

**DECISION MEMO**  
for  
**Mambo Trail Improvements**  
**Alta Ski Area**

Salt Lake County, Utah  
Wasatch-Cache National Forest  
Salt Lake Ranger District

**DECISION AND RATIONALE**

I have reviewed Alta's proposal and the associated environmental review documentation and have decided to approve the elements described below. These elements constitute the proposed action addressed in this Decision Memo:

- 5** • Widening and regrading the choke points in the upper portion of Mambo trail, creating a groomable ski trail where skier traffic is currently confined mostly to the summer road. Average width of the new trail will be approximately 40 feet.
- Constructing a retaining wall, built of local granite rock, along the skier's-right side of the first side-hill cut below the pass. This will limit the amount of cut and fill necessary to create the ski-trail width. The retaining wall, similar to the walls constructed below Watson Shelter and at the bottom of Sunnyside, will be about 300 feet long and from 6 to 15 feet high.
- Installing buried snowmaking utility lines from a tie-in point with the existing snowmaking system near the Main Street/Blitz intersection up to Germania Pass. The utility corridor will generally follow the middle of the upper, widened portion of Mambo and the skier's left side of the lower, existing trail. Twelve short spurs will link buried hydrants to the main line. These utilities will be installed in a trench roughly 4 feet deep and 3 feet wide. Construction will temporarily disturb a corridor averaging 30 feet wide for the main line and 15 feet wide for the spurs.
- Installing a stage pump in a small structure (approximately 8 feet by 8 feet) just below the third lateral spur from the bottom.
- If final grading of the improved ski run allows, establishing a new mountain road segment suitable for motor vehicle access for ski area operations during the summer within the disturbance limits of the relocated portion of Mambo trail. This would shorten the existing summer road and allow reclamation of 1,300 feet of the road bypassed by the relocated section of Mambo trail by folding the banks back in, top-soiling, and revegetating

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The project area lies entirely on National Forest System (NFS) land. The total disturbance area will be about 4.55 acres, encompassing both the widening and regrading on the upper portion of the trail and the snowmaking utility line on the lower portion. Of this total, about 3.70 acres have been previously disturbed (much of it by trail grading in the late 1960s), leaving 0.85 acres of new disturbance. If completed, the road reclamation element of the project will restore about 0.60 acres to a more natural condition. Access to the project area will be via existing roads. No access roads will be constructed. Work will begin in summer 2007 and be completed within this construction season.