

brundage

MOUNTAIN RESORT

Payette National Forest
JUN 20 2008
McCall Ranger District

I. INTRODUCTION

The current document is a Proposed Work Program Letter for 2008. This document is part of the NEPA process for expansion of the Brundage Mountain Ski Area and is a general overview and description of the improvement items listed in Phase I of the 1989 RMP. For the most part, the projects listed in Phase I are major expansion items which are not construction or new equipment items (due to the removal of Skierlift Mountain, which is now a ski area) and the EPA considers NEPA approval for all Phase I projects and the review approval needed prior to implementation is listed in the Project Approval Guide (see Appendix D - Implementation Guide).

June 18, 2008

Shane Jeffries
District Forest Ranger
McCall Ranger District
Payette National Forest
PO Box 1026
McCall, ID 83638

Dear Shane:

Enclosed for your review and approval is our Proposed Work Program Letter for 2008. If this should generate any questions, please contact me or Rob McFadden.

Sincerely,



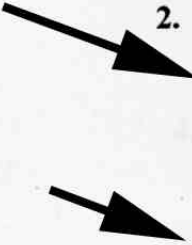
Frederick P. Certano
President/GM
Brundage Mountain Resort

Enclosure

II. PROPOSED PROJECT ELEMENTS

- A. Projects Listed or Related to Projects in Phase I of the RMP
- 1. Lift Construction. No new lift construction is planned for the 2008 season. However we are happy to report that the Bear Chair on the scenic mountain served by the Phase I lift will

Lakeside Lift on the south slopes were both built in the summer and fall of 2007 under the watchful eye of the Forest Service. The addition of these two lifts to our uphill facilities has been well received by the skiing public and is partly responsible for making the 2007/2008 ski season the most successful one in our 47 years of operation in terms of skier satisfaction and the highest visitor days use in our history.

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2. **New Ski Trails.** The only new work of this nature that is being planned for the 2008 work season is on Sargent Mountain (actually the true summit of Brundage Mountain but more popularly known among skiers as Sargent Mtn.) on the northern section of the permitted ski area. We also plan on doing some realignment work on lower Gris to make lodge access easier for beginners.

In keeping with our Master Development Plan, we plan to eventually add this terrain to our lift served area by constructing a chair lift to the summit. It will probably be several years before we are able to undertake actual lift construction and in the meantime we would like to extend the season for our Cat Skiing program in this area by doing some clearing of vegetation and rudimentary slope improvement work aimed at allowing snowcat access early in the winter when snow depths are adequate for skiing but not for normal snowcat access. What we have in mind is the construction of a ski trail that is similar to the ones recently constructed on the south section of the permitted area and will be constructed in anticipation of construction of a chair lift to the summit of Sargent Mtn. some time in the not distant future. During the normal ski season we plan to groom this run to the minimal extent needed to allow the snowcat to gain access to the summit. Once a lift is constructed, this run will probably be groomed on a regular basis.

We will use our large excavator rather than a dozer for this work as we have found the excavator to be better suited for this work. The work will involve cutting stumps off to a low level and cleanup of forest debris. The stumps and woody debris over 4" in diameter will be piled and burned, and all small native plants will be left intact. All woody debris less than 4" in diameter will be left on site to increase the amount of organic material in the ground cover. We have found that runs constructed in this manner create no erosion problems and there is no need to do any restoration work (seed, mulch with straw, etc). All run construction will be approved on the ground prior to any actual work.

We are also planning to mark the edges of all of the new ski runs on Sargent, mark the lift line, and do the layout and the survey for the access road up the backside of Sargent in preparation for commercial tree removal in this area.

In the way of a progress report on activities of this nature during the 2007 summer work season, we completed construction of the four runs that are now served by the new Lakeside Lift. These runs have been well received by the skiing and snowboarding public and are partly responsible for making the 2007/2008 season so successful.

3. **Top Soil Plan.** Our general approach for the treatment of top soil continues to be the same as we have been using for several years and has been developed through trial and error experience. We do our best to limit surface disturbance to the absolute minimum