

Bridger Bowl 2b

April 24, 2006



Mr. Jose Castro
U.S. Forest Service
3710 Fallon, Box C
Bozeman, MT 59715

Dear Jose,

Many people commented how much they appreciate the access gates the Forest Service installed last fall at Bridger Bowl. Thanks for your efforts in making this change happen.

The summer projects we have planned, in addition to normal maintenance, are as follows:

On Forest Service land:

1. Load tests on Bridger, Deer Park, and Virginia City lifts
2. Install 4' culvert extending road across Slushman's drainage
3. Continue removing rocks and stumps from ski runs.
4. Continue weed control program
5. Touch up paint on lifts

On Bridger Bowl's land:

1. Load test Powder Park lift
2. Oil access road
3. Selective logging
4. Continue weed control program
5. Touch up paint on lifts

Please call if you have any questions. 556-5727

Sincerely,

Randy Elliott
-Manager, Bridger Bowl

BRIDGER BOWL

MASTER DEVELOPMENT PLAN APPROVAL and SPECIAL USE PERMIT AUTHORIZATION

RECORD OF DECISION

January 2005

**GALLATIN NATIONAL FOREST
BOZEMAN RANGER DISTRICT
Gallatin County, Montana**



II. DECISION AND RATIONALE

SUMMARY OF THE AUTHORIZED ACTION

In summary, I've chosen to approve the Master Development Plan for the Bridger Bowl Ski Area as described in the FEIS for Alternative 2. Alternative 2 includes the following key elements:

1. Approving the 2002 Bridger Bowl Master Development Plan (MDP) as proposed by Bridger Bowl Inc. This MDP will serve as the guidance document for the life of the Special Use Permit (SUP).
2. Approving lifts, trails, service roads and utilities that will increase the comfortable carrying capacity (CCC) of the ski area to 6,100 skiers. Comfortable carrying capacity is the number of skiers an entire ski area can reasonably accommodate at any one time, including active skiers and those using guest accommodations such as lodges and food services. My decision will limit the overall resort CCC of Bridger Bowl to 6,100 patrons. Changes to facilities that are authorized include:

Lifts

- The existing alignment of the Bridger and Deer Park lifts will be modified or replaced.
- The Alpine lift will be removed.
- Six new lifts will be constructed (P-2 and P-3 surface lifts; and S-1, A-1, A-2, and N-1 chairlifts).

Trails

- There will be 16 new trails (96 additional acres of developed ski terrain) constructed.

Mountain Service Roads

- The mountain road network will be increased by 1.8 miles in eight new road segments to facilitate lift construction and maintenance access within the Analysis Area on both NFS and private lands.

Utilities

- Power for proposed project elements will be drawn from existing power lines and will be trenched within existing and proposed mountain service roads.

3. The Bridger Bowl SUP boundary will be expanded to the north by 274 acres to include the Bradley Meadows area above the South Fork of Brackett Creek.
4. The SUP boundary will also be expanded to the south into the Slushman drainage area for an additional increase of 337 acres. This includes an adjustment to the southeast portion of the SUP area to ensure the SUP boundary is congruous with Management Area 2. Refer to Figure 2-3 for a graphic representation of Alternative 2.