort, new money will continue to flow into this area for years to come. I don't believe this will create mobs of day skiers clogging up my road. The vast majority of Westside skiers are not going to drive past well established resorts, to day ski here. I believe that a combination of local's, westsider's, and out of stater's will purchase these homes and condo's. Because these people will be staying for several days or weeks at a time, traffic will not be as impacted as some claim. I hope that there will be usage regulations like some town's have, so that these homes don't sit empty most of the time... There is a fine model of this in Whistler. I feel like much of the opposition to this plan comes from a small group of well meaning people, that don't really realize "they" are just "special interest" groups trying to help themselves... I love skiing backcountry powder, but I also know that this town needs a lift served ski area, and we should try to protect it. If this expansion fails, I fear this area going away, or perhaps being purchased by Vail or some other Mega company.

Name: Brian Owens
Email: Brianandbelindaowens@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-06 08:19:27

Your Comment:

My wife and I support the expansion of Mission Ridge. Independent ski areas like MR have a difficult time making money, especially when they are not close to a major city. It's clear they need more revenue streams. They have some older chairlifts that need replacing, and someday either insurance or the government will require all lifts to have safety bars, adding more expenses. There is also a lack of beginning territory. This discourages people wanting to learn to ski. Adding more green runs and other runs would make MR an even better ski area. The alternative would be to sell MR to a conglomerate like Vail. I don't think there is a single skier anywhere that likes Vail. It would mean sky high prices, poor service, lousy food, and would ruin the feel of the local ski hill. Vail would probably do away with some of the ticket options such as twilight or night only tickets, which make skiing more affordable. One example of good service I've experienced was a few years ago when we came to MR from Leavenworth. It was so foggy we didn't feel comfortable skiing. They let us have a credit for our tickets so we could ski another day, and were very understanding. Vail wouldn't have done that. Keep MR local. Let it expand and survive and provide even more skiing. This has taken way too long.

Name: Bridget Egan
Email: mtnegan@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-12 14:19:51

Your Comment:

I am opposed to this expansion because of the environmental impact to our watershed, and because of fire danger. This expansion will negatively impact our city and strain our resources. One main concern I have is water availability and water quality with the increase on visitors, vehicles, and buildings. I LOVE Mission Ridge and I ski and walk there. But this expansion is not in the best interest of our community.

Name: Brieanne Ledbetter
Email: Bmraftery@hotmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 09:30:15

Your Comment:

To the approving authorities, please consider strongly declining the permits for this expansion. The locals are being priced out of skiing at their home mountain. As a former employee of Mission Ridge I am very against this. The impact the expansion will have on surrounding wildlife and local farmers will be devastating, all in the name of a dollar. Please Please, consider NOT allowing this expansion.

Name: Bruce Keleman
Email: brucekeleman@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 10:49:35

Your Comment:

I lived in Mammoth Lakes, California, in the late 1960s and Early 1970s. This was before Mammoth Mountain became a Major Ski Area and Destination Resort. The result was the urbanization of a rural community. Some now refer to it as a northern suburb of Los Angeles. The scale of the proposal for Mission Ridge has the potential to make it "The Eastern Suburb of Seattle" . Is that really what is desirable for Wenatchee and Chelan County? The social and environmental impacts of the proposed development will, in my opinion, be extremely detrimental to the entire Squilchuck Creek Drainage. Of specific concern is what will happen to the sewage during very cold temperatures. I am aware that this has been a problem at other major destination resorts. Have these facilities been engineered and designed to a standard that meets with your approval? It is my hope that you will realize that a development of the size proposed will have a negative effect on both the environmental and social condition in Chelan County.

Name: Bryan Lamos
Email: thelamoses@hotmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 19:00:10

Your Comment:

Mission Ridge holds an important place in the history of my family's skiing experiences. My kids learned to become proficient skiers here when we lived in Leavenworth. We treasure the ability to continue skiing here, and would welcome the expansion and all of the opportunities it will bring.

Name: Callie Klein
Email: Calliee11@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 10:18:51

Your Comment:
I support the Mission Ridge expansion

Name: Cami
Email: Cami03@live.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 09:09:34

Your Comment:

No on this proposed expansion. One road in and out cannot handle the traffic. Dangerous.

Name: Carmen Van Well
Email: pcvanwell@nwi.net
Completion time: 2025-10-21 10:11:59

Your Comment:

I am against the proposed expansion of the Mission Ridge Resort. It is not feasible at this time due to the infrastructure. Only one road in/out is not enough to support emergencies especially being built in a wildfire prone area. Take care of the infrastructure first and then I may reconsider the improvements.

Name: Caroline
Email: Carebear259@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 12:58:12

Your Comment:

I believe that there should be more time and consideration to this. It does not seem the ski area will be able to support it. In addition the roads, water etc.

Name: Caroline Rensel
Email: carolinerensel@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 11:01:26

Your Comment:

The environmental impacts of the project have not been fully explored by the developer. The community does not want this expansion and the roads and other infrastructure are not prepared to support it.

Name: Carter curnutt
Email: Carryan08@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 12:35:39

Your Comment:
This is soo ass, dont do it

Name: Casey Bauer
Email: caseybauer48@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 10:41:20

Your Comment:

Though I understand the want for expansion in mission ridge, You're simply jumping the gun before necessary infrastructure is put in place. Traffic over the bridge could be a major concern, the single lane road leading up to mission ridge would severely impact the residential occupants of the mountain. Not only that but a large amount of your clientele would be coming from the west side to avoid Steven's pass, or snoqualmie pricing. Thus the road planning coming from 28 as well as hwy 2 needs to be seriously evaluated. There's also the wildfire concern, if we can't manage our forests and our wildlands, what makes you think you can manage the fire not reaching your new facility? Poor management, too small of a space, and too Many people. I'd be safe to say that most of the local residents around here do not want more people living and breathing on top of them like they already currently do. This proposal would not only be a strain on the city but a strain directly affecting the local residents and their Freedom of movement through town. The assumption would be that if this is pushed through without the necessary procurements in place, the county is most likely receiving a big check from some private pockets and allowing Our city to be corrupted in the same fashion as our west side counter parts. Do us a favor and down Allow yourself to be paid off for a shiny hotel and the Promise of more tourism.

Name: Caseywhite
Email: cm16white@hotmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 19:00:55

Your Comment:

I am opposed to the expansion. I love mission ridge and see the value of the expansion finically for the stock holders, but I don't think the rest of the area is equipped to handle the influx of people and traffic. There is a lack of secondary roads so the main road is going to be an absolute nightmare. Even now with any real snow it is an icy dangerous road and almost always there are cars stuck, crashes etc. How can you add more traffic and no other options for getting to and from safely. I worry a condo community (let's face it that's all this really is, no additional terrain for anyone but beginners) is going to rape the small mountain feel of mission ridge. The rest of mountain needs money to be spent on new lifts, last year alone how many chairs fell from 4? The official story was bogus, chairs should not fall off a lift. Invest \$ into updates across the mountain that will benefit the current user groups, don't they to make our mountain a mega resort that it was never meant to be.

Name: Cassandra Slemmer
Email: cassieleabogdan@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-05 22:19:55

Your Comment:

Hello, As a resident of Chelan County, I am concerned about several items in this DEIS. For starters, it seems there is a large gap between the logistics of road usage, access need, and traffic impacts, and what the DEIS is actually proposing needs to happen. It claims that "...there would be no significant and unavoidable adverse impacts related to transportation from construction or operation of the Proposed Project", but that is inconsistent with the large increase in traffic they are anticipating (10k trips per day). It also is making big assumptions that a single in and out road for the proposed village would be sufficient in case of emergency - a component that deviates from (very reasonable) code. The DEIS states: "Construction of the Proposed Project would have potential impacts to surface waters, including Squilchuck Creek and tributaries to Squilchuck and Stemilt creeks.", and then concludes: "Therefore, ... there would not be probable significant adverse construction-related impacts on forest and water resources from the Proposed Project." This is not a logical conclusion. It also does not account for the impact on water use that would be present before PUD water is connected, which is slated for a later phase. I am concerned about the impacts the county may be left on the hook for if the developer starts a phase or two, draws water from already overallocated sources, but does not complete the entirety of the project that would actually mitigate that use. If mitigation efforts are omitted or slated for later phases, and those phases do not occur, then we as a community are left with the liability of those unmet mitigation needs. This prompts concerns that my tax dollars may be picking up the slack for the developer in question when it comes to these environmental concerns that deeply impact other areas of economic activity that depend on, say, water for irrigation. Finally, I am concerned about the impact on quality of life here in this area: the DEIS says that "while the project may produce minor adverse impacts due to access to and quality of recreation opportunities during construction, they are not significant given their temporary and localized nature." This is, frankly, preposterous - how can you propose building a small town with 2x the size of the Leavenworth population in one of our main recreation areas and pretend it wouldn't have an impact on how locals use, access, and enjoy this area? It is disingenuous at best to say that this increase in crowds and traffic have no significant impact on local access and day to day life. I am, frankly, a little insulted, that the DEIS would consider the impact on my own and my family's own experience of the outdoors to be "not significant", as hikers, backcountry skiers, mountain bikers, and overall general users of this area. I love living here because of the culture of this area and I have profound concerns that this expansion is a money-making venture for an outside stakeholder that would irreparably harm that culture. This DEIS does not seem to accurately account for these things and should be revised to better reflect the true impacts of the project. Sincerely, Cassandra Slemmer

Name: Catherine
Email: katiegraceh@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-12 14:40:28

Your Comment:

I understand the Wenatchee area is changing and growing. I am excited to see that Mission Ridge wishes to improve and grow, and feel that some growth could benefit our community. That being said, what is proposed concerns me greatly, and I ask that you re-consider the scope of the project. Currently, I feel the ski hill needs folks to focus on investing in existing equipment (we need better lift chairs!) and building up personnel and staff (the sheer volume of volunteer ski patrol folks that keep the lights on is staggering, and you are lucky so many people have been willing to do that over the years, but at some point you will find that is no longer the case). While I realize that in order to do that, some expansion may be necessary, the proposed is far too large for the space/town. Wenatchee is already lucky we have not had a horrific disaster requiring some evacuations - anyone who drives on Miller Street after 12pm on a Friday, or tries to get across the George Sellar Bridge can tell you how awful traffic gets as is, let alone with thousands more people trying to get to Mission! We've already had one wildfire scare up Mission this year just due to lightning. How are you going to properly prepare for the inevitable destruction/evacuation of the expansion homes? What additional funding will you provide to wild land fire fighters, the Sheriff's office, or the city to make up for the additional work they will have to do to protect those homes? Additionally, Wenatchee does not have the infrastructure to meet the current demand now - placing additional demand on such a strained system now is short sighted, at best. Work with various stake holders to get the city to where it needs to be to meet the demand of this expansion first, then build it. Wenatchee also has a housing crisis; "affordable housing" is unrealistic with the average wage for the area, let alone home ownership. Home prices are unrealistic for anyone working a "normal" career job in this town, and seeing investment in what we all know would be third or fourth vacation homes for the ultra rich, rather than actual affordable homes for the workers or people moving to the area, is concerning. Squilchuck, specifically, does not need more short term or vacation home housing - this area needs ACTUAL homes. Incentivizing vacation homes will continue to further displace full time, working professionals who find themselves constantly asked to move because land lords want to sell or air bnb their home to earn more income. Finally, access to areas such as Squilchuck State park, or the hiking routes, are vital for the Wenatchee community. Building an expansion would destroy precious natural areas, and increase traffic on some of our favorite paths. We already saw the damage that's happened to the Enchanments due to lack of federal resources to provide upkeep to meet usage levels... what would happen to our beloved parks and trails? I want to see Mission Ridge AND Wenatchee grow and become a "cool guy place". However, I want to see it done in an intelligent, thoughtful, and community focused manner, and I simply do not see that to be the case based on current information. Thank you!

Name: Catherine Moody
Email: kkmooody@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 10:39:37

Your Comment:

I am very concerned about the huge negative impact this development will have on traffic, crowding, water use, wildfire evacuations and so much more. This will not be good for the Wenatchee area. Please don't move forward with this project.

Name: Charles David Divelbiss

Email: k2msl11@yahoo.com

Completion time: 2025-10-20 09:41:38

Your Comment:

Please approve the Mission Ridge ski area expansion plan. I've been skiing at Mission Ridge (and all over the state) for 40 years and it has been way too long since a ski area has undertaken significant expansion efforts such as these. The additions will not only provide economic benefits, but also, unlike logging or other development, will help foster a love of the outdoors.

Name: Charles Dronen
Email: droboscout@kashmircc.com
Completion time: 2025-10-17 16:25:15

Your Comment:

Life long resident of Cashmere at 71. I've skied the Ridge since Junior High - 1967. I'm currently a season pass holder. Mission is a local gem for winter recreation. The expansion would only make it better. It has a great vibe, fun for locals and visitors. I would like to see the expansion go forward. Also our home hill for my adult children and grandkids.

Name: Charles Hickenbottom
Email: hickenbottom.c@flymail.net
Completion time: 2025-10-16 13:05:28

Your Comment:

I object to expansion plans for Mission Ridge ski area. Let's use the land for wildlife. Let's consider that there is only one in and out for Squilchuck access, thus adding more development is not a wise idea.

Name: Charlie Dugger
Email: Rockyreachcafe@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 12:43:12

Your Comment:

We live in a rain shadow/desert. There are plenty of years that even with snow making we do not get enough precipitation to have good ski days for much of winter. Who's going to come then? It's going to become an economic vampire.

Name: Charlie Naismith
Email: charlie.g.naismith@nwi.net
Completion time: 2025-10-21 13:21:56

Your Comment:

Before Larry Scrivanich purchased Mission Ridge I was part of the Harbor management team trying to find a buyer for the ski area. We were for sale and absolutely no one was interested when all of a sudden Larry entered the picture. If Larry didn't buy Mission Ridge I'm not sure what it's fate would have been. This was at a time in the ski industry when skiing was much less popular than it is now yet Larry took the risk. Larry and his various teams over the years have done a wonderful job of keeping Mission Ridge moving forward and keeping a high quality experience for their guests. As someone who has worked in management at the Ridge I know how marginal the profits of day use ski areas are (unless like Stevens Pass you are located next to a large urban market) and that they must be reinvested to continue a viable operation. We are fortunate that Larry has reinvested the profits and we as a community have benefited from that. At a minimum, Mission Ridge needs to replace three Chairlifts. These lifts are 50 to almost 60 years old and cannot be maintained indefinitely. The latest quote to replace Chair 1 is approximately \$7,000,000 and Chairs 3 and 4 will likely be more expensive. That is too big of financial burden for Mission Ridge handle without the added revenue of expansion. I know there are many that would love to freeze Mission Ridge in time and don't want to see it change but sadly that is not possible. Mission Ridge needs to grow to be viable long term. The expansion will fund the much needed infrastructure improvements to ensure that viability. I've known the Scrivinach family for 25 years and know them as people with a strong sense of community and not people strictly driven by money. My fear is that if we don't allow them to protect their investment with growth they will grow tired and move on. The next owner may be purely motivated by profits and we can watch the experience at Mission deteriorate into something like Stevens Pass.

Name: Chelsea Cheever
Email: chelsearcheever@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-17 15:10:55

Your Comment:

I appreciate the extensive coverage on fire mitigation. I fully support the mission ridge expansion

Name: Cheryl Short
Email: shortmorin@nwi.net
Completion time: 2025-10-20 15:41:17

Your Comment:

I believe this project would be disastrous for a number of reasons. 1. Traffic on Squilchuck and Mission Ridge Ridge Roads: The project creates a level of service condition below the minimum accepted Chelan County standard, yet no mitigation is proposed. 2. Secondary Access: the code is clear that secondary access is required, yet the developer presents inappropriate loopholes to avoid the safety requirement. this would be disastrous if a fire swept through and we just had a major fire. 3. WDFWL an Exchange: WDFW has stated that..."an expanded, year round ski resort is not an allowable use of the land under the Fish and Wildlife Service contract that if funded SDFW's purchase of the property"., yet the project is proposed including this WDFW land. 4. allows dense urban style development outside the urban growth boundary. Without the MPR, this level of development would violate the Urban Growth Act and could not be allowed. Despite depending on this planning tool, the development violates the requirements of MPRs including: The development is not primarily a destination resort, is not self-contained, does not consist of short-term visitor accommodations, does not consider affordable employee housing, and does not preserve the rural character or natural resource it uses. The above issues are most likely to result in a lawsuit against the county if the above is ignored. There is so much more to consider for example: A Fire Risk - Wildfire Risk in the proposed area. Please say "NO" to this project for the sake of those who live near by, fire hazard, risks to wildlife. Think of the future and what this will do to the next generation of Humans and wildlife. Thank you!

Name: Chester L. Marler
Email: northfork@nwi.net
Completion time: 2025-10-19 10:10:29

Your Comment:

Thanks for providing an easily accessed DEIS and comment form. Also appreciated was the workshop on interpreting the DEIS. Specific comments: Section 5.1 RECREATION. I do not think the impacts to the Marion and Clara trail system and lakes themselves were fully addressed, and hence are significant without major mitigation. The residential resort development will increase dramatically the use to this area, especially Spring, Summer and Autumn hiking. I expect its proximity to residences will make it unusually popular. A dramatic uncrease in use will require major relocation of sections of the trail system, as well as well-designed drainage work--water bars and drain dips. In addition, effective signing and trail design will be needed near the lakes to protect the area from needless trampling and denuding of vulnerable vegetation. This will require careful planning and input from those most familiar with the area. Section 5.4 PLANTS AND ANIMALS. The mitigation for elk and deer calving--seasonal recreational closures--does not sufficiently address the significance of the incremental reduction in undeveloped land happening in the greater Mission Ridge/Stemilt basin area. Piece by piece wildlife habitat is being compromised--this needs to stop. A smaller-scaled resort would at the least lessen this trend. A smaller-scale resort may also lessen the need to adversely affect wetlands #1 and #2 described in section 5.3 Surface Water. Section 4. 1 EARTH. Mission Ridge and the using public are well aware of the history of earth movement in the area, and the operators over the years have learned to mitigate and adapt reasonably well. However, it should be realized that the proposed access road to the new resort development will be at some risk for slope failure. This expectation is another strong reason (in addition to fire risk) that a second access should be required for the full resort build-out. Stating a second access is "not paractical" reflects more the preference of the developer rather than a serious and full investigation of possible routes, even if they prove to be expensive and require other landowner negotiations. Section 4.2 FIRE RISK. We all know the Mission Ridge area, like much of Chelan County, is considered to be at high risk for wildfire. "Shelter in place" and a single well maintained access road seem inadequate and unacceptable. The developer assumes the high occupancy of resort housing will occur during the winter, when wildfire is no concern. But this is likely to be wrong. Summer residential use of the resort will be very appealing--a high elevation cool retreat from the hot temperatures of the lower valley, plus enjoyable human-powered recreation nearby. These people will not necessarily be using Mission Ridge fee facilities such as restaurants, etc. Rather, they'll be enjoying the feeling of living at 5000'. The idea of a secondary access needs to be moved from the "not paractical" to the "possible" and "necessary". General comment: The Greater Mission Ridge area is special in several ways--an intersection of the shrub-steppe area to the east and the high elevation "basalt forest" of Mission Ridge itself. It's the most eastern outpost of the Wenatchee Mountains, with migrating elk herds, varied plants with a fascinating spectrum of conifers and shrubs. I'm afraid a fully-built resort would seriously detract from this richness. Chester Marler

Name: Chris Davis
Email: cwdavis19@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-09 08:22:24

Your Comment:

The mission ridge expansion is an important next step in advancing recreation in the Wenatchee valley. The additional impacts to the area are greatly outweighed by the economic and recreational benefits that will come with this project.

Name: chris hill

Email: chrishill@live.com

Completion time: 2025-10-21 09:23:45

Your Comment:

This new development is something I can confidently support because it goes above and beyond in several key areas. I appreciate that it will dedicate an impressive 70% of the site to permanent open space, which significantly surpasses the county's requirements. Furthermore, I feel secure about the project's safety and responsibility due to the robust wildfire protections it includes, such as extensive thinning, defensible space creation, and the addition of an on-site fire station. Beyond environmental and safety benefits, I recognize the positive impact it will have on the community by creating jobs, strengthening the economy, and ultimately helping Mission Ridge remain true to its roots. Mission needs to grow with the industry.

Name: Chris Kasper
Email: Chris.b.kasper@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 19:07:14

Your Comment:

Fire danger and increased traffic on a small mountain road is a recipe for disaster.

Name: Chris Strohm
Email: cstrohmrn@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 16:59:52

Your Comment:

Hello, I want to share my perspective regarding Tamarack Saddle LLC's proposed development which is being calling a "ski area expansion". My viewpoint is informed by my eight year residency in Chelan County, my use of the Mission Ridge area 50+ times per year as a runner, hiker, and skier (+Mission Ridge season passholder), and my role as a crop advisor in our local the tree fruit industry (in which I aid several sweet cherry producers located in Malaga, the Squilchuck valley, and Wenatchee Heights). Tamarack LLC's proposal is not the expansion of a ski area, it is a real estate development on top of a mountain. The addition of hundreds of residences in the proposed village will completely change the character of this area, and it puts excessive pressure on local roads, water use, and wildlife. It will significantly change the rural character of this area. Wildfire risk would increase because of increased human activity, putting many natural resources at risk. The concept of a single access road for this development is one of the craziest things I have ever heard, and the notion that residents would be asked to use an unimproved road as an escape route is simply dangerous. The area of proposed development is major elk territory and will interfere with the herds' ability to navigate between Stemilt basin and the nearby Colockum wildlife area. The proposed changes and increases in water usage will undoubtedly compete with existing irrigated agriculture in one of America's premier cherry production areas. I urge Chelan County to select the No Action Alternative for the proposed Mission Ridge development. The current DEIS fails to address impacts to agriculture, wildlife, habitat, and public safety, and does not meet Chelan County's standards for responsible growth. Sincerely, Chris Strohm

Name: Christa
Email: Randomcmc@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 18:58:18

Your Comment:
Leave the mountains alone

Name: christina durtschi
Email: christina.durtschi@confluencehealth.org
Completion time: 2025-10-21 09:21:45

Your Comment:

Hi Public Comment on Invasive Plant Species Management Mission Ridge Ski & Board Resort DEIS

Invasive plant species are a well-documented and growing problem in existing and proposed expansion area. Landowners and land managers are required to invest the time and resources needed to controlling the spread of noxious weeds. The proposed expansion of the resort must not create new risks for invasive plant introduction or proliferation, especially since such infestations frequently cross property boundaries and impose long-term ecological and financial burdens on adjacent properties. While the DEIS references invasive species such as Canada thistle and outlines general management practices in Appendix G and Section 3.24 of Appendix A–F, it lacks a robust, enforceable invasive species prevention and response plan tailored to all project phases. This is concerning given the extensive ground disturbance, infrastructure expansion, land expansion and increased human activity proposed. Invasive species of particular concern in this region include but are not limited to: Invasive grasses: Cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum*) Medusahead (*Taeniatherum caput-medusae*) Bulbous bluegrass (*Poa bulbosa*) Invasive forbs (broadleaf herbs): Spotted knapweed (*Centaurea stoebe*) Rush skeletonweed (*Chondrilla juncea*) Dyer's woad (*Isatis tinctoria*) Hawkweeds (*Hieracium* spp.) Bighead knapweed (*Centaurea macrocephala*) Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*) Musk thistle (*Carduus nutans*) Sulfur cinquefoil (*Potentilla recta*) Common St. Johnswort (*Hypericum perforatum*) Field bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis*) Poison hemlock (*Conium maculatum*) Many of these are classified as noxious weeds by Washington State and must be addressed explicitly in the DEIS. To adequately protect surrounding ecosystems and landowners, I urge Chelan County to require the applicant to: Conduct independent and comprehensive invasive species surveys and studies prior to project approval and between each phase of development to provide unbiased, up-to-date assessments of existing and emerging invasive plant populations and associated risks. Develop a detailed invasive species control and monitoring plan covering pre-construction, construction, and post-construction phases. Incorporate a schedule of recurring native planting and seeding to restore disturbed areas and outcompete invasive species. Commit to annual reporting and adaptive management to respond to emerging infestations. Coordinate with adjacent landowners, the Chelan County Noxious Weed Board, and state agencies. Allocate sufficient funding and personnel for long-term invasive plant management beyond initial mitigation efforts. Without these measures, the DEIS leaves a significant environmental gap, increasing the risk of invasive species spread and unfairly shifting management burdens onto neighboring properties. Thank you for considering these important points to safeguard our local environment.

Name: Christine Anderson
Email: Onceuponamustang@protonmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 13:36:33

Your Comment:

This would be devastating for our community. It would destroy the wild life, the forests. Raise our taxes and ruin water rights for nearby farms. What? The ridge doesn't make enough money? This is just greed. Pure and simple and it will cost us wild life habitat, forest access. Crowd our hiking trails more and destroy our roads. Please do NOT let this pass. This will only benefit rich people and ruin it for locals and low income homes who depend on the nearby hiking trails for leisure.

Name: Christine Pratt
Email: cpratt@genext.net
Completion time: 2025-10-20 16:17:09

Your Comment:

I strongly oppose the proposed development plan for Mission Ridge. The plan would completely transform the ambience of the Ridge from the small, unique, carved-from-nature, laid-back winter hangout to a snooty, cookie-cutter, exclusive enclave for the wealthy, not to mention crowd more people in at the expensive of wildlife. If Larry Scrivinich needs more money to make the Ridge profitable there must be another solution, including low-impact, off-season activities for a more year-round revenue stream. But I give a big NO to higher-density development of any kind. The Ridge is a jewel and should be protected and loved as it is.

Name: Christine Rader

Email: crader@nwi.net

Completion time: 2025-09-26 06:50:49

Your Comment:

This expansion project should not go through unless and until a new road is built to Mission Ridge. There is currently only one road going to the area and it would be inadequate for a mass evacuation due to wildfire or other emergency. Having so many people living at Mission Ridge during the summer vastly increases the chance of wildfire ignition, way more than the few who now spend summers around the MR property. This is a major public safety issue.

Name: Christine Woodward
Email: Moonlakechalet@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 20:59:14

Your Comment:

I am very excited about this expansion! Having an area for beginners and places for families to stay will make this a world class resort. I would like to request a downhill Bike area with lift for the summers. This would be a huge addition for the resort as well as bring in year round revenue. Please consider this.

Name: Christopher J. Carter
Email: cj.nunataq@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 16:31:12

Your Comment:

As a Chelan County resident, lifelong skier and professional regional planner, I am strongly opposed to the Tamarack Saddle LLC development and submit this comment to state that the current Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) fails to meet the standards of objective analysis, public safety, and lawful compliance required under SEPA and Chelan County Code. It understates wildfire and water risk, minimizes ecological and transportation impacts, and relies on persuasive language rather than science and enforceable mitigation. This is one of the largest and riskiest land-use conversions in County history—7,812 beds, parking for 5,500 people, 10,000 daily vehicle trips (twice Stevens Pass AADT), 4,000 people onsite at once, and 100,000 new skier visits annually. Yet the DEIS downplays risk, omits cumulative effects, and transfers costs to the public. Under RCW 43.21C (SEPA), RCW 36.70A (GMA), and RCW 19.27 and 36.70B (life-safety and infrastructure adequacy), Chelan County bears a legal duty to ensure complete, evidence-based review. This DEIS instead exposes the County to foreseeable liability.

1. Wildfire and Life Safety: The DEIS relies on outdated forest data and assumes worst-case fires would be contained in “days or weeks.” In today’s beetle-killed, drought-stressed basin, such a claim is indefensible. Declaring the Mission Ridge parking lot a “safe refuge” without heat-flux or radiant-energy analysis is dangerous and misleading. Suggesting that evacuation may not be needed ignores blocked-road scenarios that could result in fatalities. Chelan County Code and the International Fire Code require two independent access routes for developments of this size. The DEIS treats secondary access as optional. A single, 28-foot road cannot provide redundancy. Secondary access must be built and operational before occupancy. Fire District #1 has warned of inadequate staffing and facilities. The DEIS shifts those costs to taxpayers. All fire-protection infrastructure must be developer-funded.

2. Water Quantity and Riparian Habitat: The DEIS claims construction impacts to streamflow are “minimal” because no surface diversions will occur—yet admits to 90 acre-feet of new groundwater withdrawal. The project’s own hydrology memo shows groundwater connected to surface waters. Pumping will lower baseflows and impair downstream rights, contrary to RCW 90.44 and 90.03. The basin is over-allocated; removing additional groundwater is a significant and unavoidable impact. The County must require a groundwater–surface-water model and mitigation.

3. Habitat, Infrastructure, and Legal Risk: Habitat maps are inaccurate. The 2024-25 Mission Ridge Trail Camera Survey confirms extensive elk and mule-deer use unrecognized in the DEIS. Invasive weeds such as diffuse knapweed and Canada thistle are omitted, as are old-growth trees (>32” DBH) and Priority Habitat features. The DEIS must be corrected with the best available science. Traffic analysis shows Level-of-Service failures on Squilchuck and Mission Ridge Roads, violating RCW 36.70A.070(6) concurrency standards. The proposal misuses the Master Planned Resort (MPR) overlay—this is not a self-contained resort and constitutes urban growth outside the UGB. It also relies on a WDFW land exchange that the agency has declared not allowable, adding legal exposure.

Conclusion: The DEIS misrepresents risk, omits major impacts, and shifts costs to the public. Chelan County must:

1. Reject or recirculate the DEIS;
2. Require secondary access and developer-funded fire protection;
3. Address groundwater–surface water impacts and potential water rights conflict;
4. Update habitat mapping with verified 2024–25 data and at greater resolution.

Approval of the DEIS written would endanger lives, degrade resources, and expose Chelan County to litigation. The responsible course is clear: deny or require full revision of the DEIS before any further action. Respectfully submitted, Christopher J. Carter AICP

Name: Cindy Leichner
Email: cindyleichner@hotmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-07 21:53:50

Your Comment:

Subject: Public Comment on Mission Ridge Expansion – Opposition To Whom It May Concern, I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed Mission Ridge expansion as outlined in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). I believe this project poses significant risks to the environment, infrastructure, free or low-cost recreation like hiking, fishing and birding, and the character of our community.

Environmental Concerns The Squilchuck Valley is a fragile ecosystem that supports diverse wildlife and natural habitats. The scale of the proposed development—including expanded ski terrain, new roads, and extensive lodging—threatens to permanently alter this landscape. Once disrupted, these ecosystems cannot be easily restored. The DEIS itself acknowledges potential adverse impacts to water quality, vegetation, and wildlife corridors.

Traffic and Infrastructure Overload The projected traffic increase—up to 10,000 vehicles per day on Squilchuck Road—is deeply concerning. This rural road is not designed to handle such volume, and the strain on emergency services, road maintenance, and public safety will be immense. The comparison to Stevens Pass traffic levels is alarming and suggests a future of congestion and diminished quality of life for residents.

Community Character and Scale The proposed development would bring thousands of new visitors and residents to the area, effectively transforming Mission Ridge into a resort town rivaling Leavenworth. This scale is incompatible with the quiet, rural nature of the Squilchuck Valley. The “urban-style village” concept feels out of place and risks eroding the unique identity of our region.

Lack of Transparency and Community Support Many residents feel this project has moved forward without adequate public engagement or consideration of local concerns. The DEIS raises more questions than it answers, and the long-term consequences of this expansion deserve deeper scrutiny.

Fire Risk Building a year-round community in the middle of a dry forest is much too risky. We are currently dealing with day after day of smoky skies, unhealthy air, and cancelled activities like school sports and field trips. Do we really want to place this risk right in our backyard?

Service Jobs The developer claims this development is worth it because of the jobs it will bring to our valley. What kind of jobs? Low paying service jobs that don't pay enough to live here.

Infrastructure The DEIS talks about the need for road construction in both the city and the county, fiber optic internet and a fire station. But I don't see any commitment as to who will be paying for these requirements. Seems like we taxpayers could very well be stuck with the bill.

Schools If this is to be a neighborhood where people will be living year-round, will there be a need for school buses? Will there be children playing in the streets while vacationers zip around the roads?

In conclusion, I urge Chelan County to reject the current proposal and prioritize sustainable, community-driven alternatives that preserve the natural beauty and integrity of Mission Ridge. Growth should not come at the expense of the environment or the well-being of local residents.

Name: Clint Loughheed

Email: clint@nwi.net

Completion time: 2025-10-21 08:57:06

Your Comment:

The Mission Ridge Expansion MPR DEIS fails to adequately address the impact on the wildlife utilizing the project area. The DEIS also fails to provide mitigation strategies for the negative impacts on wildlife. Constructing a small city in the middle of critical wildlife habitat will result in serious harm to numerous species, including elk, deer, eagles, mountain lions, marmots, pika and other wildlife. I have recreated throughout the Mission Ridge environment and know from personal experience that wildlife utilize the project area.

Name: Colin

Email: Colinjwhite74@hotmail.com

Completion time: 2025-10-20 10:30:23

Your Comment:

We need to have some expanded resort options in WA state. There is so much quality skiable terrain blocked off and resorts are over capacity. Grow responsibly. Thanks

Name: Colton

Email: cltnlssn@gmail.com

Completion time: 2025-10-20 20:53:34

Your Comment:

No! That road is already over driven and we absolutely do not need more housing up there, the small amount of additional skiing is not worth the environmental impact. The proposed apartments and housing is ridiculous and the vast amount of land that it will take is going to housing instead of expanding the ski area by any significant margin. This just seems like a money grab and not designed to benefit the actual skiing community at all. How about we focus money into the mountain we already have and update all of the outdated equipment your employees have to use and rely on. Thank you for your time.

Name: Concerned Citizen
Email: Skiboy@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-16 07:33:16

Your Comment:

Let's preserve what we already have and not create a circus. The Ridge is already special, we don't need real estate to ruin it.

Name: Conner Walsh
Email: Conner.e.walsh@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-11 12:45:11

Your Comment:

I was raised in the Wenatchee valley and I've been skiing Mission since I was a kid. I now have 3 small kids of my own (ages 5, 3, and 6 months). I want so badly for them to enjoy skiing Mission as much as I have. Even now though Mission Ridge is far more crowded than it was even ten years ago. In order to ski with my kids on most Saturdays, we have to arrive by 8:30 at the latest to have a chance of finding a parking spot without shuttling. While we enjoy eating in the parking lot at the truck on occasion, we now feel it's required as the lodge is totally packed out during lunch hours. Overcrowded runs give way to stress and anxiety while skiing with my kids. All of this never used to exist on our local mountain. Adding on mountain lodging, hotels, single family homes, condos, and 110,000 square feet of commercial building space will only increase these issues making it almost impossible for a local family of five with small kids to consider spending a Saturday enjoying what I used to love so much. Please don't go through with this.

Name: Connie Dormaier
Email: cjdormaier@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-19 15:21:54

Your Comment:

I support the expansion of the Mission Ridge Ski Area. The owner has shown himself to be thoughtful and broadminded in every improvement and change he has brought to the area since purchasing the property. The changes will come about slowly, over 20 years, and he has addressed every area of concern from the public. Those worried about the growth of the mountain should realize we have more skier visits every year and if this trend continues without anticipating and planning for it, the very things you are trying to protect will be eroded. Let's move together purposefully and mindfully to create the Mountain environment that will be beneficial to all!

Name: Connor McKay
Email: Connorlmckay@hotmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 09:24:56

Your Comment:

While I love Mission Ridge and the idea of expansion, I am worried about the negative impacts of year-round residency and the impact it will have on wildlife and the environment as well as an avid skier. I am also concerned that once it is complete, the mountain will be sold to the highest bidder. Most people would love another chairlift, employee housing, more parking, mountain expansion, but possibly not to the scale that is currently suggested. Maybe there is a way we as a community can meet in the middle to make the best decision for the environment and locals who enjoy this mountain.

Name: Corrin Dugger
Email: Rockyreachcafe@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 12:20:33

Your Comment:

The trickle down of repercussions from this proposal goes beyond what most people are even considering. We address things like the environmental impact, the overload on our infrastructure and the potential tax burden on citizens to fund upgrades. But what about things like water? From what reservoirs do they intend to draw water? The same ones that orchardists on Stemilt Hill and Wenatchee Heights depend on to grow their crops? There is not enough water there for everyone, so who becomes the priority? For a lot of locals, we are already being priced out of being able to enjoy Mission Ridge. If this mountain village is built I can guarantee that the majority of residents will not be able to afford to use the mountain at all. What happens when the inevitable wildfire burns it all to the ground. The likelihood of this happening increases greatly with the introduction of people and all their inherent stupidity. This threatens everyone in the valley, not to mention the lives of firefighters. I am only scratching the surface. The benefits cannot possibly outweigh the risks. Please do not allow this proposal pass.

Name: Coulter
Email: cbaker.28@cascadesd.org
Completion time: 2025-10-21 12:37:15

Your Comment:

I like animals and there is a lot of elk in the mountains the building and construction will take away their land and chase them away and the might die.

Name: Craig Lutz
Email: zlut123@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 12:18:13

Your Comment:

I learned to ski at mission ridge in 1975-76. This was back when WVC had a ski instructor program and they taught classes at mission ridge. I have been to ski resorts all over North America. I have seen what development has done to many of them. It is has overstretched resources, pushed communities out, and change the whole natural landscape of an area.. I visited a couple of ski areas outside of salt Lake City in the spring of this year. I hadn't been there in years and I was amazed at how each of those areas had become not just a village but a city. Roads to get there were clogged with cars, the cost of housing purchase at these places was in the million to 2 million range, the cost of a lift ticket had gotten so high that you practically needed to mortgage your house to spend a couple of days there. Whistler/blackcomb hotel rooms in February now run about \$800 to \$1,000 a night. Prior to the Olympics and getting on the world map it was affordable. Is this what you want for the Wenatchee area? Overpriced everything. Clogged roads. Just think about the flight traffic that will be coming into our small airport. I think mission ridge is the best place in the state to ski. It isn't large but it is fun and you can afford to go there. Allowing this development will change everything permanently and there is no going back once it starts. This will permanently alter the Wenatchee valley and not in a good way.

Name: Crawford Cunningham

Email: Telecraw@gmail.com

Completion time: 2025-10-20 09:30:05

Your Comment:

I believe that expanding Mission ridge will bring much needed economic growth to Chelan County. Having viable recreation outlets should be a priority to the county. Ensuring Mission Ridge can remain profitable in the long run is key to ensuring viable recreation.

Name: Crystal
Email: Crystalmain2009@hotmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 11:58:58

Your Comment:

This area cannot handle the expansion, chelan county can't even keep up with the roads they have, the damage to the valley would be unrepairable and the damage to the land and wildlife is unnecessary and unwanted.

Name: Dan Kelly
Email: muggly22@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-10 15:32:02

Your Comment:

This is good for more than just Wenatchee but both of Chelan and Douglas counties. There are a number of smaller towns with larger ski areas and more ski visits than this project that are very succesfull. Places like Sandpoint, Id and Whitefish, Montana. Concerns about roads and fire supression are not issues. Mission Ridge has a high quality owner and management staff that will do the right thing for the area. Mission Ridge is the best ski area in the state. This would make it better and bring more people. The competition of the ski industry is tough. We need to be able to compete with all the conglomerates that are ruining skiing with crowded slopes and high price tickets. This expansion will keep the great area we have long into the future. Remember this is a long term commitment for a quality ski area. It is one of the big reasons that people come here.

Name: Dan Sundgren
Email: dansundgrens@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 19:02:26

Your Comment:

Mission Ridge has been part of our family's story for years — it's where our kids learned to ski and where we reconnect every winter. I'm excited to see it grow responsibly so future families can share the same joy.

Name: Daneen Sturgeon
Email: daneensturgeon@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-16 10:10:06

Your Comment:

Hello, My ties to Mission Ridge go back to skiing with my father, now deceased, who absolutely loved the terrain and vibe. I taught my 29 year old daughter to ski at Mission and have amazing memories of her skiing down Mimi at 3 years old. Present day ties... I wanted to give back to Mission and I took OEC classes and spent a season with the volunteer ski patrol 2 years ago. Also good memories and a great experience I will always appreciate. The lovely sunshine days with light powder are obvious to all the locals as a prime hidden gem in Wenatchee area. However, not so obvious is the local vibe tied in with the close family and friends congregating. You only have to stand in a lift line or ride the chair past midway to become aware of. Such a welcome respite in a crazy world. I so appreciate that feeling. Upon looking at the expansion plan, the new ski runs do not look to be a huge expansion of the mountain experience, with emphasis in the writeup including the words "beginner terrain." These new runs only seem to service the new lodging facilities. This may or may not contribute to overcrowding of a ski hill with very little local parking in existence. This seems to be an expansion that is going to entice skiers from far away, with little thought to the loyal locals that have made Mission Ridge the beautiful gem that it is. Maybe this long existing plan to expand needs more input still. Sincerely, Daneen Sturgeon

Name: Danielle Harris
Email: Danielle.roslyn@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-11 13:54:46

Your Comment:

After reviewing the plans for the Mission Ridge expansion, I am quite concerned about how it will affect the surrounding area. I am concerned about how increase in traffic will be managed with a single road. I am concerned about the impact on the trails in the area that are heavily used by locals. I am concerned about the viability of expanding a snow park in an area that snow levels continue to decrease over the years and while fire risk increases. With fire risk, the fact it would put so many people at the end of a single road in an area that isn't abundant with water is a recipe for disaster. The labor mountain fire of this year is such a good example of the fire risk in the area. Fighting fires in the area is difficult and that's put people at risk. On a lifestyle note, I don't want Wenatchee to be a ski vacation spot like Utah or Cali ski towns. It could bring in businesses, but it can also raise prices for an any that has a lot of low income families. What makes mission ridge special is that it is a smaller ski resort. We already have big ski resorts in the area. Expanding mission ridge doesn't really benefit Wenatchee, it just benefits the company.

Name: Danielle McKee
Email: danielle@mckeemail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 09:47:57

Your Comment:

Bigger is not better when it comes to Mission Ridge and the surrounding area. Upgrade the area of South Wenatchee, give us some real reliable transportation and dining options but it's irresponsible to allow this development to move forward.

Name: Darius Fleck
Email: dariusfleck@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-11 15:49:02

Your Comment:

This expansion is needed and will make Mission Ridge and Wenatchee an even more appealing destination for me.

Name: Dave Paterson
Email: dave@playseattle.com
Completion time: 2025-09-08 10:48:13

Your Comment:

Excited for the expansion of the area, & trust Mission management to keep the soul of MR intact.

Name: Dave Paterson
Email: sirdavahad@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-18 07:16:43

Your Comment:

My family enjoys Mission Ridge, and has become our home mountain despite having other areas closer. It's been the back drop for holidays, holiday photo's, and childhood memories for my son. The mountain does need to expand to accomodate the growth in the PNW.

Name: David Blandford
Email: david@stateofwatourism.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 15:57:04

Your Comment:

This is to offer support for the proposed expansion of Mission Ridge Ski & Board Resort Expansion Project. My organization serves as Washington's official destination marketing organization and we work in collaboration with tourism industry businesses and regional destination marketing and management organizations, chambers of commerce, land managers and recreation groups to advance and protect Washington's tourism economy while working to responsibly promote and protect sensitive public lands and resources. I believe the Mission Ridge expansion will bring new tourism dollars and support local businesses year-round while enhancing access for underserved groups and outdoor recreationists and driving economic development for the Wenatchee area and central Washington region. This long-sought expansion would make Mission Ridge a year-round destination with skiing, biking, hiking, and Nordic trails that attract diverse visitors. Year-around tourism will support business and small business development throughout the Wenatchee Valley. Responsible travel and tourism is a key priority of State of Washington Tourism, and we are glad to see that more than 600 acres will be preserved for conservation and open space, ensuring environmentally responsible growth and aligning with statewide tourism goals for sustainable, four-season recreation and stewardship of public lands. We understand that developers care about keeping Mission Ridge independently operated and community-focused, preserving local character. These values are critical to shaping Washington's tourism infrastructure in the coming decades – smart growth, responsible tourism and close alignment with community priorities and integrity. We are supportive of this proposed expansion and excited by the visitor offerings and regional sustainable tourism and recreation benefits it will generate. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.

Name: David Burns
Email: Burns1968@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 23:26:29

Your Comment:

I am opposed to the expansion of Mission Ridge. There is not an adequate water supply to service the number of houses and condos that are planned. The road system will be too crowded. Locals will no longer be able to enjoy Mission Ridge which is located on PUBLIC property. There are plenty of hotels and businesses in town to support skiers, we do not need to build condos that only wealthy people will be able to afford.

Name: David Detering
Email: blackhawk29555@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 10:27:08

Your Comment:

This expansion has basically nothing to do with Skiing and is just another excuse to destroy more of our gorgeous natural mountains to cram overpriced vacation homes that will not benefit the local population anywhere near enough to justify the price. I highly doubt even with upgrades that Squilchuck rd would be able to support the increased traffic. I strongly oppose turning more of our pristine wilderness into apartment complexes and overpriced homes for some out of town developer who only has a stake in violating it for money.

Name: David Haven
Email: havendave@aol.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 09:08:31

Your Comment:

I oppose the development and urge you to support the No Action Alternative. If approved there will undoubtedly be a negative impact on the environment, habitat for animals will be disturbed and destroyed, and the risk of wildfires will endanger residents. I see no need for further housing development in that area.

Name: David Kasnic
Email: dave@davekasnic.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 10:27:07

Your Comment:

I grew up in Wenatchee and subsequently at Mission Ridge. I still have my first pass from 30 years ago. I might be a shit skier but the ridge has been my place of mental refuge for nearly every winter, even during the years when I moved away from Wenatchee for school and/or career. Mission Ridge is a refuge from overuse and over expansion that plagues other ski areas nearby. The proposed expansion plan has truly nothing to do with skiing or winter recreation, and anyone who has frequented Mission over the last 30 years has seen the resulting changes from climate change. Putting in new chair lifts at the nearly the same elevation as the parking lot is a coverup to the fact that this entire expansion plan is about turning public land into private land, and turning profit for those developments. The developer could not care less that these lifts will be useless without relying predominately on snowmaking, which will negatively impact the water supply, farmers, wildlife (the area for proposed development is a biodiversity hot spot, as it is littered with elk and mule deer) and the basin's environment. Please consider this comment as opposing the proposed development/expansion. This is not about expanding or improving the ski area, it's about turning public land into private land for profit, which will have a negative domino effect for farmers, wildlife, plant life, and skiers alike. Thank you.

Name: David Preston
Email: davidps51@outlook.com
Completion time: 2025-09-12 12:44:35

Your Comment:

It is time to grow and get this done. Having run the Ski School at Leavenworth Ski Hill for 12 years and now teaching at Mission for the past 4 years I see the huge need to expand the beginner area which is overcrowded on the weekends. The new plan will create a safer beginner area. It will also help more people enjoy the mountain life. Being outdoors improves health:) Working with Mark Milliette at Leavenworth was great. He helped Ski Hill with many improvements which are still being implemented today. As a Port Commissioner in Edmonds and knowing several of the Chelan-Douglas County commissioners I know this is the type of Economic opportunity and tourist enhancement that the area will greatly benefit from. Some people will not like the idea because change can be difficult, however this plan should have minimal impact on environment. Please get this moving forward. Thanks!

Name: David Thompson
Email: Dthompson102@hotmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 09:14:44

Your Comment:

I strongly oppose this development as it is currently proposed. Without additional infrastructure, such as improved vehicle access on normal days and emergency egress, the burdens will fall on those of us who are existing local residents. There is no way that the existing road can handle the projected traffic. Who will have to pay for upgrades? Local tax payers? This project will greatly damage the quality of experience for all of us who currently live and recreate in this area.

Name: David Wilburn
Email: Juroncon@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 14:22:27

Your Comment:

Hello, I am 100% against this Mission Ridge development as proposed. It is far too large and impactful. It is far too expensive in terms of resources (habitat, water, clean air, recreational opportunities, etc) and does very little to benefit neighboring communities in the long term. I was shocked at the scope and scale of it, far beyond anything previously elaborated. We don't need an enclave on land intended to benefit the people. What is in it for us besides inevitably being asked to build out the necessary infrastructure? Absolutely nothing. Why should one developer be allowed to capture all of the benefit of this destruction? When projects like this are approved I tend to suspect bribery because it seems like every time some county official ends up working for the developers. I may not be able to prove it but I can think it and I will. Thank you, DB Wilburn

Name: DC
Email: Darcdarc23@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 18:23:10

Your Comment:

It is truly sad to see what they are trying to build up at Mission Ridge. As a neighbor to Mission Ridge, we already deal with the ski traffic all winter long. I'm super worried about all the changes that would happen to the eco system if this project goes through. We have so many animal species that depend on the water, food and migration paths that ARE in that beautiful Mtn. I vote NO on this project. We do not want a major developer from out of town coming in and destroying the mtn I have grown up on and is a beautiful and majestic staple in the valley. PLEASE do not let this pass. We don't want it.

Name: Dean Simpson
Email: Chelanman2@frontier.com
Completion time: 2025-10-19 15:44:18

Your Comment:

I learned to ski at Mission Ridge in 1974 at age 16 and still get a season pass every year and still get excited with anticipation in the fall. Not only is the staff friendly and professional, but the vibe I get is that they're very respectful and responsible from the top on down. I'm confident that the expansion would be done right and with the utmost care for the surrounding environment. Wenatchee is gaining popularity and so is Mission Ridge, Larry has invested millions improving infrastructure and I trust that he will create something that will enhance our community, create year round jobs and generate income for Chelan county in the form of tax revenue. I'm 100% in support of this expansion.

Name: Debbie Nelson
Email: Debbie.nelson6@me.com
Completion time: 2025-10-17 09:39:24

Your Comment:

I am all for the expansion however traffic going through Forest Ridge will ruin our little community. Please find a better secondary option! Our little road is not a highway. Thank you.

Name: Denise Crawford
Email: denisepc@nwi.net
Completion time: 2025-10-20 15:31:04

Your Comment:

We have been told that there is consideration of using the Forest Ridge subdivision roads as possible secondary access roads for the large development. This is a small residential neighborhood and the area and roads are not designed for a large increase in traffic. We would be against that if it is indeed under consideration. Thank you

Name: Dennis
Email: Gymosaurus@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 11:38:57

Your Comment:

This expansion does not benefit the ski resort itself; if anything it will make it more crowded and a less enjoyable experience from the multitude of individuals that will be residing on the mountain. Traffic congestion will definitely increase, as well as safety concerns for those traveling on the road up the mountain during snowfall. Those with private driveways will be impacted trying to turn onto or off the road with increased traffic will create more safety concerns. Landslide hazards should be considered with how much native dirt will be displaced and disrupted during construction. There have been many instances of land slides in the Wenatchee/Malaga area...Whispering Ridge, Joe Miller Road, Cranmer Road, etc. This is not a suitable location for such a development.

Name: Dennis Engel
Email: dengel@mac.com
Completion time: 2025-10-17 14:40:05

Your Comment:

I fully support the expansion plans at Mission Ridge. 1. The plan includes comprehensive fire mitigation, from defensible space and fuel breaks to a new on-site fire station paid for by Mission Ridge, monitored alarm systems, and a detailed Crisis Action Plan developed with Chelan County Fire District 1. These measures exceed Wildland-Urban Interface Code standards and ensure improved readiness for both residents and guests. 2. The project prioritizes protection of the Squilchuck watershed through advanced stormwater management, on-site wastewater treatment, and carefully managed groundwater use. New wells, storage, and treatment systems are designed to meet Department of Ecology and local Health District standards, with long-term monitoring in place to ensure clean water and healthy downstream ecosystems. 3. The expansion plan protects large areas of undisturbed forest and meadow as permanent open space, maintaining natural habitat connections across the landscape. Development is clustered to minimize new clearing, and the Habitat Management and Mitigation Plan ensures continued monitoring and adaptive management to support long-term ecological health. 4. The Transportation Impact Analysis includes phased intersection and access improvements to maintain safe travel along Squilchuck Road. New parking areas, internal circulation roads, and stormwater systems will help manage peak-day congestion and enhance emergency response access. 5. The project remains under local ownership, and all approvals, permits, and Master Planned Resort requirements are reviewed by Chelan County and paid for by the developer. Expansion phases are tied to specific infrastructure benchmarks, ensuring growth happens responsibly and with continued community oversight.

Name: Devin
Email: devinpaschke@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-08 11:27:20

Your Comment:

Cautious about the improved services. Hate everything about this new "village" plan with nearly 900 new condos and single family homes. Part of what I love about Mission Ridge is the character and more old school charm. I think you can expand and modernize without losing that, but adding a village like this gets it all wrong. This isn't all for those in Wenatchee, it's to attract more tourism. That doesn't allow for congestion relief, it just aims to keep the same level over a bigger area, exactly why you're touting the financial benefits. I'm not thrilled about added Squilchuck traffic, a significant portion of the expanded terrain is meh, pretty lukewarm on this whole endeavor honestly. If it significantly changes prices, I'm out.

Name: Diana Pieratt
Email: dkdechand@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-19 09:30:44

Your Comment:

While I support Mission Ridge wanting to make improvements and better the experiences and opportunities available to the public I have a few concerns. The projected amount of traffic seems insane for the small area and roads to accommodate. I grew up skiing there and now I ski there with my kids. I've seen the traffic coming off the mountain at the end of the ski day. The Squilchuck community already doesn't appreciate the current level of traffic. Adding that much more will create a lot of animosity. My other big concern is safety. What happens if/when a wildfire or other natural disaster occurs in the area? There's one, 2 lane, windy road off that mountain and no feasible area for another escape route. How can residents safely evacuate? I love the idea of year round recreation. It's been great having the lodge open this off season! I love the idea of improved lifts with more safety and adding new and more beginner friendly terrain. I love Mission Ridge. I want to see it grow and improve but not at the cost of community and safety.

Name: Diane Fleming
Email: Flemingsld@aol.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 11:46:33

Your Comment:

I am opposed to this development. I do not see our city as being capable of handling this increase in traffic. And I live here because of the beauty that is easily accessible. This may add dollars to the area but at the expense of things more important, in my opinion. Please do not fall down to the quest for bigger/better, money driven motive. Change is NOT always good, as I have read some comment. You know the stories of great businesses that start small and are successful but then when they expand, they end up going under.

Name: Don Kirby
Email: donaldmkirby3@msn.com
Completion time: 2025-10-01 21:58:26

Your Comment:

When we come from Seattle to ski at the Ridge, we avoid the weekends because of the parking situation. With overnight accommodations available we could stay the entire week there including the weekend.

Name: Don Lovell

Email: rokendon@nwi.net

Completion time: 2025-10-03 12:19:55

Your Comment:

I dissagree with the entire project proposal. There is not adequate additional skiing area to justify such expansion. All it would do is overload the current area making Mission Ridge unskiable!

Name: Donn and Kathryn Etherington
Email: donn@etherington.us
Completion time: 2025-10-21 10:34:06

Your Comment:

We live on the Squilchuck Road and see the traffic go up and down during busy ski days. We also recognize the proposed expansion will increase traffic on Squilchuck. Regardless of the traffic impacts that affect us personally, we strongly support this proposed expansion. Mission Ridge has been the hub for winter recreation for nearly 60 years. It has provided employment, economic benefits to the community, a place to learn to ski, family winter recreation and so much more. As past owners of Mission Ridge, we know all too well the challenges of operating a ski resort. The current owner has done a fantastic job of stewardship of our "local" mountain. Unfortunately, and despite their best efforts, Mission Ridge may not survive long term without the proposed expansion. Imagine Wenatchee without Mission Ridge. It would be a devastating loss for everyone. Approval of the DEIS would ensure future generations can enjoy the benefits that Mission Ridge has provided to so many in our community. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this critical expansion proposal. Kindest, Kathryn and Donn Etherington

Name: Dorothy Ferguson
Email: lakedorothy@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 08:40:53

Your Comment:

Welcome to Wenatchee's Paradise! One way in. No way out. Learn from Paradise Fire. Areas of Refuge: In a Wildfire, in parking lots cars become bombs, toxic smoke from burning tires. People survived in parking lots with NO cars, fire trucks were spraying water over people laying in parking lot. Learn from Paradise Fire. Paradise Emergency Management and elected officials had emergency plans in place, this was a well prepared community. What could go wrong did go wrong! Their advice image worse case scenario. Then multiply that by 100. Learn from Paradise Fire. Don't violate Chelan County Development Codes, adopted to keep people alive and safe; to build a new City, the size of Chelan, in forested mountains. 1 way in No way out. People died in the Fire, many more were injured fleeing from the fire. Learn from Paradise Fire.

Name: Doug Ballard
Email: dougballard617@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 10:47:23

Your Comment:

I'm against the development. It is too low to provide any meaningful skiing. It doesn't even connect well with the ski area.

Name: Dr. Paul Hessburg
Email: pfhess@uw.edu
Completion time: 2025-10-06 15:01:06

Your Comment:

I am a distinguished scientist with 42 years research, development, and application experience in wildfire and landscape science, and 47 years a Forester. You can look me up here:

<https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Paul-Hessburg>, and here:

<https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=4S2CiDcAAAAJ&hl=en&oi=ao>. Here, I respectfully tender some serious concerns about the Mission Ridge expansion project that I think warrant thorough consideration if this project were to succeed. 1) The lack of a separate egress road is deeply concerning. In the event of a wildland fire, firefighters and heavy equipment would need to use the existing road (with needed improvements) to directly attack a wildfire. A separate egress route is needed for citizens to exit the development who might otherwise be harmed or killed in a wildfire. Without the separate egress road, firefighters would put the development on level three evacuation status. They will no longer risk their lives to save a home, a lodge, or other structure where separate egress is unavailable. 2) The fire station that is proposed is not an effective remedy to the high forest fire danger that surrounds the proposed expansion. The undeveloped egress routes that are suggested in the DEIS are not up to the job of getting thousands of people out in time, and frankly they insult the intelligence of citizens who might live there and hope to survive a wildfire. 3) The forest surrounding the proposed expansion area has suffered decades of bark beetle mortality, widespread dwarf mistletoe spread and intensification, which have created abundant flammable fuels. I have walked most every acre of the surrounding forest of interest. These conditions support high likelihood of spreading crown fires, where indirect rather than direct attack by firefighters is most likely. 4) To be safe, a large area surrounding the proposed expansion would need to be treated with thinning of the lower and mid-story trees that have grown in during a long period of fire exclusion, followed by fuel reduction through pile burning and broadcast burning. The post harvest burning is essential to creating a large wildfire safety zone surrounding the expansion area and the existing development. Maintenance prescribed burns would also need to be regular follow-on work to maintain a margin of safety for the surrounding forest area. 5) Currently, Mission Ridge, as it stands without the expansion, has been used primarily during the late fall-winter-early spring seasons when woody fuel moisture is typically highest and where fire danger, even with the powder keg fuel conditions that exist, are lowest. Establishing a four-season town that is larger than Cashmere, WA and about the size of the city of Chelan invites more human-caused ignitions. When you add in visitors from out of town who are unaware of their circumstances and those of the surrounding forest conditions, the ignition danger is worse. 6) Eight-five to ninety-percent of all US wildfire ignitions come from humans who are generally unaware of the surrounding hazards. Common causes derive from burning yard waste and other debris, unattended campfires or fire pits, arson, equipment use and malfunction, exhaust backfiring, catalytic converters touching dry tall grasses, sparks from mowers and other equipment, carelessly discarded cigarettes, sparks from BBQ pits and personal BBQs, fireworks, and kids playing with matches. The people who live in the expansion and their guests will be the most likely causes of future wildfires in the area. 7) Collectively, these factors and a failure of the DEIS to adequately address them make the proposed action unsafe and ill prepared. Thank you for the chance to comment.

Name: Duane Harbick
Email: duaneharbick@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 16:36:41

Your Comment:

The building of a project of this scale may have short term economic benefits, but I'm concerned about long term economic costs for which our county will be liable for. I'm sure the venture will be profitable for those with an ownership stake but more costly for tax payers that will have to subsidize road maintenance and fire details in the summer. I'm also concerned about how the effect of development on mission ride may raise property taxes in the area. This is before mentioning the negative externalities associated with added congestion to the Wenatchee valley. It seems to me that more good within the community would be achieved by providing incentives to small local businesses rather than allowing large developers to run roughshod over our dramatically beautiful and rare topography and ecology. Thank you for your consideration.

Name: Dustin Deane
Email: dustindeane85@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 22:33:44

Your Comment:

I am deeply concerned by the environmental impact and detriment to local wildlife and plants by this expansion. Furthermore it will be a giant eyesore and ruin the natural beauty of the mountains.

Name: Dylan orendor
Email: Dylanorendor@aol.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 21:32:37

Your Comment:

We don't need that up there it will take away a lot of the resources for wildlife

Name: Ed Van Dusen
Email: Ecvandusen@aol.com
Completion time: 2025-09-07 00:22:16

Your Comment:

I am against The expansion of Mission Ridge. Three Reasons: 1. Elk and Deer migrations. We keep closing their normal routes of migration. 2. Cost to Chelan County tax payers in the form of having to provide roads power and water to this project. We are running out of these resources. 3. This is just another Government grab of public lands for use of a small number of Chelan County residents with little or no return to the tax base.

Name: Elana
Email: Elanafisher@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 08:27:54

Your Comment:

I strongly oppose the proposed development at Mission Ridge. The impact on such a precious ecosystem, and the turning of a small town ski hill loved by so many into a development that fundamentally prioritizes massive profits over the experience of everyday my families like mine is something I hope to see our Representative stand against. There are so many opportunities for economic development and places like the Wenatchee Valley, we do not have to forfeit our forests, wildlife, water, joy of a place, and the voice of the people to build this resort. I hope our decisions makers act with courage and care for our community and strongly oppose this development.

Name: Elisa Johnson
Email: ericandelisa@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-17 20:49:57

Your Comment:

I am not in favor of this expansion. I have been skiing at MR yearly since the early 2000's and my husband and I have been season pass holders for decades. We moved to Wenatchee from Marysville in 2016 *because* of the skiing at MR. We ski every weekend of the ski season, both days. Our 11 yr old son has been skiing at Mission since he was one. With that said, I am very concerned that the expansion appears to be waaay too much for this location. I am also one who loves the hike to bowl 4 and if there is added lift access to that terrain...that will ruin it. MR is a special mountain, with a small town mountain feel. I am very much in favor of a much larger Midway lodge. MR needs that. It also needs a faster/larger chair 1. But a huge expansion...No. Thanks for listening.

Name: Emily Siroky
Email: easiroky88@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-16 07:49:28

Your Comment:

I believe the proposed expansion project at Mission Ridge includes WAY too many dwelling units. The fragile mountain ecosystem, the lack of adequate roads for egress, the fire danger (just look at how close the Labor Mountain Fire came and how hard it was to fight!!) and the resulting congestion on Squilchuck Road are all reasons to SCALE BACK the amount of housing near the resort. We have been season pass holders since 1996, and would love to see more terrain for skiing, but this proposal mainly adds housing, TOO MUCH of it!

Name: Emmi Klarer
Email: emmirae.k@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 10:19:19

Your Comment:

I am not in favor of the Mission Ridge expansion. As a Wenatchee resident who recreates on forest service land on and around Mission Ridge year round via hiking, running, snowshoeing and snowboarding, I am specifically opposed to the addition of residential units and hotel, as well as the privatization of public lands (Stemilt Basin) and unaddressed issues relating to decreased or obstructed access to public lands surrounding the ski area (Lake Clara, Pipeline Trail). Additionally, I was not impressed with the current fire safety plan or the resources it would require to make the expansion area skiable in the winter. Whether or not this expansion is approved, I would like to see more forethought and follow through on the infrastructure required for the expansion - INCLUDING the public lands it sits on and for the people who use them.

Name: Eric b
Email: Ebarsh017@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 09:01:24

Your Comment:

This resort and these plans look awesome. Do not let regressives and NIMBYs stop this!

Name: Eric Jacobson
Email: Ericjake@live.com
Completion time: 2025-10-03 22:38:14

Your Comment:

Please do not approve housing on mission ridge. Please approve more ski runs.

Name: Erica Anderson
Email: ericalynnanderson211@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-19 10:06:07

Your Comment:

I think that if this project moves forward, it will change the valley in ways that will cause all of us to wish that we had not allowed the project to happen. What we currently value about our valley will disappear and that loss will be felt by all of us in various ways. The impact will be detrimental to this area and the place we all currently love.

Name: Erika Sambuceto
Email: Esambuceto@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 14:55:29

Your Comment:

As exciting as this projected project sounds, I feel that this valley does not have the infrastructure to allow for this expansion and the growth in population as well as traffic. Therefore, I believe that this expansion is not well suited for our town.

Name: Erin Spencer
Email: eekspencer@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-07 08:42:32

Your Comment:

As someone who grew up in this community, I'm writing to strongly oppose the Mission Ridge Expansion plans. This project does not reflect the priorities of local residents in the least. It will increase traffic, pollution, and environmental degradation, while destroying natural habitats that are vital to local wildlife. Beyond the environmental impacts, I'm deeply concerned about how this expansion will affect affordability. Where will your staff live as property values and the cost of living continue to rise? Projects like this increasingly cater to out-of-town visitors and second-home owners, not the working families and longtime residents who make this community thrive. I would hate to see the dynamic of Wenatchee shift so significantly that locals are priced out and pushed aside more than they already have been. I urge you to consider the long-term impacts and to protect the character, livability, and affordability of this beautiful place both humans and animals call home.

Name: Erin Williams
Email: Erinlomasney@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 06:58:39

Your Comment:

Against the expansion. Our town doesn't need to be ruined by a developer. The magic of Mission is that it's small. Safety and access to the area are also of concern.

Name: Esai
Email: esaijasso@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 11:57:42

Your Comment:
No expansion

Name: Evan

Email: Plewse@hotmail.com

Completion time: 2025-10-20 09:26:05

Your Comment:

Proceed! MRR is an invaluable asset to our community and regional economy. This project will not only insure the viability and competitiveness of the resort but also provide jobs and essential recreation opportunities to us in the immediate vicinity. The "straw-man" environmental arguments against this project are nothing more than selfish "not in my back yard" nearby residents and irrational hypocrites who believe it is virtuous to hold back progress and growth in the name of environmental advocacy they are unwilling to actually live themselves.

Name: Evan Siroky
Email: evan.siroky@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-14 20:34:18

Your Comment:

I grew up in Wenatchee and skied Mission Ridge from age 10-18 while I was living there and I ski whenever I go back to visit. I support the proposed expansion plan for Mission Ridge. The benefits of the added skiing area will be great to find more places to ski on the mountain. I do hope that with the added area being added that Mission Ridge and the local transit district would support the addition of a second ski bus to the Link transit system which would double the frequency of the bus making it a more appealing option for people traveling up to the mountain.

Name: Francesca Hansen
Email: fnapolitano@hotmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 12:00:23

Your Comment:

I have lived here now 20 years and I believe this new project will bring too much congestion to our area, damage our beautiful forests and wild areas and harm the local wildlife who are already being squeezed out by housing and humans going into the wilderness; although I am all for increased business coming into our area I would prefer it stay in already created urban areas and not ruin our pristine wilderness and harm our wildlife. Thank you for listening.

Name: Frank Harris
Email: knarfsirrah@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-22 15:21:26

Your Comment:

I am not in support of the mission ridge expansion. This expansion will change the Wenatchee area for the worse. I've been to many ski towns that used to be small, but now are filled with expensive condos, restaurants, and rich out of towners. Those ski towns are not good for cheap living, friendly atmospheres, raising a family, and having plenty of jobs to go around. Those ski towns are not places I would want to live. The expansion pushes Wenatchee towards those towns and would change Wenatchee for the worse. The expansion is not necessary for a town of our size - it's ok not to grow bigger. Recognize that we have a nice size sustainable ski area, and that we may not have enough snow or temperatures for skiing 5 or 10 years out. Outside of how this will change Wenatchee it's also a questionable investment.

Name: Fred Eschen
Email: Chiwaukumfred@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 11:54:10

Your Comment:

Washington needs more ski areas. Washington also needs to conserve wildlife and wild places. This proposal does neither and will ruin Mission Ridge ski area. Please don't.

Name: Fred Franklin
Email: Juniorfjr1300@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-18 06:14:23

Your Comment:

I was an eleven year old kid when Mission Ridge opened who was taking lessons at Squilchuck state park. It was a couple of years before I graduated to the big hill and have enjoyed it ever since. It is a special place and would hate to see it gone. The wenatchee valley really needs more economic stimulus and I think expansion is an excellent way to expand the recreation segment. Growth is inevitable and I think this is a well thought out plan. I am sad that at this point of my life I probably won't live to see the end result, but I will enjoy Mission Ridge until the end.

Name: Freyja Bourke
Email: freybourke@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 11:49:06

Your Comment:

I have sincere concerns about the environmental impact of a mission ridge expansion. I do not want to see a mini Whistler village just outside of Wenatchee. The area cannot handle that level of tourism and our beautiful mountains do not need any more damage. Particularly concerned for the elk population that reside up there. Do not allow this expansion please.

Name: garry arseneault
Email: ARSENEAULT9@GMAIL.COM
Completion time: 2025-09-15 07:46:01

Your Comment:

In general I support expansion plans for Mission Ridge Ski Resort. However, I strongly oppose Mission Ridge using the Forest Ridge neighborhood surface streets as a potential Secondary Access route as is spelled out by the five access options submitted in response to Section 4.2.2.2 Secondary Access. There are numerous reasons this is a bad idea, not the least is children accustomed to playing and riding bikes on the streets as well as residents walking pets and jogging for exercise on streets compounded by the lack of shoulders and sidewalks. Furthermore, I agree that a secondary access road is critical for the safety of all residents and should be made mandatory. The secondary access requirement should provide a new road (separate from Squilchuck) from Mission Ridge to a point somewhere below the fire hazard zone, and not add more traffic on Squilchuck, particularly during an emergency.

Name: Gerald Holm
Email: jholm2016@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-02 07:54:56

Your Comment:

In my prior comment, I did not address the concerns I have with the increased vehicular traffic as a result of the Expansion and the farming community activities. I am sure others have shared this concern too. Also, this is a request to Mike Kaputa: if there is no possibility of the County approving a secondary road from the Expansion through the Forest Ridge subdivision (which the principles have stated that "there is no such intent"), I personally would be very appreciate if the next draft of the EIS eliminated that section from the document. Thanks much Mike!

Name: Gerald W. Holm
Email: jholm2016@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-11 08:11:56

Your Comment:

I have two concerns regarding the DEIS I wish to share. One concern is regarding Section 4.2.2.2 Secondary Access. If Chelan County were to require a secondary access to the expansion, two options proposed (#3, #4) describe a road "28 feet wide, paved, and be open and maintained year around". These routes would enter the Forest Ridge subdivision at either the south end or at Summit View Drive. Section 5.6.1 Transportation Overview of the DEIS states that the expansion would generate 9,655 new weekday daily trips and 10,766 Saturday daily trips. I am concerned that even if the access through Forest Ridge subdivision were given a secondary road designation, a significant amount of traffic would be using that route! The second concern I have regards Section 5.6.1 Transportation Overview. That study does not address the intersection of Forest Ridge Drive/Mission Ridge Road (but interestingly does address the Pitcher Canyon/Squilchuck Road intersection, which likely has less traffic). Currently, because of slopes and angles of the road surface during winter ice conditions, a driver traveling on Forest Ridge Drive (even using great caution) will sometimes slide down into the intersection. In addition, the short sight distance of north travelers on Mission Ridge Road (going downhill, approaching the intersection, at typically faster speeds than allowed), is of great concern. Also, those using residential driveways along Mission Ridge Road would be greatly impacted with the anticipated increase in traffic and the current fast speeds of drivers.

Name: Glen Peterson
Email: peterson.glen@outlook.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 11:42:50

Your Comment:

Thank you for well written EIS and commentary. I highly support this proposal and believe that the mitigations cited in Table ES-3 (Summary) will adequately address the concerns cited. Specifically looking at the significant impacts: 4.1 Earth - Best Practices in the construction and development industries will not have unsurmountable problems with slope instability. 4.2 Fire Risk - These can be mitigated by Best Practices. It should be noted that everyone will want to mitigate the fire risk, this is a mutually important issue. It is an issue that will be ultimately controlled by the insurance industry. Also note that many towns in the West have limited access for firefighting, so there are models for how to achieve acceptable safety. 4.3 Visual - I consider this to be a non-issue. I find it exciting to look up at the night lighting and know that there is increased access to recreation in the evening. 4.4 Land and Shoreline - Best practices will easily mitigate the development. Yes, forestland will be replaced by buildings and infrastructure. Yes migrations and habitat will be altered. The only difference between this development and all other developments in the County is that this is an easy target to fight against. It is relatively big and up in the mountains above town. However, I would rather see this location developed than the orchards around the valley. This will not be a large luxury development. This will be relatively small and frankly, a much-needed development that will add housing and recreation options. A twenty-year buildout allows for a long enough timeline to do it right. Instead of fighting on all the micro-issues now, I recommend that the County and opponent groups (such as Friend of Mission Ridge) look at the Macro Issue of increased recreation and economic gain. We/they should all work with the Proponent to create an excellent development that the County, and definitely the State, really need. I fully understand that it is easier to deny than to approve this proposal. Please approve it with reasonable conditions that can allow for an excellent addition to our Valley. The fewer roadblocks that are placed will allow for more economic investment to achieve success. Thank you for the opportunity to respond.

Name: Grant Chong
Email: grantuchong@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-19 10:59:31

Your Comment:

I strongly oppose the Mission Ridge Expansion Project. Many of the features being marketed as glamorous just seem to be avenues for wealthy non residents that negatively impact the Wenatchee local community. After reviewing the document and supporting supplements, I have identified factors where the DEIS contains discrepancies and insufficient analysis that may lead to an incomplete and inaccurate understanding of environmental and community impacts. This project has large and irreversible ramifications to critical resources, quality of life, and positive economic impact to the surrounding community. It is paramount the DEIS is accurate for all stakeholders and decision makers.

1. Wildlife Presence and Habitat Mischaracterization - SEP 2025 MISSION RIDGE DEIS_VOL IV_APP G-L.pdf, 7. Wildlife Species and Habitat starting on page 92 of 2017. The DEIS understates or omits use of the project area by key species such as American pika, golden eagles, northern goshawk, elk, and mule deer. I have attended meetings and a film show by Friends of Mission Ridge that shows evidence to indicate these species use or migrate through the area, thus contradicting DEIS findings.
2. Wildfire Risk and Mitigation - SEP 2025 MISSION RIDGE DEIS_VOL I_EXEC SUMMARY AND MAIN TEXT.pdf Section 4.2.1.5 page 116 of 324. The wildfire risk section lacks site-specific modeling and detailed mitigation commitments. Given the area's terrain and vegetation, this is a significant life-safety issue that requires more robust treatment. The surrounding communities of Leavenworth, Cashmere, and Wenatchee just experienced a devastating 2 to 3 months of wildfires, resulting in AQIs greater than 500 for continuous days. With climate change worsening year after year, it seems prudent that fire related sections be 110% accurate to ensure the safety of users, property, and infrastructure. Specifically, the DEIS should be revised to clarify that consultation with Chelan County Fire District is required and all costs for new service extension and capacity increase, including a new fire station and all apparatus required for that station, shall be borne by the development, and that these improvements must be in place and in operation before a single occupancy permit is issued.
3. Traffic, Parking, and Access Underestimation - SEP 2025 MISSION RIDGE DEIS_VOL I_EXEC SUMMARY AND MAIN TEXT.pdf Section 5.6.3.3 Direct Impacts from Operation page 252 of 324 The DEIS's traffic modeling underrepresents projected visitor numbers, resulting in understated impacts to Squilchuck Road and associated safety issues. Additionally, the document fails to present a feasible secondary access or emergency egress route, which is essential for wildfire evacuation. The DEIS presents two road capacity analysis approaches that were analyzed in the 2025 Kimley Horn Traffic Impact Analysis Report. These include an alternative v/c (volume over capacity) approach, and the traditional Highway Capacity Manual approach. The Kimley Horn traffic analysis is faulty for both methods. The results presented in the 2025 TIA are meaningless as they assume the ability to pass in the opposing lane, where this is not possible on the Mission Ridge Road. Appropriate analysis using Highway Capacity Manual, Sixth Edition (2016) — Chapter 15: Two-Lane Highways — the Percent Time Spent Following (PTSF) shows LOS D for weekday traffic in 2034 (post phase 3) which is unacceptable. Mitigation is necessary but is not identified in the DEIS. For context, the TIA predicted new trips generated from the development are about twice the WSDOT traffic count for 2024 average daily trips on both Stevens Pass near Yodelin and on Hwy 97 Blewit Pass, and roughly equal to the AADT on both State Route 28 between Rock Island and Quincy, and hwy97 (SR 2) just north of East Wenatchee. The DEIS should be revised to include an updated TIA that utilizes appropriate calculation methods to determine LOS.

Name: Grayson Connor
Email: graysonski@hotmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-14 16:51:58

Your Comment:

I am strongly in favor of the expansion plan at Mission Ridge for several reason. The improvements to the ski area are long overdue. In its present state it is a somewhat dated ski resort that needs upgrading and modernization. Adding beginner terrain will move novice skiers away form more expert terrain and improve safety. New ski lifts will reduce crowding at peak times and add needed new terrain. Increased services for skiers at the base area are much need. New parking is much needed and will reduce problems with parking along the access road. A new fire station is an important way to be ready for forrest fires in our vulnerable location. The ski area is an economic driver for Wenatchee. Modernization of the ski area is long overdue. Expanding and improving the ski area will bring more business to Wenatchee and reduce peak period crowding on the slopes. Our family utilizes the facilities at Mission Ridge often. We appreciate the culture and friendliness of the resort. It does seem a bit out dated when compared with other ski areas. Mission Ridge is much in need of some updating to remain competitive in the highly competitive ski resort industry.

Name: Greg
Email: Kahlerpaul@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 11:21:34

Your Comment:

I am NOT in favor of the expansion! Even under current conditions the operators treat the area as if it is their private property. Residential use of the area, closing the area to certain uses, operating in violation of the special use permit, interfering with the use of roads, trails, and gates, signage not in conference with the sign regulations. On and on.....

Name: Greg Gresh
Email: greg.o.gresh@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-17 22:52:47

Your Comment:

Please consider the following comment as substantive due to its inclusion of a request for an analysis of a reasonable alternative to the proposed action. Washington State's environmental impact statement (EIS) process requires the evaluation of reasonable alternatives to a proposed action, a requirement mandated by the state's SEPA rules. This includes an analysis of the "no action" alternative and any other feasible options to mitigate potential adverse environmental impacts, allowing decision-makers to compare them and choose the most environmentally sound approach. This comment suggests a reasonable alternative to be analyzed to determine if it is likely to have less environmental impacts than the proposed action. It would fulfill the County's obligation to consider reasonable alternatives and to find the least environmentally impacting alternative. The suggested alternative would help mitigate the following: 1. concerns that existing access roads do not currently meet county regulatory requirements if they would need to accommodate an increase in traffic volume due to the proposed action, 2. significant effects of the proposed action on the resources of air quality, visual resources, noise, health and human safety, socioeconomic values, water and wildlife, 3. potential resource impacts as a result of new disturbance in undisturbed areas, and 4. unforeseen circumstances resulting from increased visitation and traffic including increased fire hazard, noxious and invasive weed spread, hazardous material exposure, and increased water diversion and usage. Please consider the development and analysis of the following alternative to the proposed action: Chelan county, in coordination with the proponent and agencies involved with the development of this project, will develop and outline the feasibility of an off-site parking space/hub and alternative parking and access arrangements for the proposed development project and Mission Ridge Ski resort. The off-site parking location(s) would be developed as a combination of increasing capacity and parking infrastructure in the existing Mission Ridge Parking Lot, regulation of vehicle traffic, and development of a space within the City of Wenatchee (or closely adjacent) with alternative access options, on existing and previously disturbed land. Increasing capacity and infrastructure in the existing lot could include identifying/applying efficiencies in parking spaces/traffic flow and a multilevel lot could be developed. Regulating vehicle traffic would occur through resident lot access control and incentivizing/restricting visitor access across multiple lots not to be developed on undisturbed ground, as suggested by the proposed action. Alternative access arrangements include shuttle vehicles (public/private busses, vans, taxis), gondola development, or any other alternative mode of transportation in compliance with applicable law and regulation resulting in less environmental impacts than expected from the proposed action. This alternative is intended to limit the anticipated increase in traffic to the project area, and reduce infrastructure development on undeveloped land. It would NOT increase development in the project area, but it reduces development and potential impacts in the project area by developing on existing disturbed land and reducing daily traffic. This alternative would support the proponent's intention to develop accommodations, it supports the County and USFS purpose and need to respond to the proposal, it could be developed to be less negatively impacting to the local population's socioeconomic values, it would support economic development with the opportunity of transportation passes, parking rent, and increased tourism capacity, it would have less environmental impacts by reducing vehicle traffic and infrastructure on undisturbed land, and it could reduce potential impacts to wildlife habitat and water. It has been proven feasible in models around the world.

Name: Greg Malmberg
Email: gbmalm@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-16 15:12:41

Your Comment:

We lived on Mission Ridge Rd, on Squilchuck Creek, for 11 years. I've skied and hiked at Mission Ridge for more than 30 years. I've worked at MR for many of the last 18k years. So, I think I might have some useful insight. 1) It is already a great local hill, and the current ownership has definitely contributed to this. However, I do not believe that making it a much more crowded destination resort will make it a better experience for residents of Chelan/Douglas Counties. Some minimum wage jobs, and that is it. And the likelihood of it being sold to a national conglomerate rather than to a local syndicate is high, no matter what is promised. If this is not profitable enough for Mr. Larry Scrivanich, then I'd like to see locals/C-D Counties purchase it, and run it like a utility, keeping prices low for residents, and fair for visitors. The True Value of Mission Ridge, is in its geography, and that it is on the back porch of Wenatchee, with its hotels, restaurants, Riverwalk/Pybus, theaters..... 2) The "one way out" in a fire/flood/wind emergency is problematic. It is the main reason my family moved from MR down to Wenatchee. Have we not learned from Paradise, CA? I have been evacuated many times in my life, and have seen the flame/smoke/fallen trees/stalled cars/emergency vehicles..... It can turn into a clusterf_ck real fast. And having ~1000 units, full of people, (many from the westside, and not as firewise as the locals), is asking, no, enabling and encouraging a disaster. 3) MR talks about the new tax revenue. It is likely that the revenue will be less than the costs, to the county and the taxpayer, associated with having 1000 housing units on the mountain. The demands on infrastructure, (roads/bridges/schools/fire dept/police/medical/parks.....), will likely cost much more than the tax revenue provides. Example: On Hawaiian islands, after being shafted by developers time and again, the counties/islands started demanding infrastructure improvements be made up front, before a developer put a shovel to the ground. Hawaii still gets developed, just proactively, with sensitivity to the needs of the residents. 4) Riparian ecology is hung like a carrot to make it sound like MR will be bending over backwards to accommodate environmental demands. The truth is, (remember, I used to live on Squilchuck Creek), that this is not a fish habitat. There is an impassible obstacle at the confluence of this creek and the Columbia River, at the railroad bridge. Therefore the County and the department of ecology have been very lax in their demands on developers along this creek. 5) During my hikes at MR, I have seen new-born elk calves. (This has been in the vicinity of Chair 3.) The point is that the Colockum Herd gives birth in this vicinity. I've also seen Black Bear, Bobcat, Mountain Lion, Mule Deer, countless bird species... The above is just off-the-top-of-my-head. I plan to look at the DEIS and may make more comments. Thank You For Your Time, Greg Malmberg

Name: Greg Malmberg
Email: gbmalm@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 16:30:29

Your Comment:

In addition to my earlier comments I add the following: Rapid, uncontrolled growth does not enhance the quality of life, or, property values. Take, for example, Santa Barbara, CA. In the 1970's they decided to slow growth way down. Careful planning and growth became the priority. Santa Barbara is now one of the most desirable, and valuable, places to live in the country. Wenatchee has a chance to keep its small town feel while remaining a viable city, and avoid the pitfalls of growth for growth's sake.

Name: Hanna Aaron

Email: hanna.bam@live.com

Completion time: 2025-10-20 20:59:26

Your Comment:

There is no way our town of Wenatchee can sustain this influx of population let alone the environmental repercussions this will cause.

Name: Harrison Friedbauer
Email: danefriedbauer@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 09:34:53

Your Comment:

I grew up going to Mission Ridge and learned to snowboard there as a kid. This mountain means a lot to me - it's where I fell in love with winter and the outdoors. The expansion is a big change but it's exciting to see progress and investment into the future of this place. I want to see Mission Ridge grow and thrive for future generations, just like it has for mine.

Name: Hayden Riley
Email: rileyahayden06@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 11:07:07

Your Comment:

The proposed expansion of Mission Ridge is a fantastic opportunity for our town and surrounding areas, offering numerous benefits that go beyond just skiing and snowboarding. This development will welcome a broader range of visitors—including those who may not participate in snow sports—allowing everyone to experience the beauty and recreational opportunities of our cherished mountain. By creating new, year-round attractions and improved access, the expansion will significantly boost local tourism. This increased visitation supports our local economy by bringing more customers to family-owned businesses in Wenatchee, East Wenatchee, and the new town area near Mission Ridge. Retail shops, restaurants, and service providers in these communities will benefit from the steady flow of guests, helping to sustain local livelihoods and encouraging community growth. One common concern about the expansion is increased traffic and congestion. While it is true that Mission Ridge is a beloved “hidden gem,” it’s important to recognize that traffic patterns are seasonal and controlled. The busiest times will still be the winter months due to established skiing and snowboarding seasons. Expanding facilities will help distribute visitors more evenly, promoting a more enjoyable experience. In the off-season, the mountain is much quieter, so introducing summer activities will encourage more balanced, year-round visitation without overwhelming traffic. Additionally, it is worth noting that Mission Ridge has not seen significant upgrades such as new runs or lifts in many years. Change is necessary and beneficial to ensure that this iconic mountain remains a top destination for outdoor enthusiasts. Thoughtful development can enhance sustainability and accessibility, making sure that the mountain can be enjoyed by current and future generations alike. These improvements also create new jobs, enhance safety, and increase the range of recreational activities available. This expansion presents a positive vision of growth—one that respects the natural environment, supports local businesses, and enriches the quality of life for residents and visitors. Embracing change with openness will allow our community to thrive, preserving Mission Ridge as a vibrant and accessible destination for everyone. Thank you for considering my comment on this great idea. Best, Hayden Riley, S.N

Name: Hazel Mahan
Email: Hazelowl33@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 22:37:12

Your Comment:

The destruction of this natural wilderness would not only cause permanent and immediate damage to the wildlife and flora of this region, it would also be a hideous eyesore that would detract from the area, discourage rather than encourage visitors and commerce, and cause traffic and pollution concerns.

Name: Heather Witte

Email: hrwitte@comcast.net

Completion time: 2025-10-20 09:50:27

Your Comment:

This seems wildly irresponsible. Has no thought been given to the fact that the road cannot accommodate that amount of daily traffic in any condition let alone winter conditions. What about fire/ambulance emergency traffic? Growth is a fact of life but this is too much with no infrastructure in place to support it. You have put the cart before the horse.

Name: Helen Sembritzky
Email: beecave2@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 23:08:59

Your Comment:

Regarding the proposal for expansion at Mission Ridge: I feel the scale of it is far too big and will further add to the apartment blight in the valley, as well as traffic congestion. Bigger is not always better. Why must we paste a large area of urban sprawl on Mission Ridge? I worry that this may add to the cost of living here with higher property taxes and increased electrical load pressure on the dams which could also make electricity more expensive. As well, increased fire response teams and equipment would probably be required, financed by more taxes.

Name: Holly McPhetridge
Email: mcphetrh@icloud.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 19:47:03

Your Comment:

As a resident that lives in the area and uses Squilchuck to reach home, I have several concerns. First, I'm concerned about the increase in traffic and the impact of the construction on the people such as myself who live in the area. As it is, traffic coming down the hill during ski season stretches on and on; I can't imagine what it would be like with the expansion. I also have a real concern about impact on wildlife as well. There are fewer places for deer and elk to migrate in the area and a development of this size, will push them out even more. By expanding this to year round housing, apartments, etc., there will be less area for the animals as well. I also have concerns about fire danger with the increase in buildings, traffic, and people out and out about in the dry summer months. I don't mind a small expansion, but one that will basically build a small town up there, is something I just can't see is worth the cost despite bringing in some more tourism into the area.

Name: Holly Pederson Duffy
Email: Holly@pedersondefense.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 09:30:29

Your Comment:

I strongly oppose the proposed Mission Ridge expansion. This project would turn one of Chelan County's most loved natural places into a commercial resort, permanently changing the land, wildlife habitat, and mountain experience that define our community. Under SEPA (RCW 43.21C), the County must protect the environment from "significant adverse impacts." Under the Growth Management Act (RCW 36.70A) and Chelan County Code 11.93, development must preserve rural character, ensure adequate infrastructure, and safeguard natural resources. This proposal fails all three tests. Ten thousand more cars a day, thousands of new beds, and year-round traffic will destroy what makes Mission Ridge special. Not everything should be for sale. Please deny this expansion and protect the ridge for future generations.

Name: Howard Morris
Email: hmavis75@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-16 17:14:17

Your Comment:

The Draft EIS for the Mission Ridge expansion has hundreds of points which I might call into question. The development, as a whole, is too large for the small mountainous area we call Mission Ridge. Questions on water usage, climate change and traffic, to cite 3 examples, are only briefly examined. I am opposed to this development because too many issues are not addressed. To comment on specifics, I have the following: Section 2.5: Why is there no range of alternatives? Either no development or full development? To create a city on the side of Mission Ridge creates a variety of challenges. However, I could see a new lodge and some new terrain opened. A smaller option seems reasonable. Why the need for a potential 7,000+ beds? Section 4.2.1: Fire Risks. After witnessing a six-week long fire in nearby terrain, I question whether Tamarack Saddle LLC is committed to pay for fire suppression costs and risks to nearby homes further down Squilchuck and Stemilt Creeks. A fire in the development could trap many people with only one exit. Where are the planned services to fight a major fire which could easily happen in the dry forests around the Ridge. Section 4.2.3.3: I am unclear how Tamarack Saddle LLC and Mission Ridge are connected. Will the two corporations act as one or have they been developed this way to escape liabilities. Section 4.3.3.2: Light and glare. The layout presented at the September meeting does not address the true impact of light pollution not only on the Wenatchee Valley, but on nearby neighbors such as the Forest Ridge development. Section 4.4.1: The proposed development of the ski area on Washington State Wildlife Lands is untenable. I have visited that area in the fall and the lands should remain for wildlife, not for ski area expansion. (This Wildlife Lands swap is perhaps the single most troubling part of the Draft EIS. Section 4.4.3.2: The development of a major resort/city high on Mission Ridge totally changes the character of the Stemilt Basin. So many hunters, fishing people, outdoors users and campers use that area. The resort development will greatly impact those users. I also wonder if there will be water issues for campers and wildlife, in addition to water issues for all the orchardists in the Stemilt. Section 5.1: The development WILL have a significant impact on air quality. To create that large a footprint high on the mountain will affect air pollution, which will also have a significant impact on the surrounding forest. Section 5.4.3.1: Pikas may not be technically an endangered species, but they will be killed in the rocks moved during the development and their habitat, will be decreased. This should at least be mentioned in the DEIS. Section 5.7.1: This section doesn't address water needs of the development during summer months. We've just come through a dry summer in the region. Water resources are limited on the Ridge. This issue isn't fully addressed. Section 5.10.3.1: As a hiker, I was disturbed that no attempt to address parking for hikers to Lake Clara was addressed. If the population on Mission Ridge increases in the thousands, many many people will want to use this trail which is already seeing overuse. (The development as a whole shows very little possibility of hiking trails during the summer for the increase in users which would follow an opening of a huge resort.) Finally, to address other issues which cannot be marked by one specific section: 1) The traffic to Mission Ridge will increase dramatically. This will affect all the neighbors on the entire Squilchuck drainage, clear to the city of Wenatchee. And if a second road would be built on public land, who is going to pay for it? 2) The elk herds which use the higher areas of the Ridge will be greatly impacted by the human development. The Draft EIS says they can just move. Previous studies have indicated this is not necessarily true. The impact on wildlife on the Ridge will be profound, even if the EIS ignores this.

Name: Howard Morris
Email: hmavis75@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-16 17:20:14

Your Comment:

I attempted to finish a comment earlier today, but perhaps I'd reached my limit. My greatest concern with the DEIS on Mission Ridge is the issue of water doesn't seem to be seriously addressed. The mountain environment where this development is proposed is dry, eastern Washington forest. The Stemilt drainage below the resort uses significant amounts of water for their orchards. In a dry year, with several thousand new people using the water--particularly in the summer--will there be enough to go around. The Draft EIS doesn't fully address summer usage or the impact the development might have on water in the Squilchuck drainage.

Name: Howard Morris
Email: larchman77@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 14:19:48

Your Comment:

After revisiting the Mission Ridge Ski Area this past weekend, I continue to believe the DEIS doesn't address the need for an additional road for the proposed development near Mission Ridge. With daily traffic and potential fire issues, the current road to the ski area is simply not adequate for emergency services and the volume of vehicles that will be using that road on a daily basis, north summer and winter. Why is there no plans to address an additional road to handle the traffic and emergencies?

Name: Hunter Moomaw
Email: huntermoomaw@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-11 14:14:08

Your Comment:

In complete support of this plan as long as it entails no lift to microwave or bowl 4. I'm in total, whole hearted opposition if it includes any lifts to hike in areas.

Name: Ian Gorton
Email: Gortonator@outlook.com
Completion time: 2025-09-10 03:17:38

Your Comment:

I am fully supportive of the Mission Ridge development plans. It will create excellent economic benefits for the whole town and county and be a boost to the whole region.

Name: Ian McCord
Email: irjmccord@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 18:57:19

Your Comment:

This is a deal estate development pretending to be a ski area expansion. The EIS acknowledges there will be significant impacts to wildlife, traffic, emergency services and water in the squilchuck drainage. The mitigations listed are comically inadequate. Unless real mitigations are developed that actually address the impacts this project cannot be allowed.

Name: Isaac
Email: Isaacpe24@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-08 11:21:59

Your Comment:
It would be amazing to have more mountains

Name: Isaac
Email: Isaacpe24@icloud.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 21:50:38

Your Comment:

It would be so awesome for everyone has more mountains to have fun

Name: Jacob Hutchins
Email: perpetualoptic42@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-11 15:43:54

Your Comment:

Please do not build powered access to microwave or other hike-in areas now or in the future. It would diminish the reward that is offered by some of our best terrain.

Name: Jade

Email: Aultman.jade@yahoo.com

Completion time: 2025-10-20 12:38:33

Your Comment:

Your dumb plan is going to screw up the valley economy and raise prices even further!!! My fiance is an avid skier has been for the last 7 years but will not be going anymore due to your outreach for "rich" snobby people and over glorifying westsiders. You have seriously lost your minds over this expansion.

Name: Jaime White
Email: Nhtrydr22@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-09-08 14:15:10

Your Comment:

I do not support this expansion plan. The single lane road in & out of the ski area cannot support increased traffic and poses a huge risk to safe evacuation during fire season.

Name: Jaime White
Email: Nhtrydr22@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 15:01:14

Your Comment:

As a Wenatchee homeowner who lives near this proposed development and a mountain sports enthusiast /Mission Ridge season passholder, I have many concerns about the scope and size of this proposed real estate expansion. The increased traffic on the narrow and steep one lane road will be a huge detriment to this community, not to mention the lack of escape routes during fire season that will create life-threatening hazards. The impact to wildlife is also a major concern to me as well. I implore you to reconsider this massive real estate development and to protect our public lands for generations to come.

Name: Jake Harrop
Email: jkharrop1@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 19:42:46

Your Comment:

The expansion doesn't benefit the locals, it only benefits the rich and the people that are looking to buy 2nd homes. It doesn't add new experienced terrain, it just adds blues and greens. It's going to increase the traffic to an absurd level and it's going to skyrocket ticket prices. This expansion is going to ruin everything that Mission Ridge has stood for since the opened in 68'

Name: James Ashmore
Email: Shmo1fire73@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 12:15:54

Your Comment:

I do not support the expansion. It will not have a large enough and beneficial enough impact on the local economy. It will also negatively impact the current public use of that area in the off season. The access to that area can not handle more than it already has and there is no acknowledgment of improvements to the road. Public funds should not have to mitigate that at all later time. Also the amount of sheriff, fire, and EMS personnel and stations will cost taxpayers more as well.

Name: Jamie Tanksley
Email: Olson.Jamie.m@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 19:49:08

Your Comment:

My husband took his very first solo chairlift ride at Mission Ridge when he was just two years old. It's the mountain where his love of skiing began, and where some of his earliest memories were made. Decades later, it became the first place I learned to ski in my 30s. Mission Ridge's welcoming atmosphere and down-to-earth vibe made it the perfect place to learn - without the crowds or pretension of larger resorts. For us, Mission Ridge feels like home. The proposed expansion would make it possible for families like ours to spend more time on the mountain we love. With new lodging options, we'd likely invest in a place nearby and become part of the community year-round. I also appreciate the project's commitment to wildfire protections, workforce housing, and permanently protected open space. This is thoughtful growth that keeps the heart of Mission Ridge alive while building a stronger, more sustainable future for the region.

Name: Jamie Whitener
Email: Jamie.whitener@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 18:06:10

Your Comment:

How is our town going to support this increased traffic? Getting around town is already challenging with limited main thru streets or the almost daily occurrence of a crash PN one of the bridges. Likewise the increased traffic on the squilchuck road. These issues should be addressed and a plan in place BEFORE this approved.

Name: Jan Bullock
Email: jandjbullock@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-19 09:32:40

Your Comment:

I am writing to provide comments on the proposal to expand Mission Ridge. I live next to Squilchuck State Park and will be directly impacted. If this development is approved as proposed, it appears that it will have significant impacts on the following environmental factors: traffic/community, water resources, and safety. In addition, this proposal is not consistent with the locally developed planning documents such as the Stemilt-Squilchuck Community Vision.

Traffic: The proposed increase in vehicular trips will exceed the current capacity of the condition of Squilchuck road. The developer has not proposed any improvements to Squilchuck road so that the road would meet the level of service requirements for the number of vehicular trips proposed per day. Thus, there will be traffic impacts associated with the current proposal. The traffic increase will affect local residents who live on Squilchuck Rd. Entering from driveways and the local roads will become even more dangerous with increased traffic. Increased traffic will also create a bottleneck as Squilchuck Rd enters South Wenatchee. Local neighborhoods will suffer with the increased traffic with no economic or cultural benefits from the developer.

Water resources: This development would utilize more water in a watershed that is already over-allocated. In addition, the proposal for wastewater treatment is not fully worked out for the full development. This development should not be approved in phases. All utilities needed for full build out should be required as part of the project approval and installed at the onset of the project at the cost of the developer. Approval of this development should require the developer to pay for providing water from the PUD and the design and construction of a wastewater treatment plant to accommodate full build-out.

Safety: This development as proposed does not provide secondary access in the event of a fire. If approved, the developer should be required to provide a paved secondary egress route in the event of a fire. If this secondary egress is not provided and Squilchuck road is blocked by a fire, this puts the residents of this development at high risk with limited options to evacuate during a fire. This proposed development does not preserve the rural character of the area which is one of the requirements for a Master Planned Resort Overlay. The proposed development will only benefit those who can afford to use the resort. Access to public land will be limited. The proposal will not benefit citizens of the Chelan County community. The development of the orchards adjacent to the proposed area have already impacted wildlife and recreation in the area. As a community, the loss of more land would be a travesty. Thank you for your consideration of my comments. Jan Bullock

Name: Jane Shiflett

Email: J.shiflett@nwi.net

Completion time: 2025-10-20 14:36:18

Your Comment:

I think our basin isn't big enough for all this. The traffic will be horrible. I do worry about the wildlife and water. It sure ruins it for all us that just like to enjoy the beautiful mountains we have here. Not everyone skis. I think they could do a smaller project.

Name: Janet Craig
Email: 2cool1@prodigy.net
Completion time: 2025-10-18 13:31:45

Your Comment:

The project will be very well received by us. We ski, hike and rest there. Having the opportunity to buy and support the mountain plus the local economy is a WIN! There is no area better. Hope you will support the advancement of this endeavor. Thank you.

Name: Janice Daines
Email: Jandee0212@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 13:23:03

Your Comment:

Please do NOT do this building project! I'm against it. It will destroy our wild life and our way of life!

Name: Janie Noviello
Email: jenoviello@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 16:02:07

Your Comment:

Mission Ridge is a vital part of the Wenatchee community. Sustained growth and management will ensure that they continue to remain viable into the future. As long as growth is mitigated to address ecological concerns, safety and infrastructure, this is something I support.

Name: Jason
Email: jdsubaru33@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 07:42:33

Your Comment:

1. Inadequate Environmental Impact Analysis 1.1 The DEIS fails to provide sufficient quantitative analysis of cumulative impacts to water quality, wildlife corridors, and slope stability as required under WAC 197-11-060. Without this data, the proposal cannot be considered complete under SEPA. 1.2 The vegetation and wildlife studies rely on generalized regional data rather than site-specific field surveys conducted during the proper seasonal windows. A supplemental EIS should be required to include baseline field data before any permit approval. 1.3 Mitigation measures are described broadly but without enforceable performance standards or monitoring protocols. Chelan County Code (CCC) 11.10.060(2) requires measurable mitigation outcomes for habitat disturbance; these are absent. 1.4 The extent of proposed grading and tree removal appears inconsistent with Chelan County's Critical Areas Ordinance and Forest Lands Designation, both of which require avoidance and minimization before mitigation. 2. Water Supply and Resource Deficiencies 2.1 The proposal lacks verification of a sustainable water source capable of meeting increased demand for snowmaking, lodging, and domestic use. Under CCC 11.97.020, applicants must demonstrate "adequate water rights or service capacity." Volume 4 provides no firm evidence of this. 2.2 Snowmaking and resort operations could significantly draw from regional aquifers already under adjudication pressure. No cumulative withdrawal analysis is provided. 2.3 Wastewater treatment and stormwater management plans are concept-level and omit engineering details necessary for compliance with DOE Stormwater Manual for Western Washington standards. 3. Transportation and Infrastructure Noncompliance 3.1 The traffic analysis underestimates peak visitation impacts and fails to model winter weekend congestion on Squilchuck Road and feeder routes. This omission violates CCC 15.40.030, which requires traffic studies to account for "worst-case seasonal conditions." 3.2 The County's Comprehensive Plan identifies current substandard road conditions; no funding mechanism or binding agreement is presented to mitigate resort-related congestion. 3.3 Emergency access and evacuation routes are insufficiently analyzed for increased lodging occupancy and wildfire conditions. This is a public safety compliance issue under WAC 173-321-070. 4. Housing and Community Benefit Deficiencies 4.1 The DEIS does not address the need for on-site workforce housing or mitigation for displacement pressure in the Wenatchee–Chelan housing market. This conflicts with the Chelan County Comprehensive Plan – Housing Element (Policy H-2), which requires major employers to provide or offset workforce housing demand. 4.2 Economic benefit projections lack third-party validation and may overstate permanent job creation relative to seasonal or part-time positions. 5. Project Purpose and Scope Misalignment 5.1 The inclusion of large-scale residential and commercial real estate components suggests the proposal functions primarily as a real estate investment, not a resort enhancement. This misalignment conflicts with the Master Planned Resort (MPR) criteria under CCC 11.23.030, which require that the principal purpose be recreation and tourism. 5.2 The current proposal exceeds the intent of the existing MPR overlay by converting resource land into quasi-urban development without adequate public recreation justification. 6. Public Transparency and Procedural Deficiencies 6.1 Several technical appendices referenced in Volume 4 are unavailable or incomplete, undermining meaningful public review — a procedural violation under SEPA WAC 197-11-502. 6.2 Public outreach appears limited, and the DEIS lacks required documentation of tribal consultation and agency coordination.

Name: Jason Bond
Email: jason.gregory.bond@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-09 23:46:54

Your Comment:

Thank you for sharing the environmental impact assessment. Really well thought out development and one that can really help bring opportunity to enjoy our amazing landscape while minimizing negative impacts. I fully support this development and look forward to enjoying this with my family for years to come.

Name: Jason Miner
Email: jasonmnr1@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-18 17:23:37

Your Comment:

I am writing in support of the mission ridge expansion. I have been a skier for 40 years, and time spent in the mountains with my family is a core memory of mine. I introduced my significant partner to skiing 5 years ago and Mission Ridge is her favorite local mountain. I would love to see it expand to offer more skiable terrain, more housing with mountain access, and more jobs for the locals. I have witnessed the growing popularity of outdoor recreation in my lifetime and believe projects like this which provide more access to our mountains is essential for maintaining the outdoor lifestyle we love in The PNW!
Respectfully for your consideration.

Name: Jason Mittelstaedt
Email: Jasonmittels@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-16 22:56:25

Your Comment:

I would LOVE plans to include another lift to the top of the ridge. IE: ridge access from chairs 4 and/or 3. Expanding more assesable ski acres would be awesome! Amenities are great, but how many folks will want to use them without more easy access to the mountains awesome terrain?

Name: Jay
Email: Jdgoering@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 15:49:37

Your Comment:

Absolutely not. This will not only drive the cost of trying to ski at Mission thru the roof. It will also pose a greater fire danger. Plus that 2 Lane Highway cannot handle the traffic. This cannot go thru!

Name: Jaykob Morse
Email: jstan129019@hotmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-01 09:23:04

Your Comment:

I do not support the Mission Ridge Expansion. I completely disagree with this expansion and the impact this will make on the forest and public lands. As a citizen of the area, I do not want to see this happen. Let other states have the ski go-to spots and let the Wenatchee Valley stay the way it is. Turning into Leavenworth is not the goal of the citizens

Name: Jazmine Reed
Email: jazmine.reed67@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 10:25:42

Your Comment:

I think this new upgrade for mission ridge would be great! Everything that has been proposed is fantastic HOWEVER. Please please please PLEASE repave the road on the way to mission. It is in desperate need of new pavement. It's been abused for too many seasons. You guys could definitely bust that out the summer before that winter.

Name: Jeanne Cavanaugh
Email: Jeanne.cavanaugh@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-18 13:39:08

Your Comment:

I am in favor of this project. This expansion provides a fantastic opportunity for new jobs, and future income from tourism to the surrounding community of Mission Ridge.

Name: Jeanne Poirier
Email: jeannepoirier@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-16 07:39:50

Your Comment:

This project ignores the realities of climate change and water shortage. It slaps the community with costs for infrastructure, emergency personnel and destroys a beautiful, working habitat which currently melds public access and protects incredible habitat of vegetation and animals. There are inconsistencies throughout the EIS which need to be revisited (i.e. true acreage of aspen, impact on Stemilt, Squilchuck community, etc.). Appalling is the many times I read the developer is not held fiscally responsible for upfront costs - which leads me to wonder, what is the bill project cost to our county? I already see impact of night light from the cross at the bend of the Columbia River - and the current expansion of Mission Ridge lights at night. To say this is minimal is an outright lie. We can always impact nature for pleasure and profit - what we can't do is replace the beautiful, working system of nature. This project destroys what makes our Wenatchee Valley so special. The 20 year construction alone! The recent fires can tell us (and there will be more fires in our area) what a fiasco it would be to evacuate the 100's - if not 1000 folks in this area. The evacuation plan is beyond stupid - shelter in place? Huddle in the parking area? Hike out? Building a secondary road through beautiful land? I've spent hours reading about this project and my bottom line is it is an economic boondoggle which destroys our community spirit and decimates critical habitat for many plants and critters. I hope the Dept. of Fish & Wildlife and USFS will hold their ground and help to stop this project in its tracks! Any prosperity it supposedly brings is far outweighed by its negative impact on our land and water.

Name: Jef Michel
Email: jefmichel509@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 14:04:35

Your Comment:

Not a fan of this expansion. Even less after learning more details about the magnitude. Parking at MR is already insufficient many days. Even if parking was expanded, the road up there is not designed to handle much more traffic, much like many infrastructure issues in Wenatchee: nowhere near enough forethought to accommodate the growth of the past few decades. Even a hotel with 500 rooms up there would push the area beyond it's capacity. 7k+ people year round? No way.

Name: Jeff Kunkel
Email: kunkontherun@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 09:41:34

Your Comment:

The DEIS is full of omissions of impacts, inadequate mitigation of potential impacts, and incorrect assertions. The proposed development violates Chelan County Codes. I oppose the development and urge you to support the No Action Alternative. Traffic on Squilchuck and Mission Ridge Road: The project predicts 10,000 vehicle trips per day on the Mission Ridge Road, which is roughly double the traffic on both Stevens Pass and Blewitt Pass. The DEIS predicts that the development will snarl traffic to a condition below minimum Chelan County standards, yet the DEIS does not include mitigation or improvements to the Mission Ridge Road. The Chelan County Comprehensive Plan Goal 1.9 is "...deny approval of any development proposal that would cause a roadway segment to fall below the adopted minimum level of service...". Our community should not be burdened by snarled traffic that financially benefits a developer but hurts the rest of us. Secondary access to the development: A second access road is required to provide an alternate escape route if needed. However, the DEIS only presents secondary access as an alternative. Secondary access is not an alternative; it is a code requirement. The DEIS recognizes that the secondary access would make a safer situation, stating in section 4.2.1.6 that: "Having more than one evacuation route provides redundancy and increased safety, particularly during unexpected or fast-moving events." Yet, the developer argues that providing a single "wider" 28-foot access road will make up for the danger of not having an emergency exit. This offering of a single "wider" road is misleading. The current Mission Ridge Road is 28 feet wide and is not adequate for the proposed development's traffic. The proposed "wider" road is the same width as the existing road and won't even meet minimum County standards. Chelan County should not bend its rules on secondary access to benefit a developer at the jeopardy of the safety of residents and visitors of the development he wants to build. WDFW Land Exchange: Section 25 is owned by the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife and encompasses Windy Ridge and Bowl 4, the upper half of Chair 4, and overlaps with the proposed project. Per the DEIS, WDFW said: "...an expanded, year-round ski resort is not an allowable use of the land under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) contract that funded WDFW's purchase of the property." Hunters use the section during archery and rifle seasons as well as for forest grouse hunting. Mule deer, Colockum Elk, golden eagles, goshawks, pika, marmots, bobcats, mountain lions, coyotes, and black bears regularly use the section's wildlife corridors. Section 25's whitebark pine forests, springs and wetlands, talus slopes, and undisturbed shrub-steppe openings are vital wildlife habitats. This section grows more important as development threatens to destroy similar habitats on adjacent parcels. The DEIS discusses a land exchange between WDFW and Washington State DNR that would result in DNR owning Section 25 and implying that an expanded year-round resort would be allowable on DNR-owned Section 25. However, the DEIS further states that: "The land swap is not part of the current Proposed Project...". With the land exchange not on the table, the likelihood that it is illegal for DFW to swap the land, and DFW indicating that expanded year-round activity is not an allowable use of Section 25, Section 25 should be excluded from any expanded ski resort or development activity. Master Planned Resort Overlay: Without the Master Planned Resort Overlay (MPR), the proposed level of development would violate the Urban Growth Act and could not be allowed. PLEASE support the No Action Alternative.

Name: Jeff Pierce
Email: jeffscottrv@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 09:52:06

Your Comment:

I believe there are critical gaps in the fire analysis of section 4.2 that need further study and conversation with local Initial Attack (IA) Agencies. Wildfire IA scenarios - Evaluates some potential impacts and ability to evacuate ahead of wildfire. However, DEIS doesn't evaluate resort scale losses from fast-moving wildfires or structure to structure ignitions. Three cardinal directions will eventually have wildfires escaping containment efforts and reach development. It's entirely possible to have an urban conflagration if adequate resources can't be mobilized prior to fires arrival or firefighters refuse to accept risks associated with the current fire conditions and one egress route. Lessons Learned Currency – DEIS appears to rely on older documents and existing standards for reference. Standards and Codes are typically seven years behind today's lessons. There's no indication that writers researched the risks and lessons from recent wildfire caused Urban Conflagrations. MRE should expand their wildfire risk assessment by evaluating larger scale wildfires. Research firms such as XyloPlan would provide a data driven decision tool for MRE and AHJ's. Fire Fighting Resources – DEIS doesn't address if there's enough local resources and if response time is fast enough to control a fire in their given scenarios. Nor does it consider the impact if aerial resources are unavailable. Feel free to contact me with questions. Thank You,

Name: Jeff Pierce
Email: Jeffscottrv@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 10:15:01

Your Comment:

Safe Areas – Section 4.2.1.2 Any firefighter I've discussed the base parking lot for Safety Zone suitability rejects accepting this mid-slope location, in a chimney, as reasonable. Report uses the language "may satisfy standards". Since there referencing NWCG & NIST standards they should be able to definitively declare parking lots as Safety Zones or should stop implying they are. The section goes on to describe the use of TRA's. I think it's unreasonable to expect untrained, panicked public to remain in these TRA's until directed to use escape route. They may go to TRA initially, and leave at the worst time when conditions worsen. Additionally, Pg 4-44 Mentions safe areas having enough parking to afford one car from each dwelling unit. Is it truly a Safe Area if it's full of cars? How does MRE ensure there's a reasonable buffer from vegetation? What if the situation has embers igniting cars, leading to car-to-car ignitions? Additionally, Pg 4-50 Evacuation of some portion of the residents/visitors via existing unimproved roads/trails to Squilchuck State Park or other locations if safe to do so. Strikes me as wishful thinking and not thoroughly vetted for practicality, ie; can MRE staff successfully stop panicked drivers from taking a low clearance vehicle down a gravel road or expect people of various fitness levels to utilize a trail system. I would expect this topic to be scrutinized by AHJ's. Recommend you invest more analysis. Feel free to contact me with questions. Thank You,

Name: Jeffrey Blackburn
Email: gahon1986@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-08 14:15:47

Your Comment:

I fully support expansion as it is a critical draw to the valley and supports many businesses.

Name: Jeffrey Williams
Email: jwilliams1000@msn.com
Completion time: 2025-10-16 07:18:19

Your Comment:

The expansion is not a good thing for our community. I can see it going one of two ways. A lot of money is invested in the expansion and due to climate change most of the terrain can't be used so people don't visit and the ski area goes bankrupt. Or the expansion is completed and for a time it's very popular. Which increases the crowds, causing huge back ups into the valley interfering with the residents daily life's. Due to this community members become angry and treat tourists worse than they do now and people stop visiting. Either way the resort goes under. The community is already angry with the higher prices increasing lower snow pack and icy conditions. The main appeal to living in this valley is that it has a small privately owned ski area that was affordable. Now it costs more than Stevens to ski at and each year the pass holder benefits get less and less. In addition to these things this expansion feels like a play to get Ikon, Vail, or one of the corporations to buy the resort.

Name: Jen Herdmann
Email: Herdmannj@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-19 00:02:45

Your Comment:

I oppose the development and urge you to support the No Action Alternative. Below I highlight a small sample of the many issues in the DEIS: Traffic on Squilchuck and Mission Ridge Road: The project predicts 10,000 vehicle trips per day on the Mission Ridge Road, which is roughly double the traffic on both Stevens Pass and Blewitt Pass. The DEIS predicts that the development will snarl traffic to a condition below minimum Chelan County standards, yet the DEIS does not include mitigation or improvements to the Mission Ridge Road. The Chelan County Comprehensive Plan Goal 1.9 is "...deny approval of any development proposal that would cause a roadway segment to fall below the adopted minimum level of service...". Our community should not be burdened by snarled traffic that financially benefits a developer but hurts the rest of us. Secondary access to the development: A second access road is required to provide an alternate escape route if needed. However, the DEIS only presents secondary access as an alternative. Secondary access is not an alternative; it is a code requirement. The DEIS recognizes that the secondary access would make a safer situation, stating in section 4.2.1.6 that: "Having more than one evacuation route provides redundancy and increased safety, particularly during unexpected or fast-moving events." Yet, the developer argues that providing a single "wider" 28-foot access road will make up for the danger of not having an emergency exit. This offering of a single "wider" road is misleading. The current Mission Ridge Road is 28 feet wide and is not adequate for the proposed development's traffic. The proposed "wider" road is the same width as the existing road and won't even meet minimum County standards. WDFW Land Exchange: Section 25 is owned by the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife and encompasses Windy Ridge and Bowl 4, the upper half of Chair 4, and overlaps with the proposed project. Per the DEIS, WDFW said: "...an expanded, year-round ski resort is not an allowable use of the land under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) contract that funded WDFW's purchase of the property." Hunters use the section during archery and rifle seasons as well as for forest grouse hunting. Mule deer, Colockum Elk, golden eagles, goshawks, pika, marmots, bobcats, mountain lions, coyotes, and black bears regularly use the section's wildlife corridors. Section 25's whitebark pine forests, springs and wetlands, talus slopes, and undisturbed shrub-steppe openings are vital wildlife habitats. This section grows more important as development threatens to destroy similar habitats on adjacent parcels. The DEIS discusses a land exchange between WDFW and Washington State DNR that would result in DNR owning Section 25 and implying that an expanded year-round resort would be allowable on DNR-owned Section 25. However, the DEIS further states that: "The land swap is not part of the current Proposed Project...". With the land exchange not on the table, the likelihood that it is illegal for DFW to swap the land, and DFW indicating that expanded year-round activity is not an allowable use of Section 25, Section 25 should be excluded from any expanded ski resort or development activity. The development violates the requirements of MPRs including: Impacts are not fully mitigated, costs of public services are not fully borne by the developer, the development is not primarily a destination resort, is not self-contained, does not consist of short-term visitor accommodations, does not consider affordable employee housing, and does not preserve the rural character or natural resource it uses. These are just a few of the unclear, misleading, untrue, incomplete, arbitrary, and persuasive statements in the DEIS. I strongly encourage Chelan County to stick to established codes and not bend the rules for the benefit of a developer. Since the development breaks County Codes, I urge you to select the No-Action Alternative.

Name: Jena Edwards
Email: jena@alttext.com
Completion time: 2025-10-19 12:43:26

Your Comment:

I AM AGAINST the proposed housing development near the Mission Ridge Ski Resort. The impact of these new houses and the resulting strain on the County infrastructure will not be supported properly and lead to significant risks for Chelan County citizens who unknowingly buy these homes and for all taxpayers. Power, water, and safety resources will be difficult to maintain for this remote location. This development would cause future infrastructure issues resulting in costly legal action against the County. The increased traffic on this road is a risk for citizen safety, as the road cannot support this increase. The remote location of the development, with only one exit road during a fire event, would be catastrophic. If new housing developments are desired, then other locations, that are easier to maintain and have multiple exit routes, and should be considered instead.

Name: Jennifer
Email: Tanner.jen.jt@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 20:29:42

Your Comment:

Nay. That much traffic up and down the mountain with the road it currently has is going to cause lots of accidents. And covering that much wild land is definitely going to cause some wildlife upclose encounters..

Name: Jennifer Cooper
Email: Jstjen2day@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 11:24:13

Your Comment:

Overall I do not support the expansion proposal in its current state and I believe the county and the investors are not doing enough to provide transparent information for the local community to consider the impact and make an informed decisions. Please select the No Action Alternative to protect the Mission Ridge landscape and the shared benefits it provides for wildlife and the community alike.

Name: Jennifer Jones

Email: Jjonesponymom@gmail.com

Completion time: 2025-10-20 09:56:14

Your Comment:

As a homeowner off the Squilchuk Road our home values, access, and noise level will be negatively impacted by this over building proposal of the Mission Ridge area. With limited access, and high fire danger, this plan seems to be poorly designed. I am a horse owner as well, and the increase in use will negatively impact the trails around Squilchuk state park. There has not been enough public discussion and information. Thank you Jennifer Jones

Name: Jennifer O'Neill
Email: petradoo@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-08 14:44:19

Your Comment:

Re: Tamarack Saddle LLC Proposed Development - Mission Ridge Expansion Subject: Rebuttal to Proposed Expansion— Critical Concerns Regarding Safety, Environment, and Community Integrity I am writing to voice strong opposition to the proposed expansion of Mission Ridge due to multiple serious risks and negative consequences that deeply affect our community, local environment, and public safety. 1. Fire Risk & Lack of Secondary Access Public safety hazard: In the event of a wildfire or other emergency, a ski area lacking secondary access could become a deadly trap for both visitors and first responders. Limited ingress and egress routes dramatically increase evacuation time and complicate emergency response. 2. Traffic Overload & Infrastructure Strain Severe traffic increase: An influx of up to 10,000 additional cars per day on a one-lane road would lead to constant congestion, heightened accident risk, and disruptions to emergency vehicle access. Degradation of roadways and quality of life: Increased traffic causes more dust, noise, road damage, and air pollution—eroding community safety and tranquility Wildlife risk: More vehicles lead to more wildlife—vehicle collisions and fragment critical animal migration routes 3. Erosion of Small-Town Character & Parking Stress Loss of local identity: A surge of 100,000 additional skiers threatens to overshadow the town's unique charm and communal feel, replacing it with congestion and commercialization. Parking frustrations for residents: Already limited parking will be further strained, inconveniencing locals who rely on these spaces daily. 4. Environmental Destruction & Ecosystem Disruption Habitat fragmentation and biodiversity decline: Construction of new ski trails, lifts, and facilities often involves clearing large tracts of forest, destroying habitats and decreasing species diversity, especially for sensitive alpine flora and fauna Erosion, sedimentation, and water quality impacts: Heavy equipment use, vegetation removal, and grading increase erosion and runoff, carrying sediment and pollutants into local waterways and harming aquatic life Artificial snow problems: Snowmaking requires enormous amounts of water and electricity—typically several hundred gallons per minute and significant kilowatt-hours per cubic meter—leading to resource depletion, altered soil chemistry, delayed melting, and consequences for plant and animal life Construction through sensitive landscapes: Developing in fragile ecosystems risks irreparable damage. 5. Increased Energy Demand & Infrastructure Burdens Power strain: The expansion would require significant additional energy for lifts, snowmaking, lighting, lodging, and other facilities. Without substantial investment in renewable energy or on-site generation (like small-scale wind or solar), this will further stress already constrained local energy infrastructure 6. Relevant Precedents & Lessons Environmental pushback: In multiple mountainous regions, expansion plans have been halted due to environmental and cultural concerns—e.g., French ski resorts l'Alpe-d'Huez and Le Grand Bornand faced legal stops tied to weak environmental assessments and excessive water use. In Tahoe, at Palisades ski resort, there was an attempt made to compromise, but as a former Tahoe resident, the increasing frustration with parking and additional skiers made for an unenjoyable ski experience, and the desire to no longer go to that resort. Smaller resorts are gaining popularity due to the ambiance and ability to ski somewhere less congested. Thank you kindly for reading my commentary.

Name: Jeremy Wemple
Email: jwemps@gmail.co
Completion time: 2025-10-20 16:16:22

Your Comment:

Mission Ridge has been part of my life for the past 15 years. My uncle, a longtime Leavenworth resident who recently moved back to Idaho—was an influential skier for me, and I was lucky to spend a few days each season skiing with him (he officially hung up the sticks) in the bomber bowls. I'd love to make the mountain more accessible for my family, who still visit each year, by expanding on mountain amenities while preserving its small town charm. Building housing doesn't have to change the vibe. Look at thriving, community-driven mountains like Schweitzer and Big White. I trust the family will navigate the complexities of growth while continuing to broaden access to my favorite winter sport which is suffering from lack of access leading to sky high prices. There has to be some way to balance the growth of the sport while maintaining community and protecting the environment. Make it happen.

Name: Jessica Bennett
Email: Jbennett.509@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 13:05:02

Your Comment:

Hello, I'm writing today with concerns on the Mission Ridge expansion plans. The road up to Mission Ridge is precarious and is one of the reasons I am not comfortable supporting this expansion. I have personally experienced my car locking up and sliding on that road and have heard stories from others experiencing the same, including the public Link bus which provides service up there. In fact, Link Transit has since purchased specialty vehicles to be better prepared to accommodate the road conditions experienced there. What steps will be taken to make these roads drivable for the common vehicle? Who does the burden of creating and maintaining those improved roads fall on? Please consider these aspects and provide public information of the plans to the citizens of Wenatchee. Thank you Jessica Bennett

Name: Jessica Kocian
Email: jessica.kocian@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-19 20:23:44

Your Comment:

There appears to be an inaccurate representation of this project on many fronts. The developer is downplaying or outright disregarding the impact this development will have on the environment and at the same time is misleading the public by marketing this development as a benefit to the skiers. This is very concerning and I believe Chelan County should very seriously consider whether to require additional studies at this stage or outright reject the proposed development. The costs to the environment outweigh any economic benefit this may purport to bring to the county. In fact, it may drive people away from Mission Ridge, result in potential catastrophe with the amount of car traffic estimated by the developer, cause greater fire risk, and end up being lots of vacant condos at the expense of habitat. I am concerned that Section 4.2.1.1 Wildfire Risk in the Proposed Project Area is not accurate and downplays the risk to people and the environment. With the Labor Mountain fire on the doorstep of Mission Ridge, this underscores how important of a topic this is and that the DEIS needs to be re-done to better address fire. The fact that we expect wildland firefighters to protect such a huge development tucked up in the valley is dangerous. Specific to the DEIS, it understates fire behavior suggesting that the worst case wildfire scenario would be contained in several days or weeks. The Wenatchee community has been exposed to several wildfires in the past decade that burned millions of acres and were never contained, extinguishing only after the change of seasons brought snowfall. Here the DEIS describes expected fire behaviour: "...a wildfire that starts in June during a lunchtime thunderstorm will most likely be contained before sunset, while a wildfire that starts in late August with an associated high wind event has a very good chance of not being contained for several days or weeks." Ignoring the potential for large uncontrollable fires is dishonest when discussing overall fire risk. Further, the DEIS discusses defensible space and fire breaks as if those firewise actions erase danger to residents in the event of a fast moving wildfire. Fires have been documented to cast embers 18 miles. (Werth, P.A. et al. Synthesis of Knowledge of Extreme Fire Behavior. USDA FS PNW-GTR-854 (2011). Synthesis of Knowledge of Extreme Fire Behavior: Volume I for Fire Managers. Local shrub steppe wildfires have cast embers to ignite warehouses a mile away, and cast embers even further, across the Columbia River. Fire breaks and defensible space are not effective protection against large uncontrollable wildfires. In addition, the risk described in the DEIS is based on historical forest conditions which have changed drastically in the last year. Beetle kill in the upper basin, so recent that the red needles from the dead and dying trees have not yet fallen to the ground, has changed the fire risk climate with the addition of vast stands of dead dry whitebark and lodgepole pine that were green as recently as 2024. The DEIS should be updated to acknowledge the possibility of very large uncontrollable wildfires and to assess risk associated with the current, not historical, condition of the surrounding forest.

Name: Jessica Kocian
Email: jessica.kocian@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-19 20:24:22

Your Comment:

As someone who spends a lot of time admiring the flora and fauna in the Wenatchee Mountains and being an aspiring naturalist, I am concerned the DEIS does not accurately address impacts to both plants and animals. The DEIS makes inaccurate assertions about habitat for various wildlife such as elk, mule deer, pika, wolverines, and golden eagles. Specifically, in Section 5.4 - Plants and Animals - Habitat Maps the habitat maps referenced by the DEIS contain inaccuracies that result in incorrect conclusions throughout the Plants and Animals chapter. Specific inaccuracies include: * Figure 5.4-2 Elk and Mule Deer Range-Calving in Project Vicinity: Evidence of mule deer wintering and fawning, and Elk wintering and calving was found during the 2024-2025 Mission Ridge Trail Camera Survey. This map fails to include mule deer and elk wintering, calving, and fawning activity in the project area. * Figure 5.4-3 Elk Summer Habitat in Project Vicinity: This map reflects a wildlife habitat model that has not been ground truthed. This map indicates very little high value elk summer habitat in the project area. This does not correlate with habitat observation which is summarized in the 2024-2025 Mission Ridge Trail Camera Survey in the "The map is not the Territory" section. * Figure 5.4-5 Invasive Species Infestation in Project Vicinity: This map does not show the invasive weed infestation of diffuse knapweed (*Centaurea diffusa*) Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*) along the 7-year old "temporary road". Also likely missing from this map are invasive weed infestations along the road system on Section 19 that extends onto Section 30. * Figure 5.4-6 Special Plant Features in Project Vicinity: This map omits many greater than 32" DBH trees in FS Section 30 where ski runs, service roads, nordic trails, and a 4.2-million gallon snowmaking reservoir are proposed. Old growth east of the cascade crest is defined by trees greater than 21" DBH, yet this criteria is not mapped. PHS snags and logs are also not mapped. * Figure 5.4-7 SEPA Botany Existing Conditions in Project Vicinity: This map does not show the invasive weeds discussed above for figure 5.4-5. These maps should be updated with the best available science. Accurate elk and mule deer wintering, fawning and calving on the project area, elk summer use of the project area, extent of invasive weeds, eastside old growth forests, and PHS snags and logs should all be updated on these maps. The DEIS should be revised to include the updated and revised habitat maps and all decisions based on these maps should be revisited and revised as informed by the updated information.

Name: Jessica Zimmerman
Email: Jessicaz.2009@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 11:17:43

Your Comment:

As a person who grew up driving up and down the squilchuck everyday and still frequent the drive to see my family and friends I cannot imagine more traffic on that road. Since moving away after getting married about 10 years and coming home to visit the traffic has already increased. Driving all the way up to mission ridge with that many vehicles proposed sounds downright daunting. The road is already in a questionable condition and add winter driving there is no way it can sustain that much traffic. The water use situation is another aspect that they seem to pencil out on paper, but in reality is questionable. Members of Squilchuck irrigation district are going to feel the squeeze of resources. The emergency response to a community that large is also sounding impossible. One road in and out for evacuation or rescue in case of fire? Scary. They are also requesting a fire station of their own without figuring out any funding for the addition of a fire station in that capacity. The local fire stations are already struggling with staffing so it's not just a matter of funding but manning the building and without fire resources immediate it's likely insurance costs will be huge. This all around seems like a far fetched massive expansion that is going to ruin the wonderful ski area and recreation that locals and visitors alike enjoy.

Name: Jim Mitchell
Email: mitchell7151@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-19 12:01:07

Your Comment:

I am in favor of the expansion project overall. Regarding Wildfire and Access concerns, I am solidly in support of the project's wildfire mitigation aspects. The annexation into the Fire District, build and staffing of a new fire station, current and planned forest thinning, fire breaks, and the deforestation of the expansion footprint itself provide a dramatic reduction of fire risk beneficial to all who live up the Squilchuck/Mission road. As per the Chelan County Code, a secondary access is not required. The ability of local residents to take safe haven refuge or evacuate down Squilchuck Road is adequate, especially in light of the proposed mitigation measures. As noted in the DEIS, the primary fire threat comes from the south, not the east or north. (In the event a secondary access becomes mandatory, the alternate route through Wheeler to Wenatchee Heights is the only option that provides a true secondary access.)

Name: Joan McCord
Email: mccordjjis@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 15:20:25

Your Comment:

I am against the Mission Ridge expansion project. My husband and I wanted to build a 1200sf ADU on my son's old Orchard house property and we were not allowed to due to poor soil-rock that was inadequate for a septic field. (Space was not a problem). The Mission Ridge plan has them building a huge septic system on this same inadequate soil-rock base ground. It won't work! It should not be allowed. They need an actual plan before this should ever be approved. And economic impact is going to hit the current Wenatchee lodging owners very hard. This negative impact has not been calculated into the plan. Also the restaurant owners where visitors currently eat dinner. This could very negatively hurt Wenatchee city limits.

Name: Joan Qazi

Email: Jqazi@nwi.net

Completion time: 2025-10-21 07:29:59

Your Comment:

I am very concerned about this massive development in the Mission Ridge area ecosystem. Our area is most vulnerable to wildfire as summers become hotter and drier. Building more houses and apartments in this one access road area, amidst the forests is very short-sighted for the inevitable burning of them. What insurance company would insure them and why endanger firefighters even more to protect them? Water resources will become more stressed as winters have less snow and our glaciers disappear. All those residents will demand water. This ecosystem needs protecting for the wildlife and our cultural heritage. Please do not allow this needless, but very impactful development.

Name: Joanne Royster
Email: jsroyster60@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 08:03:47

Your Comment:

I was surprised to hear what the expansion involved. I believe that this will cause a lot of traffic especially on the street that I live on people going up and going down it's already busy enough. I can understand them wanting to put a lodge or something up there maybe a couple of condos but from what I've heard the homes the grocery stores gas stations whatever it's just too much. This is a beautiful valley and there's already enough development . Developing mission ridge to that extent seems over the top Overkill. I understand that people want to make money they want some more revenue maybe more taxes but what are the impacts to the forest the animals the native plant life and crime . I do not think that developing mission ridge to that extent is the right thing to do. I also do not think that it will make our valley a better place to live. Please consider these things thank you.

Name: Jodi Rinaldi
Email: jodirinaldi68@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-16 09:07:30

Your Comment:

This is positive change! It will make the ski area so much better with a purposeful beginner area and the ability to accommodate the people who want to use the ski area - that demand is already here!
Wenatchee can always use the economic boost from winter visitors. A ski area keeps the space open, yet usable. I see no debate!

Name: Jodi Taggart
Email: joditaggart@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-17 15:09:56

Your Comment:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the Mission Ridge Master Planned Resort Draft Environmental Impact Statement. As a local resident, I value this community for its balance of small-town character, natural environment, and the unique access we have to outdoor recreation right at our doorstep. I am encouraged to see that the expansion plan not only meets the county's requirements for permanent open space but goes well beyond them. By committing to set aside the majority of the property as undeveloped and reserving hundreds of acres specifically for natural habitat, Mission Ridge is demonstrating a forward-looking approach to both recreation and stewardship. To me, this shows that growth and preservation do not have to be in conflict — we can provide new opportunities for people to get outside while also protecting the land and wildlife that make this place special. I also support the expansion because of the positive impact it will have on the broader community. An improved and expanded resort will bring more visitors who, in turn, support our local restaurants, shops, hotels, and small businesses. At the same time, by spreading skiers and riders across more terrain and updated facilities, the experience on the mountain will feel less crowded and more in line with the relaxed, welcoming culture that has always defined Mission Ridge. I live here because of the community, the environment, and the accessibility of the ski area. I believe this plan honors those values while also preparing us for a future where open spaces and outdoor recreation are more important than ever.

Name: Joe Jarecki
Email: pjfarecki@icloud.com
Completion time: 2025-10-14 22:55:20

Your Comment:

Put a T bar to microwave- Joe Jarecki, 18 years old and thankful to have gotten to experience the last couple decades of a Mission Ridge that serves the people of Wenatchee loyally.

Name: Joel

Email: Enjoi_joey28@hotmail.com

Completion time: 2025-10-20 16:52:17

Your Comment:

I am fully against the mission ridge expansion project. I know our little city does not have the infrastructure to handle this expansion, along with causing more harm to the environment and wilderness with our area.

Name: Johanna Cogen
Email: Johanna1cogen@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-17 18:49:00

Your Comment:

Please don't proceed with the mission ridge expansion. I'm worried about fire danger, wildlife damage (elk) and other environmental impacts. I oppose this expansion

Name: John
Email: Arbuckle
Completion time: 2025-10-21 12:33:30

Your Comment:
Don't do it please■

Name: John Cary
Email: John.cary02@tmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 18:51:34

Your Comment:

Referring to DEIS volume 1. The DEIS only evaluates two options: full implementation with all impacts or status quo. Seems like Mission Ridge and the county lack the imagination to work together with stakeholders to find the least impactful alternative that minimizes the environmental services impact the government has been trusted to protect while maximizing the economic gains to the community and Mission Ridge. The fully implemented alternative seems excessive. Would like to see other alternatives evaluated.

Name: John F. Marshall
Email: john@jfmarshall.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 10:57:04

Your Comment:

I wish to comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed Mission Ridge Expansion. There are many reasons to oppose this project. I will focus on the area where I have greatest expertise and that is wildfire. In 2018 I did a landscape scale comparison of present forest condition versus historic forest condition for the Squilchuck basin using photographs taken from Beehive Mountain in 1934. There has been a marked increase in forest cover and density over the past ninety years. While there has been and continue to be efforts to reduce fire hazard through thinning, mastication, and prescribed fire, what has been done to date is wholly inadequate in addressing the problem. I have long been concerned about the danger posed by the location of the Forest Ridge development to both residents and fire-fighters. While Forest Ridge has taken some steps toward fire resilience the fire concerns there are no where close to being fully addressed. The same is true of Squilchuck State Park. Unless all landowners get together and aggressively thin their properties followed by pile burning or prescribed fire, and continue to do so long into the future the Squilchuck Basin will continue to be unsafe for residents. To add over 7,000 housing units to an area inherently unsafe due to inadequate egress and high fuel loading is grossly irresponsible. In section 4.2.1.2 The developer offers a remedy of Shelter in Place using the existing 7.8 acre parking lots plus an additional 4.3 acres of parking lot. The assumption is that these parking lots are large enough for people to be safe in a fire event. That will be true under moderate fire weather conditions, but it will fail as a safety measure under extreme fire weather. I have observed instances of volatile fuels such as ethers, esters, alcohols, and terpenes released from trees and shrubs burning hundreds of yards downwind from their origin. In this scenario heat releases the compounds as gases, but oxygen is insufficient for complete combustion on site. The flammable compounds drift down and ignite where they encounter sufficient oxygen. Neither of the parking lots will protect people under this scenario. In section 4.2.1.4 the developer describes measures already taken to reduce fuels on the property. Mastication is emphasized. Mastication is a relocation of fuels rather than a reduction of fuels. Moreover there is no assurance that the developer will continue a program of fuels reductions into the future. In section 4.2-10 the developer offers a fuels break across the property as a measure to stop fire. While fuels breaks are very useful in firefighting under moderate fire conditions, they do not stand up in extreme fire behavior. Smoke columns easily throw embers out a mile or more ahead of the main fire, making fuel breaks useless. Moreover, unless routinely cleared of all vegetation, under conditions of wind and low humidity fires will easily pass through fuel breaks by burning grasses and small plants. In closing I will say that for Chelan County to approve this development is to put hundreds of people in harms way.

Name: Jon boswell
Email: Jpboswell@msn.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 16:26:59

Your Comment:

Do not expand the area. For development. Just Add more terrain and update lifts The chair lifts suck !!!!
The ski area is not large enough to support more people !

Name: Jonathan Bolles
Email: jonathan.bolles@confluencehealth.org
Completion time: 2025-09-16 15:27:58

Your Comment:

We have always so appreciated having Mission Ridge as our hometown ski area. I think the expansion is of vital importance and the meticulous planning that has gone into this project is astounding. I particularly appreciate how the MR leadership addressed concerns for fire mitigation as well as environmental impact. Projects like this add so much vitality to a town like ours - thank you!

Name: Jonathan Korn
Email: jkorn04@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-08 12:20:26

Your Comment:

As a multi year season pass holder whom drags the family from Seattle to ski this mountain 7-8 weekends a year. I think i represent the throngs of Seattleites that locals fear will descend upon the real estate development, driving up housing prices and depleting local infrastructures. I get it... it's the exact reason we no longer ski the other mountains in Washington (Steven's, Crystal, Summit), because of the lines, the parking and the congestion... those mountains have not kept pace with the growing population. We ski Mission because the local feel and the relaxed vibe. On a cold day we can warm up in the lodge without hovering over a table, we can stop in to fuel up the kids with pocket bacon and hot chocolate and we can lap whatever lift at our leisure. We have come to love Mission and call it our home mountain... do I fear that this expansion could take that from us? A little... but what i love about this plan is what it doesn't do... -it doesn't change the current base/mid mountain operations. It enhances those while keeping the aesthetic and character of mission ridge as we know it... AND - this plan doesn't put lodging in the base area, but creates a new area that will be supported with it's own parking, infrastructure and learning area. Ultimately, i think that this plan provides a great balance of providing the expansion and upgrades needed to a growing population while maintaining the character of the mountain we love. Do i fear this expansion, sure i do...a bit. But what I fear more is NOT doing this expansion... i fear being turned away at the parking lot and i fear waiting in excessive lines because we did not keep up with the growing interest in outdoor activities.

Name: Jordan Greene
Email: Jbgreene23@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 18:29:43

Your Comment:

Our family loves Mission Ridge and we'd love to spend even more time there, but housing is difficult.
We'd love options on mountain to buy or rent.

Name: Jordan Sanford
Email: jordansanford@me.com
Completion time: 2025-09-19 17:15:01

Your Comment:

I support the No Action Alternative. I object to construction of housing and lodging on mass-wasting deposits (landslides.) I object to construction of housing and lodging in areas of steep, rugged terrain with extreme wildfire risk. I object to shortening the design life of the existing Mission Ridge Road through additional ESALs. I believe that this project will result in an economic burden on the residents of Chelan County through increased property taxes that will be required to cover long-term project-specific costs related to fire protection, fire fighting, maintenance and construction of County roads and infrastructure, and maintenance and construction of Chelan PUD infrastructure. Mission Ridge is great just the way it is.

Name: Jordan Sanford
Email: jordansanford@me.com
Completion time: 2025-09-23 12:33:08

Your Comment:

The DEIS has a data gap for geotechnical information in the areas where housing, lodging, and associated infrastructure and utilities are planned. The borings, geophysics, and related analysis provided in the DEIS and supporting studies are limited to the proposed access roadway alignment and an offsite landslide. Additional subsurface information is necessary to better characterize the entire footprint of the proposed development. Filling this data gap seems like a pretty big deal for understanding if the site is even suitable for construction or not.

Name: Jordan Turner
Email: girlyjordanhunts@hotmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 11:03:18

Your Comment:

No new lands will be created. What we have now is all we will ever have. This project would greatly impact wildlife habitat and turn wilderness into space that only services human beings. We have to think about the future and the consequences of the choices we make now. It is irresponsible to allow this level of development in such a rural area. This project should not be permitted to happen under any circumstance.

Name: Jordan Valente
Email: jordanvalente@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-10 12:14:17

Your Comment:

I support the proposed Alpine ski area expansion, Snow tubing area development, Nordic ski area development, New ski lifts, Construction of Single-family residential homes, Construction of condominiums, townhouses, and or duplexes, a new hotel, Construction of much needed employee on-site housing (80 beds), new commercial and entertainment development as well as new access road and parking. Proposed improvements to Squilchuck road sound like a great idea as well. All of this addresses the need for development of the resort due to growth in the Wenatchee valley. We don't want to fall behind the growth of the area like Stevens Pass has done. Now Stevens Pass is overrun and so far behind that they will most likely never catch up. Lack of development at Stevens Pass has lead to danger on the ski runs, danger just getting to and from the resort due to lack of road development and the increased traffic on Stevens Pass. You need only look at similar sized resorts like Silver Star resort, Big White, Red Mtn and Sun Peaks (all located in British Columbia, Canada) to see how positive resort development can be for the community. These resorts have done what Mission Ridge is proposing and its been an overwhelming success for the community. It has provided thousand of jobs, increased housing and increased tax base. It has allowed to the resort to expand lift operations to accommodate the growth in surrounding areas. All of them have included summer lift operations to accommodate mountain bikes and hikers. Infrastructure development has provided safe travel to and from the resorts. It has been very positive for each community and my family has experienced this first hand as we recreate summer and winter at each. Current limitations holding back daily resort operations at Mission Ridge include lack of on-site parking facilities (many days you must arrive by 8am to get a parking spot), undersized and crowded skier terrain proving to be dangerous (as a parent with young children this has been experienced first hand), lack of recreation options for non-skiers, and lack of on-site overnight accommodations. The Wenatchee Valley is growing leaps and bounds and will continue to grow. You must recognize that the mountain must grow as well so it can continue to serve its community the best way it can! I am an avid recreational user. I ski, snowboard, backcountry ski, mountain bike and dirt bike. My family has been season pass holders at Mission Ridge for years and we embrace the future development of the resort.

Name: Josh Flaten
Email: Joshuaflaten@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-18 09:57:15

Your Comment:

This would be awesome When this gets approved we will most definitely be buying a condo

Name: Joyce Vognild
Email: jvognild@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 21:07:27

Your Comment:

Traffic & Infrastructure Concerns No secondary access: The current plan does not include a second access route to Squilchuck and Mission Ridge, which many residents argue is a critical safety issue in a wildfire-prone area. The area is surrounded by dry forest, rated as having extreme fire danger potential. Increased traffic: The expansion would bring more year-round residents and visitors, significantly increasing traffic on Squilchuck Road, Mission Ridge Road, and across the George Sellar Bridge. This could strain existing infrastructure and emergency response capabilities. Taxpayer burden: While the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) outlines Infrastructure upgrades, it does not clearly state whether local taxpayers in Wenatchee or East Wenatchee would bear the cost of road improvements. That's a key question for local governments and planners to address transparently. Wildlife & Environmental Impact Habitat disruption: The expansion would affect wildlife corridors and habitats in a sensitive alpine environment. Groups like Friends of Mission Ridge have voiced strong opposition, citing risks to native species and the cumulative effects of light pollution and human encroachment. Mitigation efforts: The DEIS claims to include measures like habitat protections and over 600 acres of permanent open space, but critics argue these may not be sufficient to offset the long-term ecological damage. This is an ill advised project and if approved will ruin MR and Wenatchee for future generations. Please do not approve this project.

Name: Joye Delabarre
Email: delabarre2@nwi.net
Completion time: 2025-10-21 08:39:28

Your Comment:

This development is dangerous and puts the surrounding forest at risk. In addition, it impacts wildlife habitat not in a subtle way but in a in your constant noise and litter.

Name: JT
Email: seesncamja@hotmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-08 11:38:53

Your Comment:

Increasing the risk of fire seems like shockingly poor decision-making given the unstable conditions of the environment. It's kind of exhausting to see our natural habitat be taken over for consumerism. Who is going to be able to access these amenities? Clearly not locals... Who is paying for the PUD expansions?

Name: Julie Banken
Email: jbanken@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 12:52:14

Your Comment:

Last summer I was involved in a Xerces Society Bumble Bee Atlas training on the trail to Clara Lake, and we were lucky to find a western bumble bee in the first patch of fireweed that is just up from the trailhead. It is very distinctive with a white stripe on its abdomen. Here is information from the Xerces Society: "The western bumble bee is being considered for listing under the Endangered Species Act. It received a positive 90 day finding from the USFWS and is currently undergoing a status review. In Washington the species is considered a Species of Greatest Conservation Need in the State Wildlife Action Plan. It's also a Priority Species in the state's Priority Habitat and Species Program. In addition to its state status, the western bumble bee is considered "sensitive" by the USFS and BLM." Before Mission Ridge builds a resort town in the mountains, the Forest Service should survey for the western bumble bee. At Mt. Hood in Oregon, they must survey for western bumble bee nests before ANY ground-disturbing activities occur. No nests may be disturbed if they change lift lines, add lights, or do any digging, for example. A development of the size and scope that Mission Ridge is planning will certainly be ground-disturbing. Please consider the insects, rare or not, before further fragmenting their habitat. Sincerely, Julie Banken

Name: Julie Cofsky
Email: Julierobertsonanne@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-18 19:56:44

Your Comment:

Living less than 5 miles from mission ridge, this expansion will drive us out of our home and urge us to sell. It will be nearly impossible to pull out of our driveway with increased traffic on squilchuck. It is a single lane road and not designed for such heavy use. Just last summer (2024) we had a level three evacuation due to a fire on beehive reservoir. The inadequate road in combination with the heightened fire risk is absolutely unreasonable and dumb. The developers who have this grand plan do not live on this road and that is obvious as it is insane to think this is even considered reasonable. They have money in mind, not the wellness of our community. We do not oppose expansion in it of itself but this proposal is unreasonable in scale. Additionally, we moved here to avoid crowds, packed parking lots, busy roads. This expansion will turn the squilchuck basin into a bustling, loud, and crowded area. Community members and squilchuck residents overall oppose this proposition.

Name: Kane Simpson
Email: Ksimpson555@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 11:17:15

Your Comment:

We are already dealing with overpopulation in the Wenatchee Valley. And with this overpopulation has brought more problems, more traffic. Adding another community up near mission ridge will increase traffic immensely and change the environment we enjoy at mission. They make plenty of money off the community that has been its bread and butter for decades...keep it affordable to the wenatchee Valley. Don't build another community

Name: Karen Grudier
Email: kgrudier@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-19 15:09:45

Your Comment:

Regarding the following: >The increase in traffic to the Proposed Project Area will have an impact on emergency access through Squilchuck Road and the new proposed road to the development. Section 4.2.2.2 Secondary Access - Practicality The DEIS cites the Aegis Engineering Secondary Access - Review of Options report, which accepts the conclusions of the 2022 EcoSign secondary access routes study. This study provides no engineering criteria for comparison or decision making, and simply declares all secondary access routes unreasonable and impractical. EcoSign cites the Merriam-Webster definitions of Reasonable and Practical, but provides no engineering criteria for comparison or decision making. Engineering judgments are not based on lay dictionary definitions. The report lists an unbalanced cut volume and simply declares that value impractical. (The practicality standard for secondary access relied on in the Aegis report is only relevant for projects with less than 400 ADT trip generation.) The report notes that a route crosses land owned by others, and simply declares this as impractical. Against what values are these cut volumes compared for practicality? What effort was made to determine whether neighboring land owners would be agreeable to providing an easement for a new or improved road? The engineering report is then cited and relied upon in the draft EIS as if its conclusions are unquestionable. The report appears biased with unjustified conclusions. The conclusions of the report should be reviewed by an ethical and unbiased engineer. If the volumes listed are found to actually be unreasonable, then that conclusion should carry over to the main access road which would also then be unreasonable. If traversing land owned by others creates an unreasonable and impractical solution, then that conclusion should apply to the proposed main access road which also traverses land owned by others. The inconsistency of the application of rejection criteria gives the appearance of bias and unethical reporting by the applicant's engineer. The DEIS should be revised to acknowledge that secondary access practicality only applies to projects with less than 400 ADT, and to provide consistency in rejection criteria between roads the developer wants to build, and those that he does not. Section 4.2.2.2 Secondary Access - Cost Considerations The arguments against interconnectivity are 'too much cut' and 'road on property owned by others'. These are not impractical obstacles. These are project challenges that the applicant is willing to address on the main access road. The secondary access road costs money. This is not a hardship factor that needs to be considered by Chelan County. The applicant wants to create a city in a remote area and there are code requirements in place to protect residents and emergency responders in such an undertaking. Secondary access is one of those requirements. The applicant has not proved unusual circumstances that would relax the requirement. In fact, the applicant has provided preliminary design for a secondary access that follows existing road alignments to the east and provides good physical separation and redundancy from a fire escape perspective. Not including secondary access as a project component in the DEIS appears to approve the request of the applicant to waive this requirement. Since secondary access is a project requirement, and may (and should) be required by the County during the permitting process, the DEIS should be revised to include secondary access as an integral component of the project and not as an alternative. The Aegis Engineering Option 1 is the only reasonable secondary access presented, therefore Option 1 should be the route included in the DEIS.

Name: Karen Grudier
Email: kgrudier@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-19 15:18:13

Your Comment:

Section 4.2.3.2 Impacts from Operation - Emergency Access - Fire Station The DEIS states:
"Additionally, an annexed fire station would be staffed by a volunteer fire fighting team to complement coverage provided by CCFD1 to provide local immediate emergency response to any fire emergencies. This is misleading. CCFD1 has indicated that a fire station is required not to complement other coverage, but to provide primary exclusive coverage to the development. They have also stated in their 2020 comment letter that the proposed location for a future fire station sharing space with the Ski Maintenance Facility cannot be accepted. The applicant has indicated that the fire station is to be built using County (not development) dollars and would be installed "...at the discretion of the fire district..." Table ii, Development Standards from Section Q. Chelan County Code Requirements of the project narrative quotes: "Please note that the revised site plans show a volunteer fire station in Area 22 as part of enhanced fire protection. We are proposing to annex into the CCFD1. The fire station would be built at the discretion of the fire district when it is determined there is a need." In addition, according to CCFD #1 Fire Chief, Brian Brett's March 30, 2020 comment letter to Chelan County: "The application materials suggest the District will staff the station dedicated to serve the Project with volunteer firefighters. However, the Developer performed no analysis of how the District will recruit these volunteers or what contingencies the Developer has if the District cannot secure these volunteers. The District currently has little capacity to recruit and retain volunteers, which presents challenges, especially during the initial build-out of the Project".

Name: Karen Grudier
Email: kgrudier@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-19 15:22:00

Your Comment:

Section 25 is owned by WDFW and was purchased in 1953 with funds from the Federal Aid to Wildlife Restoration Act of 1937. Section 25 includes the upper half of Chair 4, Windy Ridge, Bowl 4, and overlaps with the proposed project. Hunters still use the section during archery and rifle seasons as well as for forest grouse hunting. Section 25 contains many WDFW Priority Habitats and Species, and its cool, north-facing slopes are unique, providing crucial wildlife habitat on Mission Ridge. Recent trail camera footage from Section 25 shows that mule deer, Colockum elk, golden eagles, pika, marmots, bobcats, mountain lions, coyotes, and black bears regularly use the section's wildlife corridors. Footage of an immature golden eagle bathing in an elk wallow suggests that the cliffs of Section 25 may harbor an active golden eagle nest. Footage of a goshawk, also bathing in an elk wallow, paired with audio observations, indicates a nearby nesting pair. Newborn mule deer fawns and elk calves seen in nearby trail camera footage show that the area is important for fawning and calving. Section 25's whitebark pine forests, springs and wetlands, talus slopes, and undisturbed shrub-steppe openings are vital wildlife habitats. The value of this section, first identified when the parcel was purchased with Pittman-Robertson funds, has become even more important today as development threatens to destroy similar habitats on adjacent parcels. Elyse Woodruff, WDFW Property Management Supervisor, wrote in her November 6, 2020, letter to USFWS, "new year-round uses of the ski area and proposed new development on adjacent private land have us concerned that WDFW's 780 acres will no longer be able to meet the objectives for which they were purchased. Human presence in the area will soon become all season with motorized recreational vehicles and summer sports." The DEIS states that WDFW has indicated that: "...an expanded, year-round ski resort is not an allowable use of the land under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) contract that funded WDFW's purchase of the property." The DEIS discusses a land exchange between WDFW and Washington State DNR that would result in DNR owning Section 25 and implying that an expanded year-round resort would be allowable on DNR owned Section 25. A land exchange would rob wildlife of important habitat and violate provisions of the law. Real property acquired with Wildlife Restoration funds must serve the purpose of the grant program for which the funds were provided for the duration of its useful life. CFR50 section 80.134 states that (a) If a grant funds acquisition of an interest in a parcel of land or water, the State fish and wildlife agency must use it for the purpose authorized in the grant. And (b) If a grant funds construction of a capital improvement, the agency must use the capital improvement for the purpose authorized in the grant during the useful life of the capital improvement". Should discussion of the land exchange be continued, then the DEIS should be revised to examine the irreversible harm to wildlife that would occur should this land exchange be completed and assess whether the further development is contingent on the land exchange. The land exchange should not occur, and the jurisdictions should respect WDFW's assertion that "an expanded, year-round ski resort is not an allowable use of the land under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) contract that funded WDFW's purchase of the property".

Name: Karen L. Haas
Email: mezzolark@aol.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 10:53:48

Your Comment:

Please, please do not do this huge construction project near the Mission Ridge area. The terrible impact of so many more people in that area will be devastating to the landscape, the wildlife and the population surrounding it. The infrastructure alone is so far out there huge, it will be not good for the close by area of Wenatchee. The drain on at risk resources, especially water, is way too much. This project should definitely not go forward. Please, please reject it as you are still considering all the things involved.

Name: Karen Sprague
Email: Woowoo@genext.net
Completion time: 2025-10-20 14:24:13

Your Comment:

I am against the large-scale development that is being proposed at Mission Ridge. It is purely a money-making scheme. When is Chelan County going to say enough is enough? Can we protect the beauty that has drawn so many people here, instead of destroying it?

Name: KarenArseneault
Email: karenarseneault@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-15 08:25:56

Your Comment:

While I am in general support of the expansion of Mission Ridge Ski Resort, I am concerned by several issues regarding road access. I agree that a secondary access road is critical for the safety of all residents and should be made mandatory. However, my first concern regards potential options spelled out by the five access options submitted in response to Section 4.2.2.2 Secondary Access of the DEIS. Options that use Forest Ridge surface streets as a potential Secondary Access are a poor idea. There are numerous reasons this is a bad idea, not the least is in during seasonal weather, children accustomed to playing and riding bikes on the streets as well as residents walking pets and jogging for exercise on streets that lack of shoulders and sidewalks. Further, during winter weather, the streets in Forest Ridge (and to some extent Mission Ridge Road which is more thoroughly maintained by the county in winter) are generally snow covered, and frequently icy, occasionally to the extent that residents do not attempt to drive until the weather has warmed up enough to make driving safe. While residents are aware of these hazards, a transitory population would not be, adding to more dangerous roads in a small, quiet neighborhood. Another issue is the intersection of Mission Ridge Road and Forest Ridge Drive (the entrance into Forest Ridge) is at the bottom of a slight incline. At times in the winter when road are icy, as mentioned above, it is not unusual to slide into the intersection if you are not an aware and careful driver. Again, residents are aware of this issue and act with appropriate caution. Another concern is the overall traffic in general that could result from the expansion. Section 5.6.1 Transportation Overview of the DEIS indicates the expansion could create an additional 9,655 to 10,766 daily trips. The intersection coming out of Forest Ridge has a short sight distance of uphill traffic approaching on Mission Ridge Road. As drivers are frequently traveling well above the posted 25mph winter speed limit, the potential addition of 1,000s of cars, could result in added danger to residents. Not to mention all upper Squilchuck residents whose residential driveways access directly to the road could be at added danger from the increased traffic. Further, during an emergency evacuation is seems questionable if either Mission Ridge Road or Squilchuck currently have the capacity to handle the additional residential population that could exist. I strongly believe a requirement should provide a new road (separate from Squilchuck) from Mission Ridge to a point somewhere below the fire hazard zone, and not add more traffic on Squilchuck, particularly during an emergency. Thank you for listening.

Karen Arseneault

Name: Katelynn

Email: Mariekatelynn98@gmail.com

Completion time: 2025-10-20 13:29:21

Your Comment:

As someone whose family has lived, and continues to live, in Wenatchee Heights for 25+ years I do not support this project. Increasing traffic on dangerous roads, adding more unaffordable "new" housing and hotels, and bringing more tourists push the locals out of the area. You're pushing the locals away, increasing traffic in private areas, and pricing locals out of the area. Please reconsider spending these absorbent funds on something that will improve the quality of life for the people already living in the valley. Work with your community, not against it.

Name: Katherine D Liek
Email: Tatertotsmk@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 20:21:33

Your Comment:

Without significant improvement to wenatchees traffic congestion and infrastructure improvements in town theres no way we can support this! Not to mention the road to the ski hill is awful!

Name: Kathleen Peven
Email: ckpeven@nwi.net
Completion time: 2025-10-20 20:00:23

Your Comment:

This "expansion" only benefits the developers. Our community will suffer the negative consequences of this poorly thought-out development - it will forever change our hometown ski mountain in a negative way, cause traffic issues up and down Squilchuck Rd, safety issues regarding wildfire defense and degrade the natural environment for wildlife and people alike. NO!!!

Name: Kathleen St. John
Email: kcmolitor@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 09:44:32

Your Comment:

I oppose the expansion of Mission Ridge as it is currently being designed. Wenatchee cannot handle the additional traffic without a MAJOR overhaul of our streets and bridges - which will never happen. Mission Ridge used to be a fun, family-oriented place to spend a day but the price increases over the years have caused it to no longer be for the Wenatchee community in general and is now catering towards wealthy out of town folks. The Wenatchee valley and community is more in need of affordable housing and attention to the existing community members needs and not trying to create the next Whistler or whatever.

Name: Katie Tackman
Email: tackmakr@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 19:16:04

Your Comment:

Dear Mr. Kaputa, I work in the field of natural resources and understand that land management means balancing user, resource, and ecological needs. I am also familiar with the writing of EA and EIS documents which include multiple (3 or more) alternative actions. This DEIS has only the Proposed Project and the No Action Alternative. The proposed development violates Chelan County Codes and the requirements of a Master Planned Resort. The DEIS omits and incorrectly dismisses economic and recreation impacts to the Wenatchee Valley community, ecological impacts to wildlife, and groundwater impacts. Because of these many reasons, I oppose the development and urge you to choose the No Action Alternative. Recreation Impacts: This section of the DEIS is full of persuasive language that I, as an active recreationalist in the area, believe to be woefully false and misleading (specific sections noted below). This DEIS should be revised to provide an honest assessment of the impacts to recreation access, quality and amenities by specific user groups due to construction activities and development operation. 4.4.3.2, 5.10.3.1 The DEIS claims "The proposed project would likely make it easier for recreationists to access surrounding public lands." This is NOT true! The Lake Clara trail is one of the most popular in the lower Valley and the development will eliminate the trailhead parking area. The DEIS suggests that parking 1 mile away at the remote development is an acceptable alternative. This is NOT acceptable. Adding another mile just to access the trailhead would nearly double the total length as the trail to Lake Clara is only 1.5 miles in length. Access to the newly established winter non-motorized area in the upper Stemilt basin by skiers and snowshoers will be blocked by a new chairlift and the Special Use Permit (SUP) area expansion. Plus, extending the boundaries of the SUP area will effectively eliminate access to public lands because Mission Ridge Ski Resort already limits or denies access/travel on public lands within their SUP area. 5.10.3.1 Regarding the quality of recreation amenities due to construction, the DEIS states that "Because the changes in quality would be transitory and most visitors appear willing to substitute to other locations, recreation impacts would be minor." The transitory impacts are scheduled to last for 20 years, and what data suggests that locals are happy to go elsewhere? 20 years is an entire generation of Wenatchee Valley children who would grow up avoiding the Mission Ridge Area. This level of impact is not acceptable. 5.10.3.2 Regarding the availability of and access to recreation amenities, the DEIS wrongly concludes that the development's impact is minor. A small user group of lift access skiers and wealthy development residents will benefit from the recreation environment of the project. However, local skiers will be negatively impacted by new crowding on the hill and in lift lines, increased traffic to access the resort, and recreation amenities in surrounding areas will be degraded for all other user groups. These are just some of the major sections of the DEIS that are unclear, misleading, incomplete, or false. I strongly encourage Chelan County to stick to established codes and not bend the rules for the benefit of a developer. Since the development significantly breaks County Codes, I urge you to select the No-Action Alternative, which is the only alternative besides the full Proposed Project Alternative presented in the DEIS. Thank you for considering my comments. Katie Tackman

Name: Katja Rowell
Email: katjarowell@mac.com
Completion time: 2025-09-11 20:51:38

Your Comment:

I am **STRONGLY** opposed to the proposed expansion at Mission Ridge. As a Wenatchee resident, my main concerns are water usage, wildfire risk and using resources to protect more buildings and people at the urban-wildlife interface, safe evacuation for wildfire, and conserving wild spaces. With drought and decreased snow in recent years, there will also be more of a need for making snow and using more resources. Mission Ridge is already a wonderful resource. The proposed expansion is more likely to spoil it and make it like other resorts with long wait lines and overpriced amenities. Tired of nature being sacrificed for greed and profit.

Name: Keith Truscott
Email: speedgote@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-13 11:36:31

Your Comment:

The Master Plan Resort (MRP) does not meet CCC 11.89 Master Plan Resorts Overlay District language which requires the MRP "complement the natural and cultural attractiveness of the area without significant adverse effects on natural and environmental features, cultural or historic resources." The DEIS has been generated because it has been determined there will be significant adverse impacts on the environment that may or may not be properly mitigated to reduce the severity of the construction and operational impacts. The MRP does not meet the requirement of "without significant adverse impacts." The proponent proposes to expand Mission Ridge Resort to include year-round outdoor recreation facilities yet the proposed list of project expansion largely focus on the winter season: Alpine ski expansion, snow tubing area, Nordic ski area development, 7 new ski lifts. The expansive residential development is exactly that; a residential development that will not contribute substantially to the "year-round outdoor activities" and should be addressed as a separate residential development and not included as part of the MRP. What information did the proponent use to determine the level of necessary development? In particular, the information related to the expansion's residential threshold to meet the "public demand" both locally and regionally for year-round recreational opportunities should be included in the MRP. The methods for determining the extent of residential development is unclear and therefore could be overstated. Major Conclusions: Earth - Recommendations for further geotech analysis and monitoring is necessary. Any proposed development (single family, multi-family) in documented areas of landslide risk is required to conduct geotech analysis prior to any groundbreaking activity takes place. Phase 1 of the MRP should not proceed until such time that a sufficient geotech analysis has provided approval for development to take place within the proposed action area. Transportation - The current TIA suggests that nearly 10,000 vehicle trips will be possible at the conclusion of the full expansion. A supplemental TIA is recommended after completion of Phase 3 to determine if additional transportation mitigation measures are necessary to provide adequate public safety. When examining the Phase build out it appears that 67% of the total vehicle trips will occur following Phase 2. The supplemental TIA should take place following completion of Phase 2. Squilchuck Road does not appear to be currently designed for the possible 10,000 vehicle trips and heavy truck traffic during construction. The proponent should be fully responsible for improvements to the roadway as a result of the proposed expansion. Public safety should include passing lanes, intersection lighting, school bus pullouts, wider shoulders for pedestrians and bicyclists, and potentially a lower speed limit would collectively increase public safety from Wenatchee to Mission Ridge. Vehicle noise will significantly increase along the transportation corridor from Wenatchee to Mission Ridge; in particular, large truck traffic. Wildlife - Many wildlife concerns and potential mitigation efforts were discussed in the DEIS; was there any discussion related to the Great Horned Owl? Status and potential impacts? An operational indirect impact to mule deer appears to be downplayed or missed entirely. A significant number of mule deer migrate to the lower Squilchuck area during the winter. This population suffers from vehicle collisions, frequently occurring during closing hours of the current ski resort and extreme traffic conditions. This loss of reproductive viable female deer directly impacts the population by reducing the number of reproductive females and 1-2 unborn offspring/female. Mitigation measures to reduce wildlife/vehicle collisions should be required to protect both the public and wildlife.

Name: Keith Truscott
Email: speedgote@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-13 11:43:53

Your Comment:

Finishing last comment on Transportation and noise impacts. Noise impacts to the traffic corridor leading to Mission Ridge will increase and in particular during the construction phase. Large trucks will slow uphill traffic and use of engine braking (jake brake) coming downhill will resonate thru out the Squilchuck valley. An addendum to CCC 7.35 or other code revision should address prohibiting the use of engine brakes along this traffic corridor.

Name: Kelly Parish
Email: talula1969@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 15:44:58

Your Comment:

This would be devastating to the wildlife and their habitat. Also the roads are not made for that type of traffic. This is a terrible idea!

Name: Kelsey Clinton
Email: kwclinton@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 16:10:36

Your Comment:

I am against the proposed expansion at Mission Ridge. That area is a sensitive wildlife area that does not need more traffic to disturb the animals. We do not need more skiers. It is a nice local spot that's not overrun with westsiders and we need to preserve it. Additionally, the fire danger there is so extreme that anything that is built would probably burn within 20 years, and the single access road could be a death trap during a fire.

Name: Kelsey Clinton
Email: kwclinton@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-14 14:53:23

Your Comment:

I am against the expansion at Mission Ridge. The scale of the proposed expansion is far greater than what the area can handle. That area is a refuge for wildlife - I have personally seen bighorn sheep, coyotes, pikas, snowshoe hares, and many other animals there. The increased presence of humans will drive them away and destroy this last bit of wilderness that makes Chelan County such a recreation destination. The amount of recreation we currently have is enough for our small valley. We don't need and cannot sustain more growth.

Name: Ken Singleton
Email: kas53660@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-09-08 15:39:08

Your Comment:
I support the Mission ridge expansion

Name: Kenneth amd Katheryn Hertzog
Email: k.k.hertzog@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 14:10:17

Your Comment:

We are strongly opposed to the expansion of Mission Ridge. There so so many negatives to this plan, none of which have been adequately addressed. The increased fire danger is top of mind followed closely by inadequate, single and narrow roadway in and out. Your plan for evacuating people on a foot path to Squilchuck State Park is insufficient and laughable. Experiencing the #1 and #2 biggest fires in the country, with the attending smoke, for six+ weeks, should speak for itself to everyone concerned. This plan threatens our diminishing water supply, agriculture and wildlife. It would forever damage our local skiing and recreational experience. It's a horrible idea. Profit is the one and only motivation for it's consideration. Thank you, Ken and Kathy Hertzog

Name: Kenneth Redlin
Email: Kenneth.redlin@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 10:27:59

Your Comment:

First things first the road will have to be fixed.... its literally sliding of the mountain. The corners already have wrecks every weeked of the ski season. Im in the middle on this. If its a 30 year plan it might work out OK. But is that what we really need. I grew up in Chelan and went to mission in 1992 fist time. It was great when we were teenagers we would come every weekend all winter once my cousin was old enough to drive. I worked 8 winters at stevens pass. 5 years ago we bought house in wenatchee. Went to mission and I couldn't afford a lift ticket. O well it getting over populated and over priced here and it's probably time to sell and move back to a smaller town. With the price at mission you might as well just go to stevens twice as much snow twice as many lifts. Same price. Not sure ■. Just miss being able to ski and not break the bank.

Name: Keri Leighton Stone, Gregory Stone
Email: skipastone1@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 16:31:13

Your Comment:

We feel this is not in the best interest for the Wenatchee Valley. It increases traffic on Squilchuck Hwy and the road up to Mission Ridge, both of which are not adequate to handle the increase. We have serious concerns on the impact on water supplies in the area for farmers on both sides of the ridge. Also feel it would adversely affect the access to adjoining forest service and DNR lands. Essentially the only plus to this project is to those proposing the changes. Ours is a very strong NO.

Name: Kerry Jurges
Email: Kerrycolby@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 12:40:36

Your Comment:

I oppose the current expansion, despite the fact that the expansion will probably increase my overall property value. I live close to Mission Ridge and having an updated ski facility would definitely increase the value of my home. Despite that I am concerned that any planned expansion will not have the correct infrastructure to support it. I'm concerned about the risk of more human traffic up there increasing the wildfire risk over the summer. I'm concerned about the loss of current hiking trails. I'm concerned about the environmental impact as any homes up there will likely need to have some form of Septic. Is there a plan for a waste of water treatment up there? How will that volume of sewage get back to the county unless there are multiple subject drain fields? These questions need to be answered, and who will pay for them? Will there be a special tax for these new properties? Have they evaluated the risk for mudslides, consider considering the process to whispering Ridge? I have been a homeowner in Wenatchee for the past eight years and I oppose this expansion as it is currently planned.

Name: Kevin Dunn
Email: kdunn90@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-06 16:23:17

Your Comment:

I am writing to express strong opposition to the proposed Mission Ridge Expansion Master Planned Resort as outlined in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). The DEIS fails to adequately address several critical concerns related to ecological integrity, wildfire risk, and long-term sustainability in the Wenatchee Mountains.

Ecological Impact and Fragmentation: The expansion threatens high-elevation habitats that support sensitive species and intact forest systems. The DEIS underestimates the cumulative impact of increased human activity, road construction, and ski infrastructure on wildlife corridors and alpine vegetation. Fragmentation of these ecosystems undermines biodiversity and resilience, especially in the face of climate change.

Wildfire Risk and Operational Strain: The DEIS does not sufficiently account for the increased wildfire risk posed by expanded resort operations, visitor traffic, and infrastructure in a fire-prone landscape. The area has experienced escalating fire activity in recent years, and adding more ignition sources and evacuation complexity is irresponsible. The plan lacks clear mitigation strategies and coordination with regional fire response agencies.

Infrastructure and Water Stress: The proposed expansion would place additional strain on local water resources, road systems, and emergency services. The DEIS glosses over the long-term costs of maintaining expanded infrastructure and the potential for water overuse in a region already facing seasonal scarcity. These impacts will be borne by local residents and taxpayers, not the resort developers.

Loss of Public Access and Quiet Recreation: The expansion prioritizes commercial development over public access and low-impact recreation. The DEIS does not adequately consider how increased privatization and resort-centric planning will displace backcountry users, limit non-commercial trail access, and degrade the quiet, natural character of the area.

Economic and Climate Contradictions: The DEIS leans heavily on speculative economic benefits while ignoring the volatility of snowpack-dependent tourism. With declining snow reliability and increasing climate unpredictability, expanding a ski resort at this scale is a risky investment that contradicts regional climate adaptation goals.

In conclusion, the Mission Ridge Expansion poses unacceptable risks to ecological health, public safety, and long-term sustainability. I urge decision-makers to reject the proposal and prioritize conservation, climate resilience, and equitable public access.

Name: Kevin Kane
Email: aruncus2@msn.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 16:36:20

Your Comment:

One last one, SEIS or EIS needs to analyze effects on raptors and other birds and offer mitigation for increased risk of bird kills due to increasing the number of power lines needed for the MPR. Thank you
Kevin Kane

Name: Kim
Email: kim@fishbaugher.com
Completion time: 2025-09-12 08:11:08

Your Comment:

Mission Ridge is part of our family life. The expansion ensures the continuity of outdoor recreation vital to our area. I love the plan to dedicate 70% of the site to permanent open space. The wildfire protections — thinning, defensible space, and an on-site fire station prove that the expansion has thought through a safe, responsible project and will create jobs and strengthen our local economy. Most importantly it keeps our local Mission Ridge true to its roots.

Name: Kirsten Huotte
Email: kirsten@psia-nw.org
Completion time: 2025-10-21 16:02:06

Your Comment:

I am honored to support Mission Ridge in its continued commitment to bringing people to the outdoor experience, be it sliding on the snow, snowshoeing or coming up to see the beautiful expansive view while strengthening our Wenatchee community. As a snowsport instructor organization, we rely on resorts like Mission Ridge to help us fulfill our mission of developing instructors and introducing more people to winter sports—whether it's their first time on snow or their five hundredth. We've watched Mission Ridge's grow of more than just a ski area at the end of road. Mission Ridge doesn't simply expect the community to come to the mountain—they actively bring the mountain experience to the community. Through events like Rails and Ales and driving the Piston Bully in the parade during Apple Blossom, they create meaningful connections with local businesses and residents, making the resort a visible and engaged part of our town year-round. This expansion will allow Mission Ridge to continue doing what it does best: inspiring our community, demonstrating genuine care for the people who live here, and inviting others to experience the beauty of our area. Improving access for people to ski, snowboard, mountain bike, cross-country ski, hike, or simply enjoy fresh air and sunshine in the mountains has never been more important. The proposed expansion reflects responsible growth through:

- **Environmental Stewardship:** New development is limited to areas that have already been disturbed. The plan includes erosion control, habitat protection, and water management practices to minimize runoff and protect the watershed.
- **Public Access and Recreation:** The expansion improves year-round recreation access on public lands, including new trail connections, snow play areas, and better teaching terrain for beginners. This makes the mountain more accessible for local families and visitors.
- **Wildfire Preparedness and Safety:** The plan includes updated wildfire mitigation measures—defensible space around infrastructure, improved emergency access routes, and coordination with local fire agencies for response and evacuation.
- **Infrastructure and Transportation:** Road and traffic upgrades in the DEIS will improve year-round safety on Squilchuck Road, distribute vehicle traffic better, and reduce congestion during peak times.
- **Consistency with County Planning Goals:** The expansion aligns with Chelan County's Comprehensive Plan by supporting sustainable tourism, protecting natural resources, and encouraging managed growth that benefits the regional economy without sprawl. Mission Ridge has been part of this community for over 50 years, and this expansion helps secure another 50 years and beyond. They are dedicated to responsible land management and community partnership. With these commitments, supporting this expansion is a clear path to keeping this vital outdoor resource thriving in our community. Thank you for your consideration.

Kirsten Huotte, CEO PSIA-NW

Name: Kristen Trivelli
Email: Kristrivelli@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 10:33:53

Your Comment:

This proposed expansion of Mission Ridge is not intended to increase valuable ski terrain, rather to increase tourism and profits. However, what is fails to acknowledge is that we do not have the infrastructure to support this level of tourism, and the local community does not desire this. This would significantly impact local's activities of daily living, quality of life, recreation, and even work. I do not support this expansion.

Name: Kristin Knierim

Email: Benandkristinknierim@gmail.com

Completion time: 2025-10-20 16:18:56

Your Comment:

This expansion will take away the ski resort we live so much. Resorts and ski area will be over run with people. Lines will be too long, not enough roads to access the mountain causing long lines of cars and waiting, evacuation hazards, out of reach and unaffordable for local median income households, more traffic and crowding in the Wenatchee area as well as traffic over Stevens pass and through Leavenworth which is already a huge problem. That doesn't even touch the affects it will have on our wild animal population a forest health. More people and cars means more pollution , garbage, water usage and pollution, less area for wildlife and more altercations with wildlife. My vote is NO WAY

Name: Kurt Clark
Email: Clark0351@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 11:21:04

Your Comment:

I fully support this expansion and think it will be great for the greater Wenatchee area. For the past couple years, my kids have had season passes to Mission Ridge and love it. My wife was born and raised in Wenatchee and has many good memories of Mission Ridge. We've been located in the valley for about eight years since I retired from the military and I would be highly interested in purchasing a property in the expansion. If there's an interest/wait list, I'd love to be added to it. I wish you the best with your approval.

Name: Kyle West

Email: kywest717@gmail.com

Completion time: 2025-10-16 07:56:03

Your Comment:

This expansion is vital to the future economic health of not only Mission Ridge but the entire Wenatchee Valley. This expansion will put the valley and Mission Ridge on the map as a destination which will drive tourism. Its hugely important to the future of Wenatchee that this expansion gets started as soon as possible.

Name: KYLE WILLIS

Email: kwillis557@gmail.com

Completion time: 2025-10-20 13:00:06

Your Comment:

I do NOT support the ski resort expansion in the Colockum, this will encroach upon vital wildlife habitat that is in increasingly short supply. Skiing is becoming unaffordable for average families and this expansion would disproportionately benefit upper class citizens while destroying critical natural landscape and migration corridors while also taking away low cost opportunity from public lands recreationists.

Name: Kylee Smith
Email: Kyleesmith.ffl@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 10:11:11

Your Comment:

Please reconsider this idea on the expansion and keep in mind the negative outcomes it will cause to our community. Let's not turn this resort into every other failing resort in the US. Keep it simple!

Name: Lacey
Email: Laceyjavey@hotmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 17:54:58

Your Comment:

This valley already has too much traffic. Let alone how snow removal is in the winter time. What about one way in and one way out of Mission Ridge for safety issues? I have seen the Steven's Pass parking and traffic back ups on the pass, no thank you. I am an avid outdoorswomen and would not like to see what happens to the elk and deer populations with all the planned building going in.

Name: Lara Breen
Email: laraharasek@hotmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-19 15:36:55

Your Comment:

I am writing to express my full support for the proposed Mission Ridge expansion. The owners' decision to undertake this project themselves demonstrates a deep commitment to preserving Mission Ridge as a local ski hill and maintaining its unique culture. I believe they have gone above and beyond in conducting surveys and studies, and in communicating their long-term plans and goals to the public. They have taken significant steps to mitigate fire risks, plan for employee housing, and conserve wildlife habitat, with 70% of the property remaining undeveloped. The substantial investment they are willing to make from the outset underscores their genuine care and long-term commitment to this project. They are dedicated to growing the mountain to enable continued investment in improvements and infrastructure. It is clear they want to avoid overcrowding, as evidenced by their limits on pass sales and weekend tickets. As a for-profit company, they need to generate revenue to reinvest in the mountain and the surrounding community. I am concerned that if this project does not proceed, they might sell to a company like Vail, or just not be able to reinvest in the aging infrastructure which could negatively impact our local mountain and its community. This expansion will create local jobs, stimulate local businesses, and generate tax revenue for the county, all of which will benefit our community. The expanded parking and additional beginner terrain will be an excellent enhancement. Even when the parking lot and beginner areas are at capacity right now, the existing skiable acreage ensures that the rest of the mountain retains a spacious, midweek feel. There are no lift lines and the slopes remain uncrowded. My children grew up skiing here, and I am excited for their children in the future, to experience Mission Ridge as we know it: a local mountain with amazing terrain where everyone feels welcomed and like family. I believe change is a positive force, and it is essential for Mission Ridge to grow and for us to reinvest in the Wenatchee area. Sincerely, Lara Breen

Name: Larry Melampy
Email: ldm6951@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 15:28:16

Your Comment:

I am very concerned that a development of this magnitude is being planned without alternative ingress and egress roads to supplement the existing Mission Ridge road. As the draft EIS states, there are no practical alternative routes. I ski Mission Ridge frequently and have yet to see a spring where the road doesn't show significant wear and tear in a couple places. How a consultant can say that the extra visitor and construction traffic won't have a negative impact on the road is beyond me. Evacuation of the area due to fire or weather could be severely compromised with only one way out. I realize that most of the visitor traffic would be in the non fire season but it is wishful thinking to believe that a development of this size won't one day have an emergency situation that will require safe and orderly evacuation. I applaud your desire to create a ski area that will accommodate more people, particularly beginners, intermediate, and nordic skiers as well as bicyclists. This could still be done without the development and might be more cost effective.

Name: LARRY TOBISKA AND PENELOPE TOBISKA

Email: ltobiska@nwi.net

Completion time: 2025-10-20 09:41:01

Your Comment:

We have grave concerns about the Tamarack proposed expansion of Mission Ridge. We think it would be establishment of a giant urban development that would destroy the natural habitat there now. The impact on wildlife and plant life would be immense. These should not be disregarded. We humans have the power to impact these other forms of life and thus we also have the responsibility to protect them. We are proponents of dark skies - both for the benefit of us human types but also for the welfare of birds that are disoriented by lights as they attempt to migrate and otherwise travel. We are concerned about the inadequacy of the plan for safe travel to and from the area. The proposal depends on one road which is steep, twisting and icy at times. We are concerned about the inadequacy of the plans for available water and for sewage and other waste disposal. We are concerned about the costs associated with this proposal that may be shifted to the taxpayers. Someone may make a lot of money in doing this project but the developers should pay for it. We are concerned about fire safety. It is crazy to have such a big development with one way of ingress and egress. We are concerned about the ongoing viability of this development. No one knows how the climate change we are experiencing will affect the area and the availability of snow there. How much water will be needed to make enough snow for this thing to work? What effect will the climate change have on the probability of forest fires there? What will be the result if the ski area is no longer viable due to lack of snow? Will taxpayers be on the hook to fix what is left behind?

Name: Laura Applegate Heinse
Email: applegatel@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 12:36:21

Your Comment:

I have done surveys with the sportsman on the mission ridge saddle and this is an important elk migratory path. Also water is already very limited in the squilchuck drainage. These things should both prevent this expansion.

Name: Laura Elizabeth
Email: aesthetics1984@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 11:05:13

Your Comment:

I wanted to put my opinion and comment out on this project, I am very against this expansion project; wenatchee and mission ridge is admired for it's small town charm and projects like this will turn it into another seattle or stevens pass.. begging you guys to reconsider and help keep this community special!!

Name: Lauren
Email: l.jeanharlow@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 20:21:10

Your Comment:

Not in favor. I would need to see real numbers and specific details regarding it not affecting wildlife, being built sustainably, how they intend to account for all of the resources needed to run it and how they plan to do that in a way that won't affect the people that live here, how they intend to make it safer in the event of a wildfire and how they intend to pay the droves of people they will need to work up there an amount that makes sense when taking into account cost of living and commuting all the way up there every day. No more greed your community can't handle it.

Name: Lauren Ballinger
Email: laurenb42@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-16 21:22:28

Your Comment:

Dear Mr. Kaputa, Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments regarding the DEIS for the proposed development adjacent to Mission Ridge ski area. The DEIS is full of omissions of impacts, inadequate mitigation of potential impacts, and incorrect assertions. Additionally, the proposed development violates Chelan County Codes. Because of this, I oppose the development and urge you to support the No Action Alternative. Below I highlight a small sample of the many issues in the DEIS:

Traffic on Squilchuck and Mission Ridge Road: The project predicts 10,000 vehicle trips per day on the Mission Ridge Road, which is roughly double the traffic on both Stevens Pass and Blewitt Pass. The DEIS predicts that the development will snarl traffic to a condition below minimum Chelan County standards, yet the DEIS does not include mitigation or improvements to the Mission Ridge Road. The Chelan County Comprehensive Plan Goal 1.9 is "...deny approval of any development proposal that would cause a roadway segment to fall below the adopted minimum level of service...". Our community should not be burdened by snarled traffic that financially benefits a developer but hurts the rest of us.

WDFW Land Exchange: Section 25 is owned by the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife and encompasses Windy Ridge and Bowl 4, the upper half of Chair 4, and overlaps with the proposed project. Per the DEIS, WDFW said: "...an expanded, year-round ski resort is not an allowable use of the land under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) contract that funded WDFW's purchase of the property." Hunters use the section during archery and rifle seasons as well as for forest grouse hunting. Mule deer, Colockum Elk, golden eagles, goshawks, pika, marmots, bobcats, mountain lions, coyotes, and black bears regularly use the section's wildlife corridors. Section 25's whitebark pine forests, springs and wetlands, talus slopes, and undisturbed shrub-steppe openings are vital wildlife habitats. This section grows more important as development threatens to destroy similar habitats on adjacent parcels. The DEIS discusses a land exchange between WDFW and Washington State DNR that would result in DNR owning Section 25 and implying that an expanded year-round resort would be allowable on DNR-owned Section 25. However, the DEIS further states that: "The land swap is not part of the current Proposed Project...". With the land exchange not on the table, the likelihood that it is illegal for DFW to swap the land, and DFW indicating that expanded year-round activity is not an allowable use of Section 25, Section 25 should be excluded from any expanded ski resort or development activity.

These are just a few of the unclear, misleading, untrue, incomplete, arbitrary, and persuasive statements in the DEIS. I strongly encourage Chelan County to stick to established codes and not bend the rules for the benefit of a developer. Since the development breaks County Codes, I urge you to select the No-Action Alternative, which is the only alternative besides the full development build-out that is presented in the DEIS. Thank you for considering my comments. Lauren Ballinger

Name: Lauren Johnson
Email: lj2341@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 15:17:57

Your Comment:

First, I recommend No Action. Second, I note that a fire safety strategy for the potential large human population is to shelter in the parking lot. I just drove over Blewett Pass and remembered how long the road was closed. Sometimes fires don't behave the way that we might like them to. I could imagine a situation where helicopters needed for fighting fires might be needed to evacuating people from the parking lot. Hope is not a plan. Third, the current proposal is just so wrong from so many angles. It needs to be significantly scaled back -- way back.

Name: Laurie Kutrich

Email: Lkutrich1@gmail.com

Completion time: 2025-09-11 15:44:18

Your Comment:

Mission Ridge generates millions of tourist dollars in the off season. This is vital to our valley. Mission Ridge provides a way for family and friends to be active together. We have non-stop company all winter, due to the proximity of our ski area. Growth is here. We can just let it happen or embrace it and direct how growth takes place. Recreation opportunities are a way to create a healthy community. I support the Mission Ridge expansion so my children and grandchildren can continue to enjoy winter sports.

Name: Laurie Nolan
Email: loops767@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-19 23:25:03

Your Comment:

It's time to stop blocking this project. It's good for the community and good for the local economy.
Provide valid reasons for this to not go through, or get it going.

Name: Layne Knipfer
Email: Layneknipfer27@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 12:26:51

Your Comment:

Hello, my name is Layne Knipfer. I was raised in Wenatchee, Washington, and like many others, I have enjoyed the land and the skiing of Mission Ridge. I understand that improving skiing access, is an exciting idea and that the owners of Mission Ridge are incentivized to expand their operation as our population grows and people living on the West Side of the mountains are becoming more willing to travel across the state for recreation. However, the land which Mission Ridge holds is immensely valuable, in a multitude of ways, to a variety of stakeholders. The land in which the proposed expansion would take place is in an area that is considered the headwaters for many farms in the Malaga and Wenatchee area. The water in which the area provides is vital to the livelihoods of these people. It is vital not only for their crops but I believe to their own drinking water as well. The water from these headwaters also provides water to the land sitting below these headwaters, and helps to sustain life to the plants and animals living on this land. The land is elk habitat, and is a sanctuary in our human-populated country that is unseen and secluded from our actions which disrupt elk. There are many more constituents than simply skiers and people who will visit Wenatchee that will be affected by this expansion and I urge Mission Ridge and anyone who is seeking more information about this development to consider this: This development will be over 7,000 houses and condos, parking lots as well as additional buildings, and as condos usually go, will probably remain unused most of the year. A large development seated in some of the most valuable and precious wilderness we have in our Wenatchee Forest, will be turned into a ghostly city for many people who do not share the same care for the Wenatchee area that us residents do. I don't believe this expansion is worth the sacrifice of our natural land that provides so much to our community and fellow living creatures. I think this is a situation in which the hope of profit for one individual will create an unnecessary burden for many more. Please consider opposing this expansion and helping support the people and the animals of the Wenatchee area that are so tied to this wonderful natural area. Thank you. - Layne Knipfer

Name: Leah Melquist
Email: SImelquist@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 13:08:50

Your Comment:

I vote against the Mission Ridge expansion for so many reasons. We need to protect our land. Mission Ridge is a gift to the locals because it isn't overcrowded, not to mention the risk to increase the traffic up there.

Name: LeAnn Haven
Email: havenleanns@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 22:05:57

Your Comment:

I oppose the Mission Ridge Real Estate Expansion. The project predicts 10,000 vehicle trips per day on Mission Ridge Road which will greatly impact traffic and does not include improvements to the Mission Ridge Road. In addition, a secondary access to the development is required. The DEIS only presents the secondary access as an alternative. This would be unacceptable, especially in emergency situations. I urge you to choose the "No Action Alternative."

Name: Leroy

Email: Seeleroy@outlook.com

Completion time: 2025-10-20 11:01:16

Your Comment:

Expansion of mission ridge is a very bad idea. Trying to draw more people to an area to collect more money for a service that exists on national forest will negatively impact the surrounding landscape and local residents. Driving up cost of housing to an already low income area by installing wealthy people in mansions is not being fair or respectful.

Name: Leslie Engley
Email: lesliestrand@msn.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 12:43:20

Your Comment:

I do not support this project. Our town infrastructure cannot handle this type of growth project. Put money into the town first (like road expansion to improve traffic) and then a growth project. Personally I think this would ruin the aesthetic of the resort. Missing Ridge does not need to become it's own village. Thank you for your time.

Name: Leslie Kutz
Email: Lamkutz64@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 09:59:03

Your Comment:

I do not support this expansion for so many reasons, from traffic to water to the elk herd and the loss of the small home town feel of our beloved little ski area. It seems this resort expansion is more of a real estate development project than a ski area expansion, which will provide nothing positive to the communities of people, animals and plants that inhabit this sacred land. Please do not allow this to happen.

Name: Leslie La Moreaux
Email: coldnorski@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 10:08:42

Your Comment:

This area doesn't need another tourist attraction that would impact existing residents who are already struggling with rising costs and traffic congestion getting worse. I say no to the development.

Name: Lilly

Email: lillythroneberry02@gmail.com

Completion time: 2025-10-20 10:42:32

Your Comment:

This is simply financial greed! Pushing out farmers and locals with heavy traffic, reducing water, & taking away the land from our animals. This is so disheartening, please reconsider what the effects it will have on our community.

Name: Linda Richards
Email: tlrichards55@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-19 10:12:08

Your Comment:

Any mention or chance that Forest Ridge Dr. or Forest Ridge Area be stricken as a possible secondary exit for Mission Ridge Expansion.

Name: Lindsay Henning
Email: lkhenning@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 14:46:15

Your Comment:

The DEIS acknowledges fire risk, and the proposed secondary route of egress in the event of an emergency is grossly inadequate given the estimated traffic volume for the primary ingress/egress route. Anecdotal evidence suggests homeowners around the County (e.g. Plain, Entiat) have had homeowner's insurance policies terminated or premiums greatly increased due to fire risk. Will the homes within this MPR be able to obtain homeowner's insurance, given the acknowledged fire risk and lack of secondary egress? The DEIS does not address this. Furthermore, the development is proposed in a known geohazard area. Changes in hydrology due to the development, including increased snowmaking and the effects of impervious surfaces, could activate landslide deposits. This presents an added risk for homeowner's insurance, that again, was not assessed in the DEIS. If homeowner's insurance is considered high-risk for this development, will premiums for all homeowners in the County rise? Could litigation be brought against the County for negligently approving a development that directly puts homes at risk for fire and landslide, and also causes the cost of insurance for others elsewhere in the County to increase? Could emergency relief funding be jeopardized as well?

Name: Lindsay Welfelt
Email: lindsaywelfelt@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-08 21:05:01

Your Comment:

Please consider the no action alternative (option 2) for the following reasons: Noxious weed spread. They tend to utilize disturbed habitats such as those proposed for the parking areas, buildings, transmission line, and new ski runs. Just because there might not be a lot currently does not imply that they will not spread with future development. Reduced habitat availability and suitability for elk and mule deer. They may both experience lower nutrition and recruitment rates, increased vehicle mortality with increased traffic, and increased agricultural conflict. All of the priority species possibly present will be impacted by a reduction in habitat and fragmentation. Pika are a WDFW SGCN that are not listed on the special status list. Pika commonly occur throughout the mission ridge area in talus slopes. Disturbance to talus (building activities and recreation) can affect the microclimate that pika rely on to survive. Though not on the priority wildlife list, black bears are likely to be impacted. Winter activities can impact black bear hibernation, a particularly sensitive time when females rear their young. Increased human presence results in increased human supplied foods to bears (and other wildlife), which results in human-bear conflict (getting into garbage cans, increased interactions between bears and dogs/people) and a possible reduction in personal safety. Though many special status species do not currently occur in the area, development of a resort will prohibit any reestablishment into the area. State and federal lands should be protected and preserved for wildlife habitat and the benefits this habitat brings to all citizens (including clean air and water). These lands should not be developed for special interest purposes and for only the few who can afford to use them. Chelan county already has limited water resources and a growing population. Taking water out of the current supply (including wells and underground reservoirs) reduces the availability for current and future residents - and fish and wildlife populations. As a Chelan county resident, I do not support development meant to make rich people more wealthy while destroying fish and wildlife habitat and straining limited resources. I live in this area because of the abundant public lands and relatively few people. Housing is already expensive enough, with limited affordable options and traffic in Wenatchee is already a nightmare. Please consider using the taxes I pay to improve the community from the ground up rather than importing wealthy vacationers and part time residents - let's limit those folks to Leavenworth and Chelan and leave the rest of the county to the locals.

Name: Lisa Foster
Email: lfosterk@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 23:18:22

Your Comment:

I am a fourth generation skier in the Squilchuck basin. I grew up skiing the same terrain my grandparents and great grandparents skied. I was on skis as soon as I could follow my mom to her job on ski patrol and I raced for the Mission Ridge ski team. Ski instructing at Mission Ridge was one of my first jobs after college. I believe that the proposed expansion of Mission Ridge will put our skiing community and the greater community at risk. I urge you to support the No Action Alternative. The DEIS is deficient regarding detrimental impacts to wildlife and native plants, increased water use in headwaters, elevated wildfire risk and lack of safe escape routes, climate change impacts, and traffic impacts on roads that are not compliant with county codes. This proposed expansion does not meet Chelan County Code requirements and will cause more harm than good for our community. The project area provides important habitat for migrating elk, golden eagle, pika, and goshawk. The DEIS did not adequately survey for these species and inaccurately claims that several of these are not present. Two plant species on the WDFW Priority Habitats and Species (PHS) list are within the development footprint, *Anemone patens* and *Pinus albicaulis*, and need additional research in the EIS. The DEIS acknowledges the likelihood of water rights disputes and allocations to senior rights holders, due to limited capacity within the basin. The DEIS inaccurately assumes homeowners in the new development will only reside there when water is plentiful in winter, ignoring the speed with which this valley is growing and that there are likely to be many year-round residents who will be using water year-round. This will directly negatively impact the amount of water available for fish and wildlife, downstream irrigators, and storage in the fire protection reservoir. Basalt bedrock within the development footprint is not capable of supporting the proposed septic systems. As such, septic runoff will contaminate groundwater. The EIS lacks a soil profile analysis showing required water percolating soils for septic feasibility. I grew up in a house that nearly burned down every few years, and I worked for 10 years as a wildland firefighter with the US Forest Service. I am surprised at how many people are unaware that toxic gases kill people in fires prior to flames. The idea proposed in the DEIS that residents could shelter in place elucidates a fundamental misunderstanding of fire. Residents would need to evacuate in the event of a wildfire, and the Mission Ridge Road would not adequately support the traffic, leading to a potential catastrophe. The terrain traps and dense forests in this area would put firefighters lives at risk. The EIS Fire Protection Plan does not comply with the expert advice from AEGIS Engineering who describes this location as not suitable for urban development. Page 5: Fire Hazards: The isolated location of the Mission Ridge site presents inherent challenges with regard to access for emergency responders in event of an emergency. The topography around the subject development area ranges from about 25%-100% slopes, contributing to the extreme conditions present at the site. A compounding factor is the extreme seasonal climatic conditions, which contribute to snow accumulation during the winter months and potential wildfires in the summer. Primary fire hazards contemplated involve structures and vehicles within the development, as well as wildland fires approaching from outside the site. The report is clear in the lack of certainty due to incomplete knowledge of how the ground water and surface-water flows in the Squilchuck Creek drainage interact, vary, and how groundwater recharge occurs. Chelan County needs to hire a hydrologist to evaluate the report and to incorporate climate-change forecasts. Maintaining Squilchuck Road as a 28 foot rural collector as suggested will not be sufficient for the predicted 10,000 average trips/day nor evacuating,

Name: Lisa Hartvig
Email: Lisajhartvig@hotmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 20:05:37

Your Comment:

This is absolutely insane. No one that lives in this town wants an expansion anywhere near this level.
Please don't allow mission ridge to become some money dump for real estate.

Name: Lisa Vaughn
Email: Lk.vaughn@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 08:27:50

Your Comment:

This expansion will not benefit local people or the economy when you consider the negative impact on traffic, wildlife and quality of life. This is not a good plan!!

Name: Lizzy LaBelle
Email: Lizzylabelle@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-13 22:28:01

Your Comment:
I'm excited that there will be Nordic skiing at Mission ridge!

Name: Loren Tanksley
Email: Ltanksley@hotmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 19:49:59

Your Comment:

Mission Ridge is a marvel for the Wenatchee community and this expansion opens the door for so many positive elements to take place, including the responsible stewardship of the mountain forests, accessibility upgrades, and the development of a tighter knit mountain community. We hope to see this expansion move into the next stages very soon!

Name: Louis Sorensen
Email: elemsoren@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 21:14:39

Your Comment:

I have reviewed the proposal, and I am very concerned about the lack of County Road improvement to Mission Ridge. The increase in traffic will overwhelm the current roadway and road improvement doesn't appear to be part of the first phase. I believe that users of the road, including residents, State Park guests, and users of Forest Service land will be faced with driving in unsafe conditions. Improvements to the road should be a priority.

Name: Lucas Burson
Email: luc.burson@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-07 13:58:48

Your Comment:

Hello, My central concern with the expansion is the egress plan as outlined in the DEIS. Current wildfire conditions should remind planners that a single access route does not provide additional egress. Additional access routes not only increase safety for residents and guests, but also increases the likelihood of success in wildfire response. Of the alternate access routes described in the DEIS, only the Stemilt route would afford residents, employees, and guests a second egress option. Regarding traffic, it is not a matter of if the current road itself can handle more wheels. It is more a concern for the safety of residents entering/exiting their properties, and the guarantee that there will be more accidents on the steep and winding road. Pileups will happen with more traffic, and if there is only one effective access road, then business at the resort will halt as will residential activities when accidents occur. Building a secondary access route through Stemilt spreads the traffic burden across two regions, provides egress for residents and guests, increases insurability of properties, enhances wildfire response potential, offers a direct route for guests coming from the east, and opens up more tourism/business opportunities for the Stemilt side. Please move forward with the Stemilt basin option for a secondary access road. Thanks, Luc Burson

Name: Maggie
Email: maggiehager1@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 10:21:33

Your Comment:

2x heavier traffic with roads that are already crammed and not safe, special for how lowkey it is

Name: Makayla
Email: Maksagegriffith@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 16:27:07

Your Comment:

The mission ridge expansion project should not move forward. As exciting as they want to make it sound, the drastic affect it would have on the mountains ecosystems, and wildlife along with the change it would bring to the already unaffordable economy in our community far outweighs the pros they say this would bring to the area. The mission ridge expansion is another human gratification build, not something being done out of necessity. People travel from all over the world to experience what our are has to offer with its outdoor recreation but if we keep making these huge footprints then there will no more beautiful mountain sides for recreational use left. Gentrification would also skyrocket even worse within the valley, by essentially adding another town on top of the mountains above wenatchee. The one road leading up the mountain is not suited to sustain the amount of traffic that would begin to travel it every day and would eventually become a hazard or need to be expanded thus cutting further into the ecosystems, wildlife and mountain sides.

Name: Maksis Ballard
Email: Maksballard@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 10:16:51

Your Comment:

I am a local and grew up on Forest Ridge starting in 1990 when I was born. Mission Ridge is a holdout of community and is a refuge from overuse that plagues other ski areas nearby. It's obvious that this plan is nothing to do with skiing and winter recreation. Anyone who has recreated here over the last 30 years has seen the change resulting from global warming. Putting in new lifts at the same elevation as the parking lot is nothing but a coverup that this entire plan is for private property and development for profit. The out-of-town developer could not care less that these lifts are useless without relying on man-made snow, which is terrible for the environment. I have hiked the area that is proposed for the development, and it is a biodiversity hot spot. It's littered with historic elk and mule deer hunting camps which is an indicator of the species being very present and relying on the area for migration. Please consider this comment and all other comments as well and include them in the staff report at the end of the hearing examiner meeting. Thank you for your time.

Name: Malachi Salcido
Email: malachi@salcidoconnection.com
Completion time: 2025-09-09 16:21:08

Your Comment:

I would like to submit my continued support for the Mission Ridge Expansion project. The Mission Ridge ownership and management team have consistently shown themselves to be responsible managers and stewards of our amazing lands and also the amazing property we affectionately call "our" Mission Ridge Ski Resort. We are excited to see the expansion plans actually come to fruition. Please mark us down as (still) in full support of the Master Expansion Plan. Malachi & Cathy Salcido

Name: Mara. Bohman
Email: Mbohman@aol.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 21:40:15

Your Comment:

I am very much opposed to the Mission Ridge expansion as is shown in the plans that are being discussed. The impact on the environment would be tremendous. I'm not opposed to some improvement, however, the plan that is proposed is absolutely out of a scale for that valley. The extra demands on water, septic and just the impact of so many cars and trucks on the road would not be sustainable. The huge increase in usage in the valley would make the chances of a wildfire, much greater, and in addition if a fire were to break out, it would be very difficult to get under control. Keep Mission Ridge as it is with a few minor improvements Thank you. Mara Bohman

Name: Marcel Dolak
Email: Mdolak1@hotmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 21:45:24

Your Comment:

Mission Ridge is a cornerstone of our family life and a source of lifelong memories. Expanding the mountain above Wenatchee means future generations will be able to enjoy skiing, snowboarding, hiking, and the stunning outdoors that bring our community together. I support the plan because it prioritizes wildfire protections and open space. The commitment to thinning and defensible space, along with on-site fire safety measures, gives me confidence in a safer, more responsible project. Conserving a large portion of the site as permanent open space aligns with our values and preserves the natural beauty that defines our region. This expansion also offers tangible benefits to our local economy—creating jobs and supporting families—while staying true to Mission Ridge's roots and character. I'm excited to see a thoughtful plan that balances recreation, conservation, and community resilience.

Name: Marcus lopez
Email: marcus.lopez199990@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-22 18:42:09

Your Comment:

I've been going to mission ridge for 3 years now , and I highly believe this expansion with greatly help their parking problems and reduce the constant clogs of people on the mountain. I hope I get to see the other side of mountain and experience more of our states beauty as well

Name: Marcy B
Email: mb_sassy@rocketmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-16 09:32:04

Your Comment:

To start, I'm torn on how to feel about the proposed expansion. I would LOVE to see upgrades to the existing chairs and infrastructure, but am hesitant to the idea of such a big expansion especially when it includes housing. One of the things that makes mission ridge so special is the fact that it never feels crowded even when all the parking lots are full. I worry about the resort experience being something more like Stevens Pass, Crystal, or other big resorts when you have to stand in line for lifts and the mountain vibe isn't as friendly. From an environmental standpoint, the forest absolutely needs thinning to reduce tree density, remove dead and diseased trees, and reduce wildfire risk. However, that area is an important wildlife area and I don't feel that the expansion would let the mountain rest to make space for the wildlife that need it. Beyond wildlife, there's only one way to and from the resort, and that road sees a lot of wear and tear just through the season at the current level of use. Overall, as much as I would love to support the whole proposal of my favorite place to ski, I just can't. Infrastructure improvements and forest thinning are needed, but a new resort village and expanded ski areas are not.

Name: Margaret Cable
Email: suzcablewild@outlook.com
Completion time: 2025-09-12 15:52:21

Your Comment:

I oppose expansion of Mission Ridge resort. While I am sympathetic to their stated need to expand to maintain economic viability going forward, the proposed changes and amount of new development are too much and will result in permanent, long term, and cumulative negative impacts. Unacceptable negative impacts will: result to the natural ecological conditions of the the expansion area, displaced wildlife and destruction of habitat, result in too much traffic on the road to the resort and within the areas of new development, contribute to climate change by developing energy and water intensive operation requirements, change the character of the area and turn it in to another real estate-intensive development for the wealthy, and create unacceptable fire hazard and have only one road in and out of the area for emergency use. They should be allowed to expand on to their private land, but what is proposed in combination with the use of public land is unacceptable. I support the no action alternative.

Name: Mariah Guay
Email: Guaym2010@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-12 05:29:03

Your Comment:

Mission Ridge will lose its magic with this expansion - the reason people LIKE it. I do not support any of these ideas. Parking improvements are the only thing I'd be okay with coming up with better options for. As far as year round access - that's fine but I don't think we need single family homes and townhouses to be able to do that? That sounds like people trying to line their pockets, not improve the mountain. I'm in favor of keeping the hometown mountain, a hometown mountain. People deserve good things and ruining MR doesn't have to be in the cards.

Name: Mark Chapman
Email: mchapman61@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 11:23:49

Your Comment:

I don't ski. I don't snowboard. I've never been ON Mission Ridge other than driving up there - but it makes Wenatchee special and it's incredibly unique to the area and it seems to me that this planned development will change ALL of that. I believe it should be left alone.

Name: Mark Lindell
Email: lindell5@msn.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 20:04:31

Your Comment:

Having read much of the DEIS that is before Chelan County I am disheartened by the extent of the proposed expansion. I have lived in the valley most of my life and spent much of my winter skiing at the mountain and taking my children to have lessons and develop a passion for the sport. My specific concern is with 5.4.3.1-Plants and animals. I recognize that the smaller footprint of the area as it now exists may impact some wildlife, yet most larger ungulates migrate through and out of the area in the winter months when the majority of winter use occurs. Yet when timber is cleared and concrete poured that available summer habitat will be gone forever. The apparent desire of the proposal is to be a year round destination resort thus a sum negative impact on wildlife. Animals will move away and the net result will be less usable summer habitat, specifically large ungulates that inhabit the impacted area. Thank you for your consideration of my comments. Mark Lindell

Name: Mark Peaslee
Email: markypeas@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 09:55:22

Your Comment:

I oppose this development. My biggest concern is adding nearly 10,000 extra vehicles on Squilchuck Road. I ride my bike from Wenatchee to the Mission Ridge parking lot. Adding that much traffic would make that too unsafe for me. That amount of added traffic on a road that has no shoulder and limited passing options is inviting tragedy. Look at how many unsafe driving areas we currently have (Blewett, 97 from Wenatchee to Chelan, Hwy between Rock Island and Quincy). Any road work projects or accidents between the Wenatchee Heights turnoff to Mission Ridges parking lot would shut down emergency services. It's a single point of failure. If the Whispering Ridge area slides it could shut down the only transportation route up there. It makes no sense to welcome almost 10,000 extra vehicles daily up Squilchuck.

Name: Marshall Wallace
Email: Thewallace005@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 13:13:23

Your Comment:

The expansion will have negative impacts on the environment, road infrastructure and local communities. Fire danger is a major threat to the investment with only one road in and out, people will die. Furthermore, the planned development is garbage and obvious that the developers had all the say in the design; too many buildings, too many planned resident housing. None of this would benefit the community, only the developers. Dont do it! Invest in growth but do it responsibly. Put that investment into existing infrastructure and add a couple new buildings and lodging.

Name: Marty Kesselman
Email: kesselman1@verizon.net
Completion time: 2025-09-26 12:23:47

Your Comment:

I raced for the Mission Ridge Ski Academy for a couple of years from 1979-1981, so this ski area and the surrounding mountain range have been part of my life story ever since. I would really like to see this expansion go through because it is truly a special place and I know that the Mission Ridge management and the community will be strongly responsible in how this expansion is developed to ensure the mountain, the wildlife, the snow melt runoff and the human impacts of the village on the environment will be done in full compliance and with special care. Please consider allowing this project to continue to move forward. - Thank you for listening, Marty Kesselman.

Name: Mary Bundy
Email: chipperry@hotmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 11:04:54

Your Comment:

I feel like it would be irresponsible to go ahead with this project without first having an acceptable plan to deal with the increased traffic on Squilchuck Rd. As someone who drives this road several times daily, I can assure you that the increased traffic is going to be detrimental in many ways. One of the most frustrating things about this road, is the inability to pass other cars due to the lack of passing areas. The windy, twisty nature of this road doesn't allow the visibility needed to be able to pass safely. Practically every day, I am in a row of more than 5 cars going under the speed limit. During the winter, that is dramatically increased by people who are afraid to drive in the snow and do 25 in a 50 on a road that is bare and wet. The increased traffic during the ski season dramatically increases the possibility of having to be stuck behind an illegally driving vehicle. Most of the spring and summer, we also get bikers who are almost impossible to see around all of the blind corners. People who would purchase homes in this proposed Mission Ridge area are statistically more likely to be adventurous and may cause an increase in bicycle traffic on an already dangerous road. My other concern is the lack of another way out for people who will live up on the Ridge. We had a fire on my street last year and during that time they had Squilchuck road closed. We had to drive all the way around through Malaga and then on a small forest service type road in order to get in and out of our house and to evacuate our property. I don't know what people who live on Mission Ridge have for a secondary backup plan or way to escape fire. There is a lot of wildlife in this area that would also be impacted by the increased traffic on Mission Ridge. I have seen deer, raccoons, skunks, and rock chucks crossing the road (not to mention the one time I had to stop for a cougar.) And even though I am a careful driver, I have personally hit 3 deer. (2 walked away unharmed, the other was eaten by a neighbor.) One week, I had to slam on my brakes to avoid hitting deer at least 11 times. I only bring this up to illustrate the level of wildlife that is in this area and the impact that it could have on traffic. While I mostly bring up my concerns regarding the traffic, because that impacts my daily life, I am also concerned about the increased imprint that this will have on the land and our community. Please do not approve this project without some major changes including a solid plan for traffic and for evacuating in an emergency. Thank you for hearing my concerns. Mary

Name: Mary Graves
Email: Chelandragonfly@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 12:22:17

Your Comment:

My family has skied at Mission Ridge since the 1980s. Every weekend in the winter while my kids were growing up. It is a treasure for the Wenatchee area. Affordable for families with season passes and wonderful ski lessons for kids and adults. I believe this development will change our ski area into an area that only rich people can afford and price out the average family in the valley that takes their kids up to ski. I know you are hearing the environmental, economic, infrastructure, and safety concerns and those are mine as well but more than that I don't want to see our local families and local kids priced out of our local ski area. Please vote no on this real estate development that will only enrich the developers to the detriment of our community.

Name: Mary Michele Fleming
Email: jumpoff6500@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-19 19:02:03

Your Comment:

October 19, 2025 Mike Kaputa, Director Chelan County Department of Natural Resources SEPA Responsible Official missionridgeeis@outlook.com 411 Washington St. Suite 201 Wenatchee, WA, 98801 RE: Mission Ridge Master Planned Resort Expansion Draft Environmental Impact Statement Concerns Dear Mr. Kaputa, I oppose the Mission Ridge Master Planned Resort Expansion due to its inconsistency with the Chelan County Code and Comprehensive Plan. If permitted, the development would have major negative impacts both within the area of the proposed development and in the greater community beyond. The fact that the DEIS presents only the full development and the No Action Alternative speaks volumes to the conclusion that No Action is the only proper conclusion. Mission Ridge does not need on-site housing While the proposal includes additional parking area and more winter sports options, it is clear that its primary motivation, and the source of its most serious issues, is the development of housing for 4,000 persons, plus attendant commercial development. It is similarly obvious that securing approval for the year-round hotel and housing is the main potential; source of profit and focus of the developer. Securing zoning entitlements would be marketable to a large resort developer that could secure the needed capital and expertise for such a huge development. The suggestion that the proposed development would continue the "small mountain vibe" is clearly disingenuous. Wenatchee and local environs have abundant hotel and short term rental capacity. Even in the last few years, many new hotels have sprung up in every area. Older, less expensive options still exist. There are also camping options for the more adventurous. Instead of adding to the community, the proposed housing would detract from existing hotel and restaurant businesses that have been built up to meet the demand of outdoor recreation and other activities. Simply put, on-mountain housing is not needed for Mission Ridge to continue to thrive. The most concerning issues arise from the housing component. The many issues raised by the development are primarily associated with the housing: traffic prediction of 10,000 trips/day, 243 acre feet of water (which converts to more than 70 million gallons per year), lack of secondary access route for emergencies such as the recent Labor Mountain Fire, which was only one wind event away from burning through Mission Creek and Mission Ridge, septic and other housing-generated refuse, destruction of critical wildlife habitat for special from tiny pika to mighty elk and many endemic Wenatchee Mountain plants, impervious surfaces that exacerbate potential for flash floods - on and on. The proposal inappropriately depends on securing use of current conservation lands in the hands of USFS, WDFW and DNR. Additional parking and recreation options could be proposed without housing at substantially less impact on the environment and on the broader community. The applicant has offered only one alternative, because that's where the potential profit lies – in the sale of the master resort entitlements with housing and the sale of those housing units. Mission Ridge could benefit from additional parking capacity, more beginner runs and Nordic skiing – but that is not the proposal they put forth. The proposal also ignores the reality of climate change. Models indicate that snow will be less prevalent and disappear faster. This reality re-enforces the conclusion that the main long term goal is to sell year-round housing. Chelan County does not need a city larger than Leavenworth sitting at the top of Mission Ridge. Please keep the best interests of the community in mind and select the No Action Alternative. Respectfully submitted, Mary Michele Fleming 2841 Riviera Blvd. Malaga, WA 98828 (509) 885-2765 Jumpoff6500@gmail.com

Name: Matt Breidenthal
Email: badgery@juno.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 16:47:20

Your Comment:

The proposed project is of an inappropriate scale for a rural area and should adopt the no action alternative. Additional ski lifts, parking, and employee housing could be built largely within the existing facility footprint with few adverse impacts. The cultural resources survey (RLR 2017) coverage for the proposed project was inadequate, and further fieldwork should be conducted so that potential adverse impacts to cultural resources can be considered.

Name: Matt Gutzwiler
Email: mdgutz53@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-14 09:55:43

Your Comment:

As far as the expansion up at Mission Ridge.I don't believe the contamination to the water in Squilchuck has been properly addressed. The only way to prove that the water in the creek (and all wells to the Columbia River) are NOT contaminated is to have them tested monthly for a year,before the construction starts That way you will have record to compare to

Name: Matt Gutzwiler
Email: mdgutz53@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 15:39:58

Your Comment:

The proposed secondary access Alt (Option 1) goes through the area set aside as mitigation for the Wheeler Ridge LLC orchard creation/expansion. Those lands should be categorically restricted to ANY future use, including emergency access

Name: Matt Kuebler
Email: mattdkuebler@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-11 17:43:29

Your Comment:

The Mission Ridge expansion is a Horrible idea! It's already too crowded. No parking. Overwhelm the sewage system. Drastically change the family friendly vibe to a money making big mountain, you are just a number experience. Increased summer fire concerns. Too many people on a small footprint.

Name: Matt Kuebler
Email: mattdkuebler@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-18 16:42:42

Your Comment:

Please do not approve the Mission Ridge expansion! It will not increase skiable terrain. The new runs are just to access luxury housing. There will be way too much traffic, with no mitigation plan. With no secondary access, it will create a traffic nightmare and potentially trap people during a fire. The expansion will elevate fire concerns in an already concerning zone. It's urban style growth outside the urban growth boundary. It will destroy the local family vibe that we love Mission Ridge for, as well as ruin the quiet neighborhoods and cabins just below the resort, all for the profit of one man. The local Mission Ridge community that I'm a part of doesn't want it! Thanks

Name: Matt Kuebler
Email: mattdkuebler@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-30 17:44:55

Your Comment:

Please deny the Mission Ridge expansion proposal. Bad for the environment. Bad for the Mission Ridge community and the local, family friendly ski scene. No luxury, destination resort that will ruin the mountain for one mans financial gain.

Name: Matt Kuebler
Email: mattdkuebler@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-02 16:56:19

Your Comment:

Please do not grant a permit for the Mission Ridge expansion proposal. It will destroy the family friendly ski area we have grown up with and love. The tight valley can't accommodate all that growth. Sewage, fire and evacuation routes are all a major concern. The homes and cabins below the ski area will suffer from the increased traffic. All for the profit of one man? It's just not worth it. Thank you for your time.

Name: Matt Kuebler
Email: mattdkuebler@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-12 20:42:23

Your Comment:

Please do not approve the ridiculous Mission Ridge"expansion". It is a smokescreen, hiding the development of a small city that will destroy the rural nature of the upper basin and have a ripple effect that will harm, wildlife, water, skiing, diverse recreation, downstream residents and the whole of the Wenatchee Valley. All for one man's profit! Not worth it! Once it's gone, it's Gone!

Name: Matt Kung
Email: matthewgkung@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 14:56:48

Your Comment:

I support the proposal and believe the DEIS thoroughly investigates the impacts of the expansion and mitigates them where appropriate. I looked into the DEIS with a particular interest in the effects of wildfire risk, and was pleased to find that the plan provides a comprehensive and well-considered solution. This project will result in increased defensible spaces through construction of roads, ski trails, and lifts, thereby providing recreational benefits while also protecting against wildfire risk. I was pleased and surprised to find that high risk fire areas actually decrease significantly in this proposal due to these factors. The aims of fire risk mitigation and recreational benefits again align with respect to snowmaking capacity, including 19 new snow guns and increased reservoir size. Particularly since Mission Ridge will have their own generator, this infrastructure will have major benefits for fire safety, including in the case of a power outage. The construction of a new fire station confirms this proposal's comprehensive response to fire risk. The new station will result in immediate response times within the development and will also improve response times within adjacent parcels along upper Squilchuck Road. The fact that Chelan County's Fire Marshall supports the fire mitigation proposal confirms the credibility and expected positive impacts of this plan. I appreciate the developer's pledge to construct a new fire station, fuel break, and fuel thinning corridor, showing a commitment to this community beyond the outstanding skiing and riding services for which Mission Ridge is already known. I am very optimistic for the recreational opportunities provided by this development, and this DEIS affirms the fact that it can be accomplish through a feasible, multi-stage plan by a responsible owner.

Name: Matthew Jones
Email: mattjonesabroad@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 22:34:39

Your Comment:

Please don't do it. It's such a stupid idea. The skiing in the small new zone will suck, the housing will make the roads and slopes more crowded, it's an environmental catastrophe waiting to happen, and it's just plain stupid to consider allowing this to happen in our county. The developer does not have the best interest in mind for the natural resources, the environment, or the people of Wenatchee. He's trying to get rich at the expense of our shared resources and experiences. Please do the right thing and don't jeopardize the elk and pikas to appease a rich dude.

Name: Mauricia Vandegrift

Email: mbvan@nwi.net

Completion time: 2025-09-08 15:54:00

Your Comment:

I believe this is a bad plan for Wenatchee for the following reasons: One narrow road to access a fire prone area. Too much demand on limited water supplies. Too little snow now and in future due to climate change. A negative impact on local skiers, due to increased skier traffic and expense. We do not need more housing for people who can afford to come here and built expensive second homes. Far too much traffic on the single lane road.

Name: Mckaylia
Email: Mckayliamarsh@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 10:13:45

Your Comment:

I am writing in against this expansion. Mission ridge is an affordable and accessible skiing space for families throughout the valley. This change would have a massive impact on wildlife and on the surrounding communities. Please keep mission ridge affordable and nature focused. The area does not need such a large increase in tourism.

Name: Me
Email: Info@missionridge.com
Completion time: 2025-09-08 15:23:56

Your Comment:

I do not want to give my name or phone number as I fear retribution. I am a Mission Ridge Resort user. I have looked at this expansion plan for years. It never changes and never addresses the "Elephant in the Room". Emergency evacuation route. A development just below the resort, Forest Ridge, is nationally recognized as being one of the most dangerous locations for residences due to wildfire. I understand vast thinning and forest management has been done around Forest Ridge to address this issue. And I am aware Mission Ridge is working with WA State DNR to heavily thin the trees in the area. But time and again, the Mission Ridge Expansion plan shows dozens, if not hundreds, of new residences much further up that same narrow access road with no plan on how they are going to be able to evacuate all these residents when a wildfire comes. And at some point that fire will come. Couldn't they purchase a "second ingress/egress route? Without such, I think it would be almost criminal negligence to allow those residences to be built and occupied up there knowing what we know.

Name: Megan
Email: megancollier509@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-18 21:25:49

Your Comment:

I have several concerns with this plan. It seems the DEIS found several important issues that are being brushed off in the name of profits and it feels disingenuous to say that the alternative to this plan is to do nothing. Mission Ridge does have valid concerns, especially parking and access to alternative winter sports. However, the scale of the village proposal brings more problems than it solves. -All of the proposed new chair lifts and runs are at a lower elevation than the main parking lot. Over the last several years, temperatures have not been consistently low enough to maintain any snow pack (or frequently raining in the parking lot). How do you expect to maintain 4 more chairs and a Nordic center at an elevation lower than the current parking lot, especially as climate change continues to increase extreme variations in temperature? Will all of the people expecting to ski/board in the new zones be forced onto the current terrain due to inadequate temperatures (no matter how good your snow making is)? -Space: Though there is rarely lift lines, the resort is often full. The lot is full frequently, and I agree that the expansion lots would offset this quite a bit. But on the very busy days, the bottle neck zones and popular runs get dangerously crowded. Where will the extra 4,000 riders fit, especially considering the low likelihood of the new zone having good enough snow pack? This is a safety issue. -One road in/out sounds like a terrible idea from a fire/evacuation perspective. We saw how well this worked for the Broadview neighborhood. Again, climate change is not helping here and fires will continue to be frequent and extreme. Slightly related, how does the change in water and road use impact the slide zone near Whispering Ridge? What is the risk of triggering that land slide and rendering the whole area basically inaccessible, destroying homes? -The Marion/Clara lot will be a mile away, totally changing the accessibility of that recreation area. Instead people will have to rely on you to someday build (free?) hiking trails to restore the quality of hiking in this region. -Elk are obviously in the area. If you are misleading about this claim, it is hard to trust that we can take other things Mission Ridge is arguing at face value. We have a responsibility to protect wild life whenever possible. I do think that more parking/less shuttling is a good idea. I also understand needing to continue to draw revenue as climate change and big ski corporations make private resorts harder and harder to run. I think this plan is too risky from a safety (fire, crowding, landslide, wildlife) perspective and will ultimately do more harm than good. I also think there are alternatives to "doing nothing". We can expand parking, night skiing, and upgrade the current building, as well as more events. Is there a way to do more community events like Rails and Ales instead of adding 4,000 people per day? Mission Ridge is a staple to this community, but this expansion feels like a short term cash and land grab at the expense of our community in the long term.

Name: Megan

Email: Mmdog867@aol.com

Completion time: 2025-10-20 11:03:21

Your Comment:

Please don't do it! We don't have the infrastructure for it, nor do we want it! We already can't hardly get around town due to traffic, can't see dr's for months out, etc. we don't need a flood of even more west-siders coming here.

Name: Megan Grater
Email: Grater.meg@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 15:58:43

Your Comment:

As a resident of the Wenatchee Heights who travels on Squilchuck Road to drive to town and to drive home, I am writing to urge you to select the No Action Alternative for the proposed Mission Ridge development. The DEIS does not sufficiently address the negative and substantial impacts to wildlife, habitat, and public safety. This proposed development does not meet Chelan County's standards for responsible and sustainable growth. The proposal depends on exceptions to Chelan County codes, which would expand human development in a fire-prone, high-elevation landscape. Increased human activity would elevate wildfire risk, strain emergency response capacity, and degrade sensitive habitats that wildlife depend on for survival. I am deeply concerned that water resources would be pushed beyond capacity, which would be a detriment to both human and wildlife populations if depleted. Further, the footprint that additional housing and visitors during seasons beyond the winter months would put wildfire risks beyond a manageable level that could lead to devastating results if there is only one evacuation route for all Mission Ridge and Squilchuck residents through Squilchuck Road. County planning standards must safeguard public safety and ecological integrity. The risks of moving forward with this development do not outweigh the financial benefits.

Name: Mekhia Hans
Email: mekhiahans03@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 10:02:15

Your Comment:

As a resident of Wenatchee who was born and raised in the Valley. I can confidently say that this expansion project is going to be harmful for many including our wildlife and community. We are already facing inflation, housing market raising and not falling on top of and being competitive, we have so many new apartment developments that charge the rent the same as someone mortgage, the streets are already flooded with traffic and new construction from all these "projects" to make our small town not so small town. I grew up with orchards and lots of trees in our town, now they're being replaced with buildings that people having to pay for and work around. Creating a project like this one is just buzzard to me, what are we doing making a Christmas town? Are we making a How the Grinch Stole Christmas Whoville? Absolutely not, let the community enjoy the treasure our our mountain. There's no harm in adding more services for Skiing and Snowboarding like lifts and new trails, but all of this is too much. It's going to impact how special Mission Ridge is, it's going to become way too populated to even enjoy your ride, the wildlife will be highly impacted. If you wanted a town that's a big as Chelan with stores and gas stations, why don't you work on expanding Malaga? They have one gas station. Why don't we work on expanding Wenatchee and getting rid of all the old buildings people squat in and destroy?

Name: Melinda Johnson
Email: Melinda.johnson@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 13:10:43

Your Comment:

I am not in favor of the current Mission Ridge expansion. Adding hundreds of new residents to an area that is at risk of wildfire with only one exit sounds like a recipe for disaster. An increase in traffic on that one lane, curvy mountain road will likely result in accidents, especially in icy winter weather conditions. It doesn't make sense for people to live up there year round with our current fire season that is occurring in more regularity. Our firefighters have enough homes to protect. Adding this community to the forest doesn't make fire sense and I believe will put more firefighters in harms way. Thank you for listening.

Name: Michael bacon
Email: Michaelbacon195@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 12:56:00

Your Comment:

You disgusting greedy money chasing pigs really can't help yourselves can you? Leave our towns alone. Leave our woods alone. Leave our little ski resort alone. We do not want you and your wealthy piece of shit residence moving into our area. We will make your lives miserable one way or another. Find another town to fuck up.

Name: Michael Jones
Email: Legendmemyselfandi@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 10:42:51

Your Comment:

No,no,no our infrastructure will not and should never allow this to happen!!!

Name: Michael Martin
Email: M.martin3@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 11:08:58

Your Comment:

Please do not ruin this community with a greedy over-development of our prized public land. This will only benefit people who don't live here in our community. Please protect our land and mission ridge the way it is. Thank you

Name: Michael Moellendorf
Email: Michael.moellendorf@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 17:27:04

Your Comment:

As a concerned citizen I do not find that the Draft Environmental Impact Statement meets the threshold to be accepted. I have no professional expertise within the realm of natural sciences, engineering, or ski resort management. Hoe

Name: Michael Olszewski
Email: michaelolszewski27@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-20 19:13:50

Your Comment:

As a local who is a mission ridge season pass owner, I am against the expansion of the mission ridge resort. Mission ridge is a wonderful ski hill currently, by opening up a resort and expanding, it will attract more out of towners. This will create longer lift lines, higher housing costs by building new single family and multi family homes, further inflating the already high cost of living. To offset construction costs, I'm sure mission ridge will only increase their already high prices for season passes. Not only does this proposal create higher costs and drive out the local populations access to the mountain, it will also be intrusive to Washington's public lands where I frequently spend time camping, hiking, and hunting adjacent to the proposed resort boundary. Overall, this resort proposal is a cash grab, and will end up driving out the local population, and causing damage to Washington's public lands. I hope the people of chelan county will make the decision to vote against this resort.

Name: Michele
Email: Micheleharrod@live.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 14:28:07

Your Comment:

I was born & raised in Leavenworth and saw all their horrible ideas destroy my town and turn it in to a money grab. This idea far surpasses any of those projects in stupidity. Like are you f-ing joking me? Way to go ruining an "hometown" mountain. Anybody with a brain from this town knows this is a horrible idea. How in the world are you going to handle that traffic coming off that mountain? That road is absolute shit now, imagine double the traffic on a road that's rarely plowed and very dangerous... then all those people coming into town in the Ferry St area, which can't even handle the traffic we have now, and is the shittiest part of town. On top of this just being flat out bad stupid.. I am begging of you to look at SCIENTIFIC studies of wildlife in this area. This is in the MIDDLE of elk migration, and deer migration routes. Not even mention the bears, and cougars. What are you going to do shoot and kill all the bears when they get into people's garages? It's just ABSOLUTE disregard for nature, and already threatened wildlife. It's just another money grab with our regard to anything else other than money. From a real estate standpoint, look at the market- it's HORRIBLE.... Building prices are INSANE, house prices are out of control.. to develop and build you will have to sell those houses at an absolute outrageous price. Who will even buy a house that's located in the windiest place in WA state? This will also come at the same time as the development off Western Ave that's suppose to have hundreds of houses..... there is not enough people (who have that type of income) to even buy the new builds that are on the market now... then what you are going to have thousands of new build houses in a matter of a couple years right as people are struggling the most to even buy food.. we are in the greatest Great Depression currently, and this is what you're worried about? it's soooo stupid it literally takes all my will power to not bang my head into the wall. I have loved Wenatchee and always been proud that the town works to improve itself for the community, but this completely ruins that and it's absolutely heart breaking. I am surrounded with people who have spent their life loving, working and playing at Mission Ridge, and I have heard every single one of them say they have fully stopped supporting mission because of this.... Like do you get it? HUGE groups of past employees aren't supporting you anymore. They have removed mission ridge stickers from their cars, they refuse to visit the mountain anymore, they refuse to buy passes and they loudly talk about how horrible this is. You can't build and support community when the community doesn't support you. For the love of Wenatchee, do not allow this to go through- support our community and do not destroy it.

Name: Michele keeys
Email: I.heath@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-09 20:03:36

Your Comment:

HOW BOUT THIS GO HOME DEVELOPER -you call some place paradise KISS IT GOOD BY —rein it in -a few new trails -bar restrauant a little parking -keep the MAGA HUMANITY FAR FAR AWAY -u can't get it back once it's ruined -what a sad state of affairs -support LOL who would support this mess -STOP STOP STOP -pay paradise to put up a parking LOT —this valley is ruined already with all the growth we don't want jobs or more people more orchards torn out more massive population -water sucking Microsoft -what a crying shame now this —WTF —we only hope friends of mission ridge can afford to somehow stop this insanity -Michele Keyes

Name: Michelle Forster
Email: michelleannforster@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-05 20:50:49

Your Comment:

Dear Mr. Kaputa, After reviewing the DEIS for the Mission Ridge Expansion, I must express my strong disapproval for the development. Proceeding with this development would be environmentally irresponsible and would pose significant danger to humans. I disapprove for the following reasons: 1) This development is proposed in an area with high wildfire risk, especially in light of recent whitepark and lodgepole pine beetle kills, drought, and increasing summer temperatures. It is especially irresponsible to consider building in an area that has limited access to water for fighting fires and has only one major road for egress. 2) The Squilchuck Road is inadequate for the volume of traffic that would service this development. This is due to the tight 18" shoulder, lack of passing lanes, and steep grade. 3) This development would degrade the migration path and calving grounds of mule deer and the Colockum elk herd. 4) Water resources are inadequate in the development area to support residential water needs, wastewater treatment, and the irrigation demand of the adjacent Stemilt/Squilchuck basin. Thank you for considering my comments, Michelle Forster

Name: Michelle motzkus
Email: Swan21_1999@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 11:34:08

Your Comment:

I hope with all this nonsense you take into account what this will do to Wenatchee. Squilchuck road has needed improvements for YEARS and now we want to add more cars and traffic on it? Will Larry be paying to upgrade that? Next, is Larry going to build a fire station for his people up there? Our resources in town are already stretched thin and now you want to add more to their plate?! I'm sorry but this is all a show of "I have money look at what I can do." Should we even begin to talk about what this will do to the wildlife? Seattle area people tend to not care about that stuff, just want to show off their money. Larry needs to keep his money in his area and leave mission ridge alone. He's purchased apartment complexes in wenatchee and has let them go to shit and the other HOME OWNERS get to deal with it. Lets REALLY look at what this seattleite is trying to do. SERIOUSLY!

Name: Michelle Shermer
Email: michelleshermer7@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 16:38:41

Your Comment:

Years ago, my teenage daughter reported to orientation day as a new ski instructor at Mission Ridge. An early storm coated the roads with heavy, wet, slick snow and the county didn't have a chance to plow the roads. On her way home, she lost control of the car and landed into what she called "a ditch" when she called me in tears. That ditch was more like a cliff and the AWD Subaru landed perched on top of a boulder with the engine still running. Fortunately, the airbags deployed and she was not injured, but the car was totalled. Later, as the sheriff officer and I were waiting for the tow truck, he actually slipped and fell on the slick roads. Her siblings are very fond of telling that story every year, and we still have the picture of the red Subaru, balanced precariously on the top of the boulder. (This site won't let me upload it.) I tell this story because my husband and I have lived in the Forest Ridge neighborhood off Mission Ridge Road for 25 years. We raised our five children here who all grew up skiing on the mountain, became ski/board instructors, and learned to navigate snowy and icy roads up to Mission Ridge and down into town on Squilchuck road to every day to school. At times, these roads are challenging even for the most experienced drivers. I am opposed to the proposed development at Mission Ridge for many reasons, but I believe the current road situation makes it untenable. The development impacts not only the environment, wildlife habitat and our quality of life but most importantly - our safety. In winter, the amount of proposed traffic will significantly increase to nearly that of a small city, exponentially multiplying the risk of serious incidents in conditions ranging from blizzards to ice storms. The DEIS does not seem to address the adverse weather conditions that are present on this mountain. One New Year's Eve, we literally had about 3 feet of snow overnight. When we told our teenagers' friends no one was going anywhere, their parents didn't believe them because it was only raining downtown. We've had major ice storms that are always much worse than a few thousand feet below and roads are literally undriveable. At 3,000 ft elevation, the conditions in our small neighborhood can be treacherous and leave us isolated at times. At Mission Ridge, with the second highest base elevations in the state, the difficulties of navigating roads and providing emergency services is no joke and needs to be addressed. In addition, with the amount of proposed traffic, entering and exiting our neighborhood will be nearly impossible and dangerous. Forest Ridge Drive approaches Mission Ridge Road at a steep descent. Entering Mission Ridge Road in the middle of busy traffic on slick roads is asking for an accident to happen. There is no turn lane and no room for error on snowy roads. The same is true in the opposite direction to enter the neighborhood. Crossing oncoming, down mountain traffic to make a left turn onto Forest Ridge Drive requires a hope and a prayer that no one is charging around the curve above on Mission Ridge Road. There is no room to stop on slick roads. In fact, I've seen several people stuck in a ditch at that intersection. Our entry/exit is not even addressed in the DEIS, especially in winter. In summer, the same holds true because there is no turn lane to enter or exit Mission Ridge Road. These roads are meant for rural traffic and do not have the capacity to handle the increased car load. Also, as witnessed by recent fires, evacuation is a very real possibility that will stretch resources and endanger lives. It is not feasible to either build the necessary secondary road or "shelter-in-place" surrounded by wildfire. This proposal is a thinly disguised veil for improvements at the ski area, but really, it is an attempt to build a customer base for a private business - putting all our lives at risk.

Name: Mik Ballard
Email: mikusballard@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 10:03:43

Your Comment:

I am a local and grew up on Forest Ridge starting in 1990 when I was born. Mission Ridge is a holdout of community and is a refuge from overuse that plagues other ski areas nearby. It's obvious that this plan is nothing to do with skiing and winter recreation. Anyone who has recreated here over the last 30 years has seen the change resulting from global warming. Putting in new lifts at the same elevation as the parking lot is nothing but a coverup that this entire plan is for private property and development for profit. The out-of-town developer could not care less that these lifts are useless without relying on man-made snow, which is terrible for the environment. I have hiked the area that is proposed for the development, and it is a biodiversity hot spot. It's littered with historic elk and mule deer hunting camps which is an indicator of the species being very present and relying on the area for migration. Please consider this comment and all other comments as well and include them in the staff report at the end of the hearing examiner meeting. Thank you for your time.

Name: Mike Dale
Email: Mjdale789@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 15:29:30

Your Comment:

No there is already way too much traffic on Mission st. and Squilchuck. Did anyone think about a forest fire with all these new buildings up there?

Name: Mike Hughes
Email: mikehughes4021@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-08 11:35:05

Your Comment:

This expansion would be of great economic benefit to our local community in many respects and not create any undue pressures or problems on local infrastructure or resources as they currently exist. Mission Ridge can easily support an increase in visitors during all seasons and this is great opportunity to make our area better. I'm all for it.

Name: Mike Rolfs
Email: mikerolfs@nwi.net
Completion time: 2025-10-20 19:03:56

Your Comment:

Chapter 11.89 MASTER PLANNED RESORTS OVERLAY DISTRICT of Chelan County Code requires that "The tract or tracts of land included in a proposed master planned resort must be in one ownership or control or the subject of a joint application by the owners of all the property included." The project lands include USFS, WDFW and private land, and the ski area improvements are owned by Mission Ridge (New Mission LLC). The DEIS SEPA checklist application has one applicant: Tamarack Saddle LLC. The DEIS does not clarify who will own new ski area improvements. Chair 6 will originate in the Mission Ridge Special Use Permit area, and terminate on possible expanded SUP land. Will that chair be owned by New Mission LLC? Chair 8 is completely on private land on Section 19. Will that chair be owned by Tamarack Saddle? Chair 7 originates on private section 19 and terminates on USFS section 30. Who will own that chair? If Mission Ridge will own all of the ski area improvements, then they will be a concessionaire on Tamarack land, but Mission Ridge is cited for fire protection and evacuation activity in the development as if they have ownership authority. To satisfy the intent of the single ownership requirement of the Chelan County MPR codes, shouldn't New Mission LLC, USFS, WDFW all be joint applicants on this SEPA application? If so, since Mission Ridge isn't a landowner, should the two companies, New Mission LLC and Tamarack Saddle LLC be required to combine into a single legal entity to satisfy the single owner applicant requirement? Thank you for considering my comment.

Name: Mireya Quick-Bartholomew
Email: yeyaquick@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 13:07:59

Your Comment:

I am not in favor of this purposed (Ski area expansion). Natural resources, wildlife, local farms, and access to trails belong to us all. We need to protect and cherish the Nature around us. It is priceless.

Name: Molly
Email: mmrobertson9@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 08:56:16

Your Comment:

Mission Ridge has always prided themselves on the short ski lift lines and the fact that they keep tickets to a minimum so there isn't a lot of traffic on the mountain. If that's their goal and moto, why add a hotel and housing and ruin the quiet they have up there? Not only would they ruin natural habitat and land but wildlife would be in danger of losing homes. The road up to mission ridge is also unable to handle the traffic/weather now. How could it possibly handle 10000 cars a day? Why can't we just stay the small/quiet/cute ski hill that people want to come visit? It's not like you don't get enough business now.

Name: Monica
Email: Monifa26@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-18 17:32:28

Your Comment:

Super excited to see mission ridge grow and expand. Its already one of my favorite destinations. i cant wait to see the new terrain and to have another restaurant and lodging option.

Name: Mya

Email: mchornyak8@gmail.com

Completion time: 2025-10-20 11:18:43

Your Comment:

Keep Wenatchee mountains natural!! This town can NOT accommodate this much traffic. We're already struggling with people moving here. Rent will go up. Squilchuck can't handle this many people and shouldn't have to. Keep mission ridge local.

Name: N

Email: T

Completion time: 2025-10-20 20:18:09

Your Comment:

I would like see mission ridge as a unique place to go skiing. It is so peaceful right now as it's up by itself not a lot around. Please keep it how it is. If you do this it will turn people away local Wenatchee people we will go to Steven's pass. We are against this decision

Name: Natalie Williams, retired Systems engineer
Email: natalieseesees@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-15 06:18:55

Your Comment:

The following proposed 'Project Construction' included in the Application are UNnecessary to meet their 'stated objective'. ■ Single-family residential development (265 units) ■ Condominiums, townhouses, and duplexes (621 units) Permanent housing is NOT required to supply overnight accommodations. The 'No Action' alternative is not a valid comparison. An expanded ski/tubing area and an expanded parking area would be a valid comparison. This plus an added hotel with septic would be a valid comparison. An unsafe and unsustainable city-sized community on that steep hillside is NOT a valid comparison. Please provide a valid Alternative. Elk migration corridors on USFS and WDFW land must not be disturbed. The habitat it provides is already being encroached on by the resort via proximity. Please provide a valid Alternative. Why isn't Global Slope Stability Analysis included in the EA? It is ludicrous to believe that this Analysis is not required for this large introduction of concrete and natural water flow interruption. If the USFS has made this signed off on this, it's because that specialist was fired, and no one evaluated the request. Since the USFS' EA does not include the Private Land impacted, a competent geologist/hydrologist organization must be hired to do a thorough analysis, integrating that with the limited USFS EA. Please require this Analysis and provide a valid Alternative. Even the Executive Summary acknowledges, "The Proposed Project Area has a historically high risk of earth instability". This needs to be quantified, and modelled with a 20-year prediction showing how the hotter summers and heavier Spring snows currently predicted in the WA 20-year Climate Model will affect the slopes of the specific Proposed Project. Assuming that these slopes will remain unchanged is UNacceptable, and the County deserves a competent Slope Analysis including a 20-year Climate Model. I would like to contest Table 4.1 conclusion that the Earth impacts are "unavoidable". They ARE avoidable by disturbing fewer slopes, introducing less concrete and spacing it farther apart. Please provide a competent analysis and valid Alternative. What is the funding source for the new Proposed road, water and power infrastructure? Is it the Chelan County taxpayer? Where is the business plan that shows in "phased" detail that these invasions of concrete are NOT funded by the taxpaying property owners that don't want it? Please provide budgeting and sourcing for 1) Power infrastructure, 2) Water infrastructure and 3) Transportation infrastructure for each phase of the Project. Regarding paragraph 2.3.1.1: Motorized use must NOT be allowed in or near the basin of the Proposed expansion. That would be an unacceptable impact to wildlife and air quality. What is the proposed parking and enforcement plan for the proposed 621 multifamily 'units' and 265 houses? What is the specific fire response plan? Demonstrate that multiple fire vehicles will be able to respond rapidly to a condo fire. Multiple retired USFS rangers and officials have commented that if there is a fire in this densely populated, hard to evacuate area, the entire resort will go up in flames, and there is a high likelihood of human casualty. A volunteer staff at a minimal fire station is unacceptable security for this highly pristine and treasured area. Please provide a complete fire response plan, showing ingress/egress for ladder units, and a winter evacuation plan. Please show a complete road egress plan for the 'Mountain Service' road, showing ladder unit pull outs. Waste water discharge to Squilchuck Creek is unacceptable without an advanced WWTP. Please complete the inadequate waste water analysis, and provide scope, cost and schedule for an advanced WWTP, showing source funding. This analysis must include build-out impacts to the surrounding slope. Please provide a competent analysis with a valid Alternative. Further comments via letter, as you

Name: Natasha Rathbun
Email: Ratgirl@nwi.net
Completion time: 2025-10-21 05:41:06

Your Comment:
I vote no

Name: Nate Radcliffe
Email: Natetradcliffe@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 10:27:01

Your Comment:

Do not support. Tired of this area losing its natural beauty due to large scale development projects.

Name: Nathan Dietrich
Email: natesnowfish@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-16 07:51:23

Your Comment:

The expansion has very little to do with the ski area and is more a development of properties. This provides no added terrain or benefit to the average daily current user, and it will forever change the feel of the mountain. I have been going up here for 40 years and I feel this is a bad idea. We don't need a bunch of housing up there. We need improvements to the current infrastructure. With the current price of skiing at Mission Ridge your average Wenatchee resident can't afford to ski up there. It's gotten ridiculous. We charge the same rates as larger mountains that have significantly more terrain and snowfall. I love Mission Ridge and I'll continue to buy my pass up there, but I worry about its future for my kids. It won't be the same.

Name: Nathan Folkers
Email: ndf.folk@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-18 20:13:59

Your Comment:

Mission Ridge has spent a decade and millions of dollars doing their proper due diligence and jumping through all the hoops to make this happen. Every possible study was conducted. All necessary parties were involved. This will generate so much property tax revenue that goes straight back into Wenatchee and Chelan county. The economic impact speaks for itself. The environmental impact has been properly studied. The report is comprehensive and exhaustive. Thank you.

Name: Nathan Liechty
Email: nathan.w.liechty@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 21:06:44

Your Comment:

Hello, I am writing to voice my skepticism regarding the draft EIS for the planned Mission Ridge expansion. While I believe the proposed expansion would negatively impact the charming small town nature of the ski hill, I am most concerned that the impacts of radically increased traffic on Squilchuck Road are being grossly understated. The narrow, two lane rural road is simply not fit for such a dramatic expansion in traffic. The developer has no reasonable mitigation plan in place. Thank you,
Nathan Liechty

Name: Nathaniel Blue
Email: nathanielrblue@me.com
Completion time: 2025-10-01 15:51:11

Your Comment:

Overall I am in favor of the Mission Ridge expansion. I am even interested in starting a small business at the new base if and when it is built with light retail space. I do believe the expansion will update the very old lifts and lodges to be safe for more generations of skiers to enjoy. In addition, I believe that it will create more jobs for the Wenatchee area and enrich the lives of those living nearby. As the summer dinner operation this summer showed, people want to go up and enjoy Mission Ridge and the beautiful nature year round. I could see mountain biking in the future as well. My biggest concern is the proposal to add a road into the top of the Forest Ridge Community. Our road is not designed to handle skier traffic and is very steep with many sharp turns between homes. There is a high chance for accidents and congestion right in front of our neighbors. I suggest the team planning look into other options for a second road into the new proposed base. One idea is one that hugs the ridge heading toward the old base. A second option may be a road that connects to the top Squilchuck state park or Upper Wheeler Road. Both roads are set up with a much straighter curve and would impact home owners in the area much less than the current proposed road into Forest Ridge. Thank you for your time. Nathaniel Blue
Homeowner in Forest Ridge

Name: Nick Goedken
Email: nickgoedken@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-22 08:40:02

Your Comment:

In an era when most major ski areas have been absorbed by large national pass programs like Epic and Ikon, Mission Ridge remains proudly locally owned and operated. This independence allows the resort to focus on the needs of our community rather than the priorities of distant corporate shareholders. Supporting the expansion helps keep a vital winter recreation asset under local stewardship, safeguarding its unique character, accessibility, and commitment to North Central Washington. Without approval of this plan, Mission Ridge could be pressured to sell or partner with one of the mega-corporations dominating the industry, risking higher prices, reduced local input, and the loss of the authentic culture that makes it special. A thriving, locally owned ski area ensures that revenues stay in our region and that decisions about growth, pricing, and guest experience continue to reflect the values of the people who live and recreate here. The Mission Ridge expansion also represents a thoughtful investment in the future of our regional economy. By creating year-round recreation opportunities, lodging, and hospitality services, the project will sustain hundreds of jobs, boost tourism, and provide new income for small businesses throughout Chelan and Douglas counties. Local restaurants, hotels, equipment shops, and transportation providers will benefit from a steady influx of visitors, while increased tax revenues will strengthen schools, infrastructure, and essential public services. A thriving community depends on responsible growth — without it, Wenatchee risks stagnation and decline. Supporting this EIS is not only an investment in Mission Ridge, but also in the long-term prosperity, vitality, and resilience of our entire region. Equally important is the project's commitment to environmental stewardship, which should remain of paramount concern and be carefully considered at every stage of implementation. More than 600 acres of open space will remain protected, and glade skiing, backcountry access, and trail systems are designed to complement rather than overwhelm the natural landscape. By implementing careful erosion control, replanting, and watershed protection strategies, the expansion can improve forest health and help visitors develop a deeper appreciation for the mountain environment. A locally owned resort is uniquely positioned to balance recreation with conservation, ensuring that this treasured alpine setting remains healthy for future generations. Finally, thoughtful transportation planning will be key to maintaining a safe and enjoyable guest experience as visitation grows. The EIS rightly recognizes the need for additional parking, improved road connectivity, and measures such as shuttles or carpool incentives to reduce congestion on Ski Hill Drive and nearby routes. Nearby resorts such as Crystal Mountain and Stevens Pass — both owned by Epic and Ikon respectively — illustrate how rapid growth without well-coordinated transit and parking solutions can quickly overwhelm local infrastructure, frustrating visitors and straining surrounding communities. Their corporate ownership often leaves local concerns underrepresented in decision-making. By learning from these examples and keeping Mission Ridge under local stewardship, this project can implement proactive traffic management while ensuring that community voices remain central as the resort grows, protecting the quiet character of neighboring areas.

Name: Nick Romolino
Email: nickromolino@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 09:20:56

Your Comment:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments regarding the DEIS for the proposed development adjacent to Mission Ridge ski area - after reviewing the proposed plan and seeing the potential impacts to the immediate and adjacent areas I feel compelled to express concern about how this will negatively affect the community of Wenatchee and the the plants and animals that require a clean environment to thrive. Wenatchee and Mission Ridge are a refugee from places like Steven's Pass and other commercialized ski areas around the state - this plan would take that status away for the short term gain of a developer who is not from the area and others who are looking at the potential revenue stream from this expansion. I do not believe that this proposed expansion takes into consideration how unique of an environment surrounds the current ski area, nor does it outline the impact of thousands of people living full time on the hill. Clean air, soil and water are some of the last, unspoiled assets that this valley has to offer and the idea of throwing that away for commercial development seems extremely short-sighted. The proposed expansion adds minimal new skiable terrain - instead it focuses on a village area, restaurants, condos and housing. All of these things will not improve the skiing and riding experience of Mission Ridge, they will do the exact opposite. The road traffic alone will cost taxpayers endless money in road repairs, as well as the immediate harm to the wildlife and air/water quality. The proposed amount of four thousand people living year-round up there is larger than the entire town of Leavenworth and we see what a mess that place is on any given weekend or holidays, not to mention there is only one way in and out of the ski area. This amount of people living full time on the hill, along with the space for many thousand more on a day to day basis seem completely irresponsible and reckless. Myself and many others are not opposed to a ski-area expansion that works with the community it is part of and takes careful consideration of the environment and wildlife it will affect. The current plan seems to be miles away from this sentiment and instead seems to be a blanket plan that focuses more on expansion for the sake of profits and development for the sake of development. I urge the committee to carefully consider the impact that this will have on this special place and community , and to not sell-out our unique piece of the world for such trivial and short-term profits. There are better methods for expansion and revenue generation without having an entire town built in an area that was never meant to, nor should not have one. Thank You for Your Time Nicholas T. Romolino Wenatchee, WA

Name: Nick ruffer
Email: Ruffernick7@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 07:32:13

Your Comment:

I am fully against the new development proposal. It will impact the wild life, the quality of life, and the feeling that mission provides. I do believe growth is important for any business or person but this is not the answer. I am in full disagreement with the mission ridge development proposal.

Name: Nick Winters

Email: nickwinters@me.com

Completion time: 2025-10-13 13:15:55

Your Comment:

One of the great things about Mission Ridge is how even on a busy day, it still feels tolerable. My fear with the expansion is that this quality will become a thing of the past. It could lose it's true "hometown hill" vibe. The terrain expansion areas don't get the same amount of snowfall as the upper areas. I can't see this being a good tradeoff for townhomes and weekenders. Can't support this unfortunately. What we have is already great!

Name: Nicole Derting
Email: grothnicole@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-09-08 13:25:35

Your Comment:

This is not a comment of support. 90% of the expansion consists of houses and condos which will do nothing but make the runs crowded and create long lift lines. No one local will live there, it'll be filled with vrbo and westsiders. Mission will lose what makes it the best ski hill. When the expansion starts we will not be renewing our 5 season passes and our 3 children (will be 4 kids competing when the 4th is old enough) will not continue training/ competing with Missions ski team. We will move their training to another mountain.

Name: Nik Moushon
Email: nmoushon@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 22:08:10

Your Comment:

My biggest concern is the massive amount of traffic that this development will bring to Squilchuck Rd. I live on Squilchuck Rd and during the winter season, especially on weekends, i can sit at my driveway for 5-10 minutes waiting to get out. My driveway comes on to Squilchuck at a steep angle, so no matter what size car I have, to turn right and go down hill I have to go into the other lane as it is unavoidable. With the current volume of traffic can make getting in and out of my own home quite the task with the constant flow of traffic up and down the hill on weekends and even weekdays some time. Now take the current traffic and multiply it 8 fold, from roughly 1,200 to 10,000, and that is going to be an absolute nightmare. Mind you, the current traffic is highly seasonal, focused on the weekends, and has peaks in the morning and evening. The new development makes this high traffic volume year round and all hours of the day since there is a massive amount of homes being built for permanent residence. Squilchuck Rd is a very windy road with a lot of blind corners on it. People currently drive down this road going anywhere from 35 - 65 mph, despite what the speed limit is. The vast majority of driveways and private drives that have direct access onto Squilchuck Rd are not at a 90 degree entry and have long clear lines of sight up the road to be able to properly anticipate a driver coming down hill doing 45-50mph, which is the speed limit, let alone those going 60-65 mph. No add the massive amount of traffic this development will bring and Squilchuck is going to become a very hazard road to drive and live on. I do not believe the developers statement that the daily trip would actually be much lower than the study shows. Usually for big public attraction areas traffic is always way worse than anyone projects. Just think about the high traffic around amusement parks or stadiums. We also have a very good local example of traffic studies showing how a project will use less daily trip and need less parking than the code requires then turn around have have massive traffic and parking problems...that example is River Side 9 Apartments in Wenatchee. I also have concerns that this DEIS report is suggesting that just because a second access is hard to make work that it somehow justifies that its not needed. The Labor Mountain Fire that happened just this month is a prime example of why a second access is a must. That fire exploded and doubled in size in less than 24 hours. It spread all the way to the back side of Mission Ridge. If the winds had persisted at the same intensity for another day it would have made its way over the ridge of Mission Ridge. Having tens of thousands of people in one concentrated location all trying to evacuate out and down Squilchuck Rd along with all the residences along the way is just a life threatening disaster waiting to happen. I support the expansion of Mission Ridge but there needs to be limits put on the amount of development based on the conditions and size of the one and only road up the mountain. I would like to suggest that Squilchuck Rd could be improved and expanded to take on the new traffic but I dont see that as feasible because of the amount of private property that would need to be altered or bought out to improve the entire length of Squilchuck Rd. Not to mention the impact on almost the entire length Squilchuck Creek. Saying that the County will reevaluate after each phase is not enough. There needs to be a better way the gauge and protect the locals that live on this road.

Name: Niki McMahon
Email: nikimcmahon95@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 09:57:56

Your Comment:

I can't believe the city of Wenatchee would allow this to go through. We grew up skiing on mission ridge my kids grew up there . The whole reason people go to mission is that it's still a small town ski hill. Nobody wants this to go through . You can't go back once you do this . Niki McMahon

Name: No
Email: Plh519@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 19:15:36

Your Comment:

Please do NOT let this happen. It would change the whole situation of where I live. From a quiet drive home after work to chaos. Full city in the woods. No thanks. I love to ski at mission ridge now. If it's allowed to happen I would be out. We don't want this

Name: Nora Heath
Email: Nora.b.heath@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 12:36:27

Your Comment:

Dear Chelan County Hearing Examiner, As a community member who treasures Mission Ridge, I urge you to deny the proposed expansion. This place is more than a recreation area for the community, it's part of our shared home, where families hike, ski, and find peace in nature. The scale of this project—thousands of new residents, cars, and visitors—would overwhelm our roads, strain limited water resources, and increase fire risk. More importantly, it would change the character of the ridge forever. Our community values open spaces, clean water, and the quiet beauty that connects us to the land. Growth should honor those values, not erase them. Please protect Mission Ridge for future generations. With gratitude, Nora B. Heath Born and raised in Wenatchee Community Member and Steward of the Land

Name: Patricia Long
Email: fool4katz827@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 13:13:23

Your Comment:

Rather than the simple addition of extra lifts it would appear the end result would be something resembling Aspen, CO. The damage to the ecosystem would be significantly detrimental to both the environment and the wildlife in the area. The increased sewage load itself would be awful. I might ask where is the Environmental Impact Statement?

Name: Patrick English
Email: Truckie161@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 11:02:13

Your Comment:

In my opinion, this would be a disservice long term. We ski Mission specifically because it is a local mountain, surrounded by the local community who take care of it. There are so many ski resorts who cater to folks who live in Western Washington, please don't sell out the community to chase money.

Name: Patrick Pinkerton
Email: Patpink41@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-13 16:44:51

Your Comment:

I adamantly oppose the proposed expansion to the mission ridge ski area. I moved to Wenatchee primarily because of mission ridge ski. It is an amazing local mountain, replete with customs and culture that are unique and tied to the Wenatchee area. This expansion would create yet another ski area for the wealthy, at the expense of another local town.

Name: Paul Amato

Email: pra717@yahoo.com

Completion time: 2025-09-09 12:23:49

Your Comment:

We are a family that loves Mission Ridge and the area can't wait for the expansion. With a growing family, we are looking for a second home on the mountain to spend time all year around. We are looking forward to the winters, but are excited to explore the area in the summers. Our 3 sons love the outdoors and we have so many hobbies that are conducive to the area. With those hobbies, we plan to support the local economy and buy our gear and goods. We cannot wait to place a deposit on a mountain side home. We hope Mission Ridge will be permitted to expand. And we can't wait for them to add a bike park in the future. Regards, Dr. Paul Amato

Name: Paul Graves
Email: pmossgraves@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 20:36:47

Your Comment:

Hello , Myself and my wife Becky strongly oppose this expansion , there is only one way up and down this mountain and the currant road can not handle the extra expected traffic, legally you have to have a secondary road for traffic and there is not one there now , We live on the corner of Mission and Crawford st. and my wife can barely get out of the driveway on mission st. now , this will affect us and the section's of road and all the houses around around this area , Skiing is pretty much a rich persons activity and most people in this valley will never be able to afford or go skiing . With our ski hill so close to town you don't need to build housing on the mountain as 10 minutes away you can stay and eat in town / and or build housing / and rentals for visitors . This area at 4600 ft. is not the place for housing as there is a lot of wildlife that lives in the area also and it will be affected by this proposal , keeping this ski hill local and smaller will benefit our community in the long run and be better for all of this community , thank you . Paul and Becky Graves

Name: Paul Oursland
Email: paul.oursland@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-08 10:22:16

Your Comment:

I am excited about the expansion of mission ridge ski area as it focuses on increasing the family friendliness of the resort. The new terrain focusing on green runs and the increased options for dining and lodging make a trip to Mission Ridge for more reasonable and sustainable for my family. While the on site lodging does make me worry about the overall environmental impact, I also understand that mitigation can occur to help with these concerns. I also think that summer activities (mountain biking) should be considered in future expansion. This could help prevent sprawl of these activities into surrounding areas that aren't already impacted.

Name: Paul Young
Email: pnyoung07@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 08:25:44

Your Comment:

I am very concerned about the environmental and recreation degradation from the proposed Mission Ridge Expansion. The proposed development area is home to a large number of wild life that the DEIS claims are not present. A simple hike through the area can easily disprove the DEIS. Adding the total number of dwelling units to this area will have a major impact on the wildlife, landscape and ability for year-round recreation on the public lands at Mission Ridge. The potential to add 10,000 car trips a day on the road to Mission Ridge, which is already not in the best shape, is not viable. Not to mention if there is an emergency of any kind (e.g. wildfires) evacuating the area on this one road will put many lives at risk including the people that currently live in the area. The proposed alternative route for people to hike out of the Mission Ridge area down toward Squilchuck is ludicrous. To assume that the general public can make that hike in an emergency is irresponsible. I also have concerns about the large amount of infrastructure (water, sewer, and power) that need to be built for this project. The DEIS glosses over just how massive an undertaking these upgrades are for the developer. I fear that they will start the development, go bankrupt and then leave the land a total mess. I don't believe enough research has been conducted or a serious analysis has been performed based on the DEIS presented by the developer. This project should not be allowed to move forward as presented.

Name: Paula Grieb
Email: griebsmith@icloud.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 21:38:50

Your Comment:

The expansion plans seem grandiose. Scale them back some and stop catering so much to the affluent! Level 3 evacuations and Squilchuck Road make this dream hazardous. You need to be more transparent instead of blah, blah, blah. You need to help the neighborhood at the bottom of the drainage. You need to respect and preserve the ecosystem too.

Name: Pete Smith
Email: Pete@alpinepestmgmt.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 11:11:28

Your Comment:

Please do not approve this. Although I love mission Ridge I prefer it stays the size it is. This would ruin the small mountain feel of the ski hill as well as add way too much traffic to the Squilchick. This expansion would also harm our local elk populations by blocking one of their migration routes. Please do what's right for our community and wildlife populations and deny this expansion.

Name: Peter Abrahamsen
Email: rainhead@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 16:36:10

Your Comment:

I am writing to urge you to select the No Action Alternative for the proposed Mission Ridge development. I am an instructor with Oregon State University's Master Melittologist program, specializing in bumble bees. I am also a member of the Washington Native Bee Society and the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation. Mission Ridge is one of the few remaining places in the Pacific Northwest where the Western Bumble Bee is doing well, having been extirpated from most of its extensive range. This is a Species of Greatest Conservation Need in Washington, and is being considered for Endangered status at a federal level. It would be irresponsible to proceed with this development project without studying and considering the risks to this iconic species. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Name: Peter Sullivan
Email: plkgkjrj@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-08 10:54:50

Your Comment:

The environment impact of the housing is my main concern. I've read through all the literature, unstable ground, sensitive area, high fire-risk, a lot of needed infrastructure. I don't think it can be done in an environmentally friendly way. I understand the need for funding for the expansion, but it seems to be adding more cash value for patrons of WA vs actual usability. The reason why I say this is because they have not demonstrated a priority to user experience currently. Childcare was removed during COVID times and never re-instated. Additional children programs for an outlet for children and families and future investment into the next generation of skiers is sorely missed. Look at Sun Peaks for inspiration. Additional hiking and biking trails in the new expansion? They could do that now, but choose not to. MR started opening their lodge for summer events, excellent! Now build some hiking and mountain bike trails to attract people. Look at the Leavenworth Ski Hill for inspiration. Heck, let volunteer organizations (Evergreen) build and maintain the trails. I'm talking about man-powered, non-lift access mountain biking. This is why I believe this is more about a real-estate venture and not a WA people experience argument. They currently haven't optimized what they have. Speaking of which, fire-mitigation/glading would GREATLY enhance the ski-ability of current terrain as there are many portions with thickly wooded areas with downed trees. Granted, I do acknowledge that no WA ski resorts have on-mountain lodging, Wenatchee was ample lodging and is very close with good bus support. I also acknowledge that we could use additional beginner green terrain and employee housing.

Name: Prefer not to say

Email: Prefer not to say

Completion time: 2025-10-20 18:12:40

Your Comment:

This will further convert the Wenatchee area into Seattle. Wenatchee is already overcrowded as it is, and this will just further overcrowd the area. It is sickening for me to think that beautiful wildlife habitat may be turned into condos and homes, all for purposes of making money. This area should be protected from further development for that reason. My grandpa has told me many stories from back in the day when he would pack in on horses to the mission ridge area before the ski hill was there. This will just continue to urbanize an area that shouldn't be urbanized. This will remove the beauty of the land to become more of a rich persons getaway. Every person I've talked to who regularly recreate at mission ridge have been completely against this proposal. The last thing Wenatchee residents want are more homes and more people!

Name: Quinn Cosgrove
Email: qcosgrove@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-17 15:06:29

Your Comment:

I have enjoyed many years of skiing with my family at Mission Ridge. I fully support the Mission Ridge expansion plan and look forward to skiing my favorite mountain for years to come.

Name: Rachel Granberg
Email: rachelmgranberg@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 06:34:45

Your Comment:

As a local wildland firefighter with the USFS, I am appalled at the proposed development without additional major ingress and egress. I was fighting fire in Nahahum Canyon this fall and it was very challenging to be bringing in firefighters and evacuating residents on the same road. The developers need to pay for additional ingress and egress, it's a public safety issue.

Name: Rachel Jostaff
Email: josephson.rachel@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 16:34:38

Your Comment:

I live in Wenatchee and I am an avid skier at Mission Ridge, and love the ski area. That being said, I am concerned and even thrown off by the expansion proposal. To me, and also what I think the MR folks are wanting to capture in the proposal, is an emphasis on the spirit of Mission Ridge. MR is a special place, one of few remaining ski areas not owned by a major corporation. The vibes are just different when you hit those slopes, and the town knows just how special that is. However, the expansion is in opposition to those ideals to the fullest extent. This is what I would like to see for an expansion: - better/expanded parking and shuttles - a larger and better beginner/learner area - upgraded lifts (even just chair 1 and maybe 4 if I could dream). I personally don't think the lines are ever too bad, but the lifts are very slow. - the additional of a small quirky lodge that matches the spirit of MR. I think of Timberline lodge as a parallel example (although that is a bit overkill I will admit!) What I see actually in the expansion: - overall, it is an egregious real estate project that turns our sweet ski hill into every other run-of-the-mill ski area that makes it less and less affordable for the everyday folks that we live and work besides - truly unacceptable lack of proper environmental surveying that was easily disproven by some casual citizens that put up some trail cameras. We absolutely must protect our local wildlife. - an expansion of terrain that is solely for beginners and zero added moderate and advanced (to a greater extent than is needed to fulfill my wishes for a better learning zone). Further, I don't think adding mt biking is necessary: Wenatchee has some of the best mt biking access in the planet and I cannot see anyone I know who mt bikes paying to use Mission lifts when they can just hit the trails for free. Many folks who would benefit from a lift to ride already have e-bikes. I just don't see the ROI here, even though I think mt biking at ski areas is usually neat. - where is the funding coming from?? Since this question remains ambiguous, I fear we can only assume the worst - outside ultra-wealthy agents propping this up only to cash out from local wallets and not actually valuing what our community desires and deserves - I toured the waste water treatment earlier this year, and something we spoke about was Wenatchee's growth. I am concerned that resources for things like water treatment, waste water management, and fire danger management are not fully flushed out for such an enormous expansion. I would really like to see Mission Ridge succeed and continue to be a valued gem of the community and craft a plan to make improvements that benefit our community. I would like to see a much more limited expansion that encapsulates what I consider the values of Mission Ridge - fun, access, and safety. As such, I do not believe that the current expansion plan hits any of those three marks, and I encourage the expansion to cease and be redone. Additionally, I really do hope that the feedback that MR is getting is taken seriously, as I have heard there is significant opposition. Please remember that overall, this community loves Mission Ridge, and we are worried about the fate of it in turning into something that is just another fancy ski resort, and not the valued gem that we love, support, and see ourselves in. Thank you, Rachel

Name: Rachel Rasmussen
Email: Rachelrazz@outlook.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 20:55:36

Your Comment:

I oppose the mission ridge expansion. Squilchuck Rd can not accommodate the massive influx of traffic. Also concerning is emergency evacuation plans, as again, the road cannot accommodate the extra traffic and people. There's no viable way to accommodate a resort of the magnitude they're projecting. I live off Squilchuck Rd and it'd be a nightmare everyday to leave my house with the increased traffic. 100% against this master plan. Thank you.

Name: Randolph S. Lewis
Email: stormcrowzed@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 11:18:16

Your Comment:

As a member of the Wenatchi/N'psquosa Tribe, I do oppose the expansion of the Mission Ridge Ski resort..These are Traditional Cultural Properties of our N'psquosa People...it is also important wildlife habitat..I could elaborate more on this but suffice it to say that I am in direct opposition to this.

Name: Rebecca Woolston
Email: rebecca.woolston@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 11:30:14

Your Comment:

Perching a new high density community on top of this area is foolish. Our road infrastructure cannot handle this new traffic, there is only one means of ingress/egress, and a massive fire occurring is a matter of when, not if. People will be trapped and unable to escape. Firefighting backup will be unable to mobilize up a steep, single two lane road while 8,000 people are trying to escape with household goods. Don't allow this development.

Name: Renata Ballard
Email: Renataballard@hotmail
Completion time: 2025-10-20 11:10:40

Your Comment:

I love the area the way it is and see no need for development .

Name: Renee Swearingen
Email: renee.entiat@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 15:47:47

Your Comment:

Although the DEIS is incredibly lengthy, it overlooks and/or minimizes severe impacts to wildlife in the proposed area. That invalidates the information found within it. I would not be in favor of the expansion without a truthful review.

Name: Rex Bratton
Email: rex.bratton@rjbventures.com
Completion time: 2025-09-08 13:34:07

Your Comment:

I grew up in Wenatchee. WHS Class of 1970. I have skied at Mission Ridge (MR) since the winter of 1968. I have been a season pass holder since 1974. MR is a unique family-oriented ski resort. They have continually tried to improve the visitor experience, be that with snow making, new chairs, expanded facilities, or expanded operations like night skiing. In my opinion, they are an integral part of our community and our local economy. They provide hundreds of winter jobs in a region where agriculture is the predominant economic activity. While I hope they take the expansion at a pace they can manage well, not to over develop before there is a need or they can find the personnel with the needed skill sets to properly manage such a large undertaking. I have watched they acquisition of the resort by Harbor Properties, and now Larry Scrivanich. If you look at why Stevens Pass and Mission Ridge were BOTH sold by Harbor Properties, the conclusion can only be, there is not enough of a footprint capable to support the growth that has happened at Schweitzer Resort. I LOVE what Schweitzer has become. HOWEVER, their footprint is considerably larger that MR. Schweitzer skiable terrain is 2900 acres - plus all the condos, private homes, and hotels. But the development has taken at least 10 years for the newer lifts, more restaurants, and a new boutique hotel. They are now part of the Alterra Mountain Company. MR on the other hand claims 2200 acres of skiable terrain, however, they have tried to put names of runs on places there is a) never enough snow or b) closed due to safety concerns. The footprint available for more development is also a big question mark - but I do wish them nothing but success. The plans should be a great economic boost for the community.

Name: Rhonda Walsh
Email: crhondawalsh@Hotmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-12 13:06:59

Your Comment:

I do not support the expansion of Mission Ridge. I love this mountain and do not want to see even more and more people crammed into this beautiful place. Our town cannot manage our current traffic issues with the resulting additional housing that has carved its way into our town. Just try to negotiate the Jack in the Box, Safeway, Glaze, Dutch Brothers nightmare on Grant Road in East Wenatchee or the Wendys, Starbucks, Walmart mess in Wenatchee. We live in a beautiful place and just like the Enchantments when too many people are added in the results are a disaster to the environment, the local people, and the local community. At present, in order to ski with my grandchildren we have to be at the parking lot by 8:30 to ensure a spot. We eat in our vehicles as the lodge is completely full. What should be a serene, lovely experience results in a crowded mess of people and attitudes that I do not want my grandchildren to be exposed to. I grew up in this valley and obviously things tend to change but I do not want housing, condos and commercial buildings populating the beauty of Mission Ridge.

Name: Richard Beukema
Email: rich.beukema@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-16 20:48:48

Your Comment:

I am in support of the expansion plan to ensure continued recreation in the area and to meet further needs of a growing population.

Name: Richard Lester
Email: rwleat@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-09-18 20:01:35

Your Comment:

The expansion of Mission Ridge is a large value to the Wenatchee Valley. The opposition to the expansion seems to be supported by a group that would like to see the Ridge remain a local “ski club” for a bunch of retired skiers. With proper guidelines the development of Mission Ridge will benefit the valley economy. Ecological concerns seem minimal as evidenced by current Ridge operations. It seems the biggest concern is access and egress which is a concern in many areas of Wenatchee. The Mission Ridge expansion should be allowed to continue.

Name: Richard Lutz
Email: hello@richardlutz.com
Completion time: 2025-10-10 13:33:27

Your Comment:

Mission Ridge is awesome. In a world where Vail and Alterra control skiing in the state, we need an awesome resort like Mission Ridge to thrive.

Name: Richard watford
Email: Richard.watford88@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 12:32:05

Your Comment:

I am against the expansion of mission ridge ski resort. The impact on wildlife and to the community is detrimental . Folks already can't afford to ski up there with the cost being upward of \$145 for a day lift ticket. The amount of housing they want to put up there will displace much of the wildlife that uses the area during spring.

Name: Rick Shorett
Email: shoretr@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-17 16:25:30

Your Comment:

As a skier for over 60 years I will most likely not see the results of this local area expansion myself but feel its important for the ski area's future and for our local economy. My hope is that it will continue to focus on local families & skiers for generations to come. The chance to get into the outdoors and exercise is very important., especially in the winter. The Mission Ridge team has done an outstanding job answering the hundreds of questions and concerns brought up about the project. I believe they have made the appropriate adjustments to accommodate these concerns. I approve of the long term expansion of the facility.

Name: Rita Abbruzzi

Email: rcabbruzzi@gmail.com

Completion time: 2025-09-25 11:24:07

Your Comment:

I am concerned about the lack of acknowledgment of the dangerous intersection of Forest Ridge Drive and Mission Ridge Road. Currently the intersection is already dangerous for even the most informed and careful drivers. Contributing factors include the slope of Forest Ridge Drive (which is often icy at the intersection), the curve of Mission Ridge Road right before the intersection while traveling downhill, and the high snow banks obstructing viewing oncoming cars at the intersection. Increased traffic at this dangerous intersection, especially if secondary road access involves Forest Ridge, will make this danger even worse.

Name: Robert Dayle Massey
Email: masseydayle@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 10:09:37

Your Comment:

I am against the proposed development at Mission Ridge Ski Area. My concerns are for wildlife, increased crowding, incredible wildfire danger, water issues, and for the negative impacts the development would have on the environment and the many users who currently use the area for both skiing and other recreational pursuits at all times of the year. All so some wealthy developers can make a lot of money off the backs of out of town skiers at the expense of local residents.

Name: Roberta Daniels
Email: Famleafair@aol.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 08:53:39

Your Comment:

I am against the proposed expansion at Mission Ridge. There are so many reasons why. The increased road traffic: People living off the Squilchuck Road will not be able to access their homes due to increased traffic. What about fire? There is only one way out and with all the people going down the hill how is EMS going to get up when a fire starts which it will. Most of our fires are human started. The added people living there will increase the risk expedinately. The pressure this will put on our precious wildlife is a huge concern. This expansion is going to change the flavor of our tight knit community forever. It will never be the same. Please say "no". Thank you.

Name: Robin Thomas
Email: robinhthomas@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-17 18:48:48

Your Comment:

Against mission ridge expansion. Poor use of natural resource. Mission is special for mom and pop vibe and road cannot support that amount of traffic in winter conditions. I am worried about fire danger and impact to water resources.

Name: Rod & Nancy Jones
Email: rjones@jps.net
Completion time: 2025-10-21 16:43:11

Your Comment:

We fully support the proposed Mission Ridge Expansion. This project is essential to maintain a high quality and safe experience on the mountain. And it is critical to address the local needs for more winter recreation capacity. We have a state-wide shortage of quality winter recreation areas. This project will help address this need. The Mission Ridge ski area is a fabulous place to ski and board for both locals and visitors from outside the area. The snow conditions, views and runs offer an unparalleled experience for a mid-size ski area. Our family and friends have been skiing here since Mission Ridge was opened in the 60's. Unfortunately, much of the existing facilities are becoming old and dated, and need to be remodeled, rebuilt or replaced to maintain a high quality and safe resort. The three existing Riblet double chairs are 50 years old and have long exceeded their design life. The manufacturer is out of business, replacement parts are hard to find and the lifts are increasingly unreliable. Last year several chairs fell off of Chair 4 for different reasons. Fortunately no injuries resulted but the outcome could easily have been more tragic. Replacing just first, and oldest Riblet (Chair 1) will cost at least \$5 Million and there aren't funds to do just that. Funding from property/housing sales from the Mission Ridge Expansion not only fund the new project but will provide the critically needed funds to replace the Riblet chairs, and provide for needed upgrades to the existing lodges and resort maintenance such as snow grooming, snow making, parking lot maintenance and road maintenance. The project will be a huge win/win for the local Wenatchee community. The project includes excellent safeguards and changes that will satisfactorily address concerns by some critics concerning wildlife movement, water supplies, wildfire and traffic. * 70% of the site will be protected as permanent open space. * No valid evidence that the project will have any significant effects on wild-life migration. * Wildfire mitigation has been successfully addressed with thinning, increased defensible spaces and a new on-site fire station. * Road improvements, including increased maintenance and expanded parking will satisfactorily address traffic concerns. In the business world, you are either growing and dying. Mission Ridge is at a cross-roads for survival. Without the project, funding will remain insufficient to keep the current resort in a condition to stay both financially viable and safe for users. If this project does not proceed, the community risks the failure of Mission Ridge or even worse, the buyout by a large, non-local conglomerate resort owner such as Vail or Ikon. Losing local control could result in a much larger, massive development that would far exceed the worst fears of many local critics. * This project will address the needs for growth in a responsible way that provides outstanding increased local winter recreation opportunities. * The project will provide new local jobs and provide substantial added tax revenues to Chelan County. Again, this is truly a win/win for winter recreationists and the local Wenatchee community. Wenatchee and Mission Ridge will be much better off in the future if this project is approved and implemented. Thank you for the opportunity to provide inputs! Sincerely, Rod Jones Nancy Jones ** for examples of other communities that have successfully expanded and modernized their local ski areas consider the following: Silver Star Resort (Vernon BC) Sun Peaks, (Kamloops, BC) Mt. Bachelor, (Bend OR) Schweitzer Mt. (Sandpoint, ID)

Name: Ron Skagen
Email: ron.skagen@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-18 10:18:43

Your Comment:

I have been skiing at Mission Ridge since it first opened. My father was one of the original stockholders, and he invested with the hope of a quality, family oriented, ski venue for NC Washington. For many years, the Mission struggled financially, and the original stockholders lost 100% of their financial investment. However, if my father could see what we have now, he would say his investment was a success! Families in our region now enjoy one of the best skiing experiences imaginable, and at a reasonable cost. I support the expansion of Mission Ridge. I want Mission to thrive, and I understand this is a risky business. That being said, I also support a close analysis of fire and environmental risks, and appropriate mitigations. However, please reject any objections to the expansion that are solely based on trying to keep things unchanged. We should find a way to say "yes" and welcome new skiers to our valley. In conclusion, I am counting on unbiased good judgement from regulators to ensure the expansion is safe and conforms with our desire to blend in with our beautiful environment, and remain safe for all concerned. However, please do not stop growth to preserve "perfection." With environmental stewardship, please do your best to make sure "perfect" does not become the enemy of "good". Some level of compromise may be appropriate for both the development and regulators, if possible. Thank you for considering my comments. Ron Skagen, East Wenatchee

Name: Ronald Balzer
Email: ronaldlbalzer@hotmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 17:46:47

Your Comment:

I have tried sending a word file about the DEIS and your email server missionridgeis@hotmail.com rejects it. What is going on? Thank You

Name: Ross O'Brien
Email: ross.obrien@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 18:03:49

Your Comment:

My partner and I own a cabin in Skykomish. We spend a lot of our winter at Stevens Pass, but enjoy coming over to Mission a couple times every season. We love the relaxed local vibes, easy access to surrounding public lands for backcountry skiing and hiking, and relative lack of crowds compared to the west side resorts. The proposed development will significantly change the character of the resort and make it less appealing for us to visit. The world needs fewer Vails and Aspens and more places like Mission Ridge.

Name: Roxanne Cates
Email: roxanne_cates@live.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 17:00:38

Your Comment:

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed Mission Ridge expansion and the associated “village” development. While I value outdoor recreation and the economic role of tourism, this proposal poses significant risks to public safety, the environment, and the character of our community.

- 1. Wildfire and Public Safety Risk** The proposed development would place thousands of residents and visitors in an area designated as extreme wildfire risk, with only a single road in and out. Concentrating this level of population in such a vulnerable location is a serious public safety concern. Without a guaranteed second access route, robust fire-resistant infrastructure, and proven evacuation capacity, this project should not move forward.
- 2. Water and Wastewater Concerns** The plan relies on large septic systems near sensitive headwaters and already-impaired water bodies. Introducing wastewater from thousands of users into this fragile watershed risks long-term contamination and degradation of local water quality. The environmental documentation does not demonstrate that these systems can safely handle the projected load.
- 3. Impacts on Wildlife and Ecosystems** The area identified for development includes critical wildlife corridors, calving and fawning grounds, and habitat for several sensitive species. Year-round construction, lighting, and human activity would fragment these habitats, disrupt migration patterns, and reduce biodiversity. Once lost, these ecological resources cannot be replaced.
- 4. Traffic, Infrastructure, and Community Character** The projected traffic from the expansion—nearly 10,000 vehicle trips daily—would overwhelm Squilchuck and Mission Ridge roads, which were never designed for resort-level capacity. The resulting congestion, noise, and pollution would diminish quality of life for local residents and change the rural, forested character of the area. The plan’s scale and intensity resemble a destination resort, not a local recreation area.
- 5. Light Pollution and Loss of Scenic Value** The proposed residential and commercial build-out would introduce significant artificial lighting, increased vehicle movement, and visual impacts. These changes would erase the dark-sky experience and quiet mountain environment that define the Mission Ridge area and attract visitors seeking natural beauty.
- 6. Scale, Scope, and Questionable Justification** The project’s footprint and density far exceed what could reasonably be considered a ski area “expansion.” It represents a substantial real-estate and commercial development in a rural zone not equipped to absorb the associated impacts. The environmental analysis underestimates these effects and provides inadequate mitigation strategies for water, wildlife, and infrastructure concerns. This proposal conflicts with the community’s vision for the Stemilt-Squilchuck area, endangers public safety, and threatens the natural resources that make this region special. I urge Chelan County to deny or substantially scale back the Mission Ridge expansion. At a minimum, any consideration should require secondary access routes, comprehensive wildfire mitigation, independent water and wastewater assessments, enforceable wildlife protections, and development limits consistent with the area’s rural and environmental values. Thank you for your attention to these serious concerns and for prioritizing the long-term safety, sustainability, and character of our region. Sincerely, Roxanne Cates

Name: Ryan Bullock
Email: Rynbullock@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 21:35:45

Your Comment:

This expansion will ruin this family friendly community mountain that is already busy. With all the new homes/condos there will be more added cost such as the need for a new Fire department. A lot more traffic which will add more cost to the roads. And a HUGE impact on the natural environment. Please do not allow Mission Ridge to be changed into a suburbia mountain. Your kids and your grandkids will struggle to have a good time with so many people everywhere with not enough space. It will be dangerous with so many more people on the mountain as well. If you go up to the mountain the powder days will be tracked out so fast and there will be insane long lift lines. There are not too many ski areas that are like Mission Ridge anymore. If you hate your kids the forest and your community you will allow this project to happen. Sometimes it's not worth the money. Make the Right decision for the People Of Wenatchee! Thank you!

Name: Ryan Kapes
Email: ryan.kapes@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 00:13:30

Your Comment:

Ski resorts without associated real estate projects are an increasingly rare option for skiers and snowboarders today. When ski resorts focus on real estate development instead of the skiing/riding experience, their core customers suffer because they are no longer the most profitable customers. As such, their needs are not prioritized in the way they have previously been. Furthermore, ski resort real estate project offerings aren't affordable for people who live in Chelan County. Therefore this project will put the wants of the out-of-town wealthy above Chelan County residents. Mission Ridge Ski Resort in its current format offers that increasingly rare thing. A ski resort that doesn't have real estate offerings that instead caters to the needs of average income local day use skiers and snowboarders. This is what makes it so rare and special. For this reason Chelan County should NOT approve this development project.

Name: Sally Brawley
Email: Rsbrawley@aol.com
Completion time: 2025-10-19 15:42:09

Your Comment:

I first skied Mission Ridge in 1968, it was not the groomed, manicured mountain that we know today I loved it then and I love it today even though the world has found our ski hill and it's not the tranquil place it was without growth and change nothing thrives. My hope is that the Ridge is there for my grandchildren and their grandchildren into perpetually. I wish Mission Ridge much success in their expansion plans.

Name: Sally Knipfer
Email: ssknipfer@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 13:17:28

Your Comment:

I am concerned about the impacts to the environment and wildfire risk with having a bunch of structures and more people on a one way out road. I'm also concerned about there not being any new terrain to ski on yet you're gonna almost double the amount of people skiing. I think we need some more time to look at the proposals before any decisions are made.

Name: Sara Lippert
Email: Saraslippert@mac.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 20:58:07

Your Comment:

Proposed Mission Ridge development is a very bad idea. Please think long and hard before any confirmation is given. Too many negative effects to our area.

Name: Sara Roberts
Email: sbroberts1@comcast.net
Completion time: 2025-10-20 22:50:26

Your Comment:

I love Mission Ridge - and deliberately bought property to be near Mission Ridge. And, I have supported the expansion plans until I saw one element in the DEIS that is very, very concerning. There is a section - maybe 4.2.2.2 - that says if Chelan County were to require a secondary access to the expansion, the proposed routes would enter the Forest Ridge subdivision. My house is in the Forest Ridge subdivision, and the projected number of daily trips would be devastating to the community. The community layout and roads are not able to safely handle the projected daily trips. There are many families with children and pets in the subdivision, The traffic would be extremely dangerous. There are many driveways with poor sight distance; I foresee many traffic accidents or near accidents with the forecasted daily trips. And, it would destroy the quality of the community that sees very little traffic right now. If the secondary access is required, I NO longer support the expansion plans. A second - but fixable - concern is that a traffic light is not proposed at the intersection of Forest Ridge Drive/Squilchuck Road. I think it's section 5.6.1 "Transportation Overview" that does not address this intersection. For vehicles exiting the subdivision, it is already difficult to see traffic coming around the corner down hill. There have already been many near misses as vehicles try to pull out from Forest Ridge Drive onto Squilchuck Road. Please add a traffic light.

Name: Sarah
Email: Sarahbwhite1979@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 20:58:22

Your Comment:

This expansion plan should be taken back to the drawing board to cut it WAY back. Too large to keep the small town vibe on the mountain, too much impact on the environment, water supply, squilchuck road, etc. We don't need 900 new dwellings, condos, apartments, hotels etc. This area needs to start wild like it has been for generations. Keep the big city in the big city. We don't want it here. This will become a place not safe for our children to go up like they do now, children to teen, we feel safe sending them up, setting them loose, the community watches out for each other up there, we will definitely lose that. If we need a few more runs, another lodge, restaurant, ski school, yes, I'm in agreement. But this expansion is too large. I urge you to cut it back. Please.

Name: Sarah

Email: rivercampingfun@hotmail.com

Completion time: 2025-10-21 05:10:05

Your Comment:

It just seems selfish. The people who live off of Squilchuck suffer. Over the past two years during ski season we get the drivers illegally passing us on the left as we are trying to pull into our drive. Several wildlife killed by speeders along with cats and dogs. I had to take my neighbors pup up to her. Trash left along the road. We love Mission Ridge as it is.

Name: Sarah Grim
Email: Gr8apls2@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 14:55:44

Your Comment:

I am concerned about the expansion for several reasons. 1. Drought and water availability for current uses (people, streams & rivers, etc). 2. Wildlife. Expanding operations will negatively impact the wildlife in the area. 3. Traffic. Roadways/existing infrastructure are not designed to support the kind of volume of traffic mentioned in the report. 4. Wildfire preparedness. Other developments in the area have had to plan for alternative egress in case of wildfires. 5. Sustainability.

Name: Scott Burbidge
Email: Mtnmansb@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-18 10:19:41

Your Comment:

Taking action to help people's experiences be a more positive one at the easily accessible, ski resorts, and trails along our highway corridors. There are already measures in place that help protect the ecosystem, wildlife, and ancestral lands. Not saying that there can't be more communication between the groups that represent these different populations and subjects, to help, protect and preserve, but by allowing professionals and knowledgeable groups to work together can only help bridge the gap to create said better experience which in turn will lead to a respect and appreciation for nature, the mountains, ecosystem, heritage, and whatever what can be done to help preserve our beautiful lands. The fact of the matter is people are going to go outside and the population is growing exponentially. Like it or not the sprawl will happen within the borders of the developed areas and by working with these groups to help with how that takes place can only be beneficial to the land and ecosystem that we want to help protect. Thank you for your time.

Name: Scott Hager
Email: Scottwilliamhager@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-19 18:58:25

Your Comment:

I am very much opposed to the expansion. The resort is amazing the way it is, and the plan changes would completely distort that the approach road is too narrow to accommodate all of the additional traffic in the added jobs will all be low wage service jobs. All in all, I don't see this benefiting our area at all, only the owners.

Name: Scott Paton
Email: Scott@arlbergsports.com
Completion time: 2025-09-08 11:32:00

Your Comment:

This expansion project is very well thought out and a much needed addition to our county! The economic impact and benefit to our community is very positive!

Name: Scott Paton
Email: scott@arlbergsports.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 12:45:44

Your Comment:

Our family started a small ski shop in the Wenatchee valley in 1958. We have employed 100's of young people over the years and currently employ 20 people that all make a good living wage. Mission Ridge is the backbone of our business. Like any other business, Mission Ridge needs to be able to expand to stay viable and make a profit, so that it may remain for future generations. This organization is one of the first things that recruiters for Confluence Health tell new prospects about in hopes they will move to our valley. Mission Ridge also has a huge impact on the hospitality industry in this town. Allowing this growth, ensures the current owner will continue investing in our community, unlike other areas (i.e. Stevens Pass) that have sold to large conglomerates and the money goes to Colorado, rather than the community.

Name: Shannon Moseley
Email: shannonrmoseley@outlook.com
Completion time: 2025-09-06 13:37:59

Your Comment:

I am against expanding this resort because we need to protect what little wild nature we have left from building. We have the ability to build upwards and within the bounds that we already have and we need to quit destroying our natural resources in the name of profit.

Name: Sharon Seguin
Email: dermdoc62@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 11:38:01

Your Comment:

The small friendly atmosphere of Mission Ridge is one of the reasons I moved my family here in 2000. Not to brag or be obnoxious but as a Dermatologist I literally could have chosen from thousands of places to live and practice and I chose Wenatchee for its outdoor amenities and friendly, family environment. This monstrous expansion of Mission Ridge is going to destroy all of that. Not to mention the traffic this will create. The road to Mission ridge will be a virtual parking lot on the weekends! I doubt that you will listen to local people like me, but I think this expansion is a terrible idea especially if you want to attract more professionals to actually live here, not just own a vacation home here. Dr. Seguin

Name: Shawnee McCartor
Email: Shawnee.M@hotmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-14 09:01:36

Your Comment:

This expansion, increasing Tourist population & Traffic, bottleneaking our already crowded Hiways & Roads, draining our overloaded Infrastructures, not to mention Groceries, affecting Permanent Residents as well as Wildlife, will be "the straw that breaks the Camels back", ruining the Valley for all that live, recreate, and shop here now and far into the Valley's Future. Respectfully Commissioners, do not buy in to this Developers Pipe Dream. Traffic backups already real. Think of your neighbors & their children living along that narrow roadway to access Mission Ridge that I drove a bus on weekends for local Skiers & multiply it by thousands of Vehicles impacting each & every household along that road 8-10 hrs a day during Development not to mention Operation as well as roads & highways to get there. Remember, the best laid plans never go as planned, almost always in Construction with the Unknowns. The Dollar Signs in your Visions are not worth the Impact, Risks & Financial Costs to the County, Valley Residents, Wenatchee Residents & Businesses, the Upper Valley Residents & Businesses of Chelan County. I'm the Canary in the Coal Mine, Just Say No !

Name: Shea Miller
Email: sheamiller513@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-18 11:25:56

Your Comment:

This project has been diligently planned over the past decade and strikes an appropriate balance between conserving natural resources and promoting public enjoyment of them. By balancing new access to ski terrain & added amenities with a comprehensive Habitat Management and Mitigation Plan, this plan is centered around our citizens' ability to enjoy the outdoor spaces that make the quality of life in our county so high. The ability for an average citizen to enjoy these opportunities is contingent on two factors: protection of outdoor spaces and their accessibility. This project prioritizes both. The DEIS proposes informed steps to conserve natural spaces, setting aside large swaths of undisturbed forest and meadow and prioritizing the maintenance of habitat connectivity. This prioritizes long-term sustainability of our local environment. Simultaneously, this plan increases accessibility and the quality of the experience for skiers and snowboarders, with a special focus on vastly augmenting the beginner/learning areas. This outcome will ensure increased access to outdoor recreation, especially for people who might not have had the opportunity to do so previously. The long-term conservation of Chelan County's environmental resources is dependent both on actionable steps to protect them and on having diverse array of citizens form develop care and connection for the land. This project serves both of these aims.

Name: Shelle
Email: Shellefinch@msn.com
Completion time: 2025-09-08 12:56:47

Your Comment:
What is the proposal for ingress and egress,?

Name: Sherry Ann Poppe
Email: RonPoppe@frontier.com
Completion time: 2025-10-13 05:56:38

Your Comment:

We do not want another Snoqualmie pass ski area in our valley. The repercussion from such a HUGE project that is stated for Mission Ridge is going to ruin our pristine mountain area in Wenatchee. It will ruin wildlife habitat and that area is a huge wintering habitat for many of our large animals. There is no way this can be controlled as has been stated by the project coordinator. As we are getting over several big mountain wild fires, it should be obvious this is not a practical project for our area. It is not if, it is when the Mission Ridge area will burn. Please rethink this project and let's stop inundating our hillstops with unnecessary building. Thank you Sherry Ann Poppe

Name: Sierra Bittle
Email: Sierrabittle@ymail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 17:03:19

Your Comment:

I strongly oppose the proposed expansion of Mission Ridge. What makes Mission special is its small-mountain charm. It's a welcoming, local place that hasn't been overtaken by corporate interests or overcrowded tourism. As someone who considers Mission Ridge my home mountain, it's a place where I can truly escape, connect with nature, and be part of a close-knit community. We've already seen what happened at other mountains like Stevens Pass after being bought by Vail — locals were pushed out, prices went up, and the authentic mountain experience was lost. I would hate to see the same happen to Mission Ridge. Please preserve what makes it unique and valuable to the people who live and ski here. Please, don't change a thing about Mission Ridge. Best Regards, Sierra

Name: Silas McDonald
Email: silasjamesmcdonald@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-12 11:33:16

Your Comment:

I think this expansion is going to hurt Mission Ridge more than help it. The new lifts up to Microwave and Otto's Outback effectively ruin any sidecountry terrain (all of what is above chair 3 &4) because the barrier to entry (having to hike) is gone. This means anyone who wants to get fresh tracks and is willing to hike has to go to the backside of the ridge. What is nice about having to hike for it is that anyone who wants to, can get a much better track even later in the day. With new lifts and the cat track, any terrain that you won't have to hike out of after your run is going to turn into a mogul field from tracks (ex. Any tree run that is lift served now). WaWa would be a pow line if it had to be hiked to. I think this expansion is fueled by want for money, not helping the region. Ts is dumb.

Name: Skyler Harasek
Email: skylerharasek@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-14 14:53:39

Your Comment:

Mission Ridge has always been a part of my life, and this project makes sure it stays that way for generations. I fully support this expansion plan.

Name: Sonja Kastnet
Email: skastner52@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 11:59:54

Your Comment:

No No No..the congestion for a single road to access more buildings/business's is more than the area can withstand, Fire safety a huge consideration, with only one way out? Unsightly, unsafe, unnecessary, and not in the spirit of this most beautiful part of the state.

Name: Spencer johnson
Email: ceidaho@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-25 13:47:45

Your Comment:

The DEIS outlines that the alpine ski area, Nordic trail system, and snow tubing area are all components of Phase 1 of a five-phase development plan. However, there does not appear to be any binding language or enforceable commitment ensuring that these recreational amenities will, in fact, be constructed during Phase 1. What specific and enforceable commitments will be included in the project approval to guarantee that these key recreational features are built as part of Phase 1, and not deferred to later phases or omitted altogether?

Name: Stacie Coates

Email: Stacie.snow4.life@gmail.com

Completion time: 2025-10-18 09:56:34

Your Comment:

Really excited to see the expansion happen! Disappointed that access to ellensburg is not included but overall the expansion is much needed for longevity of the resort and access to more acres

Name: Stephanie Valente
Email: StephanieValente4@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-10 12:16:17

Your Comment:

I support the proposed Alpine ski area expansion, Snow tubing area development, Nordic ski area development, New ski lifts, Construction of Single-family residential homes, Construction of condominiums, townhouses, and or duplexes, a new hotel, Construction of much needed employee on-site housing (80 beds), new commercial and entertainment development as well as new access road and parking. Proposed improvements to Squilchuck road sound like a great idea as well. All of this addresses the need for development of the resort due to growth in the Wenatchee valley. We don't want to fall behind the growth of the area like Stevens Pass has done. Now Stevens Pass is overrun and so far behind that they will most likely never catch up. Lack of development at Stevens Pass has lead to danger on the ski runs, danger just getting to and from the resort due to lack of road development and the increased traffic on Stevens Pass. You need only look at similar sized resorts like Silver Star resort, Big White, Red Mtn and Sun Peaks (all located in British Columbia, Canada) to see how positive resort development can be for the community. These resorts have done what Mission Ridge is proposing and its been an overwhelming success for the community. It has provided thousand of jobs, increased housing and increased tax base. It has allowed to the resort to expand lift operations to accommodate the growth in surrounding areas. All of them have included summer lift operations to accommodate mountain bikes and hikers. Infrastructure development has provided safe travel to and from the resorts. It has been very positive for each community and my family has experienced this first hand as we recreate summer and winter at each. Current limitations holding back daily resort operations at Mission Ridge include lack of on-site parking facilities (many days you must arrive by 8am to get a parking spot), undersized and crowded skier terrain proving to be dangerous (as a parent with young children this has been experienced first hand), lack of recreation options for non-skiers, and lack of on-site overnight accommodations. The Wenatchee Valley is growing leaps and bounds and will continue to grow. You must recognize that the mountain must grow as well so it can continue to serve its community the best way it can! I am an avid recreational user. I ski and mountain bike. My family has been season pass holders at Mission Ridge for years and we embrace the future development of the resort.

Name: Stephen
Email: stephen.o.ottley@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-14 17:08:40

Your Comment:

I submit these comments in opposition to the proposed Mission Ridge expansion as currently framed. While I strongly support the value of outdoor recreation and maintaining a vibrant community, the expansion as designed places too much risk, cost, and burden on local residents, recreation users, and the environment—while promising benefits mostly to developers and distant investors. 1. The “resort + lodging” model shifts Mission Ridge’s identity into real estate first, recreation second. The DEIS confirms that the expansion would include new lodging (single-family houses, condos, townhouses, a new lodge) and commercial space in addition to improvements in ski and Nordic terrain. ■ That design fundamentally changes the mission of a ski area from serving local recreation to acting as a tourist real-estate engine. Local property investors and the developer stand to gain more than the average resident. 2. Many locals already struggle with housing, and this plan will worsen that pressure. As the resort builds more paying-guest units, housing demand and land value will push costs upward in the surrounding area. That makes life harder for lower-paid seasonal workers, service staff, trail users, and community members. Without strict, enforceable protections (e.g. guaranteed local worker housing, capped rental rates, priority for locals), the expansion will inflate housing markets without delivering true community benefit. 3. Environmental, hydrologic, and trail impacts are under-addressed and risky. The DEIS spans hundreds of pages, but real concerns remain around erosion, habitat fragmentation, impacts to streams and wetlands, fire risk, and increased road/parking footprint. ■ The proposal overlaps public forest lands and state lands adjacent to current resort boundaries—adding ~1,090 acres of public and private terrain to development zones. ■ Such expansion invites new roads, access corridors, disturbance zones, and increased human pressure on fragile slopes. 4. The seasonal and low-wage nature of resort labor makes promised “jobs” a weak justification. The developer predicts job creation in the DEIS and their supporting economic study, but often those jobs are seasonal, part time, lower paid, and unstable. Expansion plans rarely guarantee good wages, benefits, or year-round employment. Without binding labor requirements (e.g. living-wage guarantees, local hiring quotas, affordable worker housing), the expansion treats workers as disposable inputs in a profit model. 5. This model mirrors the criticisms leveled at corporate ski operators (e.g. Vail) — locals get squeezed while passholders and real estate profits take priority. Communities around Vail and other corporate-run resorts have seen landscapes changed, public access limited, lodging dominates base areas, and original local businesses struggle to compete. Locals often feel they’ve lost control of their mountain. We risk that same path here. The expansion’s design leans heavily on lodging, commercial space, and infrastructure to feed tourism dollars more than serve local recreation needs. 6. Expansion threatens non-ski recreation and the open-space character locals use year-round. I personally mountain bike, dirt-bike, hike, and ride in these mountains. The plan’s massive increase in parking, roads, lodging, and infrastructure will increase traffic, noise, and disturbance in summer and shoulder seasons. Quiet trails and public access that now feel natural could become congested or partially privatized. The expansion’s marketed “year-round recreation” too often means paid, commercial recreation—not free or semi-free access to the lands we already enjoy.

Name: Stephen Hansen
Email: steveh@jshproperties.com
Completion time: 2025-09-08 10:20:56

Your Comment:

As a season's pass holder at Mission, I would like to see it expand. Frankly, the mountain is never that busy, but the parking lot is. Also, the expansion would have some great terrain in an area that isn't sensitive to the habitat. It's such a great mountain and the expansion would make it that much more special. Thanks, Steve.

Name: Stephen Hansen
Email: steveh@jshproperties.com
Completion time: 2025-10-05 21:32:53

Your Comment:

I love this expansion. Mission could use some more beginner slopes for people like my wife and some on the hill housing is a great idea. This mountain is a gem and I hope more people can learn how great it is.

Name: Stephen Piro
Email: sjpiro@outlook.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 21:47:14

Your Comment:

Having lived in Wenatchee for 35 years my wife and I have always wondered why the community does not do more to be proactive in positive growth, with an emphasis on making the town more vibrant and welcoming to the next generation. In our time here there has always been a if it is not broken dont fix it mentality....in my mind a failure to look to the future. There have been great strides in making the area in the mountains around Wenatchee, Leavenworth and Cashmere to be more accessible to outdoor recreation, including mountain biking trails and backcountry opportunities. The Mission ridge expansion, as proposed adds, rather than detracts from those strides. The expansion will provide direct and service oriented jobs, winter and summer; it will bring more outdoor enthusiasts to our area creating a vibrant addition to our valley. Additional tourist dollars will bring better utilization of our improved airport going forward, and perhaps better travel options in and out of Pangborn. Those dollars will bring more options to help in the revitalization of our valley for the next generations. The proposed expansion has viable answers and solutions for fire management, wildlife management, traffic flow and quality of life. I raised a family here, and at the Ridge...it is a gem, and with the expansion will only bring positive growth, vibrancy and a welcoming addition to our valley that mine as well as many other families can enjoy for generations. Sincerely, Stephen Piro

Name: Steve Robinson
Email: stevewenatchee@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 12:38:57

Your Comment:

I support the Mission Ridge expansion project for the following reasons. First, the EIS demonstrates that the proposed mitigation measures reasonably address key concerns related to water quality, wildlife habitat, and other environmental impact. The project makes a clear and irreversible commitment to minimizing environmental disturbance while enhancing recreational access. This unique combination -- significantly increasing outdoor recreation opportunities coupled with minimizing environmental disturbances -- is compelling and sets a positive precedent for future developments in our region. Second, the economic benefits -- both in terms of local job creation, tax revenue increases and long-term regional growth -- are substantial and well-documented in the EIS. Third, the developer has strong local ties and a long, well established record of putting "guest experience" and "quality" first, over "quantity" and maximizing profits. In other words, this developer truly "walks the talk." Finally, it is worth pointing to other, comparable resort projects with successful outcomes. Here are examples where on-site housing, resort upgrades and expanded outdoor opportunities have demonstrably benefited both the resort and the local community, showing that these projects can be a win-win when managed properly: Big White — up Big White Rd 15 mi from Hwy 33 to the village. Slope-side hotels/condos. SilverStar — Silver Star Rd 12–17 mi from Vernon to the village. Full ski-in/ski-out village. Panorama — Toby Creek Rd 11–13 mi from Invermere to the resort village. Sun Peaks — from Heffley Creek (Hwy 5) 19–22 mi via Heffley Louis Creek/Tod Mountain/Sun Peaks Rd to the village. Mount Washington (Vancouver Island) — Strathcona Pkwy 12–16 mi from Hwy 19 to the resort village. Apex Mountain — 21–29 mi from Penticton via Green Mountain Rd → Apex Mountain Rd to the slope-side village. Functionally one public way in/out in winter. Schweitzer Mountain Resort (Sandpoint) - Access road: 12–12.5 miles from Sandpoint up Schweitzer Mountain Rd (the "mountain road" section is the only public way in). Whitefish Mountain Resort is 6–8 miles up Big Mountain Rd from town. These real life examples of win-win for the resort and the community counter the theoretical "doomsday," "worst-case scenarios" suggested by some development opponents. Like in other communities, this EIS establishes that responsible, conscientious development practices can co-exist with natural habitats, while providing expanded outdoor recreation opportunities for many. Respectfully submitted, Steve Robinson

Name: Steve Vaughn
Email: steve.vaughn7@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 08:35:26

Your Comment:

This project will have a negative impact on wildlife. Increased traffic will have a negative impact on property owners along roadway.

Name: Steven Auseré
Email: ausere@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-13 08:52:26

Your Comment:

I am in support of this project. Mission ridge needs this upgrade, and this project really will help bring more opportunities to central Washington.

Name: Steven Kent
Email: stevenkent@mac.com
Completion time: 2025-09-09 08:40:59

Your Comment:

While I acknowledge the potential environmental impacts on local plant life and wildlife, including elk and gray wolves, and the possibility of increased traffic, I believe the project's benefits outweigh these concerns. The proposed expansion offers a significant economic boost to the community, along with increased recreational opportunities and much-needed housing. I personally intend to invest in one of the new homes or condominiums, and my family is looking forward to spending more time in the area throughout the year, not just during ski season.

Name: Steven Webster
Email: sgwebster@charter.net
Completion time: 2025-09-21 14:26:28

Your Comment:

I am a lifelong resident of the Wenatchee area (68 years) and skiing has been an important part of my life. Mission Ridge is what separates Wenatchee from other cities in Washington. The expansion is needed to bring the resort to modern standards and is vital to the area economy.

Name: Susan Holt
Email: Susanlynnh@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 21:03:22

Your Comment:
I oppose the development.

Name: Susan Kane
Email: susan_kane1@msn.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 14:30:17

Your Comment:

To Whom It May Concern, Oct. 20, 2025 I have many concerns about this project, but my main concern is peoples' safety. If the Chelan County Commissioners approve this document, they are not only breaking their own rules; they are also leading the public to believe that this plan provides a safe place to build their home and future. We live in a high fire danger zone in the summer. (How close did the Labor Mountain Fire come to this area?) The DEIS states: "In response to public comments, Chelan County identified secondary access as a potential project alternative for this DEIS within the scope of "other reasonable alternatives for achieving the proposal's objectives on the same site." Secondary access is not an alternative. It is a code requirement. Chelan County Code section 15.30.230(4) states: "Secondary access is only required for projects that are projected to have more than four hundred ADT trip generation. (And they will!) The DEIS cites County requirements that are clear. Secondary access is required. This Statement has the audacity to suggest that having a secondary access is a "potential project alternative" not a requirement! Tell that to the families that are stranded up there in flames because there is no way to get out! The DEIS states: "During operation, the increased number of people will increase fire hazard risk... ...the Proposed Project will create higher summer use in the area, particularly in the Proposed Project Area, and therefore influence the potential for increased human-ignited wildfire. ...the introduction of additional utilities to the area in the form of electrical service and propane sources poses a risk. The increase in traffic to the Proposed Project Area will have an impact on emergency access through Squilchuck Road and the new proposed road to the development. In summary, there are probable significant adverse operations-related impacts from increased human activity during high fire-risk summer season and additional traffic on access roads from the Proposed Project." These are their own words – please take them seriously! Questions: The county is already overtaxed in administering development mitigation. Who is going to administer THIS huge project? Do the Chelan County Commissioners realize that if they approve this project that ignore so many of the state, federal and county policies*, they will be held responsible for any wildfire, slide and traffic fatalities? (Not to mention property damage) * Urban Growth Act National Fire Policies Chelan County Code section 15.30.230(4) In closing, I think this is a terrible idea! It seems to mainly benefit the developer who will get richer by convincing people that living in the middle of the forest without adequate exit access is a safe place to live and build their futures. I am also concerned for those who naturally live in the forest and will be kicked out of their home. (plants, wildlife) You know it will affect them, no matter the mitigation. And finally, as a lifelong resident of this valley; I do not want an ugly, lit-up night sky on the mountain. (There is no mitigation for this.) What we have is bad enough. Most residents will tell you that Mission Ridge is a great place to ski. Let's keep it that way without an entire town being located up there. Susan L. Kane

Name: Sydnee Boling
Email: sydneeboling@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-18 12:11:38

Your Comment:

Growth for the sake of growth is the ideology of a cancer cell. This proposal is a slap in the face to the Wenatchee valley. This would directly affect the watershed for the region as well and harm bio diversity, deer/elk migration. Think about all the water consumption that a resort this size would use. The Wenatchee valley and it's agriculture are dependent on that water. It's disgusting to see a proposal like this even suggested. It so out of touch with the land, the people. Destroying such a pristine wilderness area for the sake of profit. Profit for people who don't even live here. Keep your grubby mits off our land.

Name: Tami
Email: TamiAvey7@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 10:41:37

Your Comment:

The worst idea ever! Leave Mission Ridge alone. We have enough people ruining our valley. Don't make our mountain a Stevens Pass or Crystal.

Name: Tami Littlefield
Email: Tamilittlefield@me.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 08:12:09

Your Comment:

I have just recently started to visit Mission Ridge on a yearly basis. I love the laid back feel. I look forward to maybe buying a condo now.

Name: Tanner
Email: Throwitlong55@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 17:47:39

Your Comment:
Please don't ruin our small town mountain

Name: Tanya
Email: T.bull85@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 07:35:41

Your Comment:

This plan will create too much traffic on a secondary road. No good fire evac route. I also have environmental impact concerns. Thank you.

Name: Tara Graves
Email: DancingDaisyDog@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 10:52:48

Your Comment:

The full regional impact and safety needs of this plan have not been accounted for. The added traffic to the road alone will undoubtedly cause an increase in accidents that could lead to significant injury and death. With one road in and out, what's the evacuation plans and contingencies in the event of wildfire? I grew up skiing at Mission Ridge, and I love the home town ski area feel. While I'm in favor of development and growth of our ski area, the proposed plan would price out local residents and prevent us from being able to afford to use the ski area at the same time it increases the financial burden on local residents with the added costs of road maintenance and law enforcement/emergency services needs for the dangerous increase in traffic on the access road.

Name: Taylor
Email: taylorthrapp@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 09:30:17

Your Comment:

I don't think that this expansion is a good idea. The distribution to wildlife being the main concern and the increased amount of people and traffic in such a small area just does not seem feasible.

Name: Teal Potter
Email: teal.potter@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 13:36:35

Your Comment:

I am very concerned about the proposed expansion being designed without more input from the community and environmental and economic experts. I'm not convinced that the new lodging plan will benefit the community, the skiing access or quality. I would like more information about the assessments how the development may impact the canyon watersheds, wildlife, and local traffic. I am a skier and new community member.

Name: Teresa
Email: Tereat1@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 13:15:05

Your Comment:

NO EXPANSION. Too risky to the local farmers & orchardists, wildlife and our precious water supply. Keep our mountain for the locals. This expansion will only get sold out to a bigger company that doesn't care about the locals, only money. Take a look at Crystal Mtn and Steven's Pass ski areas - that's what being sold out looks like. Would hate to see Mission become like that - outrageous ticket prices - pay for parking - overcrowding to the point that the locals can't enjoy it anymore. A huge increase in out of town traffic on a two lane road to access Mission - not a good idea. NO to the expansion.

Name: Terri cook

Email: jacook06@comcast.net

Completion time: 2025-10-20 16:27:13

Your Comment:

This would be a terrible project. Detrimental ti wildlife, fish and to the serenity of nature. Too msny people, too many cars, too much pollution, too much negative impact. We are not gathering any more wild places. Don't rob from it form financial gain. No!!!! Thank you!

Name: Thera Judd
Email: bcp2judds@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 09:44:24

Your Comment:
Bad idea, road is not adequate to handle traffic

Name: Thom Kutrich P.E.

Email: thom@kutrich.com

Completion time: 2025-09-12 18:01:59

Your Comment:

I am 100% in favor of the expansion. For six plus decades Mission Ridge has and continues to provide the largest non-agriculture economic and recreational impact for Chelan/Douglas County business's and citizens. It's influence extends across NCW and well beyond. Small business aside, growth is the critical element for the solvency of any large business. Without growth revenue stagnates, services decline, maintenance is repeatedly deferred, employment opportunities disappear and eventually the business is either sold or bankruptcy is declared. Arguably public safety is the highest regulatory obligation of any large business. Apparently, Mission Ridge has and is likely to continue business as usual without the infusion of new capital. Saying no to its further growth ensures that. I reviewed most of the 2020 submitted public comments and found them typically wanting. I base this opinion on my 30+ year career as a local (East Wenatchee) Washington State licensed Professional Civil Engineer. In Chelan/Douglas County's alone, I directed and participated in the land use application permit process dozens of times. I observed an unmistakable trend in that the majority of comments are negative, and typically addressed personal concerns rather than those directly related to the application. However, through all those hearings, I was also reassured that our current Hearings Examiner will base the decision on law and not emotion.

Name: Thomas Lenny
Email: ttlenny2@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 11:34:47

Your Comment:

A huge negative for this expansion plan, I one road in, one road out. That could be a horrible situation, with forest fires quite common in our area. Elk migration routes will be forever changed. The affect on the whole area will be impacted negatively by an expansion of this magnitude. The logistics of this area does not support an expansion of this size, period.

Name: Tim Aemmer
Email: tja131@hotmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 15:00:39

Your Comment:

Chelan County/Mission Ridge does not need this excessive expansion. This is not in the best interest of our community.

Name: Tim Hendrickson
Email: tim.hendrickson@amwins.com
Completion time: 2025-09-26 13:12:40

Your Comment:

Letter of support was submitted to: missionridgeeis@outlook.com

Name: Tim Hurd
Email: timshurd@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 12:05:05

Your Comment:

This does not seem to benefit the community. This area does not need more traffic and development. This seems more like a development for houses benefiting the rich, than about actually expanding the ski area to offer better experiences for all people of this public land.

Name: Todd Saunders
Email: Turboputt@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-01 12:59:37

Your Comment:

This will ruin the mountain for locals! It will be sold to a Vail or similar and then locals will be priced out of skiing. Already they cant support the ski traffic that is there. The area that is proposed, is marginal for low snowfall and will only work by being supported by snowmaking. It will be a corporate model that will be disaster for employees and for local skiers.

Name: Todd Saunders
Email: Turboputt@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 10:58:32

Your Comment:

Really hope this does not happen. The ski area will end up selling to a corporation and then prices will go crazy and we will not be able to ski. We have skied here since 1990. If prices match Steven's Pass then we will have to move or travel elsewhere to ski. Please don't approve this mess. The ski area is great how it is. Let them make small improvements, but not this huge one.

Name: Tony Stewart
Email: tony.douglas.stewart@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-09 20:00:20

Your Comment:

As a current employee, I have witnessed years of internal mismanagement, both financially and in personnel retention. The resort consistently struggles to adequately staff its current operations, leading to overworked employees and diminished guest services. To propose a massive expansion without first demonstrating the ability to stabilize and properly manage existing infrastructure shows a profound disconnect between management's ambitions and operational reality. How can we trust the execution of a project of this scale when the foundation is already so unstable? Second, it is difficult to view this expansion as anything other than a real estate venture disguised as a ski area improvement. The primary benefit seems to be the creation of luxury lots for a wealthy few, not a meaningful enhancement of the skiing experience for the local community and dedicated passholders. The focus should be on improving existing facilities, snow reliability, and employee satisfaction, not on selling parcels of mountain property. Finally, the environmental impacts outlined in the study are already significant, and I have zero confidence that the development would stay within those proposed limits. The strain on the already inadequate and dangerous road, Mission Creek Road, will be immense, increasing traffic, safety risks, and pollution. The damage to the local ecosystem—from wildlife disruption to watershed impacts—is being downplayed. The current management's track record does not inspire faith that they will prioritize environmental protection over profit once shovels are in the ground. For these reasons, I urge Chelan County, The Forest Service and other permitting bodies to reject this proposal. Mission Ridge needs to fix its existing problems and focus on sustainable, community-oriented operations, not a sprawling real estate development that the current infrastructure and management cannot support.

Name: Travis Hammond
Email: crfunhogg@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 12:22:42

Your Comment:

I am against this expansion project for Mission Ridge in every aspect. Proper environmental impact statements based on thorough investigations have not been prepared. There is too much at stake for what little there will be to be gained for the public for this venture. The Ridge right now is already a great place and it will never be a destination resort because of the setting and the character of the mountain. If this disastrous expansion project is carried out, not only will it be a huge loss for its developers, but certainly for the residents of this Valley, their natural resources (especially water from the watershed which contains the expansion area), and the wildlife that use the land where the expansion is proposed. Please leave well enough alone on this one.

Name: Travis Hornby
Email: twoplanker88@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 16:36:06

Your Comment:

To Whom It May Concern, As a Wenatchee City Council member, I, Travis Hornby, write in strong support of the Mission Ridge Expansion. This project is a vital investment in the long-term economic health of our community, ensuring local jobs, tourism growth, and year-round recreation. Mission Ridge's local ownership safeguards our community values and preserves local control. Without this expansion, outside interests could dictate the future of this important community asset, leaving Wenatchee with limited influence over its direction. For these reasons, I urge approval of the expansion as essential to the future prosperity of our valley. The economic benefits of the expansion are clear. An expanded Mission Ridge will attract more visitors, boosting tourism revenue for local businesses, including hotels, restaurants, and retail shops, while generating tax revenue that can be reinvested in our community. The project will also create new, stable jobs both directly at the resort and indirectly in supporting industries, strengthening our local workforce. In addition, the expansion will improve accessibility and recreational opportunities for all ages and skill levels, making the mountain a more inclusive destination. Infrastructure upgrades—such as improved roads, utilities, and emergency services will benefit not only the resort but the broader community. This forward thinking approach supports long term growth and enhances the quality of life for residents and visitors alike. Mission Ridge's careful planning and local commitment align with our community's values and vision. This expansion represents an opportunity to strengthen our economy, expand recreational offerings, and secure a prosperous future for Wenatchee. I wholeheartedly urge the swift approval of the Mission Ridge Ski and Board Resort Expansion. Sincerely, Travis Hornby Wenatchee, WA

Name: Trinity Korcz
Email: Trindaivy@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 11:55:33

Your Comment:

This expansion project is not what our community needs. This is going to disrupt the native ecosystems and environment. All for the money and greed into the pockets of the wealthy. Please do not approve this expansion.

Name: Tye Schriever
Email: schriever.family@att.net
Completion time: 2025-09-12 13:44:29

Your Comment:

The Mission Ridge Expansion Plan is one that I support based on the benefits outlined in the DEIS documents, especially the additional parking and employee housing. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Name: Tyler Cook
Email: tylerjcook37@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 12:12:54

Your Comment:

I've lived in Wenatchee long enough to know how much this community values Mission Ridge. It's not just a ski hill; it's a local landmark that balances recreation with the surrounding wilderness. Most of us who live here appreciate that balance and we support the resort as it stands because it fits the scale and spirit of the area. That's why this proposed "expansion" raises serious concerns. The project isn't about enhancing the ski experience; it's about real estate. A Seattle-based developer is trying to turn a quiet mountain into a commercial village. The terrain they want to expand into offers limited benefit for skiers. It's marginal ground... not the kind of terrain that transforms the resort. What it will transform is the environment. This plan cuts into undeveloped forest and shrubland that serves as critical habitat for deer, elk, and other wildlife. It introduces more lights, noise, and year-round traffic into a landscape that's managed to stay relatively wild. Once that's gone, it's gone for good. And it's not just the mountain. Wenatchee's infrastructure isn't built for the kind of traffic and population spike this development would bring. Our roads are already strained in winter conditions, and expanding resort traffic means more congestion, more accidents, and more strain on local resources that were never designed for that scale of tourism. Mission Ridge works because it's authentic and it's part of Wenatchee's identity, not a profit venture for an outside developer. Turning it into another mountain "village" strips away what makes it unique and puts unnecessary pressure on the land and the community. We need to protect what's left of the natural environment up there. This isn't about being against growth and it's about recognizing when growth serves the people who live here versus when it serves people who just see an investment opportunity.

Name: Tyler Thomas
Email: tylerbrackenthomas@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-09-15 14:23:31

Your Comment:

The Mission Ridge Expansion Project adds vital terrain, infrastructure and lodging to a ski area badly in need of it and the positives significantly outweigh any purported concerns. Among other things, the expansion project will provide the following benefits: - Expanded terrain and lift infrastructure, including more beginner and intermediate areas. - Improved guest experience and amenities. - Lodging - something Mission Ridge has never had. More importantly, Mission Ridge is one of the few mountains in the state that can actually provide for on-mountain lodging - other local mountains are either in National Parks or on Forest Service land where private development is impossible. - Economic benefits and local jobs, plus increased tax revenue. - The EIS makes clear that sustainability and stewardship are paramount in the expansion. There is little to no environmental impact associated with the expansion. - The expansion will create more opportunities for year-round recreation. - The improvements will help Mission Ridge stay local, instead of selling out to one of the mega-resorts.

Name: Tyson
Email: dvrman88@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-16 07:59:17

Your Comment:

This plan looks really fun. But my concerns are how it will impact the the quality of experience on the mountain and what it will do to ticket prices. Currently Mission is pretty special with such low wait times for lifts and tickets and passes are still approachable. It would be a bummer to lose both of those.

Name: Vanessa Schuh
Email: Vanessamschuh@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 15:19:51

Your Comment:

Please don't allow this to happen to our area we do not need to be overcrowded like so many other places that are beautiful but no longer are.

Name: Victoria

Email: Wattsv1006@gmail.com

Completion time: 2025-10-20 18:42:52

Your Comment:

I understand the desire to expand the community, but that takes away from our natural landscape and resources.. I wish Wenatchee had stayed small and kept all the family values that it had back when I was young growing up.

Name: Wendy Holscher
Email: Thewhitelotus@msn.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 11:08:40

Your Comment:

My concern is the wild life impact first and foremost. Secondary is the impact on the valley. We don't have a freeway system, how will all of these cars travel to that area. Wenatchee cannot handle more traffic. Where will the water come from?

Name: Wendy LeSesne
Email: Wendylals@hotmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 21:05:46

Your Comment:

Pros: Tourism dollars and revenue for Chelan county ■ Cons: all of the rest. No planned infrastructure to support the traffic and people from Wenatchee to mission. From 1500 to 10000 on a two lane road with no improvements. All of that development for Little additional skiing. Interruption of elk and mule deer migration. This is such a bad idea that only the elite of Wenatchee can afford and adversely impacts the residents and wildlife in our community.

Name: Will royer
Email: william.royer@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 15:26:47

Your Comment:

As a Squilchuck property owner, avid skier, and year-long resident in the greater Wenatchee Community I am apprehensive, yet excited for the potential expansion of Mission Ridge. I think if done carefully and properly the development could be a thoughtful and beneficial addition to Mission Ridge. A secondary, paved and maintained road MUST be developed to the Stemilt Basin from the new development area, the current road around the Upper Wheeler Reservoir has already been widened and developed by the orchards in recent years, and should likely be paved and expanded as a secondary egress and approach method to the resort. Similarly, Squilchuck Road itself must also be widened to accommodate increased traffic (Construction trucks) and potential emergency response lanes. The Elk herd in the Colockum that makes its way to Wheeler Ridge must also be studied, and any development must ensure they do not harm the migration paths of the herd. Water is already limited in Squilchuck, though this is likely a result of orchard usage.. This must be accounted for in expansion plans, especially the increased need for snow making that the new expansion will likely use. That aspect for the new lift will likely need extensive coverage in the early season which may negatively impact water resources in the canyon. I also think that the county and Local government should be conscious of preserving the unique nature of Squilchuck. Large orchards interspersed in Larch and Ponderosa forest is a unique and special thing that should be preserved. Any development should do its best to maintain this environment as best as possible. The county should also mandate the developed lodging and infrastructure NOT be ugly. Some kind of architectural theme or code should be required for new housing at the resort that prioritizes quality and aesthetic appeal. I am not sure we need 250+ single family homes in the expansion, much more weight should be placed on the high density town home, lodge, and condo developments. It is a matter of when, not IF there will be development in the drainage, now is the time for local authorities to ensure that the development is done thoughtfully and carefully.

Name: William Jac
Email: ldeistech@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 12:13:27

Your Comment:

I vote no. Do not let this kind of expansion happen on our land surrounding mission ridge. Our mountains need to be left alone for wildlife and habitat protection. This size of expansion will have devastating impacts on our water for agriculture purposes. It would be devastating for our wildlife and other recreational use of our forests. As a farmer in the Malaga area we get our water for our farms from this area that you want to destroy. Stop this action

Name: William S Burgess
Email: Burgesswilliam842@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 19:58:27

Your Comment:

I think it's a wrongful idea, not necessarily a bad one but I think all the elk who use the upper wheeler reservoir for water, I also as a local believe there is already way to many people in this town with a major lack in development... we need more roads if y'all want more people... in the town not up mission ridge

Name: William Wagner
Email: drwlwagner@hotmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 09:30:49

Your Comment:

10/20/25 Mike Kaputa, Director Chelan County Department of Natural Resources SEPA Responsible Official missionridgeeis@outlook.com 411 Washington St. Suite 201 Wenatchee, WA, 98801 RE: Mission Ridge Master Planned Resort Expansion Draft Environmental Impact Statement Concerns

Dear Mr. Kaputa, Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments regarding the DEIS for the proposed development adjacent to Mission Ridge ski area. The DEIS is full of omissions of impacts, inadequate mitigation of potential impacts, and incorrect assertions. Additionally, the proposed development violates Chelan County Codes. Because of this, I oppose the development and urge you to support the No Action Alternative. As a regular user of the area in summer and winter, I am personally not in favor of this expansion. Although, it is not about my feelings and there a significant legal issues with the proposal. I want mission ridge to do well, but not at the expense of the surrounding environment. Below I highlight a small sample of the many issues in the DEIS: Traffic on Squilchuck and Mission Ridge Road: The project predicts 10,000 vehicle trips per day on the Mission Ridge Road, which is roughly double the traffic on both Stevens Pass and Blewitt Pass. The DEIS predicts that the development will snarl traffic to a condition below minimum Chelan County standards, yet the DEIS does not include mitigation or improvements to the Mission Ridge Road. The Chelan County Comprehensive Plan Goal 1.9 is "...deny approval of any development proposal that would cause a roadway segment to fall below the adopted minimum level of service...". Our community should not be burdened by snarled traffic that financially benefits a developer but hurts the rest of us. Secondary access to the development: A second access road is required to provide an alternate escape route if needed. However, the DEIS only presents secondary access as an alternative. Secondary access is not an alternative; it is a code requirement. The DEIS recognizes that the secondary access would make a safer situation, stating in section 4.2.1.6 that: "Having more than one evacuation route provides redundancy and increased safety, particularly during unexpected or fast-moving events." Yet, the developer argues that providing a single "wider" 28-foot access road will make up for the danger of not having an emergency exit. This offering of a single "wider" road is misleading. The current Mission Ridge Road is 28 feet wide and is not adequate for the proposed development's traffic. The proposed "wider" road is the same width as the existing road and won't even meet minimum County standards. Chelan County should not bend its rules on secondary access to benefit a developer at the jeopardy of the safety of residents and visitors of the development he wants to build. WDFW Land Exchange: Section 25 is owned by the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife and encompasses Windy Ridge and Bowl 4, the upper half of Chair 4, and overlaps with the proposed project. Per the DEIS, WDFW said: "...an expanded, year-round ski resort is not an allowable use of the land under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) contract that funded WDFW's purchase of the property." Hunters use the section during archery and rifle seasons as well as for forest grouse hunting. Section 25's whitebark pine forests, springs and wetlands, talus slopes, and undisturbed shrub-steppe openings are vital wildlife habitats. These are just a few of the unclear, misleading, untrue, incomplete, arbitrary, and persuasive statements in the DEIS. I strongly encourage Chelan County to stick to established codes and not bend the rules for the benefit of a developer. Since the development breaks County Codes, I urge you to select the No-Action Alternative, which is the only alternative besides the full development build-out that is presented in the DEIS. Thank you for considering my comments Bill Wagner

Name: Wyatt
Email: Wyattbaird21@yahoo.com
Completion time: 2025-10-20 12:57:27

Your Comment:

First of all this will do is Increased congestion, longer commute times, higher demands on road maintenance and public utilities, and possible costs to local government and taxpayers or shift of cost burden onto residents. Chelan county is already in a budget deficit and so is the dot. I'm a local to the valley and avid outdoors man. This will 100% change animal habitat on the local animals. Mission ridge is in a major elk migration route from elk traveling from Blewett Pass across the Nannuam ridge to get to their wintering grounds. Let alone the deer and bears that are in that area year around. It's not if it's when that area is gonna burn. Until we get a handle on our forest with thinning and logging a fire will come through eventually. I mean look we had two fires in the valley this that burnt 80,000 acres that were wind driven under the right conditions. Nobody can deny it so why put that many people and that much infrastructure at risk with millions of dollars on the line when it does burn if this gonna be built. Hey then it'll just raise insurance premiums in wildfire zones!! Our county barely get by with their snow removal equipment just like WSDOT and they have a way bigger budget. None of this makes sense especially if you're a local, if you have common sense for the out of towners they wouldn't want this either. If you're gonna pay to play why not just go to Mt. Hood, Vail, Stevens, Whistler, ect!!!!!! Developers and investors suck!!

Name: Wyatt
Email: Wyatt7149@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 15:54:08

Your Comment:

Improvement need to be done to Squilchuck Rd to accommodate the increase of traffic

Name: Zach Biondi
Email: Zachbiondi01@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 00:01:03

Your Comment:
Please dear god no expansion

Name: Zarima Whiting
Email: Livzaloha@gmail.com
Completion time: 2025-10-21 00:53:23

Your Comment:

I support the Mission Ridge Expansion, seeing it as a multi-layered benefit for the community and the state. As a visitor from Hawaii, I experienced snow and skiing for the first time in 1988. I was 16 and on a spring break trip. I moved to Washington two years later and learned to ski at Mission Ridge. While attending UW I would drive over, from Seattle. I loved Mission because of the blue skies and blue runs. Eventually I got better and loved it for the black diamond runs and powder. Fast forward a decade, I married a Mission Ridge employee, and we had a little girl. She became a skier at age 3, part of the Mission Ridge Ski Team at 5, and was blessed to grow up skiing at the Ridge. Today she is a young adult and we get to shred the slopes together. I hope that the expansion goes through so others will be able to enjoy the adventure and healthy lifestyle I got to have. My family and I were fortunate to build a home a few miles from Mission Ridge so it was basically right in our own backyard! Mission Ridge is a draw for visitors, new residents, active families, and therefore a significant positive factor in the economy of the valley. Visitors rent rooms at hotels, motels, vacation homes; eat out at local restaurants, and shop at our small businesses. New residents commit to this local economy for consistent financial flow. And, active families contribute to the positivity and wellbeing of a town. Expanding Mission Ridge means there would be all of this and more! From a land management perspective, the expansion provides needed routine care of that area of forest. Proper management creates open space, fuel sources for wildfires are reduced. Expanding Mission means increasing return on investment or the community. Consequently, a benefit for all.