

2007 Annual Monitoring Plan for Crystal Mountain

July 12, 2007

1.0 Introduction

This 2007 Annual Monitoring Plan has been prepared to document the required monitoring for project implementation and ongoing watershed scale and restoration project monitoring at Crystal Mountain during 2007. The proposed construction projects for 2007 are the Northway Express chairlift and associated ski trails, Gazex Exploder Avalanche Control System (GES) installation, Lucky Shot recontouring, and Lot F RV parking accommodations.

The Northway Express pod project was analyzed in the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Crystal Mountain Master Development Plan (USFS 2004a) and approved in the Crystal Mountain Master Development Plan Record of Decision (USFS 2004b). This project will include the construction of the Northway chairlift and twelve associated ski trails. The approved Northway chairlift will have a lower terminal at an elevation of 4,950 ft. and an upper terminal at approximately 6,780 ft.

The Gazex Exploder Avalanche Control System, a remote controlled avalanche triggering device, was reviewed and approved by the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest in a Decision Memo dated August 11, 2006 (USDA and USFS 2006). The Gazex project site is located at approximately 6,680 – 6,980 feet elevation, near the top terminal of the High Campbell chairlift in the Powder Bowl and upper Bear Creek tributary.

The Lucky Shot recontouring project was analyzed in the Environmental Assessment Ski Trail, Night Lighting, and Restaurant Improvements in the Area Served by the C5/C9 Chairlifts (USFS 1997a) and approved in the Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact (USFS 1997b). This project will recontour approximately 2 acres of the existing Lucky Shot trail to improve ski terrain. The project occurs on the skier's right of the trail between approximately 5,700 and 6,000 feet elevation.

RV parking will be moved from Lot B to Lot F during the summer of 2007. The skid mounted RV registration station and electrical hookups will be relocated from Lot B to Lot F. The number of RV hookups will increase from 42 to 65, and will be located in the middle of Lot F, allowing for regular vehicle parking in unused spaces, as needed. The existing underground power utilities will be removed from Lot B.

Paired watershed monitoring of Silver Creek and Goat Creek by RH2 Engineering, Inc. will continue in 2007, as required by the Monitoring Framework Plan of the Final Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision for the Crystal Mountain Master Development Plan (USFS 2004a, 2004b).

Additionally, continued monitoring of the 2006 restoration projects will occur in 2007.