



File Code: 2720

Date: July 30, 2004

Mr. Jim Baker
Director of Mountain Planning and Development
Snowbird Corporation
P.O. Box 929000
Snowbird, UT 84092-9000

Snowbird 6

Dear Jim:

My staff and I have reviewed your letter dated March 21, 2004, which outlined various Master Development Plan (MDP) projects and maintenance items that Snowbird is proposing to perform this summer season. Snowbird's proposals include routine maintenance, repairs and/or replacements of existing facilities, roads and ski trails, which are located on both public and private lands. As per the Snowbird special use permit and annual operations and maintenance plan you are authorized to proceed with the all items listed in your letter listed under routine maintenance.

I appreciate that Snowbird annually performs maintenance work on your mountain service roads and the parking lots, in the form of regarding, surface hardening with road base and cleaning and adding water bars to address any drainage problems. I encourage you to continue working on correcting the drainage problems first and then add road base as you feel is needed. In this way you protect the resource for the longer term and it is likely a more efficient use of personnel and equipment time. Regarding the parking lot work, we have observed continued runoff problems associated with curb and gutter repair to various parts of your paved parking and the Gad Valley parking lot is a point source of erosion during springtime snow melting and runoff. Similar to the above, the drainage problems need to be corrected before more road base is wasted on resurfacing this area. The Gad Valley parking lot is a MDP project that we hope will get prioritized in the near future. Whenever Snowbird prioritizes this, it will take careful planning with us, Salt Lake City and other agencies to agree on the best course to protect resources and watershed values.

Al Soucie and our Forest Soil Scientist, Paul Flood, would like to coordinate with you and walk the alignments of your past couple of seasons revegetation work to ensure we are getting the results we had planned for. This is part of the mitigation for those projects. We have missed scheduling this over the last several seasons because of the busy wildfire seasons. Early September is most likely the best time for this to happen.

Litter and trash management within the resort boundaries should be included on your list as routine maintenance and is usually addressed in your Summer Operations Plan, which we have not yet received. This should also include retrieving any foreign objects located in Little Cottonwood Creek, as a result of the resort winter operations, which include clearing snow from your parking areas.

FILE COPY



I am not authorized to approve project proposals on private land. I encourage you to work with state and local agencies, as needed, to gain approvals for project proposals on private land.

The following items listed under Summer Projects in your letter are approved, using best management practices:

(a) Burial of the existing above ground snowmaking pipe, power, pedestals and hydrants on lower Bassackwards (b) The installation of snowmaking pipe, power, pedestals and hydrants on the Regulator Johnson ski run (c) The construction of the half pipe on middle Emma (d) Renovation of the race building in lower Gad Valley (e) Removal of the temporary rope tow on middle Emma. All mitigation measures must be met, that were required in the Record of Decision, dated 12/10/99, for the Snowbird Ski and Summer Resorts Master Development Plan and in the Decision Memo, dated 7/24/03, that included the construction of the half pipe and renovation of the race building. Part of the mitigation for the race building is to submit signed/stamped architectural drawing to the Forest Service for review and approval prior to construction.

The items listed under "Projects waiting approval" in your letter, will need to be coordinated with the Uinta National Forest.

We appreciate your good work as partners, in attempting to provide a quality recreation experience to the user public. I also expect Snowbird as a resort located on public land, to do its best to be a good steward of the land in helping us manage our natural resources. Please contact me, Al Soucie or Steve Scheid at this office with any concerns or questions.

Sincerely,



Gov
LOREN M. KROENKE
District Ranger

cc: Salt Lake City Dept. of Public Utilities,
Salt Lake Valley Health Dept., Paul Flood,
District Ranger - Pleasant Grove RD