



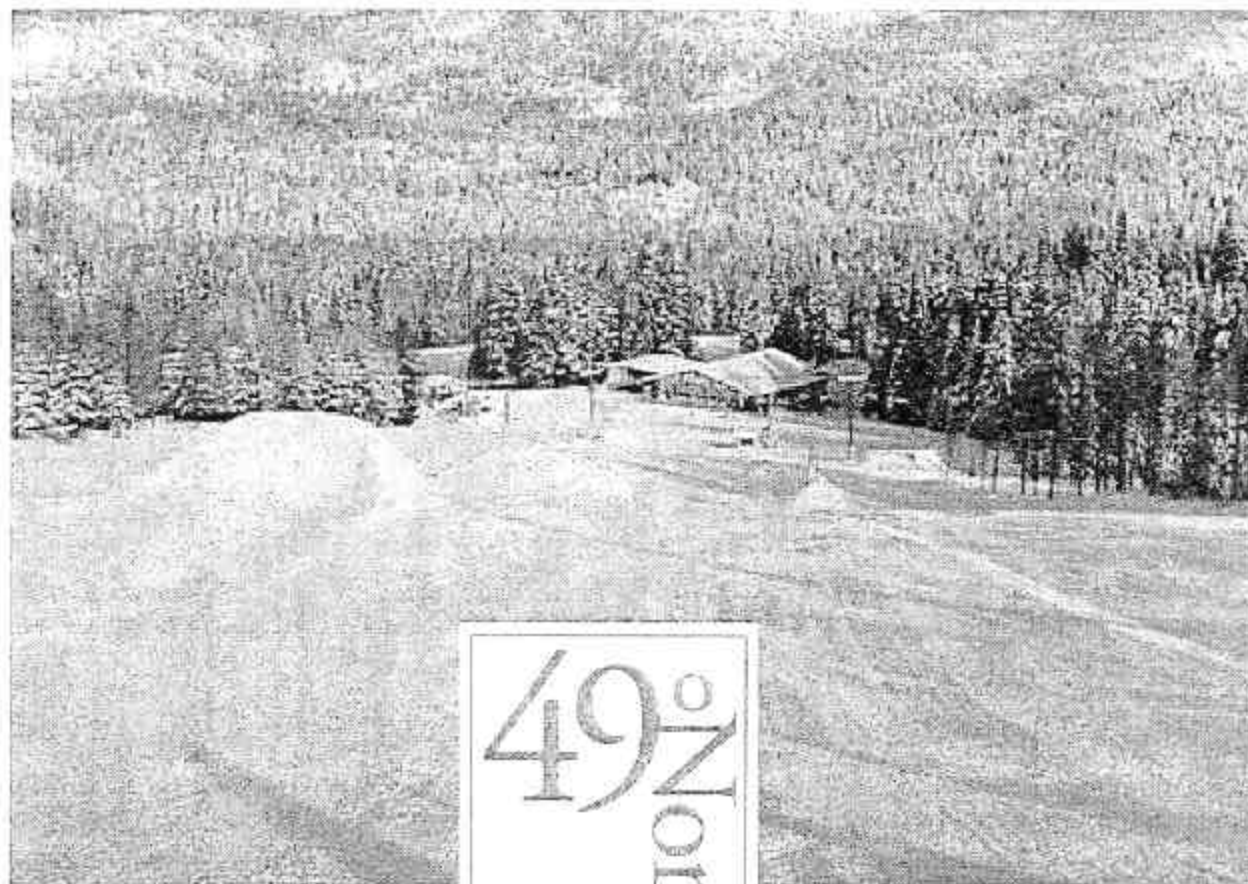
United States
Department of Agriculture
Forest Service

Pacific Northwest Region
March 2004

Colville National Forest
Newport Ranger District
Stevens County, Washington

49 DEGREES NORTH MOUNTAIN RESORT REVISED MASTER DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Final Environmental Impact Statement



Wetlands

Alternative A

Alternative A would continue to affect approximately 0.1 acre of wetlands at existing culverts for stream crossings.

Alternatives B and C

Action Alternatives B and C would each affect an additional 0.1 acre of wetlands at new and replacement culvert installations.

Riparian Areas and Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCAs)

The Flowery Trail Reconstruction Project is changing the entrance road under all alternatives. The reconstruction would move the access road between the main parking area and the Main Lodge to the west, away from Little Calispell Creek. Because of the topography, the new alignment would reduce sediment and the risk of petrochemicals from this road entering a stream. This alignment is found in all alternatives.

Alternative A

Alternative A would continue to affect approximately 13 acres of RHCAs (**Table 3-5**). Potential water quality impacts from sediment, petrochemicals and other contaminants would continue due to runoff from parking, Main Lodge and maintenance areas. The potential for a catastrophic spill of fuel or chlorine would continue. Snow disposal adjacent to Little Calispell Creek would continue to contribute to runoff into the creek.

Alternative B

Alternative B would continue the existing 13 acres of RHCA impacts and would add 3 acres of additional impacts for a total of about 16 acres (**Table 3-5**). Although the acreage of impact within RHCAs would increase, several project components would reduce the potential for water quality impacts. These project components include:

- Eliminating machinery maintenance activities within the RHCA
- Moving the fuel depot to a location outside an RHCA,
- Moving the chlorinator out of the RHCA
- Eliminating snow disposal adjacent to the creek, and using snow disposal areas away from the creek where the snowmelt would not overflow into the creek.

These action combine to remove significant sources of potential contamination.

Alternative C

Alternative C would continue the existing 13 acres of RHCA impacts and would add 3 acres of additional impacts for a total of about 16 acres (**Table 3-5**). However, a reclamation project for a portion of Little Calispell Creek has been designed for this alternative to mitigate existing and proposed impacts. This project would reduce the net effect on RHCAs from approximately 16 acres to approximately 14 acres (**Table 3-5**). The net result on RHCAs under Alternative C would be a 1-acre increase from existing conditions.

The reclamation project for Alternative C would occur in the Little Calispell Creek RHCA adjacent to the Main Lodge (**Figure 2-4**). This 2-acre reclamation project is designed to reduce existing water quality concerns and to mitigate for new RHCA impacts created by the proposed expansion. Components of this project would include:

- Eliminating machinery maintenance activities within the RHCA