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I. INTRODUCTION

A. Purpose of the Plan

The purpose of this Summer Operations Plan is to authorize Taos Ski Valley, Inc., hereinafter referred to as "Ski Area," to conduct activities and provide public services on National Forest System lands within the special use permit boundary in accordance with federal law and regulation and Forest Service policy. The Summer Operations Plan represents a working tool through which the Ski Area and the Forest Service establish the operating responsibilities and procedures for the Ski Area's summer operations.

This operating plan is required by Section III C. of the Special Use Permit issued to:

Taos Ski Valley, Inc.
PO Box 90, Taos Ski Valley, NM 87525

The Summer Operations Plan and any annual revisions become a part of the term Special Use Permit when signed by the authorized Forest Service Officer. The 2021 Operations Plan is in effect until the 2022 Summer Operations Plan is approved.

The Forest Service and the Ski Area rely on the New Mexico Ski Safety Act (NMSSA) for definition of the specific responsibilities and duties of both the Ski Area and the visiting public.

Within this plan reference is made regarding other agency regulations and standards. The Forest Service and the Ski Area acknowledge and comply with the applicable requirements of the American National Standards Institution (ANSI) B.77 Code, New Mexico Environment Department (NMED), National Ski Areas Association (NSAA), and other such agencies concerned with National Forest lands and the ski industry.

It does not supersede or nullify any clauses of the permit. It will generally describe the Lift Evacuation Plan, and ideas to promote public safety and welfare. It will define responsibilities of the Forest Service and the Ski Area operator, and will serve to emphasize the high degree of coordination and cooperative effort necessary to satisfactorily redeem these responsibilities to each other.

It is recognized that because of the natural environment in which we operate, this plan must serve only as a general guide, and common sense and adaptability will be necessary in its application. It is also recognized that the mountain environment presents inherent risks that are impossible for the Ski Area or the Forest Service to eliminate. However, a vital function of the plan is to create a structure within which the Ski Area and the Forest Service can strive to deliver rewarding experiences to the public, while making reasonable efforts to assist visitors and employees alike in safer conduct in an admittedly hazardous environment.

B. Operating Principles

1. The special use permit authorizes the Ski Area to provide public opportunities for skiing, snowboarding, hiking, summer activities, and natural resource-based outdoor recreation in a National Forest setting.
2. The Forest Service reserves the right to use all or part of the permitted area for any purpose, provided such use does not materially interfere with the Ski Area operations.

3. The lands within the special use permit boundary shall remain open to the public for all lawful purposes, except for any restrictions the Ski Area and Forest Service agree to be necessary as documented in the Summer Operations Plan.

4. All authorized services and facilities must be equally available to all members of the public. Information about the types and prices of services offered must be prominently displayed, readily available to all members of the public, and made available independent of other transactions. Pricing must be consistent with the term Ski Area special use permit clause IV.B, discrimination and gratuity policy.

II. RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENTS

A. Forest Service

The Forest Service is responsible for the management of NFS lands within the special use permit boundary. The authorized officer for the Ski Area term special use permit is the Forest Supervisor. The Forest Supervisor has the authority to approve the type of services provided the public, and the responsibility to ensure that these services conform to satisfactory standards. The Forest Supervisor has the authority to suspend Ski Area operations as necessary to protect public health and safety or the environment (36 CFR 251.60(f)).

The Forest Supervisor may delegate responsibilities for routine daily monitoring and day-to-day administration of the Ski Area to the District Ranger. The table below identifies the representatives of the Carson National Forest that are responsible for administering the Ski Area special use permit.

The authorized officer’s responsibilities under this plan will be as follows:

1. Ensure that the Ski Area has an internal inspection, maintenance and documentation process which provides for meeting the applicable public safety standards as embodied in the NMSSA and that these systems can be efficiently monitored by the Forest Service.

2. Monitor the Ski Area system of inspection, maintenance, and documentation to determine whether they are in place and functioning.

3. Perform on-site spot checks of operation and maintenance, as necessary.

A monitoring plan will be developed by the authorized officer and will be used to report the monitoring procedures and schedules of the forest service representative on duty in the area. A copy of this report will be prepared and furnished to the Ski Area as needed. The Ski Area will review the monitoring reports with appropriate personnel.

Designated Representatives:

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<tr>
<th>Questa Ranger District</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Telephone</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adam LaDell</td>
<td>District Ranger</td>
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<td>Paul Schilke</td>
<td>Winter Sports Coordinator</td>
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<td>Sarah Rodriguez</td>
<td>Wilderness Ranger</td>
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B. Ski Area

The Ski Area will take the measures necessary to apply sound operating principles and in accordance with all existing applicable codes and contractual commitments which include, but may not be limited to:

- New Mexico Ski Safety Act (NMSSA)
- The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Code as it pertains to Ski Area operations
- The Ski Area Special Use Permit
- OSHA- Ski Industry Standards
- The Village of Taos Ski Valley Fire Protection regulations
- Environmental Protection Agency – Fuel Storage

The Ski Area administration emphasis will be to ensure that the Ski Area has systems in place for identifying and correcting problems effectively, and recording and reporting corrective actions. The Ski Area shall make available to the authorized officer records of maintenance, operation, and daily pre-operational inspections as needed, to aid in determining the success of operation and maintenance programs. Spot checks shall also be made to determine the success of the program as well as compliance with written schedules.

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) has full responsibility and is authorized to act on instructions given by the Authorized Officer. In the CEO’s absence, the Vice President of Operations assumes these responsibilities. The table below outlines the Ski Area employees representing various responsibilities under the direction of the CEO.

According to Section III C. of the Special Use Permit, the Ski Area must have a signed Summer Operations Plan by May 15th. In order to meet this deadline, the Ski Area will submit a draft Summer Operations Plan, in digital format, to the authorized officer by April 15th of each year. The previous year’s Summer Operations Plan will remain in effect until the new operations plan is approved.

Designated Representatives:

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III. AUTHORIZED FACILITIES

Authorized improvements within the permit boundary will be built and maintained in conformance with local building code. Any new improvements or alterations to existing improvements will be authorized in writing. Routine maintenance that is minor in scope, does not alter the size, appearance, or purpose of improvements, and does not involve ground disturbance or vegetation removal does not require authorization.

The following improvements are authorized:

1. 7 lifts: 4 quad chairlifts, 2 triple chairlifts, 1 double chairlift, with associated structures
2. Two Terrain Parks
3. The Whistlestop Café
4. Parking Lot (approximately 1,600 parking spaces)
5. Snowmaking System
6. Vehicle Maintenance Shop and Associated Equipment
7. Three communication stations and 3 weather stations
8. Six above-ground fuel/propane storage tanks
9. Three ski patrol buildings
10. Six buildings used for avalanche control supplies storage
11. Ski Race Course and Structures
12. Gazex Avalanche Mitigation System with associated shelter/equipment.
13. Mountain Bike Trail System and Associated Infrastructure
14. Via Ferrata Routes and Associated Infrastructure
IV. OPERATIONS

1. Activities
   On-Mtn Summer Activities will consist of the following:
   A. Scenic chair rides on Lift 4 with hiking access on designated summer mountain roads and trails.
   B. Mountain Biking
      o Downhill biking via lift access on Lift 4
      o Uphill and Downhill biking on Rubezahl
      o Uphill and Downhill biking in Pioneer Glade
      o The Ski Area will rent a combination of cross-country bikes, downhill bikes, and Class 1 E-bikes for use on all trail options.
      o The Ski Area will provide bike instruction and guiding.
   C. Via Ferrata routes with Aerial Walkway via lift access on Lift 4.
   D. Special Events and Activities outlined in Appendix 5.
   E. The Ski Area will provide maps, signage, direction, and information to promote staying on designated trails, safety, general orientation, preventing trespassing on Taos Pueblo lands, and fire safety.
   F. The Ski Area will provide temporary bathroom options as needed in the form of port-o-potties.

2. Bike Patrol
   When mountain biking and via ferrata are in operation, the Ski Area will have on duty, trained bike patrol personnel to evacuate injured bikers and via ferrata guests. The Ski Area will determine that all patrol will meet or exceed qualification standards equivalent to those set by the NMSSA. Patrol persons will be easily identified and have “Outdoor Emergency Care” training or equivalent.

   The Ski Area will make a report of each accident they handle and summarize these reports weekly. Reports will be made available for the authorized officer upon request.

   Before closing the bike park and via ferrata each evening, the patrol will monitor bike trails and via ferrata routes for guests. They are the last to ride the trails. They must report an “All Clear” to the dispatcher, as appropriate.

   The Ski Area will maintain a list of all patrol qualified personnel working at the Ski Area during the summer and will be made available to the authorized officer upon request.

3. First Aid
   a. The Ski Area will provide basic First Aid for any guest injured participating in mountain biking or via ferrata.
   b. Properly equipped rescue toboggans and vehicles will be available to properly evacuated injured guests off the mountain.

4. Communication
   Radio communications will be maintained between the VP of Operations, Ski Patrol Leader, Lift Operations, Bike Patrol, and Summer Staff while Lift 4, Mountain Biking, and Via Ferrata are open. Portable radios will be available for the roaming patrol and
summer staff. In addition, lifts will meet ANSI B77.1, (most current edition) code in regards to communications. Dispatch will operate out of the Top of Lift 4 in the summer.

5. **Bike Instruction**  
   A. **Scope of Operations:**  
      i. To provide an enjoyable learning experience for all bike levels. It is recognized that participation in bike school does not lessen the inherent risks of biking.  
      ii. Regularly scheduled group and private lessons will be offered.  
      iii. Children's programs - Children's programs are offered.  
      iv. Control of Unauthorized Bike Instruction - Unauthorized bike instruction for payment is prohibited. Casual instruction by unauthorized instructors is discouraged for safety reasons.  
   
   B. **Staffing:**  
      i. Staffing levels will be determined by teaching, riding ability, and experience of individual instructors.  
      ii. Instructors are trained in the teaching sequence and the responsibility code.

6. **Signs**  
   See Appendix 1.

7. **General Safety and Sanitation**  
   A. The Ski Area will monitor all areas that it manages to maintain general safety. If needed, the Ski Area will call in the appropriate law enforcement.  
   B. The permitted area will be maintained to present a clean, neat, and orderly appearance. The Ski Area will maintain entrances and walkways to prevent them from becoming hazardous to the users.  
   C. The Ski Area shall dispose of all refuse, including waste materials, garbage, and rubbish of all kinds, in the following manner, and shall guard the purity of streams and living waters. Dry refuse such as cardboard and paper may be burned in an approved incinerator. Wet garbage and unburnable trash shall be hauled off by either the Ski Area or a waste management company.  
   D. All food provided to the public will be prepared and served according to New Mexico Environment Department regulations  
   E. Litter patrols on Lift #4 will be conducted on a monthly basis and immediately after the end of the summer season.

8. **Erosion Control**  
   Revegetation and mitigation measures as prescribed by the authorized officer will be followed to reduce erosion on the mountain.

9. **Timber and Debris disposal**  
   Hazard Trees: The Ski Area will visually assess lift corridors and ski trails for hazard trees and is responsible for removal. The definition of a hazard tree is simply any tree that poses an imminent threat to human safety and/or a threat to installed facilities. Our working definition is any standing dead tree that is within two tree-heights distance from an installed facility, a designated ski trail, or gladed area. Defects that drive felling may include, but are not limited to, dead-tops/limbs, wounds, cavities, and severe cracks especially associated with forks. Additional examples of hazard trees might
include standing live, green trees that pose an imminent threat. These could be standing
green trees that are leaning, or green trees that show evidence of insect and disease
activity that is likely to affect the structural integrity of the tree, thus making it unlikely
to recover. Also, healthy trees may need to be felled prior to cutting hazard trees to
create safer working conditions. Hazard tree removal can occur anywhere within the
permit area at any time.

Disposal of trees and slash will be done as follows: Dead trees may be left on the ground
with no further action. Fallen trees may be moved to better locations on the hill for skier
and worker safety. A simple lop and scatter approach for slash disposal is preferred.
Slash shall be lopped and scattered to a maximum of two feet in height. The Ski Area will
be responsible for the disposition of any purchased trees, dead or green. If the Ski Area
needs to remove fallen dead trees for any reason, these trees should be decked for
measurement and billing. Alternatively, if skidding is not feasible, but trees must be
removed, the Ski Area may construct burn piles for eventual disposal of trees. Green
trees must be removed the same season they are cut. Green trees must be skidded to a
deck for scaling, billing, and removal. While the volume of green timber cut will likely be
minimal, removal is essential to avoid potential beetle attraction.

Merchantable Timber: Any merchantable timber removed will be purchased according
to the applicable section of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFRs), as required by the
authorized officer, and FSH 2409.12. Merchantable is defined as a tree that is sawtimber
size. Sawtimber must be at least 9” in diameter at breast height (4.5 feet) and have 10
feet worth of merchantable material. The amount of the merchantable material is the
height of the tree up to the point where the diameter of the inside of the bark reaches
6”. The remainder of the tree above the 6” cutoff is not considered merchantable
because it is too small, and it can’t be used at a sawmill. A variety of methods will be
used to dispose of debris including chipping, burning (with approved burn plan), and
stacked and left on site. The Ski Area will call the Carson National Forest Winter Sports
Coordinator once cutting is complete and/or if the deck area is full. Experienced
foresters will scale the decks at the designated landing(s). Weekly updates will be
provided to the Winter Sports Coordinator, who will work with a District Forester to
determine if further inspections are needed. Mechanized equipment, like the Ponsse
harvester and forwarder, may be used to cut and remove hazard trees. Notify them that decks are ready to be scaled and so the Ski Area can be properly billed.

As a result of this winter’s wind event that took down a significant amount of trees
throughout the resort, the Ski Area plans to use mechanized equipment (Ponsse and
Masticator) on slopes these machines can safely access.

10. Incident/Accident Notification

The Ski Area will conduct an incident review of serious injuries or fatalities involving the
public, failures or malfunctions of constructed facilities (see for example FSM 7320), and
events resulting in significant property, environmental, or other natural resource
damage which occur on National Forest System (NFS) lands covered by a special use
authorization. The objective of an incident review is to assess compliance with
pertinent terms and conditions of the applicable special use authorization, including the
operating plan and other appendices, and determine whether the terms and conditions
of the authorization or any related operational procedures need to be modified. The purpose of the incident review is not to determine fault or liability.

Directives pertaining to occupational safety and health of Forest Service employees are contained in FSM 6700 and FSH 6709.11 and 6709.12. Directives pertaining to public health and safety at recreation sites managed by the Forest Service are contained in FSM 2330.6. The U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), is responsible for investigating injuries to and fatalities of employees, including employees of the holder of a special use authorization. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration recommends that employers investigate all accidents involving their workers but requires employers to report any employee fatality within 8 hours. In patient hospitalizations of one or more employees, amputations or loss of an eye must be reported to OSHA within 24 hours. (29 CFR 1904.39).

The Ski Area shall be required to contact the authorized officer as soon as practicable after the following incidents that occur on NFS lands within the authorized area:

A. Any incident resulting in death, permanent disability, or personal injuries that are life-threatening or that are likely to cause permanent disability;
B. Any failure of a structural, mechanical, electrical component and its primary connection, or operator error, which impairs the operation or function of a passenger ropeway in a way that could affect public safety, or any ropeway incident that requires reporting to state authorities;
C. A search and rescue operation to locate a person;
D. Any incident that had or has high potential for serious personal injury, significant property damage, or significant environmental or other natural resource damage, including but not limited to avalanches, landslides, flooding, fire, structural failures, or release of hazardous substances.
E. All Ski Area accidents will be documented on a form developed by and used by the Ski Area’s insurance carrier. Copies will be available for the authorized officer’s review with all private medical information redacted by the Ski Area.
F. When a passenger ropeway incident results in death or serious injury, the Authorized Officer may immediately suspend operation of ropeway involved in the incident (36 CFR 251.60(f). Immediate suspension must be in accordance with 36 CFR 251.6(f).
G. The Ski Area shall notify the ropeway manufacturer, if applicable, of an incident, failure, or malfunction which seriously affects the continued operation of the passenger ropeway.
H. The Ski Area shall preserve “incident scene” including the conditions or equipment that caused death or serious injury in accordance with Forest Service incident review policy and state, county or law enforcement agency requirements.

The Authorized Officer shall determine the level of Forest Service review, if any, needed for the incidents listed in FSM 2716.71, paragraph 1. The Authorized Officer may form a local review team if the incident requires a complex technical evaluation and specialized skills.
Forest Service reviews of incidents should be conducted by an individual or a team with appropriate expertise. For example, a passenger ropeway engineer should be involved in reviewing a passenger ropeway incident; an experienced winter sports administrator should be involved in reviewing Ski Area incidents; a swift water expert should be involved in reviewing a rafting incident; and an individual with training and experience in pipeline operations should be involved in reviewing an oil pipeline failure.

A regional or national team may be assigned by the Regional Forester or the Chief to review an incident when deemed necessary because of the scope or severity of the incident.

When expertise needed for an incident review is not available within the Forest Service, the holder may be required to obtain a qualified consultant, subject to prior written approval by the Forest Service, at the holder’s expense. Use of consultants’ work is subject to prior written approval by the Forest Service.

Document the results of incident reviews commensurate with the scope and severity of the incident. Establish the scope and content requirements of incident review reports. Incident review reports must be filed in the holder’s case file (FSM 2716.6). In addition to these requirements, serious injuries and fatal accidents to the public occurring in authorized areas shall be reported using form FS-6700-8. See FSM 6732.24 for direction on reporting serious injuries and fatal accidents involving the public that occur on National Forest System lands covered by a special use authorization.

11. Fire Prevention and Suppression

The fire suppression system consists of fire extinguishers and a snowmaking system. The Ski Area shall maintain a list of all locations of annually inspected fire extinguishers. Flammable materials will be stored in a fireproof storage locker. All buildings will be inspected on an annual basis to meet state and local codes for fire safety and protection.

Signage will be posted on bottom and top stations and chairlift towers prohibiting smoking except in designated smoking areas.

Ski Area vehicles will be equipped with additional firefighting equipment (Fire extinguishers, shovels, etc.).

Where welding is necessary on the permit area, welding equipment will be accompanied by a water tank if conditions warrant. If conditions warrant, all grass and other combustible materials in the immediate area will be removed prior to welding, and the area will be patrolled for a minimum of one-half hour after the completion of welding operations.

A fire extinguisher and firefighting equipment at the cutting site will accompany any use of chainsaws. The area will also be patrolled for a minimum of one half hour after completion of the chainsaw use.
12. **Search and Rescue**
   Possible needs for search and rescue operations within, or in the vicinity of, the permitted area will be brought to the attention of local law enforcement authorities having jurisdiction for making decisions on, and conducting such efforts.

   Careflight helicopters will on occasion perform flyovers of the permit area for training purposes. The Ski Area will notify the Forest Service in advance for approval.

13. **Boundary Management**
   The density of the forest surrounding trails within the permitted area has made the need for boundary signage very minimal. In areas this is not the case, signage or ropes are in place and will be maintained to effectively mark the Ski Area boundary.

   All Ski Area mountain roads will be closed to unauthorized vehicular traffic and will be posted as such.

14. **Vegetation Management**
   If vegetation management is needed it will be performed subject to the authorized officer’s approval and stipulations.

15. **Operations and Maintenance of Lifts**
   Operating procedures, emergency procedures, and lift manuals shall be available to the authorized officer for monitoring and evaluation. The Ski Area shall, as a minimum, abide by the lift operations & lift maintenance plans at the lift maintenance office or the lift operations’ office.

   The Ski Area will formulate written emergency procedures to cover such events as mechanical lift failure, chair lift evacuation, and multiple personal injuries due to lift failure (see Appendix 5).

   Lifts will operate outside of normal operating hours for non-public use for access and maintenance. This will include, but not limited to; special events, groups, marketing, lift maintenance, training, and early access tours.

   All lifts designated in the permit will be constructed, maintained and operated in accordance with provisions of the current American National Standard Safety Requirements for Aerial Passenger Tramway ANSI B77.1.

   Per ANSI 4.3.6.2 “Passenger dexterity and ability”, service dogs are not allowed on the ski lifts. This provision states, “All passengers who use an aerial lift shall be responsible for their own embarkation, riding, and disembarkation. They shall be presumed to have sufficient ability, physical dexterity, and/or personal assistance to negotiate and to be evacuated from the aerial lift safely. Passengers shall maintain control of their speed and course while loading and unloading the aerial lift. Further, ANSI 4.3.6.3 states, “A passenger shall get on and get off an aerial lift at designated areas. No passenger shall embark without first understanding and observing the proper loading, riding, and unloading procedures.”
The Ski Area will be responsible to:

A. Comply with the New Mexico Ski Safety Act.
B. Maintain orderly waiting lines.
C. During periods of high winds or lightning the Ski Area will monitor weather conditions and lift operations in order to determine when to discontinue lift operations and activities.
D. Provide training on the functions and terminology of lift operations (by description demonstration) and document such training.
E. Notify the authorized officer as soon as possible in the event of a significant lift accident or mechanical failure. Any parts of the lift damaged or subjected to abnormal treatment will not be used until approved by a qualified lift engineer. This is meant to include breakage of cables, cracked towers, footings, etc. This is not meant to include replacement of worn parts or normal maintenance.
F. Obtain at the areas expense, an annual inspection of the holder’s passenger ropeways by a qualified passenger ropeway engineer or passenger ropeway specialist before commencement of operations each year. Require the holder to have the inspection documented in a report that is certified by the passenger ropeway engineer or passenger ropeway specialist and that contains the following statement:

“This is a report of the audio/visual field survey of [holder’s name]’s passenger ropeways on National Forest System lands per ANSI B77.1 or B77.2. The survey has been performed in accordance with the general inspection provisions of ANSI B77.1 or B77.2 as interpreted by Accredited Standards Committee (ASC) B77. This survey is not intended to provide engineering information, advice, or consultation to [holder’s name] beyond that required by the general inspection provisions of ANSI B77.1, as interpreted by ASC B77.”

G. To notify the Forest Service of all dates for inspection and acceptance and dynamic testing as soon as possible, but at least 7 days prior to any scheduled inspections or tests.

16. Skier, Hiker, and Biker Conduct

For winter activities, uphill skiing is allowed until the Winter Operations Plan takes into effect. During this time the New Mexico Ski Safety Act duties of Ski Area operators will not apply to the skiing area or any persons skiing/riding/hiking on the terrain. All such skiers/riders/hikers will legally assume all risks of injury or death while participating, including avalanche risk and all inherent risks such as, but not limited to, snow conditions, terrain, trees, natural and man-made objects, variations in terrain and the operation of Ski Area vehicles such as, but not limited to snowcats, snowmobiles, trucks, and other vehicles. Private motorized vehicles, including snowmobiles are prohibited from access. Markings, warnings, signage ski patrol or other rescue assistance, and all other Ski Area operator duties und NMSSA are not provided by the Ski Area except during winter Ski Area operations and summer mountain bike hours.

For summer activities, hiking is allowed going uphill and downhill on the designated mountain roads. Uphill biking is only allowed on the Rubezahl Trail and Pioneer Glade. All other biking is restricted to the downhill trails off Lift 4.
The Ski Area management shall have the right to deny access to any of the uphill facilities and/or slopes to any person that they deem unfit or not competent to use the equipment or trails safely.

It is recognized the Ski Area does not have police authority. However, the Ski Area is encouraged to enforce unsafe behavior from guests whose conduct jeopardizes the safety of other guests. This may be accomplished through Ski Area employees and patrol. Positive action will be taken by all Ski Area personnel, especially patrol members, to discourage and correct unsafe conduct and to foster safety awareness among guests.

Action taken will include one or several of the following, depending upon the specific circumstances and the severity of the problem:

1. Verbal warning
2. Marking of ticket
4. Placing the offender's name and address on file with the patrol.
5. Requesting the authorized officer to issue a warning or violation notice.

All people, including Ski Area personnel, may lose their tickets for reckless behavior, or disregarding instructions and/or directions for the safety and benefit of the public. They may also lose their tickets for being in “closed” areas, trails, or hiking outside the Ski Area boundary. The Ski Area management shall have the right to deny access to any of the uphill facilities and/or slopes to any person that they deem unfit or not competent to use the equipment or trails safely.

17. Certificate of Insurance
   The certificate of insurance shall be sent to the authorized officer annually.

18. Annual General Inspections Requirements
   The Ski Area will obtain at the Ski Area’s expense, an annual inspection of the Ski Area’s passenger ropeways by a qualified passenger ropeway engineer or passenger ropeway specialist before commencement of operations each year.

   The Ski Area will make available to the Authorized Officer the inspection report that will specify any items of noncompliance and the work that must be done to bring those items into compliance.

   The Ski Area will submit an annual certificate of inspection for the Ski Area’s passenger ropeways, attesting to the adequacy and safety of the installations and equipment. It will be submitted to the Authorized Officer prior to recommencing public operation.

19. Miscellaneous Services
   All food provided to the public will be prepared and served according to New Mexico Environment Department regulations.

20. Parking Lots
See Appendix 2 for details.

21. **Summer Maintenance/Construction Projects**
   See Appendix 4 for details.

22. **Summer Special Events**
   See Appendix 5 for details. The Ski Area shall submit to the authorized officer, in writing, a proposed list of special events as programmed. The authorized officer will monitor and evaluate the schedule and if deemed necessary suggest additional public safety measures. Notification of any event not identified in the proposed list will be submitted within 10 business days prior to the event (Appendix 7).

   Events may include but are not limited to races, competitions, camping, festivals, and group events. Some events will include firework displays both on private and land within the permit area. The Ski Area will provide the USFS notice in advance of the time, date, location, and estimated length of fireworks show.

   Public access to the areas where events occur may be restricted to segregate the competition from other use.

23. **Drone Policy**

   Out of safety concerns for guests, employees, and resort property, as well as concerns for individual privacy, Taos Ski Valley, Inc. prohibits the operation or use of unmanned aerial systems, or drones, by the general public – including recreational users and hobbyists – without the prior written authorization from The Ski Area. This prohibition includes drones used for filming or videotaping, as well as any drone use by media or journalists operating above or within Ski Area boundaries. This prohibition on drone operations or use extends to any drones launched or operated from Ski Area property, as well as drones launched from private property or U.S. Forest Service property outside of ski area boundaries.

   Please contact Ski Area representative John Kelly in the main office if you have any questions or if you seek prior authorization to operate any aerial drones. The Ski Area reserves the right to operate drones for internal purposes, abiding by all FAA standards. Any authorized operation of aerial drones may be governed by Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) rules and regulations, Taos County or Village of Taos Ski Valley ordinance, local law enforcement, and / or U.S. Forest Service rules, as well as those policies separately established by The Ski Area, which may include certification, training, insurance coverage, indemnification requirements, and waivers or releases of liability.

   Any violation of this policy may involve suspension of your skiing or snowboarding privileges, or the revocation of your season pass, as well as confiscation of any drone equipment, and may subject violators to any damages, including, but not limited to, damages for violations of privacy and/or physical or personal injuries or property damage, as well as regulatory fines and legal fees.
24. **Operation plan for supervision of children.**

   All suspected child abuse incidents will be reported to N.M. State CYFD at 1-855-333-7233 in the attached format. If situation is critical or unable to reach CYFD Central Dispatch can be utilized through 911 system.

   The information below should be provided when calling Statewide Central Intake?
   
   • Child’s name, age, date of birth
   • Child’s current location
   • Parent/Guardian name and address
   • Name of siblings who are also at risk
   • Name of alleged perpetrator, location and address if known
   • Describe your suspicion/firsthand knowledge
   • Names of any other witnesses or collateral contacts
   • Name of the school the child attends
   • Names of individuals who the child has connected with or has a bond/good relationship with

   Any other information that would be useful to CYFD during its investigation. How the parents maintain their own lives, methods of discipline, what is posing a threat to the child where the child is or what is happening at this moment

   **STATEWIDE CENTRAL INTAKE**
   
   # SAFE from a cellphone
   1-855-333-SAFE (7233)

25. **Photo Shoots**

   The ski resort will at times conduct photo/video shoots within the Special Use Permit for internal and external use. Photo/video shoots will be performed by both The Ski Area and 3rd party entities. When 3rd parties are involved, the Ski Area will be responsible for overseeing the operation, transportation, and compliance with all other requirements of the permit.
APPENDIX 1 - SIGN PLAN

The Ski Area shall establish and maintain a sign program throughout the Ski Area. This plan will conform to the requirements of the National Ski Area Association and Forest Service requirements for mountain biking, via ferrata, hiking, and public access.

1. Mountain Bike signage shall consist of the following:
   a. Identify the run and the degree of difficulty using the following symbols:
   
   ![Mountain Bike Symbols](image)

   b. Trail signs will have background consistent with difficulty color, with white lettering and symbol of difficulty; i.e., circle, square or diamond. These will be placed at the top or entrance of each trail.

   c. The easiest bike routes down the mountain will be marked with large green background signs and white lettering showing the direction to bike to the next “easiest route” sign.

2. General Mountain signage will consist of the following:
   a. Provide reasonable direction, (e.g., restaurants, base area, lifts).
   b. Posted chair lift signs required by the ANSI B77.1, (most current edition).
   c. Warning, skier control, and area closure signs will be placed for skier awareness.

3. All signs, excepting those agreed to by the Authorized Officer, will be supplied by the Ski Area.

4. The Ski Area shall provide one or more bulletin boards for the purpose of providing information to the public. All public contact will be conducted in a courteous and helpful manner by both the Forest Service and employees of the Ski Area.

5. The Ski Area shall supply a large map of the Ski Area, with trails clearly identified as to location and degree of difficulty, maps of the Ski Area will be posted or available in key locations throughout the Ski Area.

6. Additional signage will be placed in the parking lots to provide reasonable direction and explanation during the construction of Ski Valley infrastructure.
APPENDIX 2 - PARKING PLAN

1. The Ski Area is responsible for the direction, supervision, and control of parking lots on permitted NFS land at Twining and of pedestrian traffic and all access to permitted facilities.

2. The Ski Area will see that there are through lanes for traffic to move through the area at all times. Vehicles parked so as to obstruct these lanes will be towed away at the owner’s expense.

3. The Ski Area shall work with all private businesses in the Village of Taos Ski Valley (VTSV) area to ensure that employee use of the parking lot is minimized.

4. Parking for summer construction crews in the Kachina Basin will occur on Ski Area property near the Phoenix Restaurant and Bavarian. Parking for summer construction crews in the Resort Center area will be parked in designated areas in existing base area lots.

5. Based on the popularity of RV and Van Life overnight parking, The Ski Area will continue to support this access. In order to better control and organize the popularity, The Ski Area will set a maximum number of spots available and will charge a nightly fee for overnight spots and access. Vehicles parked more than 7 days may be towed away at the owner’s expense. Port-o-potties and bear proof trash cans will be provided in the overnight lot.

6. A parking station will be set up at the Guest Service Chalet by VTSV to advise visitors of their options. Visitors will be advised to park in “A” and “B” levels to access base area businesses via Sutton Place or continue up Twining road to hiker parking.

7. Electric charging stations will be stationed next to GS Chalet for general public and Ski Area use.

8. Armadillo, Deer Lot, and Eagle Lot, will be used for laydown areas for Ski Area construction projects. Lower Deer will be used for material piles and scrap piles that will ultimately be taken off-site.

9. Fire and Law enforcement is the responsibility of the Village of Taos Ski Valley Department of Public Safety.

10. Taos Ski Valley will proceed with parking lot construction work this summer, as outlined in the 2021 Construction Authorization Letter and 2012 ROD. As part of these plans the Ski Area will manage traffic flow, trail/campground access, and guest communication.
APPENDIX 3 - LIFT EVACUATION PLANNING

All emergency evacuation of elevated lifts will be performed by rope. All rope used for evacuation shall be of synthetic polyester fiber (dacron for example) or of a hard lay nylon with a minimum diameter of 7/16 inch and a minimum breaking strength when new of 5,000 pounds. These ropes shall be carefully stored when not in use, and they shall be carefully examined after each complete lift evacuation and prior to each season of operation, both summer and winter to ascertain that they are in satisfactory condition. Ropes and harnesses will be kept at top of Lift 2 and top of Lift 4. Slings and harness will be of nylon webbing. Under arm harness systems will be of types commonly used in the ski industry for lift evacuation. Rope ascending devices will be kept at the patrol station (top of Lift 4) to provide access to any chair via the evacuation rope.

Evacuation procedures will be in accordance with current ANSI B77.1 standard. Evacuation drills shall be conducted at established intervals, as a minimum of one each 12 calendar months, and such drills recorded. Gear and personnel must be available in sufficient number and quantity that the entire lift can be evacuated according to the Ski Area’s Lift Evacuation Plan.

The Ski Area will have a detailed plan of evacuation, equipment necessary for evacuation, and adequate training of personnel. A complete Evacuation Plan, meeting the requirements of the current ANSI B77.1, is available at the Ski Patrol dispatch office.

REPORTS

Each evacuation will be recorded in the log book of the lift. The area management will notify the authorized officer that an evacuation is in progress as soon as possible. All details known, such as cause of malfunction, passenger injury, damage to lift, etc., will be phoned to the authorized officer as this information is received by the area management from the evacuation leader.
APPENDIX 4 – SUMMER MAINTENANCE/CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

**Maintenance**

1. Replacement of existing defective/old communication cables, radio equipment, power systems, and transformers throughout the mountain. Conduit will be placed in conjunction with repairs to reduce the need for future digging. Locations will include the list below. Further locations could be added as we assess damage this summer. If more locations are added in the future the Carson NF will be notified in advance in a timely manner.
   a. Easy Trip and Shalako
   b. White Feather and Powderhorn
   c. Parking lot areas
   d. Lower Stauffenberg and Firlefanz
   e. Highline Ridge
   f. Radio infrastructure locations
   g. On-mountain transformer locations and power feeds

2. Resurfacing, repair, and maintenance of summer roads. Work will focus on main existing summer road along the following locations:
   a. White Feather to Top of Lift 2
   b. Honeysuckle
   c. Easy Trip and Shalako
   d. Winkelreid
   e. Rubezahl

3. Maintenance ski trail work on established trails. Work includes the moving/splitting of larger rocks and stumps, brush cutting, erosion control, grading, revegetation, water bar work, and hazard tree removal. Locations will include all open ski terrain including trails and glades throughout the mountain. Further locations could be added as we assess during the summer. If more locations are added in the future the Carson NF will be notified in advance in a timely manner.

4. Snowmaking pipe/valve maintenance throughout on-mountain snowmaking infrastructure. Locations will include the list below. If more locations are added in the future the Carson NF will be notified in advance in a timely manner.
   a. White Feather, Powderhorn, and Porcupine lines
   b. Honeysuckle
   c. Lower Stauffenberg and Mucho Gusto line
   d. Bambi
   e. Baby Bear
   f. Winkelreid to Rubezahl
   g. Shalako
   h. Totemoff

5. Improvements and repairs to existing buildings and structures. Improvements include repairs to interior/exterior walls and foundations. Work will not increase the existing footprint. Locations will include the list below. If more locations are added in the future the Carson NF will be notified in advance in a timely manner.
   a. Snowmaking Pump Houses
b. Top of 1 and 2 Radio Buildings

c. Top of Lift 2, 4, 6, and 12 Patrol Buildings

d. Maxie’s Terrain Park Structures

e. Firlefanz/Lower Stauffenberg Race Structures

f. Lift buildings and structures

g. Vehicle Maintenance and Parking Lot Structures

6. Continued glading and burning in all areas throughout the mountain approved by hazard tree definition, Highway 150 Corridor approval, and/or completion of previous glading approvals. All work will adhere to the approved prescriptions.

Maintenance and cleanup of down and standing dead timber throughout the mountain from wind events. As a result of this winter’s wind event that took down a significant amount of trees throughout the resort, the Ski Area plans to use mechanized equipment (Ponsse and Masticator) on slopes these machines can safely access.

The Ski Area will coordinate with USFS on instituting more frequent burning of timber piles to better manage debris, in addition to the Fall Burn.

7. Wind fence and retention wall maintenance/repairs at the below locations.


   b. Whitefeather. Match existing fencing.

   c. Bottom of Porcupine. Match existing fencing.

8. Parking lot maintenance work. Includes grading, drainage, compaction, and repairs.


10. Soil Testing. As part of the analysis and planning for future work, the Ski Area plans to perform soil testing at key locations for future projects approved in the MDP and currently going through Environmental Analysis.

Construction Projects

1. Mountain Bike Trail Construction per 2018 Decision Memo


3. Forest Health work per Highway 150 Corridor 2016 Decision Memo and 2021 Prescription.

4. Forest Health work in the Minnesota’s per the 2012 EIS and 2021 Prescription.

5. Forest Health work near Williams Lake entrance to assist Carson with completing work started by Rocky Mountain Youth Corp.

6. Taos County and The Carson plan to coordinate on replacing the radio building and infrastructure on Highline Ridge.

7. Via Ferrata work per 2019 Decision Memo

8. Start tree and dirt work associated with Lift 4 replacement, per 2012 EIS and 2022 Project Acceptance Letter.
APPENDIX 5 - SPECIAL EVENTS

- June 12th – July 30th = US Army High Altitude Study
- July 4th = July 4th Celebration Activities
- July 16th – Summer Rally in the Valley
- July 30th – Arts Festival
- August 6th = Up and Over (Chamber)
- August 13th Mutt Strutt
- August 20th – Taos Mountain Yoga Festival
- September 3rd – Mutt Strutt
- September 7th – 9th = Outside Sustainability Conference
- September 10th = Kachina Peak Marathon and Bull of Woods Race
- September 16th – 18th = Oktoberfest

Date TBD:
- Mountain Bike Race

*Events and group activities may be added during the summer with proper notification to the Forest Service.

*Weddings are primarily held on private lands in the base areas. Sometimes we get the requests to have small, private ceremonies on the resort. These requests will be relayed in advance.