Year 2002-2007

Final Generic Environmental Impact Statement

GORE MOUNTAIN SKI CENTER

Prepared for:

Olympic Regional Development Authority

January 2002
Gore Mountain Ski Center
Year 2002-2007
Final Generic Environmental Impact Statement

Prepared by:

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Date of Acceptance of FGEIS: January 30, 2002

Submitted: January 2002

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Section 816 of the Adirondack Park Agency Act directs the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to develop, in consultation with the Adirondack Park Agency (APA), Unit Management Plans (UMPs) for each unit of land under its jurisdiction classified in the Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan (SLMP).

Concurrent with the development of UMPs is the preparation of a Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) which analyzes the significant impacts and alternatives related to each UMP. The Olympic Regional Development Authority (ORDA), pursuant to its enabling law and agreement with the NYSDEC for the management of Gore Mountain Ski Center, prepared the units initial UMP in 1987, together with an EIS for such action. The 1987 UMP was updated and amended in 1995.

This UMP/GEIS is a supplement to the 1995 UMP and GEIS for the Gore Mountain Ski Center ("Gore" or "Gore Mountain"). As a Supplemental Unit Management Plan which incorporates by reference the 1995 UMP/GEIS, it satisfies the requirements that such plans contain an inventory of existing resources, facilities, systems and uses, a discussion of management policy, a description of proposed management actions, a description of the potential impacts of such actions, a description of mitigating measures and a description of alternative actions which have undergone change since the 1995 document. As an environmental impact statement, it meets the requirements of the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA), which are similar to those for UMPs, as well as requirements unique to SEQRA, such as a discussion of growth inducing aspects.

The preparation, review and approval of the UMP requires compliance with SEQRA. The SEQRA aspects of this document are presented as a Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS). A Generic EIS' may be used to assess the environmental effects of a sequence of actions contemplated by a single agency or an entire program or plan having wide application (6NYCRR 617.15(a)(2) and (4)). They differ from a site specific EIS in that it applies to a group of common and related activities which have similar or related impacts. It is the intent of this GEIS to provide sufficient, site specific information for all aspects of the UMP except the proposed improvements to the Town of Johnsburg Ski Bowl Park, which differs from the other actions in this UMP in that it is an off-site project proposed in conjunction with another governmental entity. In conformance with SEQRA these related actions are being considered in this GEIS. The analysis in this GEIS identifies threshold issues and alternatives at a level of detail sufficient to demonstrate the environmental feasibility of the Ski Bowl Park proposal. No additional SEQRA analyses are anticipated to be required for any other management action in this UMP, provided that such actions are carried out in accordance with the recommendations of this document. Similarly, no additional UMP approvals are anticipated to be required upon completion of this process.
This Supplemental Unit Management Plan (UMP) and Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) for Gore Mountain Ski Center is composed of three documents, the 1995 UMP/DGEIS, the 2001 Supplemental Unit Management Plan, and the January 2002 Final Generic Environmental Impact Statement. The 1995 UMP/GEIS is incorporated by reference and consists of three volumes. Volume I is the November 1994 Unit Management Plan Update and Amendment and Draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement (UMP/DGEIS), Volume II is the March 1995 Final Generic Environmental Impact Statement (FGEIS), and Volume III is the August 1995 restatement of the Unit Management Plan which incorporates all substantive comments and review resulting from the SEQRA process.

The GEIS evaluates the potential impacts of the proposed improvements included in the Gore Mountain Ski Center Unit Management Plan on the environment and provides supporting documentation for the consideration of the adoption of the Supplemental Unit Management Plan by the Department of Environmental Conservation in consultation with the Adirondack Park Agency.

A public scoping session was held on June 21, 2000. The UMP/DGEIS was accepted as complete for review by ORDA, as lead agency, on March 1, 2001, and a Public Hearing on the document was held on April 9, 2001.

Following the close of the SEQRA comment period on May 1, 2001, the Final Generic Environmental Impact Statement has been prepared and includes all substantive comments made on the DGEIS together with responses to such comments. The FGEIS was deemed complete for review by the SEQRA lead agency on January 30, 2002. Notice of its publication will be made public and the FGEIS will be reviewed by all interested and involved agencies and the public. After a minimum ten day contemplation period the NYSDEC, APA and any other involved agencies will each prepare a written statement of Findings of Fact which specify potential impacts and mitigating measures, as appropriate. The Findings of Fact form the basis for the DEC adoption of the UMP. After the Commissioner adopts the Final Supplemental UMP, the Supplemental UMP will be filed with the APA.

All volumes of the Supplemental GEIS are available for review at the following offices: ORDA in Lake Placid, Gore Mountain, APA headquarters in Ray Brook, DEC in Ray Brook and Warrensburg, Johnsburg Town Hall and the Warren County Planning Department at the Warren County Municipal Center.

Gore Mountain Ski Center is a year-round recreational, day-use resort owned by the State of New York under the administrative jurisdiction of the Department of Environmental Conservation. Gore is currently managed by ORDA under an agreement with the DEC. Gore is located off NY Route 28 approximately two miles south of the Hamlet of North Creek, and 15 miles northwest of Warrensburg, and is in the Town of Johnsburg, Warren County, New York.
Gore is fostering environmentally compatible economic development activity. A strong year round tourism industry is growing in the North Creek Region. Since the implementation of the 1995 UMP, a minimum of 15 new businesses have been established locally. Additionally, the economic viability of existing businesses has been strengthened as a result of this increased tourism activity. Many of these businesses are serving the ever growing skier community that rediscovered Gore Mountain due to much improved skiing opportunities.

The facility is classified as an "Intensive Use Area" under the SLMP. Gore targets winter sports enthusiasts for downhill and cross-country skiing. The resort includes 50 downhill trails extending 25.1 miles, 14.6 miles of nordic ski trails, a gondola from the base to the Bear Mountain summit, eight other lifts, a ski school program, two lodges, a nursery program and a cocktail lounge/restaurant. There are five car and bus parking lots covering approximately 12.4 acres.

The 1995 UMP set out a much needed program of modernization and improvement for Gore Mountain. This program was based on a comprehensive master plan for the mountain facilities including gondola, chair lifts, and snowmaking improvements. Many of the mountain side facility improvements have been completed, are well underway or need modification as described in this document. The skier facilities at the lodges, Pod 10, and parking lots/arrival area are the major items of facility improvement which must still be completed as originally described in 1995. Some of the parking lot improvements in the main lot (closest to the lodge) were partially completed in Summer 2000.

The primary motivation behind this Supplemental UMP is to continue implementing and complement the work begun as part of the 1995 UMP with new improvements.

The following specific goals were identified for the upgrade and development program in the 1995 UMP and have been refined in this Supplemental Document:

1. Improve infrastructure reliability. Some of the infrastructure at Gore Mountain is at least 30 years old and has exceeded its life expectancy, and consequently is subject to frequent breakdown. Much has been upgraded over the past five years.

2. Reduce operations and maintenance costs. Because of its advanced age and in some cases outdated design, certain equipment and infrastructure at Gore Mountain has relatively high operational and maintenance costs.

3. Assure environmental compatibility. It is desirable to develop a facility which is compatible with the natural environment in order to preserve existing ecosystems, keep facility maintenance to a minimum, increase the longevity of the facility components, and make the facility operate more economically. Gore's commitment to participate in the "sustainable slopes doctrine" advanced by the National Ski Areas Association is a definitive path to achieve these goals.
4. Stabilize the local economy. The ski area, if operated in harmony with the local business community, should act as a catalyst to stabilize local businesses and support the local economy. The proposed alpine ski trail connection to Ski Bowl Park will help promote economic activity in the region. It will also broaden the variety of ski and winter sports opportunities offered to the public. It will certainly make the region more attractive to the destination vacationer.

5. Trail improvements. There are a number of trails which could be negotiated more easily if they were widened. Several trail intersections could also be made more clear.

6. Improve trail selection. Gore Mountain has improved its terrain selection, and wants to continue to improve the range of terrain. A better trail selection would appeal to a greater cross-section of skiers and thus attract more skiers.

7. Improve economic return. By improving and modernizing Gore’s facilities, the mountain will become more attractive to skiers, and earn a better economic return.

8. Increase public access. In addition to downhill skiing, many other types of compatible public recreation access are possible at Gore Mountain, such as sleigh riding, tubing, back country skiing, hiking, mountain biking, snowshoeing and connection to the local cross-country ski network. All would provide for greater public use of the ski center. The scenic gondola rides and recently installed educational and interpretive centers and messages in the gondolas have been well received by Gore visitors. This system will continue to be expanded.

9. Improve overall skier satisfaction. Skier surveys have identified a number of specific areas which could be improved to provide a better overall skier experience.

The development of this Supplemental UMP followed a logical sequence which included an update to the inventory of existing conditions, an analysis of potential improvements, and the creation of the proposed plan for new improvements or management actions which is the subject of this Supplemental UMP that complements and builds on the 1995 UMP.

The proposed plan, which has a five-year horizon, continues to achieve a balance of facility components. That is, the capacity of each individual mountain component is similar to the capacity of other components. Capacities are traditionally planned for “peak” use times (on weekends and holidays). The completion of all improvements in the approved 1995 UMP would increase peak capacity to about 7,000 skiers at one time (SAOT). Currently, the lack of lodge and parking facilities are out of balance with lift capacity and trail capacity. The peak ticketed day at the Ski Center reached approximately 5,400 during Presidents’ Week in February of 2000. At times skiers were turned away due to a lack of available parking and lodge space that was proposed and approved in the 1995 UMP but not yet constructed. In 2001, this peak capacity was
reached on occasion. SAOT at the mountain exceeded parking and lodge capacity on all of these occasions, and, if constructed, the improvements planned and approved in the 1995 UMP would accommodate this demand.

The following new improvements and upgrades are proposed in the Supplemental UMP and were the subject of the Generic Draft Environmental Impact Statement for which public comments have been received, summarized and responded to within this FGEIS.

**Improve Infrastructure Reliability**

Continue to implement a long term replacement and modernization program to restore all equipment, machinery, infrastructure and structures which are at the end of their useful life. Much of the mountain infrastructure has been replaced over the past five years including snowmaking water pump capacities, snowmaking air compressor capacity, ski lifts and grooming equipment.

**Mountain Lodges and Amenities**

Rehabilitate and construct an addition to the Saddle Lodge (rather than demolish, relocate and build a new Saddle Lodge as proposed and approved in the 1995 UMP). Construct a new ski patrol/warming hut at the summit of the newly developed Burnt Ridge ski pod.

**New Downhill Trails and Lifts**

Widen selective trails to 200’.
Replace the triple chair (Lift #1) with a new Quad chair lift (potentially with a bubble).
Develop new lifts and trails to create a connection with Ski Bowl Park (Pods #11 and #12) and install a transportation lift, Lift #13, up the west side of Burnt Ridge from the Twister and Tahawus trails.
Re-extend and replace Lift #6 to original termination point.
Relocate and extend Lift #3 to the abandoned gondola lift line and change to a new detachable triple.
Relocate and replace Lift #4 (J-Bar).
Add 2 magic carpet lifts at the learning center.

**Tubing Hill**

Develop runs and one surface lift on Bear Mountain for tubing.

**Snowmaking**

Install tower guns on steep, wide trails and other trails which this equipment would lead to more efficient and effective snowmaking.
Increase water and compressed air capacity.
Modernize the air plant.
Increase the inventory of snowmaking guns and hoses.
Bear Mountain Observation Tower

Install an observation tower on the Bear Mountain Summit in proximity to the mountain top lodge.

The above improvements will increase the amount of downhill ski trails on the mountain from approximately 28.5 miles of approved (some not yet constructed) alpine ski trails to 34.6 miles, or a 6.1 mile increase (well below the 40 miles as authorized by the New York State Constitution).

In addition to the above, the improvements identified in the 1995 Unit Management Plan, which remains in effect today, are still valid. Certain improvements in the 1995 UMP have been modified and updated in the Supplemental UMP. Many improvements identified in the 1995 UMP have been constructed, while others are under construction or have not been implemented to date. The status of actions in the 1995 UMP is summarized completely in the Supplemental UMP.

The actions approved in the 1995 UMP/GEIS which remain a part of the 2002-2007 plan include:

- Construct POD 10 including lift and trails (some trails have already been constructed).
- Develop the Learning Center at the old gondola building location.
- Construct the Bear Mountain Summit Lodge.
- Implement the Base Lodge Rehabilitation and Additions.
- Complete the parking lot and access road/drop off improvements.
- Complete development of the new beginners area with the potential consolidation of the maintenance area.
- Complete approved new trail improvements and widenings.

The improvements identified in the Supplemental UMP are proposed to be accomplished in several phases. ORDA recognizes that implementation may take longer than the planned five years for a variety of reasons. Throughout the course of the development phases, progress evaluations will be conducted annually, work compared with the goals and objectives, and the project refocused as deemed necessary by Gore and ORDA. The results of this annual review will be a budget for the next phase of work that can be taken to the appropriate agencies for funding approval prior to the beginning of the work period.

The implementation of the proposed Supplemental UMP is governed by a variety of laws and regulations. Article XIV of the State Constitution governs the cutting of trees in the Forest Preserve. The proposed UMP actions on all state lands at Gore Mountain will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of Article XIV as they apply.

The SLMP classifies state lands in the Adirondack Park Forest Preserve according to their character and capacity to withstand use and sets forth general guidelines and criteria.
for the management and use of state lands. The SLMP classifies the Ski Center as an Intensive Use Area. Intensive Use Areas are provided to allow for a significant number of visitors and a high level of use. The SLMP contains a number of management guidelines, including a recommendation that Gore be modernized to the extent that physical and biological resources allow. The actions in the Supplemental UMP are in conformance with the guidelines in the SLMP.

The following potential impacts have been identified for the actions proposed in the UMP.

Vegetation

The construction of the identified 2002 UMP management actions for new ski trails and lifts, widening of existing trails and construction of other improvements such as the ski trail connection to Ski Bowl Park, will result in the cutting of trees. Approximately 48,887 trees, slightly less than half of which will be small (less than 4" diameter at breast height), will be cut as a result of the plan. All vegetative cutting will be conducted in compliance with DEC tree cutting policies and New York State Constitution Article XIV.

Water and Wetland Resources

Wetland resources will be avoided by project components; therefore, there will be no impact to such resources.

Significant quantities of groundwater are not needed for the ski center; therefore, there will be no impact to such resources.

Soils

Construction of improvements on the mountain has the potential to result in soil erosion. Construction Pollution Prevention Plans appended to the SPDES permits for work both on and off ski center property will identify specific stabilization and erosion control measures to mitigate or eliminate the possibility of this impact.

Visual Resources

The proposed improvements to the Ski Center will not be significantly visible from area roadways because they are located below those trails which are currently visible. The trails proposed in Ski Bowl Park utilize trails historically used for skiing, and will be partially visible.

Fish and Wildlife

No rare, threatened or endangered species will be affected by the project.
Transportation

The proposed Ski Center improvements will result in reductions in the level of service at the intersection of the Gore Mountain Access Road and Peaceful Valley Road and Peaceful Valley Road and NY Route 28 during peak ski visitor arrival and, especially, departure times. This impact is proposed to be mitigated by construction of a turning lane on Peaceful Valley Road at its intersection with NY Route 28 as approved in the 1995 UMP when the goal of 7,000 SAOT is realized.

Community Services

There will be some increase in demand for community services such as fire, police, rescue, solid waste and health care. However, the Ski Center presently makes very little demand on such services and the increase in such demand is anticipated to be small and can be accommodated by the service providers.

Local Land Use Plan

The actions in the Supplemental UMP are consistent with local planning documents such as the Johnsburg Master Plan and the North Creek Action Plan. The UMP contains specific actions and commitments to foster cooperation and links between the Ski Center and community, such as the connection of Gore Mountain to the North Creek Ski Bowl.

Economics

Actions identified in the Supplemental UMP will have positive economic impacts through direct construction purchases, payroll and through new hires. In addition, there will be an increase in monies spent by new skiers drawn to Gore. All such spending will be positively multiplied throughout the community. According to McKinsey & Company, Final Report to the Marketing Task Force-National Ski Area Association (January 19, 1989), “For every dollar spent on skiing, another six dollars are spent in the local and regional economies on ski shop purchases, transportation, real estate, lodging, food and drink, and entertainment.” With almost $4 million spent this season at Gore Mountain, almost $24 million would have been spent in the local and regional economies.

Growth Inducing, Secondary and Cumulative Impacts

The Supplemental UMP is likely to cause growth in the lodging, housing, restaurant and retail sectors. Such growth is directly regulated by the APA outside of the Hamlet of North Creek. Within the Hamlet, such growth is consistent with the North Creek Action Plan. Induced growth is likely to have positive impacts such as the creation of jobs, taxes and spending.

There are no other significant sources of growth in the Johnsburg community, other than
subdivision activity which is itself probably, in part, a result of the presence of Gore Mountain. Few cumulative impacts are, therefore, anticipated.

Alternatives

The Supplemental UMP and DGEIS considers alternative lift configurations, alternative trail improvements, alternative lodge improvements, alternative sewer and water services for the mountain-top lodges, and the No-Action alternative. The discussion covers the feasibility of each alternative.
## Executive Summary

## Table of Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.0 Errata</td>
<td>1-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0 Comments on the DGEIS</td>
<td>2-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1 Minutes of SEQRA Public Hearing of April 9, 2001</td>
<td>2-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2 William E. Brannon, letter dated April 10, 2001</td>
<td>2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3 John H. Godfray, letter received April 2001</td>
<td>2-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.4 John W. Caffry, letter dated May 1, 2001</td>
<td>2-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.5 John W. Caffry for Adirondack Mountain Club, letter dated May 1, 2001</td>
<td>2-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.6 Joseph M. Moore, The Adirondack Council, letter dated April 27, 2001</td>
<td>2-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.7 Ken and Sally Murray, letter dated April 6, 2001</td>
<td>2-8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.8 Lyle Dye, Our Town Theatre Group, letter dated April 16, 2001</td>
<td>2-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.9 Marcia Egedy, M.D., letter received April 2001</td>
<td>2-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.10 Kathy Regan, Adirondack Nature Conservancy and Adirondack Land Trust, letter dated April 3, 2001</td>
<td>2-11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.11 Patrick J. Cunningham, letter dated April 9, 2001</td>
<td>2-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.12 John Collins, Lake George/Adirondack Regional Tourism Board, letter dated March 30, 2001</td>
<td>2-13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.13 David H. Gibson, The Association for the Protection of the Adirondacks, letter dated May 9, 2001</td>
<td>2-14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.14 Terry Ainslie, Tannery Pond Community Center Inc., letter dated May 24, 2001</td>
<td>2-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0 Responses to Comments</td>
<td>3-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1 Local Economy</td>
<td>3-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2 Proposed Management Actions</td>
<td>3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2.1 Connection to Ski Bowl Park</td>
<td>3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2.2 Sand Pits</td>
<td>3-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2.3 Trails</td>
<td>3-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2.4 Ski Lifts</td>
<td>3-8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2.5 Golf Course</td>
<td>3-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2.6 Observation Tower</td>
<td>3-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2.7 Tubing Park</td>
<td>3-13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2.8 Seasonal Activities</td>
<td>3-14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3 Phasing</td>
<td>3-16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.4 Miscellaneous</td>
<td>3-17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Section 4.0  Additional Information .................................................................................. 4-1

4.1  Gore Mountain Vacation Planner ............................................................................. 4-1
4.2  Interim Learning Center ............................................................................................. 4-2
4.3  Revised Figure 4-1, “2002 Gore Mountain UMP .................................................. 4-3
    Master Plan (1 of 2) and Table 5-1, “Summary of Vegetation Impacts.”
SECTION 1.0 ERRATA

1.1 DGEIS Figure 4-2, “2002 Gore Mountain UMP Master Plan (2 of 2),” has been revised to include proposed Lift 13 which was inadvertently not included on Figure 4-2 but illustrated on all other drawings locating proposed ski lifts in the DGEIS.
SECTION 2.0 COMMENTS ON THE DGEIS
Gore Mt. GDEIS/Supplemental UMP  
April 9, 2001 (7 pm)  
SEQRA Hearing Comments  
Mike Pratt Opens

SJA discusses SEQRA status – written comments until 5/1/2001. After 5/1, we write FGEIS, and see APA and DEC.

Mike Pratt – discusses status map.
  - discusses built projects, gondola interpretive signage.
  - discusses vacation planner and new 2001 management actions:
    - rebuild Saddle Lodge.
    - sand pits, glades, tubing hill.
    - replace east chair.
    - rebuild old gondola building as learning center.
    - relocate 1995 approved lift 9B, in relation to learning center.
    - 2 Magic Carpets.

  - lift on north side discussed in '95 as an ultimate plan discusses connection to North Creek Ski Bowl.

  - open to public comment.

1. John Fallon Has four comments
   1. Is the connection to Old Gore in the first phase?
   2. Is Magic Carpet good for teaching children past the 4 year old limit we have now?
   3. Can Gore provide a list of season ticket holders to local businesses?
   4. Will the Octoberfest be more than a ski sale?

2. Bill Thomas The UMP vehicle is a result of ORDA's initiative. Bill notes that the Gore Mt. support group in the 4-5 county area has come a long way. Phasing is driven by budget, Bill likes connection to Ski Bowl Park. Within 5 years connect to Old Gore, and to train. $8 billion dedicated to railroad. Local match underway. Have ski bowl upgrade grants. Economic development through tourism is the goal. NYS supports us, and will provide money.

3. Bob Nessle Weather was great this year and Gore management maximized it. Gives a feeling of how Gore could be. A lot of people know Gore is the best buy for your buck.
Ski patrol, groomers, snowmakers, operators, all did good job.
Need ski terrain under old gondola.
Ski bowl connection is very important – it will allow lots of skiers
to access North Creek, and access restaurants and shops.
Skiing closer to Main Street will help local economics.
5 year plan does include second lift at ski bowl connection and this should go to
the next five year plan.

Need 10-15 minute interval shuttle bus at Old Gore base. The shuttle connection
needs to be viable, dependable, and convenient.

Johnsburg will open up night skiing at Ski Bowl Park.

Maybe when new town day lodge is in North Creek, the Village can again be an
important ski town. All Johnsburg kids used to have ski passes. This plan is good
for the whole town.

4. Bill Donavan
Congratulations to staff. He has a business here, and he had a
good year too.
Feels like Gore was supposed to bring employment to Johnsburg.
Successful businesses will provide employment too, this should be
a priority – this is why Gore and Whiteface were built.
How come Ted Blazer or Charles Gardano aren’t here?
Gore isn’t the stepchild. Ted and/or Charles should be here.

5. Pat Cunningham
Jeff Burn is a good skier.
Ted Blazer skis with his kids.
Never saw Mastriani or Ned Harkness ski.
Pat prepared a written statement he’ll copy us on.
Lists those who thought of forming a 1946 ski corporation.
Built T bar at Old Gore and moved the operation to New Gore.
Old Gore should always have been a hub.
Comments on Old Gore connection proposed. Says more work
needed on the plans for connection. It should be #1 on the list
(needs to be connected from last 36 years).
Change direction of quad and mid-station to saddle of Pete Gay.
Need to go to Pete Gay. Could then go to north lift.
New gondola should have gone to the top of the mountain.
He indicates lift to top of old T bar (Monter’s property).
The tubing park belongs in the ski bowl.
Need lift to dip of ridge trail at Old Gore.
Hudson, Bypass, Rabbit trails can’t be accessed with this lift
layout, just swing it to the north a little and then they can be
accessed.
Had tubing park at Old Gore and it was successful.
Lodge at ski bowl should be sized for 4-5,000 skiers. Should be Adirondack style – hire Richard Hampetor. Report says in year 2000 had 145,000 skiers. 2001 had 200,000 + he thinks. Can have lots of skiers, but without spending any money in North Creek. If you say the map won’t allow the Pete Gay connection, it was taken out in error (in 1987). Burnt Mt. could have quad to it from Pete Gay and ski to north side. Bear Mountain lift should go to Ward clearing. Hopes gravel pit will blend in so we can ski on it later.

6. Rob Clark  
Twice this year Gore had trouble with the Straight Brook chair – suggests if we had a lift between Rumor and Lies, we’d have a backup lift.

7. Maureen Donavan  
Resident of Johnsburg. Question for ORDA – what can we do to make sure these things (in the management plan) happen?

8. Margie Gilmore  
Skied here 30 years – has heard that the parking lot is complete – what does completion include? Attendants are too young. Need more parking. Need better parking direction from attendants.

Jeff Burn -Senior Vice President of ORDA, will close the hearing now, we appreciate the turnout and the support we have received. We will accept written comments through May first, please send them to Mike’s office. Thank you.
Memo:

Date: 10 April 2001

To: Mike Pratt, Manager
Gore Mountain Ski Center
North Creek, NY

From: William E. Brannon
401 Irishtown Road
Olmstedville, NY 12857
phone 518 252 2571
email brannon@netheaven.com

RE: UMP

I attended the public hearing, read the literature, studied the topo maps, and offer the following suggestions and comments for your review.

1) This year I managed to get on the slopes for the first time in about 10 years. I was impressed and very pleased with the conditions I found. It is like a totally new complex and one we as users can be proud of. Thank you.

2) I applaud your effort to make it a year around facility. Hiking is a natural activity, the mountain biking brings people to the area and major events such as the Octoberfest and ski sales more fully utilize the facilities during off season.

3) I am not sure if it is even possible, but I wondered if some sort of a KOA type complex could be included in future plans. That is an area designated as camp ground with full amenities for power, water and waste hookups. Certainly it would be a boon for the high end camping community and would not adversely impact on the main function of the Ski center. It would also provide employment for a few through the off ski season.

   In addition to the facilities for the campers, a few wilderness type areas could be designated for tents, much like in the high peaks area. The cross country trails could be used for hiking and these could be extended to connect to existing trails to the west.

4) You have added snowshoe trails. That was a very good example for multiple use for the area. My son in Alaska has two huskies that he has trained for ski jouring. I feel that this could also be an inexpensive expansion for another activity at Gore.

5) I know that snowmobiles are disapproved by many, the smell the noise etc., but they are big ticket items and most owners that have them are always looking for new places. Perhaps with the Ski Bowl inclusion, a few trails on the perimeter of the ski area could be considered for a day use or for special events. Timed races are very popular. I personally am not a fan of snowmobiles, but recognized the revenue they can and do bring to any area.

6) The existing Fire Tower on top of Gore is an unsightly mess. I am not offended by the radio towers, but by the lack of the cabin and by the blue tarp flapping in the winds like some trashy forgotten, abandoned structure. I feel that the fire tower is a structure that can be a great asset with very little cost and very little maintenance. It certainly is an attraction. I have yet to ski past the path to the tower without seeing someone on the tower steps taking pictures or just looking out on the scenery. At this time the DEC is allowing some organizations to improve, maintain and use the fire towers under their guidelines. Blue Mt. and Goodnow are so used, Vanderwalker is in the process of such use. It seems that the Ski Area would be a natural caretaker for the Tower.

   If for any reason this is not possible or practicable, I suggest an observation platform be constructed on top of Gore for such use by the visitor-skier to view the scenery from the top. A 360 view is only possible from the top and looking to the west has some spectacular scenery. Snowy Mt. and Blue are on the west and are both very distinctive.

   If a new viewing tower is constructed it could or might be included with a comfort facility, that is properly enclosed and designed.

7) My fist time off the new Gondola was with delight. I had a great run to Straight brook and my day was on. During the day I did hear many grumbling about the difficulty of the trails from the summit of Bear mountain. I think this is a judgment call; for
me it was fine, but for many novice skiers it may be a bit intimidating. I see from the proposed plans that alternate routes are being developed and this condition will be alleviated.

8) Years ago an ice skating rink was near the lodge. I thought at the time it was a great idea and skated there myself. It was not like skating at a skating arena, but it sure was better than the typical ice pond and much safer. Kids young and old seemed to enjoy the ice and the option for another winter time activity. Ice hockey and sticks were not allowed so the fear of pucks flying around was not an issue. This is another facility that I would like to see restored. If in the near future the Ski Bowl facility becomes reality, an ice arena - swimming complex would certainly be a major drawing attraction to the area. Lake Placid, move over.

9) One other issue I would like to see included in future plans is the purchase of a state of the art Ambulance. One that is stored and maintained by Gore Mt. We are remote from the nearest trauma center in Glens Falls and to rely on local squad is very taxing on the community resources and personnel. The presence of another ambulance would be a boon for the area. Training for squad members now with even EMT basic is a huge expenditure of energy and time for the volunteers. To totally rely on volunteers is a risk now that fewer and fewer people are volunteering to join the local squads. The addition of another certified ambulance to the area is needed.

Thank you for the opportunity to present these comments. I wish you continued success for the future.

Sincerely,

William E. Brannon
Dear Mike,

First I want to congratulate you on a very successful ski season. The last I heard, ticket sales were up by thirty percent this year, even with the limited snowfall we had through February. This is just further proof of how effective the Five Year Plan has been.

I have just finished looking over the 2001-2006 Supplemental UMP and I think the changes and additions to the original plan are very well thought out. In particular, I like the design for the connection to the Ski Bowl Park and the replacement of the triple chair with a detachable quad (hopefully with a bubble). When this project is finally complete Gore Mountain will certainly be one of the top ski areas in the East.

I only have one concern. After reviewing what has been accomplished to date versus what remains to be done on the original plan, I realized that the Five Year Plan is falling behind schedule. The completion of Pod 10 is especially important. It will resolve the biggest complaint I hear about Gore which is the long walk out at the bottom of Cloud.

I understand that the availability of funds is the biggest roadblock you face. Please pass my sentiments along to the people in charge of appropriations. This is an extremely worthwhile project. Both the improved ticket sales and the very positive survey comments prove this point.

Thanks again for all your hard work.

Sincerely,

John H. Godfrey
12 Romary Court
Glen Rock, N.J. 07452
TO:  Michael Pratt, General Manager  
FIRM:  Gore Mountain Ski Center  
FAX NUMBER:  251-5171  
FROM:  John W. Caffry  
RE:  Gore Mountain Ski Center UMP  
OUR FILE #:  0000  
DATE:  May 1, 2001  
NUMBER OF PAGES:  4  
(including cover)  

MESSAGE:

*****************************************************************  
We are transmitting by fax. If there are any problems in transmission please call (518) 792-1582. Thank you.  

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Michael Pratt  
General Manager  
Gore Mountain Ski Center  
P.O. Box 470  
North Creek, NY 12853  

Re: Gore Mountain Ski Center UMP  

Dear Mr. Pratt:  

I would like to submit the following comments on the latest update to the Gore Mountain Ski Center Unit Management Plan. I have been skiing at Gore since it first opened, or soon thereafter (I was too young at the time to remember now if it was the first year of operation or not).

As a skier, I strongly object to widening Showcase, Chatiemac and Hawkeye to 200 feet. These trails are already plenty wide enough as it is. Widening them will only detract from the skiing experience. Gore does not need to make three of its most prominent trails look like Killington or Stratton. Widening them will also make them more prone to the wind blowing the snow off. Showcase is already enough of a dangerous racetrack without widening it, which would further encourage excessive speed.

There is no clear need for two upper mountain lodges as close together as the Bear Mountain lodge and the Saddle Lodge.

---

1These are my personal comments and should not be confused with the legal comments which I have separately submitted on behalf of the Adirondack Mountain Club.
Until there is a proven skier demand for this much dining capacity, there is no need to invest in both of these projects. One or the other should suffice.

Likewise, the UMP contains no rationale for placing the tubing park on Bear Mountain. I assume that the assumption is that tubers will ride the gondola up and down to access this facility. Tubers are likely to be tourists, rather than skiers, and should be kept at the base of the mountain. They are likely to be unprepared and get cold, lost and in the way of skiers at the top of the mountain, become a burden on the Ski Patrol, and increase the length of the lift line on the gondola. Also, if the tubing area were more conveniently located, you would probably sell more tickets for it.

I question the need to make the Summit Chair, a High Peaks Chair, into a quad. It is barely used as it is. Investing in a quad chair here will be a waste of money.

Likewise, I question the need to replace the East Chair with a quad. With the new gondola paralleling it, it is rare that this lift has long lines. Adding lift capacity will make the trails more crowded. On the other hand, given the winds that it is hit by, and the fact that the Gondola is useless to beginner skiers, the idea of a bubble chair here seems like a good one. The trails down from Bear Mountain are too steep for beginners, and the East Chair is notoriously cold. A bubble chair may improve access to the north and east sides of the mountain for beginners.

It appears that the UMP calls for turning the upper portion of the old gondola liftline, where it parallels the Straight Brook Chair, into a trail. I urge you to do this early in the next building cycle. This line has what appears to be the best expert terrain on the mountain, and if it is not excessively widened, and not excessively groomed, this could be a world-class expert trail.

As a management issue, and not so much as a UMP issue, I would have to say that the lack of mogul trails has made skiing Gore more boring in recent years. Certain of the expert trails should be left ungroomed, or groomed only occasionally, to provide some mogul skiing for those who like that.
May 1, 2001

Sincerely,

[Signature]

John W. Caffry

JWC/mb
F:\Core\Office7\WPWin7\John\Gore Jrs.wpd
TO: Michael Pratt, General Manager
FIRM: Gore Mountain Ski Center
FAX NUMBER: 251-5171
FROM: John W. Caffry
RE: Gore Mountain Ski Center UMP
OUR FILE #: 0000 DATE: May 1, 2001 NUMBER OF PAGES: 3 (including cover)

MESSAGE:

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May 1, 2001

VIA FAX AND MAIL

Michael Pratt
General Manager
Gore Mountain Ski Center
P.O. Box 470
North Creek, NY 12853

Re: Gore Mountain Ski Center UMP

Dear Mr. Pratt:

The Adirondack Mountain Club appreciates the opportunity to comment on the most recent update to the Gore Mountain Ski Center Unit Management Plan ("UMP"). ADK recognizes that the operation of the ski center is expressly permitted by the amendments to Article XIV, Section 1 of the New York State Constitution. However, we do have a few concerns about the UMP’s potential non-compliance with Article XIV, as a few aspects of the UMP appear to exceed the scope of those amendments. We also have a SEQR-environmental impact mitigation comment.

Sand Pits: The UMP calls for the development of two new sand pits. In general, sand pits are quite clearly not permissible on Forest Preserve lands, even in intensive use areas, and regardless of their size. While Article XIV has been amended to allow operation of the ski center and necessary appurtenances, sand pits are not integral to the operation of a ski center. Sand can be obtained elsewhere on lands that are not Forest Preserve. These proposed sand pits should be removed from the UMP and any existing pits should be closed and rehabilitated.

Trail Width: From reviewing the maps in the UMP, it appears that some of the proposed trail widening projects may result in trails that are wider than the maximum allowed width of 200 feet. These include portions of Showcase, Open Pit and the Saddle area. It also appears that certain existing areas, including the open slope above the base of the new gondola, the top of Bear Mountain, the former (and future) terminus of the Summit Chair, and others, are wider than 200 feet. Certain areas, such as the Summit area, may not be 200 feet wide on the plans, but appear on the ground.
to be very wide. The entire plan, and existing conditions on the mountain, should be reexamined to confirm that no trail area will exceed 200 feet in width, and the UMP should be revised accordingly. Where existing trails exceed this width, an appropriate area at the edge of the trail should be closed and revegetated.

**Golf Course:** The UMP discusses the possibility of constructing a golf course in Section 6, Alternatives. A golf course would violate Article XIV. See, Ass'n for the Protection of the Adirondacks v. MacDonald, 253 N.Y. 234, 241 (1930). The final UMP should make this clear, and delete the language in the current draft which seems to indicate that a golf course might be considered for inclusion in a later update to the UMP.

**Revegetation:** There are several areas where former liftlines and/or trails will be abandoned, including the old gondola and the Goree Gully chair and its related trails. It appears that some abandoned liftline segments will be converted into ski trails, to which we have no objection, as this would reduce the tree clearing needed for new trails. However, any other abandoned liftlines or trails should be replanted, so as to hasten the return of these areas to their natural condition. This will partially mitigate the environmental impacts of clearing new trails and liftlines.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

John W. Caffrey
Chair, Conservation Committee

JWC/mb
cc: Charles Scrafford, APA
Stuart Buchanan, DEC
Glen Bruening, DEC
Neil Woodworth, ADK
Jack Freeman, ADK
David Gibson, Ass’n/Prot./Ad’ks
Bernard Melewski, Adirondack Council
April 27, 2001

Mr. Michael Pratt, General Manager
Gore Mountain Ski Center
PO Box 470
Peaceful Valley Road
North Creek, NY 12853

Dear Mike,

The Adirondack Council has only one concern regarding the updates to the Gore Mountain Ski Center Unit Management Plan — the proposal to construct an observation tower at the summit of Bear Mountain.

Gore’s constitutional amendment allows for the construction of “necessary appurtenances” to skiing on this unit of state land. This 50-foot-tall tower cannot in any way be construed as necessary to downhill skiing at Gore Mountain. In fact, it may well be a hazard to downhill skiers in plastic boots when it becomes frozen and would very likely be unusable during much of the ski season.

We take great umbrage to the statement in the Supplemental Unit Management Plan that “(c)onstruction of an observation tower in proximity to the Bear Mountain Lodge would enhance the environmental experience of recreators and sightseers...”. The reality is that this tower would become just one more highly visible structure in the Adirondack Park that other recreators and sightseers would see from nearby vantage points. Skiers can already view the Park from the elevated chairlifts and gondola. In short, this proposal has nothing to do with Gore’s skiing operations.

It is unfortunate that ORDA and its consultant have chosen to forge ahead with this unconstitutional element contained in an otherwise laudable (and legal) plan. It is our hope that, as the Adirondack Park Agency struggles to deal with its policy on private tower proposals within the Blue Line, ORDA will pull this ill-conceived element. The vast majority of the plan will be of great benefit to the people of the North Creek area.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Joseph M. Moore

cc: Glenn Breuning, DEC
    Peter Duncan, DEC
    Stu Buchanan, DEC
    Dan Fitts, APA
    John Banta, APA
    Chuck Scrafford, APA

April 4, '01

Jore Mountain
PO Box 476
North Creek, NY 12853

Dear Mike,

Sally and I are in complete support of Gore's 2001 Unit Management Plan. The connection of Gore Mountain to the North Creek Ski Bowl is tremendously important, especially for the families and children of Gore and Johnstown.

I hope you have a big crowd in support of your plans and I am sorry we will be out-of-town for this most important hearing.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Ken and Sally MacKay
April 16, 2001

Michael J. Pratt
General Manager
Gore Mountain
P.O. Box 470
North Creek, NY 12853

Dear Mr. Pratt:

On behalf of Our Town Theatre Group, allow me to express our full support of the 2001 Gore Mountain Unit Management Plan.

We are aware that Gore Mountain represents the area’s primary opportunity for economic development during the winter season. As the region’s main winter attraction, continued development of Gore Mountain is critical to stabilizing the region’s year round economy.

As your plans are implemented over the next several years, Our Town Theatre Group looks forward to working along with you as we produce our theatrical projects which we hope will contribute to making Warren County, Lake George and the Southern Adirondacks a four-season destination.

Cordially,

Lyle Dye
Artistic Director
Dear Mr. Pratt,

My husband and I own a home in Chatemac Estates, right down the road from Gore Mountain. We have been skiing at Gore for the last thirteen years and we have really noticed the improvements over the last five years. The new lifts, additional trails, and expanded snow-making have combined to vastly upgrade the skiing experience at Gore.

I have recently read about the plans to further expand the ski area to include the old Ski Bowl area. This is a great idea for two reasons: it gives us skiers more terrain to ski; and, it brings a lot more business to the town of North Creek.

I very much look forward to the implementation of all these new plans. Please keep me updated on what is going on, and if I can be of any assistance please let me know.

Sincerely Yours,

Marcia Egedy, M.D.
29 Mulder Lane
Midland Park, N.J. 07432
April 3, 2001

Michael J. Pratt
Gore Mountain Ski Area
P.O. Box 470
North Creek, NY 12853

Dear Mr. Pratt:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Draft Supplemental UMP for Gore Mountain.

The primary concern to The Nature Conservancy at this time is the volume of water being withdrawn from the Hudson River and its effects on the riverine systems below the take out site. I am including copies of our original responses from the 1994 discussions.

Since the supplemental UMP does not increase the maximum withdrawal above 5,000 gpm, the amount approved in the 1995 UMP, we have no comments or suggestions for the draft plan. Again, we thank you for the opportunity to review your document.

Sincerely,

Kathy Regan
Conservation Specialist

Enc: as stated
October 12, 1994

Dear Kevin:

Thank you for providing David Braun with the additional information requested in my letter to you dated September 14, 1994.

I am enclosing David’s response, which summarized state that the proposed snow-making project at Gore Mountain does not appear to have a detrimental effect on the riverside ice meadows natural community along the Hudson River.

I would also like to thank the LA Group and ORDA for presenting this proposal to The Nature Conservancy and for allowing us ample time and opportunity to comment. It was a pleasure to conduct business with you.

Sincerely,

Kathy Regan
Director of Science & Stewardship
To: Kathy Regan, Adirondack Chapter
Cc: Brian Richter, National Hydrologist
From: David Braun, Hydrologist/Water Quality Specialist
Date: 30 September 1994
Subject: Potential Impacts of Hudson River Withdrawals -- Further Information

Kevin J. Franke of The LA Group, PC, has provided me with further analyses of the impacts of the proposed Gore Mountain snowmaking water withdrawals from the Hudson River (letter of 22 September), following up on my memorandum to you of 8 September in which I asked for additional information. The analyses are straightforward and the results are reassuring. Even under historically known extreme low-flow (winter drought) conditions, i.e., minimum recorded historic flow conditions, the proposed withdrawals will not lower river stage more than approximately 0.25 inches at the North Creek gaging station. As I mentioned in my earlier memorandum and as we discussed over the phone, impacts on high-flow (flood) conditions apparently are ecologically not relevant to the ice meadows dynamics.

The shape of the river cross section at the ice meadows is likely to differ from that at the gaging station. However, the map you have provided does not suggest to me that the river cross-section is radically broader at the ice meadows than at the gaging station. This suggests further that changes in low-flow stage at the ice meadows will not be significantly greater than those expected at the gage. Even if they are ten times as great, you are looking at less than 3 inches of reduction in even the most extreme low-flow stages (water surface elevation), and this small a difference is not likely to change ecological conditions based on our understanding of the role of ice scouring in the ecosystem.

As always, we should frame our willingness to agree with engineering results as a willingness to accept a "reasonable hypothesis" subject to continuing monitoring. The risks here do not appear large enough to warrant asking for funding to conduct impact monitoring, but the permitting should still acknowledge the "hypothetical" character of the ecological expectations in case we do find, later on, that the withdrawals seem to be having an impact. We should also make sure the river managers understand that, while projects such as the Gore Mountain snowmaking individually can have negligible ecological impacts, the cumulative effects of many such projects could be non-negligible.

We can talk about these points and questions further, if you would like. And feel free to share this memorandum with Kevin Franke.
Mr. David Braun, Staff Hydrologist  
The Nature Conservancy  
1815 N. Lynn St.  
Arlington, VA 22209  

Re: Proposed Gore Mountain Snowmaking Water Withdrawal from Hudson River, New York

Dear Mr. Braun;

Enclosed please find additional information regarding the analysis of potential impacts associated with proposed water withdrawals from the Hudson River for snowmaking at the Gore Mountain Ski Center. In your September 8 memorandum to Kathy Regan of the Adirondack Nature Conservancy you requested additional information regarding the effect the 3,600 gpm water withdrawal would have on river stage under various discharge scenarios. The enclosed information includes a Ratings Table for the USGS North Creek gauging station (station number 01315500) provided by the USGS. Also enclosed is an analysis of river stage under withdrawal and non-withdrawal scenarios under mean, maximum, and minimum discharge conditions as per discharge data provided by the USGS.

The data analysis indicates that a withdrawal of 3,600 gpm could be expected to reduce water elevations at the intake from a maximum of approximately one quarter (0.25) of an inch under January and February low flow conditions to a minimum of less than three one-hundredths (0.03) of an inch under high flow conditions in March. Under mean flow conditions the expected decrease in water elevations associated with a 3,600 gpm withdrawal is slightly less than one tenth (0.10) of an inch for each of the months from November to March. Thus, the impact of a 3,600 gpm withdrawal on Hudson River hydrology and the ice meadow community will be minimal. This is consistent with the conclusions made based on the discharge data provided to you previously.

If you have any questions, please feel free to give me a call.

Sincerely,

Kevin J. Franke
for
The LA Group, PC

cc. K. Regan
    J. Wescott
    R. Fries
    R. Persico
April 9, 2001

Re: Gore 5-Year Plan (1901-1906)

Dear Mr. Blazer,

Once upon a time a group of prominent citizens of North Creek, after the close of the second World War, fell on the happy thought of forming a corporation called The Gore Mt. Ski Lift Corporation, namely Ken (Judge) Bennett, Ken Swain, Phil Brassel, George Greggory, Butler Cunningham, William Shields, William Sullivan, and Howard and Guy Alexander. In the spring of 1946, they started building their dream, a “Tee bar” lift that would dwarf any other rope tows and lifts east of the Mississippi.

My plan tonight complements their great foresight by going above their dream and giving skiers access to the Hudson, Hudson By-pass, Ridge, Oak Ridge, and Lower Rabbit Pond trails, the historic ride-up, slide down trail starting from Barton Mines, and the Gore Mt. Ski Center with its modern trail system. The North Creek Ski Bowl, after being dormant for thirty plus years, would become the second major hub for Black Gore, Bear, Burnt, Pete-Gay, and the North Creek Ski Bowl (six major mountains). These are called pods by the Johnson Plan. You will note South Mountain, which is north of Pete-Gay Mountain, has been taken out of the plan because of a short-sighted 1987 constitutional amendment promoted by Ned Harkness.

The connection of the North Creek Ski Bowl to the Gore Mt. Ski Center should become the primary focus of this five year plan, as was Bear Mountain in the most recent 1995 plan. Skiers, outdoor enthusiasts, and business people in North Creek have been waiting for twenty-five years for the State, ORDA, Town of Johnsburg, private owners, and skiers to capitalize on the recreational and economic potential of the North Creek Ski Bowl. The Ski Bowl is a natural treasure given by Father McMahon to the people of the Town of Johnsburg, and the State of New York. There are few vintage skiers who have not skied or heard about the North Creek Ski Bowl. Now is the time (before I die) for Gore Mt. to create a major ski hub in the village of North Creek.
Following are my specific recommendations to connect the North Creek Ski Bowl to the state’s Gore Mountain Ski Center:

A) Build a quad detachable ski lift from the North Creek Ski Bowl to the Pete Gay saddle. Coordinate this with the Town of Johnsburg and Elliot Monter.

B) Build a quad fixed ski lift from the North Creek Ski Bowl to the bottom of the Dip on the Ridge Trail to access the upper and lower ski slopes.

C) Build a ski lift for a snowboard, tubing park, and beginner skiers at the old lower rope tow and jump site. This small hill has it all: beginner, expert, steep, and natural pipes and jumps.

D) Build a ski lodge at the North Creek Ski Bowl to house 4 - 5000 skiers. Subject lodge Should capitalize on Adirondack architecture. Prepare the parking lots. This building should have multi-functions and be coordinated with the Town of Johnsburg and Recreation Department.

**Note as stated in 1947 in the Amendment to Article XIV, section 1 of the New York Constitution, Pete Gay Mountain is a part of the Greater Gore Mt. Ski Plan.**
March 30, 2001

Michael J. Pratt  
General Manager  
Gore Mountain  
Post Office Box 470  
North Creek, New York 12853

Dear Mr. Pratt,

On behalf of the Lake George/Adirondack Regional Tourism Board, a not for profit organization consisting of business professionals from the tourism industry throughout Warren County and its sales arm, the newly formed Lake George/Adirondack Regional Convention and Visitors Bureau (LGARCVB), allow me to express my full support of the 2001 Gore Mountain Unit Management Plan.

In the opinion of the LGARCVB, Gore Mountain represents the area’s primary opportunity for economic development during the winter season. As the region’s main winter attraction, continued development of Gore Mountain is critical to stabilizing the region’s year round economy.

As your plans are implemented over the next several years, the LGARCVB looks forward to working closely with you in developing Warren County, Lake George, and the Southern Adirondacks as a four-season destination.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

John Collins  
President  
Lake George/Adirondack Regional Tourism Board

WWW.LGARCVB.COM
May 9, 2001

Michael Pratt, General Manager
Gore Mountain Ski Center
P.O. Box 470
Peaceful Valley Road
North Creek, NY 12853

Dear Mike:

I left verbal comments with your voice mail and with Jeff Anthony. For the record, I just wanted to also place them in writing, briefly. Thank you.

First and most importantly, the Proposed Management Actions incorrectly recites Article 14 of the Constitution in one important respect. The document states on page 4-3, repeated on page 6-4, that “The State Constitution, Article XIV, allows for a total of eight miles of trail at Gore Mountain to be 200 feet wide. That is incorrect. The 1987 amendment to Article 14 allows for not more than 40 miles of trails 30-200 feet wide...provided that no more than eight miles of such trails shall be in excess of one hundred twenty feet (120) wide.

Given this, ORDA, DEC and the reader needs to know the impact this Supplemental UMP is expected to have on the number of miles of existing, approved and proposed trails which are in excess of 120 feet wide. Whenever the eight mile limit has been reached, as you know there is no authority to exceed it in the absence of an approved constitutional amendment.

We fully agree with the Adirondack Mountain Club in that we do not believe that sand pits are authorized by Article 14 as appurtenant to a ski center. ADK also indicates that some trails may be exceeding 200 feet in width. We concur with all their concerns and comments. We feel sure you will be extremely careful that this is not the case currently, or for approved or proposed trail widening.

On page 6-4, alternative development of a golf course is suggested by the Chamber of Commerce. We concur with ADK. The UMP should clearly state that while the existing constitutional amendment specifies that ski trails, lodges, ski lifts and “appurtenances thereto” can be developed, that a golf course is not authorized by Article 14 of the Constitution and would require a separately approved constitutional amendment.

We support an educational tower near the new Summit Lodge for public educational benefits. However, we regret that the existing fire tower can be not be rehabilitated for the same purpose. We wonder whether with a modicum of effort that citizens could not help match funds provided by ORDA and DEC for its rehabilitation.

Finally, we are concerned about any unnecessary widening of the Schaefer Trail for hiking to the summit. Further, we ask that use of mountain bikes be prohibited on that trail during wet weather conditions.

Dedicated to the Protection of the New York State Forest Preserve in the Adirondack and Catskill Mountains.
Sincerely,

David H. Gibson
Executive Director

c: Adirondack Mountain Club
Chuck Scrafford, APA
Glen Breuning, DEC
Board of Trustees
constructing, completing and maintaining any highway heretofore specifically authorized by constitutional amendment, nor from constructing and maintaining to federal standards federal aid interstate highway route five hundred two to a point in the vicinity of the city of Glens Falls, thence northerly to the vicinity of the villages of Lake George and Warrensburg, the hamlets of South Horicon and Pottersville and thence northerly in a generally straight line on the west side of Schroon Lake to the vicinity of the hamlet of Schroon, then continuing northerly to the vicinity of Schroon Falls, Schroon River and North Hudson, and to the east of Makomis Mountain, east of the hamlet of New Russia, east of the village of Elizabethtown and continuing northerly in the vicinity of the hamlet of Towers Forge, and east of Poke-O-Moonshine Mountain and continuing northerly to the vicinity of the village of Keeseville and the city of Plattsburgh, all of the aforesaid taking not to exceed a total of three hundred acres of state forest preserve land, nor from constructing and maintaining not more than twenty-five miles of such trails thirty to two hundred feet wide, together with appurtenances thereto, provided that no more than five miles of such trails shall be in excess of one hundred twenty feet wide, on the north, east and northwest slopes of Whiteface Mountain in Essex county, nor from constructing and maintaining not more than twenty-five miles of such trails thirty to two hundred feet wide, together with appurtenances thereto, provided that no more than two miles of such trails shall be in excess of one hundred twenty feet wide, on the slopes of Belleayre Mountain in Ulster and Delaware counties and not more than forty miles of ski trails thirty to two hundred feet wide, together with appurtenances thereto, provided that no more than eight miles of such trails shall be in excess of one hundred twenty feet wide, on the slopes of Gore and Pete Gay mountains in Warren county, nor from relocating, reconstructing and maintaining a total of not more than fifty miles of existing state highways for the purpose of eliminating the hazards of dangerous curves and grades, provided a total of no more than four hundred acres of forest preserve land shall be used for such purpose and that no single relocated portion of any highway shall exceed one mile in length. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, the state may convey to the village of Saranac Lake ten acres of forest preserve land adjacent to the boundaries of such village for public use in providing for refuse disposal and in exchange therefore the village of Saranac Lake shall convey to the state thirty acres of certain true forest land owned by such village on Roaring Brook in the northern half of Lot 113, Township 11, Richards Survey. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, the state may convey to the town of Arietta twenty-eight acres of forest preserve land within such town for public use in providing for the extension of the runway and landing strip of the Piseco airport and in exchange therefor the town of Arietta shall convey to the state thirty acres of certain land owned by such town in the town of Arietta. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions and subject to legislative approval of the tracts to be exchanged prior to the actual transfer of title, the state, in order to consolidate its land holdings for better management, may convey to International Paper Company approximately three thousand five hundred acres of forest preserve land located in townships two and three of Totten and Crossfield’s Purchase and township nine of the Moose River Tract, Hamilton county, and in exchange therefore International Paper Company shall convey to the state for incorporation into the forest preserve approximately the same number of acres of land located within such townships and such County on condition that the legislature shall determine that the lands to be received by the state are at least equal in value to the lands to be conveyed by the state. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions and subject to legislative approv-
May 24, 2001

Michael J. Pratt
General Manager
Gore Mountain
Post Office Box 470
North Creek, New York 12853

Dear Mr. Pratt:

The 2001 Gore-Mountain Unit Management Plan has the full support of the Tannery Pond Community Center Association, Inc.

Gore Mountain plays an important role in the Johnsburg community and is a crucial force in stabilizing the region’s year round economy.

We trust the Community Center will help your efforts in attracting more skiers with after-ski activities such as music, plays, art, lectures, etc.

We look forward to the day Warren County, Lake George and the Southern Adirondacks will be viewed as a four-season destination area. This reality can more readily be achieved with the implementation of the Unit Plan.

Sincerely,

Terry Ainslie
Corresponding Secretary

A New York State not-for-profit, incorporated association formed to operate a facility - to provide a venue for public and private events, meetings and programs.
SECTION 3.0  RESPONSES TO COMMENTS
3.1 Local Economy

Comment A by Bill Thomas, Johnsburg Town Supervisor, SEQRA Public Hearing of April 9, 2001

The Commentor states that economic development by promoting and supporting tourism in the area will be beneficial to the town, to the region, and to Gore Mountain Ski Center. The area has the support from the state necessary to help bolster the local economy and contribute to local improvement efforts.

Response A

Comment noted.

Comment B by Bob Nessle, SEQRA Public Hearing of April 9, 2001

The Commentor says that Gore Mountain Management and staff maximized the great weather that provided a terrific ski season this year. The Commentor applauds the efforts of the ski center’s ski patrol, groomers, snowmakers, operators, ski instructors and all staff. He notes that Gore Mountain Ski Center is a terrific buy in terms of trail conditions, lift options, accessibility and terrain. The Commentor is supportive of the proposed connection to Ski Bowl Park because it will allow skiers to access North Creek restaurants and shops. The presence of skiing closer to Main Street will help the local economy. A new ski lodge at Ski Bowl Park will make the town again be an important ski town. Johnsburg children all used to have ski passes. The proposed plan is good for the whole town.

Response B

Comment noted.

Comment C by Bill Donovan, SEQRA Public Hearing of April 9, 2001

The Commentor congratulates the Gore Mountain Ski Center staff for the excellent ski season this year. The Commentor owns a business in the town and he enjoyed a successful season as well. The Commentor notes that Gore brings in people and local businesses do well and both the ski center and the local businesses provide employment. The success of both should be a priority. He hopes the state and ORDA are supportive or the ski center and all that its success means to the local economy.

Response C

Comment noted.
Comment D by Lyle Dye, Our Town Theatre Group, letter dated April 16, 2001

On behalf of Our Town Theatre Group, allow me to express our full support of the updated Gore Mountain Unit Management Plan.

We are aware that Gore Mountain represents the area’s primary opportunity for economic development during the winter season. As the region’s main winter attraction, continued development of Gore Mountain is critical to stabilizing the region’s year round economy.

As your plans are implemented over the next several years, Our Town Theatre Group looks forward to working along with you as we produce our theatrical projects which we hope will contribute to making Warren County, Lake George and the Southern Adirondacks a four-season destination. Similar comment by Terry Ainslie, Tannery Pond Community Center Association Inc., letter dated May 24, 2001.

Response D

Comment noted.

Comment E by John Collins, President, Lake George/Adirondack Regional Tourism Board, letter dated March 30, 2001

On behalf of the Lake George/Adirondack Regional Tourism Board, a not for profit organization consisting of business professionals from the tourism industry throughout Warren County and its sales arm, the newly formed Lake George/Adirondack Regional Convention and Visitors Bureau (LGARCVB), allow me to express my full support of the updated Gore Mountain Unit Management Plan.

In the opinion of the LGARCVB, Gore Mountain represents the area’s primary opportunity for economic development during the winter season. As the region’s main winter attraction, continued development of Gore Mountain is critical to stabilizing the region’s year round economy.

As your plans are implemented over the next several years, the LGARCVB looks forward to working closely with you in developing Warren County, Lake George, and the Southern Adirondacks as a four-season destination.

Response E

Comment noted.
3.2 PROPOSED MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

3.2.1 Connection to Ski Bowl Park

Comment A by Bill Thomas, Johnsburg Town Supervisor, SEQRA Public Hearing of April 9, 2001

The Commentor is strongly supportive of the proposed ski lift and trail connection to Ski Bowl Park and notes how important this connection is to the local economy.

Response A

Comment noted.

Comment B by Bob Nessle, SEQRA Public Hearing of April 9, 2001

The Commentor is supportive of the proposed connection to Ski Bowl Park and says a shuttle bus which is viable, dependable and convenient (i.e., runs every 10 to 15 minutes) is key to this project. Maybe the town will be able to offer night skiing at Ski Bowl Park. The five year plan does include a second lift at the Ski Bowl Park connection and this should be constructed in the next five year plan.

Response B

The ski lift and trail connection between Gore Mountain Ski Center and Ski Bowl Park is included in the 2002-2007 five year plan. Work on Ski Bowl Park property itself other than the Pod 11 and 12 work will be completed by the Town of Johnsburg. The shuttle could be operated jointly by the town, the ski center, and regional businesses.

Comment C by Ken and Sally Murray, letter dated April 6, 2001

The Commentors are in complete support of Gore’s updated Unit Management Plan. The connection of Gore Mountain to the North Creek Ski Bowl is tremendously important, especially to the families and children of the Town of Johnsburg.

Response C

Comment noted.
Comment D by Marcia Egedy, M.D., letter of April 2001

My husband and I own a home in Chatiemac Estates, right down the road from Gore Mountain. We have been skiing at Gore for the last thirteen years and we have really notice the improvements over the last five years. The new lifts, additional trails, and expanded snow-making have combined to vastly upgrade the skiing experience at Gore.

I have recently read about the plans to further expand the ski area to include the old Ski Bowl area. This is a great idea for two reasons: it gives us skiers more terrain to ski; and, it brings a lot more business to the Town of North Creek.

Response D

Comment noted.

Comment E by Patrick J. Cunningham, letter dated April 9, 2001, and SEQR Public Hearing of April 9, 2001

The North Creek Ski Bowl, after being dormant for thirty plus years, would become the second major hub for Black Gore, Bear, Burnt, Pete-Gay, and the North Creek Ski Bowl (six major mountains). You will note South Mountain, which is north of Pete-Gay Mountain, has been taken out of the plan because of a short-sighted 1987 constitutional amendment promoted by Ned Harkness.

The connection of the North Creek Ski Bowl to the Gore Mt. Ski Center should become the primary focus of this five year plan, as was Bear Mountain in the most recent 1985 plan. Skiers, outdoor enthusiasts, and business people in North Creek have been waiting for twenty-five years for the State, ORDA, Town of Johnsburg, private owners, and skiers to capitalize on the recreational and economic potential of the North Creek Ski Bowl. The Ski Bowl is a natural treasure given by Father McMahon to the people of the Town of Johnsburg, and the State of New York. There are few vintage skiers who have not skied or heard about the North Creek Ski Bowl. Now is the time for Gore Mountain to create a major ski hub in the village of North Creek.

Following are my specific recommendations to connect the North Creek Ski Bowl to the state’s Gore Mountain Ski Center.

A. Build a quad detachable ski lift from the North Creek Ski Bowl to the Pete Gay saddle. Coordinate this with the Town of Johnsburg and Elliot Monter. (Note as stated in 1947 in the Amendment to Article XIV, Section 1 of the New York Constitution, Pete Gay Mountain is a part of the Greater Gore Mt. Ski Plan.)
B. Build a quad fixed ski lift from the North Creek Ski Bowl to the bottom of the Dip on the Ridge Trail to access the upper and lower ski slopes.

C. Build a ski lift for a snowboard, tubing park, and beginner skiers at the old lower rope tow and jump site. This small hill has it all: beginner, expert, steep, and natural pipes and jumps.

D. Build a ski lodge at the North Creek Ski Bowl to house 4-5,000 skiers. Subject lodge should capitalize on Adirondack architecture. Prepare the parking lots. This building should have multi-functions and be coordinated with the Town of Johnsburg and Recreation Department.

Response E

A. At this time it is believed that the ski trail and lift connections shown to Ski Bowl Park are the most practical and expedient way to accomplish the connection as only two property owners are involved, New York State and the Town of Johnsburg.

B. The plan for the Ski Bowl Park itself is being designed by others working for the town, with input from Gore Mountain staff. The comment regarding the Ridge Trail will be passed on to the town and its designers.

C. A lift for the other uses the commentor lists is conceptually shown in the town’s plans for Ski Bowl Park.

D. A ski lodge at the Ski Bowl Park is proposed and is currently being sized by the town’s consultant. The commentors suggestions are included in the conceptual plans for the Ski Bowl.

3.2.2 Sand Pits


The UMP calls for the development of two new sand pits. In general, sand pits are quite clearly not permissible on Forest Preserve lands, even in intensive use areas, and regardless of their size. While Article XIV has been amended to allow operation of the ski center and necessary appurtenances, sand pits are not integral to the operation of a ski center. Sand can be obtained elsewhere on lands that are not Forest Preserve. These proposed sand pits should be removed from the UMP and any existing pits should be closed and rehabilitated. Similar comment by David H. Gibson, The Association for the Protection of the Adirondacks, letter dated May 9, 2001.
Response A

While the applicant disagrees that sand mining is precluded from intensive use areas in the Adirondack Park and that sand mining is not an integral function of operating and maintaining a ski area, the proposal to develop two new sand pits has been withdrawn from the 2002-2007 UMP management actions. Refer to FGEIS Section 4.3 for the revised Figure 4-1, “2002 Gore Mountain UMP Master Plan (1 of 2).”

3.2.3 Trails

Comment A by John W. Caffry, letter dated May 1, 2001

As a skier, the Commentor strongly objects to widening Showcase, Chatiemac and Hawkeye to 200 feet. These trails are already plenty wide enough as it is. Widening them will only detract from the skiing experience. Gore does not need to make three of its most prominent trails look like Killington or Stratton. Widening them will also make them more prone to the wind blowing the snow off. Showcase is already enough of a dangerous racetrack without widening it, which would further encourage excessive speed.

Response A

Widening of selected ski trails to 200 feet is a response to the ever changing technology of skiing. Wider trails are required to accommodate ski board grooming which offers terrain to accommodate this activity while still allowing for skiers to traverse the trails. Additionally, wider trails are more conducive to holding and being covered efficiently by modern day snowmaking devices without “wasting” man-made snow by air-borne drift into adjacent wooded areas.

As such, certain trails on the mountain have been selected to accommodate the demands of contemporary skiing which will allow Gore Mountain to better compete with similar mountains in Vermont.

Comment B by John W. Caffry, letter dated May 1, 2001

It appears that the UMP calls for turning the upper portion of the old gondola lifeline, where it parallels the Straight Brook chair, into a trail. I urge you to do this early in the next building cycle. This line has what appears to be the best expert terrain on the mountain, and if it is not excessively widened, and not excessively groomed, this could be a world-class expert trail. Similar comment by Bob Nessle, SEQRA Public Hearing of April 9, 2001.
Response B

Comment noted. This work has been included in the Ski Center Master Plan since 1987 and this trail opened in March 2001.

Comment C by John W. Caffry, letter dated May 1, 2001

As a management issue, and not so much as a UMP issue, I would have to say that the lack of mogul trails has made skiing Gore more boring in recent years. Certain of the expert trails should be left ungroomed, or groomed only occasionally, to provide some mogul skiing for those who like that.

Response C

Comment noted. The freeze/thaw cycles of the El Nino, La Nina year were not conducive to leaving moguls.

Comment D by John W. Caffry for Adirondack Mountain Club, letter dated May 1, 2001

From reviewing the maps in the UMP, it appears that some of the proposed trail widening projects may result in trails that are wider than the maximum allowed width of 200 feet. These include portions of Showcase; Open Pit and the Saddle area. It also appears that certain existing areas, including the open slope above the base of the new gondola, the top of Bear Mountain, the former (and future) terminus of the Summit Chair, and others, are wider than 200 feet. Certain areas, such as the Summit area, may not be 200 feet wide on the plans, but appear on the ground to be very wide. The entire plan, and existing conditions on the mountain, should be reexamined to confirm that no trail area will exceed 200 feet in width, and the UMP should be revised accordingly. Where existing trails exceed this width, an appropriate area at the edge of the trail should be closed and revegetated. Similar comment by David H. Gibson, The Association for the Protection of the Adirondacks, letter dated May 9, 2001.

Response D

The comments are noted, and ski trail width has been measured on the plans and appears to be within the required 200 feet. Note that trail mergers and areas with several activities, like the Saddle, with two lift unloading stations, the lodge, and several trail heads, may exceed the 200 foot dimension. It should be noted that ski trails are restricted to not exceed 200 feet, however, clearing for support facilities and appurtenances are not so regulated. As such, the summit of the new gondola supports the unloading area, gondola storage barn, new lodge site, staging area for skiers to prepare for skiing and beginning of several trails. These support facilities may consume more than a 200 foot wide clearing but are not ski trails. Similarly, some trails coincide with lift lines. The cleared “safety zone” for lift lines should not be included in the trail width.
calculation. Gore Mountain management is investigating ordering orthophotographs of the ski center which could be utilized to more accurately portray and measure trail widths in plan view.

Comment E by John W. Caffry, for Adirondack Mountain Club, letter dated May 1, 2001.

There are several areas where former liftlines and/or trails will be abandoned, including the old gondola and the Gore-e-Gully chair and its related trails. It appears that some abandoned liftline segments will be converted into ski trails, to which we have no objection, as this would reduce the tree clearing needed for new trails. However, any other abandoned liftlines or trails should be replanted, so as to hasten the return of these areas to their natural condition. This will partially mitigate the environmental impacts of clearing new trails and liftlines.

Response E

Comment noted. Much of the old gondola lift line is bedrock or boulders, and natural revegetation is occurring here and elsewhere.

Comment F by David H. Gibson, for The Association for the Protection of the Adirondacks, letter dated May 9, 2001.

First and most importantly, the Proposed Management Actions incorrectly recites Article 14 of the Constitution in one important respect. The document states on Page 4-3, repeated on Page 6-4, that “The State Constitution, Article XIV, allows for a total of eight miles of trail at Gore Mountain to be 200 feet wide. That is incorrect. The 1987 amendment to Article 14 allows for not more than 40 miles of trails 30-200 feet wide...provided that no more than eight miles of such trails shall be in excess of one hundred twenty feet (120) wide.

Given this, ORDA, DEC and the reader needs to know the impact this Supplemental UMP is expected to have on the number of miles of existing, approved and proposed trails which are in excess of 120 feet wide. Whenever the eight mile limit has been reached, as you know there is no authority to exceed it in the absence of an approved constitutional amendment.

Response F

The comment is noted. Existing ski trail maps have been measured and it has been necessary to reduce the amount of trail widening proposed in the updated UMP accordingly. Refer to revised DGEIS Figure 4-1, “2002 Gore Mountain UMP Master Plan (1 of 2)” and revised Table 5-1, “Summary of Vegetation Impacts,” provided in Section 4.3 of this FGEIS. Specifically, the existing and currently proposed recreation routes which are 120 to 200 feet wide total 3.57 miles.

Gore management has determined that there are several trail segments approved in the 1995 UMP that are no longer desired, and will not be constructed. These are referenced as trail
segments 6N-O, 1N-M, 2N-L, 1N-N and lower 1N-Q. These trail segments total 3,650 linear feet. By not constructing these trails, a total of 1,872 trees will not be removed.

Therefore, the total length of ski trails at Gore will be 33.9 miles (or 0.69 miles less than the 34.6 miles specified in the 2001 Supplemental DGEIS).

Orthophotographs have been ordered which will allow ski trails and other site features to be more accurately portrayed and measured in plan view and the trail widths will be closely measured in order to stay within the set constitutional limits.

**Comment G by David H. Gibson, The Association for the Protection of the Adirondacks, letter dated May 9, 2001**

We are concerned about any unnecessary widening of the Schaefer Trail for hiking to the summit. Further, we ask that use of mountain bikes be prohibited on that trail during wet weather conditions.

**Response G**

DGEIS Figure 1-3 shows the present location of the Schaefer Trail. There are no plans to widen this trail. The Schaefer Trail is not designated as a biking trail. If a conflict with the future development occurs, Gore Mountain will support a temporary or permanent relocation of the hiking trail through its property.

**Comment H by William E. Brannon, letter dated April 10, 2001**

My first time off the new Gondola was with delight. I had a great run to Straight Brook and my day was on. During the day I did hear many grumblings about the difficulty of the trails from the summit of Bear Mountain. I think this is a judgement call; for me it was fine, but for many novice skiers it may be a bit intimidating. I see from the proposed plans that alternate routes are being developed and this condition will be alleviated.

**Response H**

Comment noted. The Foxlair Trail has been modified to make its descent easier as it is intended to be. Additional trails in Pod #10, which were approved in the 1995 UMP/EIS, will be constructed as funds are available and will help alleviate this situation.
3.2.4 Ski Lifts

Comment A by Bob Clark, SEQRA Public Hearing of April 9, 2001

The Commentor would like to see another lift developed between the trails Rumor and Lies as a backup to the Straight Brook chair.

Response A

The 2002-2007 UMP proposes to extend the High Peak Chair (Lift 6) back to its original terminus and this will be a second connection to the top of the Straight Brook area. No lift has been proposed between Rumor and Lies in either the 1995 or 2002 UMP. Gore and its consultants will look into the feasibility of this for the next five year UMP.

Comment B by John H. Godfrey, letter received April 2001

The Commentor offers congratulations on a very successful ski season. He heard that ticket sales were up by thirty percent this year, even with the limited snowfall we had through February. This is just further proof of how effective the Five Year Plan has been.

The Commentor has read the Supplemental UMP and thinks that the changes and additions to the original plan are well thought out. In particular, the Commentor likes the design for the connection to Ski Bowl Park and the replacement of the triple chair with a detachable quad (hopefully with a bubble).

The Commentor notes that the Five Year Plan from 1995 is falling behind schedule. The completion of Pod 10 is especially important. It will resolve the biggest complaint about Gore which is the long walk out at the bottom of Cloud.

The Commentor understands that the availability of funds is the biggest roadblock. The people in charge of appropriations should know that this is an extremely worthwhile project. Both the improved ticket sales and the very positive survey comments prove this point.

Response B

Comment noted.

Comment C by John W. Caffry, letter dated May 1, 2001

I question the need to make the Summit Chair, a'\ka High Peaks Chair, into a quad. It is barely used as it is. Investing in a quad chair here will be a waste of money.
Response C

The installation of a quad lift will help standardize parts and service. Capacity will be controlled by management through the design of the lift.

Comment D by John W. Caffry, letter dated May 1, 2001

I question the need to replace the East Chair with a quad. With the new gondola paralleling it, it is rare that this lift has long lines. Adding lift capacity will make the trails more crowded. On the other hand, given the winds that it is hit by, and the fact that the Gondola is useless to beginner skiers, the idea of a bubble chair here seems like a good one. The trails down from Bear Mountain are too steep for beginners, and the East chair is notoriously cold. A bubble chair may improve access to the north and east sides of the mountain for beginners.

Response D

Comment noted. As previously stated the planned and previously approved buildout of Gore Mountain has not been accomplished to date. All proposed lifts, trails and other facilities have been calculated to support the planned upgrade of the ski area. As such, the 1995 UMP and its finely calculated improvement justification should be reviewed to comprehend the purpose of those improvements. The number of passengers on each chair does not solely determine lift capacity.

3.2.5 Golf Course

Comment A by John W. Caffry, for Adirondack Mountain Club, letter dated May 1, 2001

The UMP discusses the possibility of constructing a golf course in Section 6, Alternatives. A golf course would violate Article XIV. See Ass’n for the Protection of the Adirondacks v. MacDonald, 253 N.Y. 234, 241 (1930). The final UMP should make this clear, and delete the language in the current draft which seems to indicate that a golf course might be considered for inclusion in a later update to the UMP. Similar comment by David H. Gibson, The Association for the Protection of the Adirondacks, letter dated May 9, 2001.

Response A

The SEQRA law requires a discussion of alternatives. A golf course is not proposed as a management action at Gore Mountain. As noted by the commentors, a golf course would violate Article XIV, Section 1, of the NYS Constitution. Development of such a facility would therefore require a constitutional amendment.
3.2.6 Observation Tower

Comment A by Joseph M. Moore, The Adirondack Council, letter dated April 27, 2001

The Adirondack Council has only one concern regarding the updates to the Gore Mountain Ski Center Unit Management Plan—the proposal to construct an observation tower at the summit of Bear Mountain.

Gore’s constitutional amendment allows for the construction of “necessary appurtenances” to skiing on this unit of state land. This 50 foot tall tower cannot in any way be construed as necessary to downhill skiing at Gore Mountain. In fact, it may well be a hazard to downhill skiers in plastic boots when it becomes frozen and would very likely be unuseable [SIC] during much of the ski season.

Response A

The observation tower is proposed to be built in conjunction with the Bear Mountain Lodge. The observation tower deck will be built at a height proximate to the elevation of the tree height in the vicinity of the Bear Mountain Lodge. There will be no “cab” on the tower, only a safety rail. The purpose of the tower is environmental education for the Adirondack Mountains. It is proposed to be used in the two shoulder seasons and in the summer. It will not be used in the winter when it is frozen and covered with snow. Limited use may be allowed during winter when conditions allow access. Stairs with suitable treads and risers will be used, it will be made of wood, and is proposed to include interpretive signage. The observation tower will not be visible from any off site receptor points.

Comment B by David H. Gibson, The Association for the Protection of the Adirondacks, letter dated May 9, 2001

We support an educational tower near the new Summit Lodge for public educational benefits. However, we regret that the existing fire tower cannot be rehabilitated for the same purpose. We wonder whether with a modicum of effort that citizens could not help match funds provided by ORDA and DEC for its rehabilitation.

Response B

The use of a rehabilitated existing fire tower at the Summit of Gore Mountain has been discussed with DEC, and it is believed that a new structurally sound tower would better serve the public. Refer to DGEIS Section IV. A.8, page 4-7. A structural analysis of the existing tower was performed by a consultant for DEC which concluded that the tower was incapable of being restored for public use and access. Refer to DGEIS Appendix 2, “Correspondence,” for NYSDEC Memorandum dated December 8, 1999.
3.2.7 Tubing Park

Comment A by John W. Caffrey, letter dated May 1, 2001

The UMP contains no rationale for placing the tubing park on Bear Mountain. I assume that the assumption is that tubers will ride the gondola up and down to access this facility. Tubers are likely to be tourists, rather than skiers, and should be kept at the base of the mountain. They are likely to be unprepared and get cold, lost and in the way of skiers at the top of the mountain, become a burden on the Ski Patrol, and increase the length of the lift line on the gondola. Also, if the tubing area were more conveniently located, you would probably sell more tickets for it.

Response A

The proposal to locate the tubing hill off of the Bear Mountain summit will relieve some congestion at the Base Lodge and will utilize more lands of the ski center efficiently. The gondola is a high capacity transport lift and can accommodate the additional traffic. Moving patrons to the Bear Mountain summit will also increase use of the Bear Mountain Lodge and add another visitor experience to the ski area. Bear Mountain Lodge was always programmed to allow access and use for non-skiers.

3.2.8 Seasonal Activities

Comment A by William E. Brannon, letter dated April 10, 2001

I applaud your effort to make it a year around facility. Hiking is a natural activity, the mountain biking brings people to the area and major events such as the Octoberfest and ski sales more fully utilize the facilities during off season.

I am not sure if it is even possible, but I wondered if some sort of a KOA type complex could be included in future plans. That is an area designated as camp ground with full amenities for power, water and waste hookups. Certainly it would be a boon for the high end camping community and would not adversely impact on the main function of the Ski Center. It would also provide employment for a few through the off ski season.

In addition to the facilities for the campers, a few wilderness type areas could be designated for tents, much like in the high peaks area. The cross country trails could be used for hiking and these could be extended to connect to existing trails to the west.
Response A

The ski center lands are designated for day use activities only, per the State Land Master Plan. The cross country trails are used for hiking, mountain biking and snowshoeing and could connect with hiking trails to the north.

Comment B by William E. Brannon, letter dated April 10, 2001

You have added snowshoe trails. That was a very good example for multiple use for the area. My son in Alaska has two huskies that he has trained for ski touring. I feel that this could also be an inexpensive expansion for another activity at Gore.

Response B

Dog sledding would require a good deal of space that is not available in addition to the space that current ski center activities require. Such a use would cause additional congestion in the base area, and would dig up trails designated and groomed for downhill and/or cross-country skiing.

Comment C by William E. Brannon, letter dated April 10, 2001

I know that snowmobiles are disapproved by many, the smell, the noise, etc., but they are big ticket items and most owners that have them are always looking for new places. Perhaps with the Ski Bowl inclusion, a few trails on the perimeter of the ski area could be considered for a day use or for special events. Times races are very popular. I personally am not a fan of snowmobiles, but recognized the revenue they can and do bring to any area.

Response C

There are many hundreds of miles of trails designated and secured for snowmobiling in the Adirondack Park. Snowmobiling would create potential trail conflicts with existing ski center recreators and would cause more competition for parking at the ski center which is at a premium.

The addition of snowmobile access at the Ski Bowl will be evaluated which could be accommodated at that location and provide access to area trails without impacting capacity at the ski area.

Comment D by William E. Brannon, letter dated April 10, 2001

Years ago an ice skating rink was near the lodge. I though at the time it was a great idea and skated there myself. It was not like skating at a skating arena, but it sure was better than the typical ice pond and much safer. Kids young and old seemed to enjoy the ice and the option for
another winter time activity. Ice hockey and sticks were not allowed so the fear of pucks flying around was not an issue. This is another facility that I would like to see restored.

If in the near future the Ski Bowl facility becomes reality, an ice arena – swimming complex would certainly be a major drawing attraction to the area. Lake Placid, move over.

Response D

At this time, the Ski Bowl has an ice skating rink and the town plans to maintain and improve it, as noted on page 4-4 of the DGEIS. The recreational components that will make up Ski Bowl Park are currently under design, and are meant to complement and enhance the recreational opportunities present at Gore Mountain and throughout the Town.

3.3 PHASING

Comment A by John Fallon, SEQRA Public Hearing of April 9, 2001

The Commentor asks whether the proposed ski lift and trail connection to the Johnsburg Ski Bowl Park is in the first phase of the updated unit management plan.

Response A

The DGEIS details the prioritization of 2002-2007 UMP management actions on page 4-11. Operation of Lift 12 to the mid-station of the Ski Bowl is proposed to begin in the second phase and this work will be continued in subsequent phases.

Comment B by William E. Brannon, letter dated April 10, 2001

The existing Fire Tower on top of Gore is an unsightly mess. I am not offended by the radio towers, but by the lack of the cabin and by the blue tarp flapping in the winds like some trashy, abandoned structure. I feel that the fire tower is a structure that can be a great asset with very little cost and very little maintenance. It certainly is an attraction. I have yet to ski past the path to the tower without seeing someone on the tower steps taking pictures or just looking out on the scenery. At this time the DEC is allowing some organizations to improve, maintain and use the fire towers under their guidelines. Blue Mt. and Goodnow are so used, Vanderwalker is in the process of such use. It seems that the Ski Area would be a natural caretaker for the Tower.

If for any reason this is not possible or practicable, I suggest an observation platform be constructed on top of Gore for such use by the visitor-skier to view the scenery from the top. A 360 view is only possible from the top and looking to the west has some spectacular scenery. Snowy Mt. and Blue are on the west and are both very distinctive.
If a new viewing tower is constructed it could or might be included with a comfort facility, that is properly enclosed and designed.

Response B

Comment noted. Such a structure is proposed for placement in conjunction with the Bear Mountain Lodge.

Comment C by Bill Thomas, Johnsburg Town Supervisor, SEQRA Public Hearing of April 9, 2001

The Commentor notes that the phasing of proposed management actions is driven by the budget for the ski center. The Commentor states that within five years the connection between the two ski centers could be completed. The Commentor discusses the grant money that has been dedicated to the renovation of the railroad, and notes the grants for upgrading Ski Bowl Park (or “Old Gore”).

Response C

Comment noted.

3.4 MISCELLANEOUS

Comment A by John Fallon, SEQRA Public Hearing of April 9, 2001

The Commentor asks if the Octoberfest can feature more activities in addition to the ski sale?

Response A

The Octoberfest has not been held for five years.

Comment B by Margie Gilmore, SEQRA Public Hearing of April 9, 2001

The Commentor asks if more work is proposed on the parking lots? The Commentor thinks the parking attendants need to be trained more to provide better parking direction. She notes that more parking is still needed.

Response B

Development of additional parking areas was approved in the 1995 UMP and are in the process of being constructed. The improved traffic patterns should allow for greater efficiency and organization when the cars all arrive at the same time.
Comment C by Kathy Regan, Adirondack Nature Conservancy and Adirondack Land Trust, letter dated April 3, 2001

The primary concern to The Nature Conservancy at this time is the volume of water being withdrawn from the Hudson River and its effects on the riverine systems below the take out site. I am including copies of our original responses from the 1994 discussions.

Since the supplemental UMP does not increase the maximum withdrawal above 5,000 gpm, the amount approved in the 1995 UMP, we have no comments or suggestions for the draft plan.

Response C

Comment noted. The ski center will maintain river withdrawals at or below the permitted 5,000 gpm rate.

Comment D by John Fallon, SEQRA Public Hearing of April 9, 2001

Can ORDA provide a list of season ticket holders to local businesses?

Response D

Comment noted, this would not be appropriate without the season pass holder’s consent. Gore seeks to provide appropriate information regarding local businesses to Gore customers, as shown in the Gore Mountain Vacation Planner, provided in Section 4.1.

Comment E by Maureen Donovan, SEQRA Public Hearing of April 9, 2001

The Commentor asks ORDA what can the local people do in order to be sure that the proposed management actions will occur?

Response E

The support of the proposed UMP can be manifested by contacting government representatives and expressing these sentiments.

Comment F by John W. Caffry, letter dated May 1, 2001

There is no clear need for two upper mountain lodges as close together as the Bear Mountain Lodge and the Saddle Lodge. Until there is a proven skier demand for this much dining capacity, there is no need to invest in both of these projects. One or the other should suffice.

Response F

The need for two upper mountain lodges was detailed in the 1995 UMP and was approved in order to accommodate the management goal of 7,000 SAOT (skiers at one time). The approved
relocation and rebuilding of the Saddle Lodge is modified within the 2002-2007 UMP to rehabilitate the existing Saddle Lodge. A modern and convenient mountain top lodge at the gondola terminus is felt to be a necessity to continued ski center operations.

**Comment G by William E. Brannon, letter dated April 10, 2001**

One other issue I would like to see included in future plans is the purchase of a state-of-the-art ambulance. One that is stored and maintained by Gore Mt. We are remote from the nearest trauma center in Glens Falls and to rely on local squad is very taxing on the community resources and personnel. The presence of another ambulance would be a boon for the area. Training for squad members now with even EMT basic is a huge expenditure of energy and time for the volunteers. To totally rely on volunteers is a risk now that fewer and fewer people are volunteering to join the local squads. The addition of another certified ambulance to the area is needed.

**Response G**

Gore Mountain communicates through the Warren County Emergency Medical Services (WCEMS) channels. WCEMS utilizes a paid ambulance service should the volunteer services not be available.
4.0 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

4.1 Gore Mountain Vacation Planner
Dear Friends,

Thank you for considering Gore Mountain, and the Gore Mountain Region for your vacation.

At Gore, you are sure to find something for the entire family. From the trail "Rumor", one of the steepest trails in the East, to "Bear Cub Run", which is perfect to learn on, all members of your family will leave Gore Mountain with great memories. For those who are not alpine skiers, our trails take you through pristine Adirondack wilderness and can be enjoyed on cross-country skis or snowshoes.

Gore Mountain and the Lake George/Adirondack Region is the perfect place for a vacation anytime of the year. My family and I want to share our backyard with you. We look forward to your visit.

Michael J. Pratt
Mountain Manager

The Northwoods Gondola was voted "Best New Lift" by Skiing Magazine.
Pack your bags and come be part of history in the making on your ski vacation this winter at Gore. There's a whole new face to explore. Bear Mountain with fresh trails that lead from a new summit station at the top of this magnificent peak. These trails open access to all areas of Gore from a single starting point. And that's just for starters. Grab a ride on the Northwoods Gondola. It's big enough for eight passengers. And it's faster and more comfortable than the famous one it replaced. It's a must-ride this season. Best of all, experience the legendary quality, real value, and ultimate convenience that have made Gore a favorite of skiers, riders, and outdoor lovers since our historic beginnings in the 1930's. After all, we made history with one of the country's first ski patrols and New York's first gondola. And we're making history again this season. Welcome to the new face of Gore. Ski it. Ride it.

Since the 1930's, North Creek has welcomed ski lovers.
Experience the difference.

Could it be the familiar faces of vacationing families and friends who can't wait to come back to Gore? Or the convenience of a short drive to a long vacation of outdoor fun in the beautiful Adirondack Mountains of New York State? Maybe it's the choice of trails and our extensive snowmaking. Or the new Bear Mountain terrain that beckons to be played on. Is it: the quality and the genuine concern for your complete satisfaction? Or is it the exceptional value that is so rare? At Gore, it's all of these things and more. It's the difference that makes all the difference in the world to you when you're planning your next ski vacation. It's more skiing, more choices. More for your money. It's a long ski weekend or a long ski vacation. It's only a short drive away. It's the new face of Gore. It's vacationing at its best, nestled in the heart of the beautiful Adirondacks. It's an open invitation to you. Take us up on it.

Riding at its best.
The Mountain & Boardertown Halfpipe and Terrain Park!
Season after season, vacation after vacation, Gore's a favorite for so many reasons. Our outstanding choice of novice, intermediate and expert trails. The jumps, bumps and intense action of The Mountain & Boardertown Halfpipe and Terrain Park. Glading. Great conditions. More grooming. More snowmaking. More skiing. More fun! Learn to snowboard. Hone your skills. Push yourself to new limits. Or, let the world go by as you relax on the deck après-ski. With the highest vertical drop of any mountain within a four-hour drive of New York City, and some of the most challenging trails in the East, the excitement, the challenges, and the choices are unsurpassed at Gore. There's a special feeling here. It's families and friends, people who come back year after year. It's young and old. Expert skiers and those just beginning. It's fun. It's relaxed. It's always getting better because we're always working our hardest to bring you the best. It's the new face of Gore. It's the winter vacation destination that's for everyone!
Much more than great skiing.

Imagine a perfectly peaceful playland where tranquility takes over and adventure abounds. Stop imagining and start experiencing your best winter vacation ever at Gore Mountain. Fabulous skiing and snowboarding go without saying, but that's just the start of the fun.


It's all right here at Gore. Rent snowshoes at the new Tubbs Snowshoes Winter Adventure Center and you're off!

Do it this winter. Escape from an ordinary to an extraordinary winter vacation where you can do so much more than ski. Come to Gore and see.
Great skiing and snowboarding are just the beginning when your winter vacation starts at Gore. Check into one of the cozy bed and breakfasts where you’ll be as close to the mountain as you are to the charming Adirondack villages. Or relax in the luxury of a fine hotel or lodge where loafing in front of a roaring fireplace is strongly recommended! There’s all sorts of dining...from four-star to just plain fun.

And what’s a vacation without bagging some bargains at the famous-label outlet stores on the outskirts of Lake George, or browsing the quaint shops of the local villages? Experience cross country skiing, old fashioned sleigh rides and some of the best snowmobile trails in the country.

This is a vacation. This is Gore country. A fabled mountain for fabulous skiing, and all the many different facets of the entire Adirondack region. Explore them all. Make your next winter vacation destination Gore.
PEAK SEASON
December 11 through March 26

2000-2001 rates

Table rates & holidays 1-Day 2-Day 3-Day 4-Day 5-Day
Adults (25+) $44 $80 $116 $136 $160
Teens & Seniors (13-19/65-79) $38 $65 $95 $108 $125
Juniors (12-) $33 $65 $85 $95 $100
6 and under and 70+ Free Free Free Free Free

Mid-week (Non-Holiday) 1-Day 2-Day 3-Day 4-Day 5-Day
Adults (25+) $34 $65 $89 $115 $130
Teens & Seniors (13-19/65-79) $29 $55 $75 $82 $110
Juniors (12-) $19 $38 $57 $65 $95
6 and under and 70+ Free Free Free Free Free

2000/2001 Holiday Periods:
- Christmas Week: December 23, 2000 through January 1, 2001
- Martin Luther King Weekend: January 15, 2001 through January 15, 2001
- President's Week: February 17, 2001 through February 23, 2001

EXTRA VALUE SEASON
Opening day through December 13 to March 19 through closing day

Weekend 1-Day 2-Day
Adults (25+) $34 $65
Teens & Seniors (13-19/65-79) $29 $55
Juniors (12-) $19 $38
6 and under and 70+ Free Free

Mid-week 1-Day 2-Day 3-Day 4-Day 5-Day
Adults (25+) $29 $55 $76 $82 $100
Teens & Seniors (13-19/65-79) $25 $46 $65 $75 $95
Juniors (12-) $19 $38 $57 $65 $95
6 and under and 70+ Free Free Free Free Free

All multi-day lift tickets are valid at our sister mountain Whiteface, in Lake Placid, NY.

Group rates are available. Please call for more information.

Rental Rates

Weekend & Holiday 1-Day 2-Day Additional Day
Adult Standard Skis $25 $44 $19
Junior Standard Skis $25 $44 $19
Adult Salomon Skis $28 $50 $32
Junior Salomon Skis $28 $50 $32
Adult Snowboard $35 $65 $45
Junior Snowboard $25 $44 $19
Blades $22 $39 $17

Prices noted above are for full-day, complete day or snowboard rental packages.

Half-day rates are available. Call our front desk for specific pricing and group discounts.

All rates and rates are subject to change without notice.

Programs

BARE CUB DEN DAY CARE
For children from 6 months to 6 years.
Half-day: $20. Full-day: $35.

JUNIOR LEARN TO SKI/SNOWBOARD
SNBRS Ages 4-10 / JNRDS Ages 7-10
Our program uses small groups and fun to give beginning skiers and snowboarders a successful momen of learning and self-confidence.
$35 Half-day; $60 Full-day. Half-day: $35. Full-day: $60.

LEARN TO SKI/RIDE 123
A group program for first-time skiers who want to learn to ski or ride. Includes 3 days of beginner lift tickets, lessons, and rentals.
$79 (includes $197. Must be used in one season.

DISCOVER SKIING/SNOWBOARDING
A special discounted package for the first-time skier who wants to try skiing. Includes beginner lessons, lower mountain lift ticket and rental.
Times: 9 AM, 12 PM, 3 PM: $39 any day.

SNOW AND RIDE BETTER
The best way for beginners and snowboarders at all levels to improve their skills. Includes all mountain lift ticket.
Times: 10 AM, 12 PM, 2 PM: $39 any day.

FOR WOMEN ONLY
For intermediate and advanced skiers. Led by specially trained women instructors. Give fun and confidence to your skiing in a non-competitive environment. Lift tickets included. Advance reservations required. $150.
Dates: Jan 20-21, Mar 10-11.

LEARN TO BE AN INSTRUCTOR
A great way for intermediate and advanced skiers and snowboarders to improve their on- and off-snow skills. Top candidates will be offered positions in Gore Mountain Ski & Snowboard School for the following season. Lift tickets included. Advance reservations required. $150.
Dates: Mar 17-18.

G.R.A.S.P.
Gore Recreational Adaptive Ski Program - ski disciplines. Winter snow program. Skiers and snowboarders with special needs.
Available by appointment.

THE MOUNTAIN & LODERDOWNTOWN
NASTAR RACE ARENA
For skiers and snowboarders of all ages. Handicap system allows racers, handicapped and non-handicapped.
Dual Slalom Course $5
Weekends and holidays at 1 P.M.
NYSEF
The New York Ski Education Foundation provides training, coaching, and equipment for alpine skiing and snowboarding.
For information: 888-351-2826 or nysef.org.

Two-day weekend clinics

BACK COUNTRY BASICS
An introduction to back country skiing or snowboarding. Includes ski or snowboard instruction, Telemark skiing or snowboarding classes.
All mountain lift ticket included. Advance reservations required. $150.

MOTHER'S DAY MOUNTAIN SKIING
For intermediate and advanced skiers. Expert instruction and guide. Lift tickets included. Advance reservations required. $150.
Dates: May 19-20.

FOR WOMEN ONLY
For intermediate and advanced skiers. Led by specially trained women instructors. Give fun and confidence to your skiing in a non-competitive environment. Lift tickets included. Advance reservations required. $150.
Dates: Jan 20-21, Mar 10-11.
Gore shines all year round.

It's a winter wonderland in the middle of the Adirondack Mountains. But that doesn't mean the fun stops when the snow melts! After all, what better place can you think of to take in the bursting blooms of spring than the heights of Gore? Where can you see the truly breathtaking colors of autumn at their absolute best?

Gore, where else! What would summer be without mountain biking down the trails? Or just hiking the mountainside on foot and finding out how peaceful and pristine this magical mountain truly is. Did you know there's a historic railroad right here in the village of North Creek? Whitewater rafting or kayaking on the exciting Hudson river. Canoeing and fishing the peaceful mountain lakes. Finding the perfect spot and pitching a tent under the stars.

Discounted Vacation Packages

Kid's Ski and Stay Free!
(Children 6 and under ski and stay free with parents)
The properties marked ◆ offer packages allowing children 6 and under to ski and stay FREE.

November Ski & Stay Special
Opening Day through December 1, 2000
(Discouted three night three day - Ski & Stay Package)
The properties marked ◆ offer packages allowing children 6 and under to ski and stay FREE.

January Ski - Jamboree
January 1, 2002 through January 12, 2001
(50% off three or more nights with Ski & Stay Package)
The properties marked ▼ offer 50% off any ski & stay package, of three or more nights and days, checking in on or after January 1, and departing on or before January 12.

Martin Luther King Special
January 12 through January 16, 2001
(Ski & Stay three nights, get your fourth FREE!)
The properties marked ◆ offer ski & stay three nights and three days and get the fourth night & day FREE! For stays checking in on or after January 12, and departing on or before January 16.

Spring Ski & Stay Special
March 19, 2001 through closing day
(Discouted three night three day - Ski & Stay Package)
The properties marked ◆ offer discounted ski & stay packages from March 19 through Gore's closing day.

Some restrictions apply, some packages include meals and additional amenities. Call the accommodation directly for details and to make your reservations.

Gore Mountain Group Services (518) 251-2411, ext. 146
Our group service department can help you with all your planning needs from youth groups to corporate meetings. www.goremountain.com/htm/groups.htm

Adirondack Professional Planning (518) 251-5220
Complete in-bound and out-bound services for meeting planners and group leaders coming to the Gore Mountain Region. www.adkpro.com

Overlook Management Group: (800) 888-8478
Offers complete winter vacation packages that include rail transportation, transportation to your lodging establishment and daily transportation to Gore Mountain.
Resorts, Hotels & Country Inns

Atateka Lodges
393 Atateka Drive, Chestertown, 15 miles
(518) 494-2768  www.atatekalodges.com

Chester Inn
Main Street, Chestertown, 15 miles
(518) 494-4148  www.thechesterinn.com

The Copperfield Inn
307 Main Street, North Creek, 2 miles
(518) 251-2500  www.copperfieldinn.com

Days Inn of Lake George
Route 9, Lake George, 30 miles
800-274-7111  www.daysinnlakegeorge.com

Friends Lake Inn
963 Friends Lake Road, 15 miles, (518) 494-4751
www.friendslake.com

Garnet Hill Lodge & X-C Ski Center
15th Lake Rd., North River, 11 miles
800-497-4207  www.garnet-hill.com

Holiday Inn Turf of Lake George
Route 9 Lake George, 30 miles, (518) 668-5781
www.holiday-inn.com/hotels/lnrgy

The Merrill Magee House
5 Hudson Street, Warrensburg, 20 miles
(518) 623-2449  www.merrillmageehouse.com

The Queensbury Hotel
88 Ridge Street, Glens Falls, 45 miles
800-554-4526  www.queensburyhotel.com

Panther Mountain Inn
Chestertown, 15 miles, (518) 494-2401

Ridin-Hy-Ranch
PO Box 369, Warrensburg, 20 miles
(518) 494-2742

The Sagamore
110 Sagamore Road, Bolton Landing, 25 miles
(518) 644-9400  www.thesagamore.com
Townhouse & Vacation Homes

Broderick Real Estate
235 Main Street, North Creek, 2 miles
1-800-309-0577 www.broderickrealestate.com

Burke's Cottages on Indian Lake
Lake Shore Drive, Sabael, NY 12864, 16 miles
(518) 648-5258

Gore Mountain Accommodations
Route 28, North Creek, 3 miles, (518) 251-4141
1-800-666-3757 www.gorerealmountain.com

Gore Mountain Summit Townhomes
Route 28, North Creek, 2 miles, (518) 251-3900
888-839-8686 www.goremountainsummit.com

Green Mansions
Route 9, Chestertown, 16 miles
(518) 494-3721 www.adirondackcondos.com

The Long Point
Tripp Lake Road, Chestertown, 16 miles
(212) 247-7367 E-mail: serhijh@aol.com

Rivendell
Route 8, Bakers Mills, 6 miles
(732) 240-4558 www.rivendell.com

Ski House on Lake George
PO Box 195, Diamond Point, 26 miles
(518) 668-5445
www.lakehouseonlakgeorge.com/skihouse.com

The Summit at Gore Mountain
Route 28, North Creek, 2 miles, 800-220-0333
www.goremountainskiheadquarters.com
Alpen Dorf Chalets
43 Oven Mountain Lane, North Creek, 2 miles
(518) 251-2112 www.superior.net/~alpen

Alpine Motel
264 Main Street, North Creek, 1.5 miles
(518) 251-2451 www.netheaven.com/alpine/

Black Mountain Ski Lodge & Motel
2999 State Route 8, North Creek, 5 miles
1-888-846-4858 www.blackmountainskilodge.com

Dillon Hill Cabins
PO Box 72, Westervort, 5 miles
(518) 251-2912 www.dillonhill.com

Dan Roamin' Cabins
Route 9, PO Box 535, Schroon Lake, 25 miles
(518) 532-7277 www.danroamin.com

Inn on Gore Mountain
711 Peaceful Valley Road, North Creek, 800 feet
(518) 251-2111 www.innongore.com

Mohawk Motel
435 Canada Street, Lake George, 30 miles
(518) 668-5569 www.mohawkmotel.com

Northwind Lodge
321 Peaceful Valley Road, North Creek, 2 miles
(518) 251-2522

Rawlins Lodge
PO Box 9, Schroon Lake, 20 miles
(518) 532-7907 www.rawlinsmotel.com

Rte 9 Motel
4046 Main Street, Warrensburg, 16 miles
(518) 623-2955 www.route9motel.com

Twin Pine Lodge
28 Sequettes Road, Chestertown, 15 miles
(518) 494-4355 www.twipinehotel.com

The Valhaus Motel
881 Peaceful Valley Road, North Creek, 1,000 feet
(518) 251-2700 www.valhaus.com
Alynn's Butterfly Inn
PO Box 248, Warrensburg, 14 miles
800-221-9390 alynnsbutterflyinn.com

Boathouse Bed & Breakfast
44 Sagamore Road, Bolton Landing, 25 miles
(518) 644-2554 www.boathousebb.com

Cornerstone Victorian Bed & Breakfast
3921 Main Street, Warrensburg, 17 miles
(518) 623-3308 www.cornerstonevictorian.com

Donegal Manor Bed & Breakfast
3822 Main Street, Warrensburg, 16 miles
(518) 623-3549 www.mannixmarketing.com/donegal

Goose Pond Inn
Main Street, North Creek, 2 miles (518) 251-3434
1-800-806-2601 www.goosepondinn.com

Lamplight Inn Bed & Breakfast
231 Lake Ave., Lake Luzerne, 25 miles
1-800-262-4668 www.lamplightinn.com

Landon Hill Bed & Breakfast
10 Landon Hill Road, Chestertown, 14 miles
1-888-244-2899 www.bedbreakfast.net
Area Attractions & Activities

Not all attractions & activities are available at all times. Call the organizations directly for additional details and schedules.

Adirondack Ensemble Chamber Music Concerts
Main Street, North Creek (518) 251-5484
www.adirondackensemble.org

Garnet Mine Tours
Barton Mine Rd., North River (518) 251-2706

North Creek Railway Depot Museum
Ski, Railroad & Regional History
Railroad Depot, North Creek (518) 251-5842
www.northcreekraildepot.org

Our Town Theatre Group Community Theater/Film Series
North Creek (518) 251-0131
www.ourtowntheatergroup.org

Snowmobiling
Indian Lake Chamber of Commerce (518) 648-5112
www.indian-lake.com
Minerva Snowmobile Club (518) 251-4140
North Warren Trailblazers (518) 548-2461
South Warren Snowmobile Club (518) 696-3152

Town of Johnsburg Library
Main Street, North Creek (518) 251-5343

Upper Hudson River Railroad Scenic Railroad
Railroad Depot, North Creek (518) 251-5334
www.upperhudsonriverri.com

White Water Rafting
Adirondack Adventures (877) 963-RAFT
www.adkadventures.com
Beaver Brook Outfitters (518) 454-8433
www.beaverbrook.net
Hudson River Rafting Company (800) 888-RAFT
www.cunninghamskibarn.com

For other area attractions & activities call:
Gore Mountain Region Chamber of Commerce
Main Street, North Creek 800-880-GORE
www.goremtregion.org

The North Warren Chamber of Commerce
Chester 888-404-2722
www.nwchamber.netheaven.com
Casey's North Restaurant & Tavern
Route 28, North Creek, 2 miles, (518) 251-8836
www.caseysnorth.com

The Coach House
Across from the Great Escape, Rt.9, Lake George
32 miles, (518) 745-1575

Fine Dining at the Copperfield Inn
307 Main Street, North Creek, 2 miles
(518) 251-2500 www.copperfieldinn.com

Friends Lake Inn
965 Friends Lake Road, Chestertown, 15 miles
(518) 494-7351 www.friendlake.com

Garnet Hill Lodge
13th Lake Rd., North River, 11 miles
800-497-4207 www.garnet-hill.com

The Inn on Gore Mountain
Peaceful Valley Road, North Creek, 2 miles
(518) 251-2111 www.innongore.com

Main Street Ice Cream Parlor
Main St., Chestertown, 12 miles, (518) 494-7940

OP Fredericks
Jet. Rt. 889, Chestertown, 10 miles, (518) 494-4144

The Place Restaurant
Route 8, Chestertown, 8 miles, (518) 494-3390

Rene's Restaurant
White School House Rd., Chestertown, 12 miles
(518) 494-2904

The Silo Restaurant & Gifts
Northway Exit 19, 537 Aviation Rd., 32 miles
(518) 798-1900

Smith's Restaurant
Main Street, North Creek (518) 251-2363

Terrie's
Route 9, Schroon Lake, 28 miles, (518) 532-7700

Trapper's Tavern at the Copperfield Inn
307 Main Street, North Creek, 2 miles
(518) 251-2500 www.copperfieldinn.com

Whistle Stop Restaurant
302 Main St., North Creek, 2 miles, (518) 251-3000
Retail Stores & Services

Mountain & Boardertown – Corporate Sponsor
Ski Rentals & Sporting Goods
Main St, North Creek (518) 251-3111
www.boardertown.com

Adirondack Outlet Mall
1454 State Route 9, Lake George (518) 795-3196

Adirondack Spirit
Main Street, North Creek (518) 251-3898

Aviation Mall
578 Aviation Road, Queensbury (518) 793-8818

Beaverbrook Outfitters Ski Rentals & Sporting Goods
Junction Rt 28 & 8, Waverly (518) 251-3394
www.beaverbrook.net

The Crossroads Country Store
40 Dixon Road, Chestertown (518) 494-3821

Cunningham’s Ski Barn Ski Rentals & Sporting Goods
1 Main Street, North Creek (518) 251-2598
www.cunninghamsskibarn.com

The Curious Merchant Reuse Clothing & Furniture
Rt 28N, North Creek (518) 251-4123

Grand Union North Creek Grocery
254 Main St, North Creek (518) 251-4669

Harness Shop Artisan Adirondack Gifts
Main St, Chestertown (518) 494-3295

Hudson River Trading Company Antiques & Rustics
22 Main St, North Creek (518) 251-4461
www.hudsonrivertradingco.com

North Creek Deli & Market Place
282 Main St, North Creek (518) 251-2977

Rustic Homestead Adirondack Furniture
Route 28N, North Creek (518) 251-4038
Private Island. Winter Fun.

Enjoy our winter wonderland on skis or cross-country skis. Or take a shuttle to glade skiing at nearby Gore Mountain. Then return to the warmth and luxury of The Sagamore. Where indoor fun includes our pool, racquet sports, Spa, fitness center, four restaurants and more. Your kids will love our weekend and holiday children's programs. Call now for fun inside and out.

Call your travel planner or 1-800-358-3585
www.teleski.com

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SKIING • SPA • POOL • FITNESS CENTER
INDOOR RACQUET SPORTS • FINE DINING
ON LAKE GEORGE AT BOLTON LANDING, NEW YORK

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1-888-839-8686
(518) 251-3901

ONE TO FOUR BEDROOM
INDOOR POOL & SAUNA
JACUZZI & MTN VIEWS
Joan Gundron
P.O. Box 56
Owner-Broker
Minerva, NY 12851
www.goremountainsummit.com

Gore Mountain
Accommodations
Vacation Rentals & Sales

Gore Village, The Summit, Adirondack Lodges, Chateoac Estates
www.gorerentals.com
800-666-3757

The Merrill Mage House
5-23-93
Award Winning Dining and Lodging
Romantic Getaway Package
$180 plus tax includes candlelight dinner, room with fireplace and breakfast for two.
www websny.com/merrillmagehouse

Conquer the Adirondacks. Start at the Copperfield Inn.

(518) 251-2500
307 Main Street,
North Creek, NY 12853
www.copperfieldinn.com

Enjoy complimentary shuttle service to nearby Gore Mountain. In the morning and full, look at the great open views with the rallies of white-water rafting, tubing, mountain biking and much more. Ponder your options in our magnificent heated club and spa. Return to plush, individually appointed guest rooms and luxury suites with marble baths. Dine in Gardenia, our exquisite restaurant, or enjoy live entertainment in Trapper's Tavern, our recreation of a 200-year-old wilderness cabin. Come experience it!

Riding-Hill Ranch
Warrensburg, NY

Visit the Sagamore
SKIING • SPA • POOL • FITNESS CENTER
INDOOR RACQUET SPORTS • FINE DINING
ON LAKE GEORGE AT BOLTON LANDING, NEW YORK

GROUPS WELCOME. CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

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Tackle, bait, licenses
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Mountain View
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Open evenings for dinner
Wednesday through Sunday

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518-494-2904

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of Historic Places
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Chester Inn
Bed & Breakfast
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Full Country Breakfast
Main Street, Chestertown
518-494-2599
www.chesterninn.com

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494-2904

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Fine dining and award winning desserts in the heart of the Adirondacks.
Traveling to the Gore Mountain Region and the Adirondacks

By Car

Traveling from the South:
NYS Thruway to Exit 24, Take 1-87 (the Northway) to Exit 25 (Warrensburg). Follow Route 6 for 4 miles to Route 28 and proceed 16 miles to Peaceful Valley Road.

Traveling from the North:
Take I-87 (the Northway) to Exit 26 (Pottersville). Follow the Gore Mountain Trailblazer signs through Olmstedville then left on Route 28N to North Creek. Make a left onto Route 28 and then a right onto Creek Road. Proceed to Peaceful Valley Road.

Alternate Route (from North or South):
Take I-87 (the Northway) to Exit 25 (Olmstedville). Follow Route 28 for 11 miles. Turn right in Waverly onto Route 28, proceed north to Peaceful Valley Road.

Traveling from the West:
Take I-90 (NYS Thruway) east to Utica. Take Route 8 north from Utica to North Creek. Make a left onto Peaceful Valley Road and continue 6 miles to Gore Mountain.

By Bus

Adirondack Trailways (800-888-8800) service to Warrensburg. Some regional lodging establishments offer transportation from the bus stop. Call lodging properties for specific arrangements.

By Air

Albany Airport (518-469-0241) is less than 1 1/2 hour from Gore Mountain. Car rentals are available from the Albany Airport from the following companies:

AVIS 800-831-2847
Budget 800-627-7600
Hertz 800-654-2220
National 800-227-7368

Buses are also available to and from Warren County Airport (518-283-5915)

Taxi Services in the Gore Mountain Region

Lake George Taxi 518-668-9600
White Cab Company 518-668-8888

By Rail

Amtrak Adirondack (800-USA-Rail) service to Fort Edward. Some regional lodging establishments offer transportation from the train station. Call lodging properties for specific arrangements.

The Olympic Regional Development Authority wishes to thank its sponsors for playing a major role in helping to make training and special events possible:

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Gore Mountain is operated by The NYS Olympic Regional Development Authority.
Olympic Center, Lake Placid, NY 12946 (518) 523-1657
State of New York, George E. Pataki, Governor
NYS Olympic Regional Development Authority
Charles A. Gargano, Chairman

Olympic Regional Development Authority

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4.2 Interim Learning Center

One of the 1995 management actions still to be completed is the establishment of the Learning Center in the former gondola building. Until such time as this structure is rehabilitated for use as the Learning Center, some interim measures will be taken in order to accommodate new skiers. One of the Magic Carpet conveyor-type lifts for small children will be temporarily located by the existing J-Bar. It will be near the room currently housing the children's center. A portable building will be located near the J-Bar slope in order to house the adult learn-to-ski program. More specifically, the former bus sales booth will be remodeled for use as the center for the new Express Learning System program. The Express Learning program will operate out of the Learning Center once it is completed.
4.3 Revised Figure 4-1, "2002 Gore Mountain UMP Master Plan (1 of 2) and Table 5-1, Summary of Vegetation Impacts."
NEW MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

1. IMPROVE INFRASTRUCTURE RELIABILITY
   - Create a long term replacement and modernization plan to restore all equipment, machinery, infrastructure, and structures which are at the end of their useful life.

2. BASE AND MOUNTAIN LODGES AND AMENITIES
   - Rehab / addition to Saddle Lodge

3. NEW DOWNHILL TRAIL AND LIFTS
   - Selected trail widening
   - Triple chair (LR 1) replacement with new quad with bubble
   - New lifts and trails to create connection with North Creek Ski Bowl (lifts 11, 12 and 13)
   - Relocate / replace Lift #4
   - Relocate / replace Lift #3 with new quad
   - Re-extend / replace Lift #6 with new quad
   - Extend glade skiing

4. TUBING HILL
   - Bear Mountain runs and one surface lift

5. SNOWMAKING
   - Tower guns on steep trails
   - Water and air capacity additions
   - Modernization of air plant
   - Increase inventory of guns and hoses

6. BEAR MOUNTAIN OBSERVATION TOWER

7. BURNT RIDGE SKI PATROL AND WARMING HUT

8. "MAGIC CARPET" INSTALLATION AT BEGINNERS AREA

9. EXISTING BACKCOUNTRY TRAILS
Table 5-1. Summary of Vegetation Impacts

Estimated number of trees to be cut for new and widened trails, and ski lifts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Sagamore Trail</th>
<th>tubing Park</th>
<th>Lift 11 Trails</th>
<th>Lift 12 Trails</th>
<th>Lift 13</th>
<th>Trail 1-A</th>
<th>Trail 1-C and Lift 8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Trees 3-4 dbh</td>
<td>Trees &gt; 4 dbh</td>
<td>Trees 3-4 dbh</td>
<td>Trees &gt; 4 dbh</td>
<td>Trees 3-4 dbh</td>
<td>Trees &gt; 4 dbh</td>
<td>Trees &gt; 4 dbh</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sugar Maple</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>840</td>
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<td>1,619</td>
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<td>total trees cut</td>
<td>564</td>
<td>842</td>
<td>1,376</td>
<td>1,384</td>
<td>4,218</td>
<td>8,150</td>
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<td>3.4</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>42.4</td>
<td>24.2</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>5.7</td>
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</table>
Table 5-1 (continued). Summary of Vegetation Impacts

Estimated number of trees to be cut for new and widened trails, and ski lifts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Upper and Lower Trail 1-D</th>
<th>Trail 1N-Q</th>
<th>Trail 1N-R</th>
<th>Trail 1N-S</th>
<th>Trails 2-F &amp; lower 2-E</th>
<th>Trail 2N-L</th>
<th>Trail 3-A &amp; Lift 9B</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Trees 3-4&quot; dbh</td>
<td>Trees &gt; 4&quot; dbh</td>
<td>Trees 3-4&quot; dbh</td>
<td>Trees &gt; 4&quot; dbh</td>
<td>Trees 3-4&quot; dbh</td>
<td>Trees &gt; 4&quot; dbh</td>
<td>Trees 3-4&quot; dbh</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sugar Maple</td>
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<td>425</td>
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<td>69</td>
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<td>93</td>
<td>15</td>
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<td>Beech</td>
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<td>160</td>
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<td>26</td>
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<td>27</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yellow birch</td>
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<td>51</td>
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<td>9</td>
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<td>48</td>
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<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Cherry</td>
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<td>-</td>
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<tr>
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<td>27</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hemlock</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balsam Fir</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Striped Maple</td>
<td>8</td>
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<td>48</td>
<td>31</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aspen</td>
<td>-</td>
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<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain Ash</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>15</td>
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<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>total trees cut</strong></td>
<td><strong>186</strong></td>
<td><strong>784</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Clearing acreage</strong></td>
<td><strong>4.3</strong></td>
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<td><strong>3.9</strong></td>
</tr>
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</table>
Table 5-1 (continued). Summary of Vegetation Impacts

Estimated number of trees to be cut for new and widened trails, and ski lifts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tree Species</th>
<th>Trail 3-C Trees 3-4” dbh</th>
<th>Trail 3-F Trees 3-4” dbh</th>
<th>Trails 3-E and 3-G Trees 3-4” dbh</th>
<th>Trail 6-H Trees 3-4” dbh</th>
<th>Trail 6-I Trees 3-4” dbh</th>
<th>Trail 6-L Trees 3-4” dbh</th>
<th>Trail 7-B Trees 3-4” dbh</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sugar Maple</td>
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<td>124</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>38</td>
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<td>14</td>
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<tr>
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<td>4</td>
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<td>10</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>total trees cut</td>
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</table>
Table 5-1 (continued). Summary of Vegetation Impacts

Estimated number of trees to be cut for new and widened trails, and ski lifts.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Trails 7-E and 7N-O</th>
<th>Trail 7-F</th>
<th>Trail 10-C</th>
<th>Upper Trail 10-F</th>
<th>Lower Trail 10-F</th>
<th>Trail 10-G</th>
<th>Upper Tannery</th>
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<td>Trees 3-4&quot; dbh</td>
<td>Trees &gt; 4&quot; dbh</td>
<td>Trees &gt; 4&quot; dbh</td>
<td>Trees &gt; 4&quot; dbh</td>
<td>Trees &gt; 4&quot; dbh</td>
<td>Trees &gt; 4&quot; dbh</td>
<td>Trees &gt; 4&quot; dbh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sugar Maple</td>
<td>-</td>
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<td>-</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beech</td>
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<td>-</td>
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<td>-</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
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<td>277</td>
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</tr>
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<td>58</td>
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<td>39</td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>6</td>
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<td>98</td>
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<td>28</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>total trees cut</strong></td>
<td><strong>72</strong></td>
<td><strong>70</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,211</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,189</strong></td>
<td><strong>994</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,014</strong></td>
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Table 5-1 (continued). Summary of Vegetation Impacts

Estimated number of trees to be cut for new and widened trails, and ski lifts.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Tree Species</th>
<th>Credit for less clearing on Foxlair trail than was approved</th>
<th>Credit for Lift 9B, Previously approved, not to be built</th>
<th>Credit for Trail 1N-M, previously approved, not to be built</th>
<th>Credit for Trail 1N-N, previously approved, not to be built</th>
<th>Credit for Trail 1N-Q, previously approved, not to be built</th>
<th>Credit for Trail 1N-L, previously approved, not to be built</th>
<th>Credit for Trail 2N-O, previously approved, not to be built</th>
<th>Credit for Trail 6N-O, previously approved, not to be built</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Trees 3-4&quot; dbh</td>
<td>Trees &gt; 4&quot; dbh</td>
<td>Trees 3-4&quot; dbh</td>
<td>Trees &gt; 4&quot; dbh</td>
<td>Trees 3-4&quot; dbh</td>
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<td>(148)</td>
<td>(21)</td>
<td>(56)</td>
<td>(43)</td>
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<td>(48)</td>
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<td>(5)</td>
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<td>(1)</td>
<td>(3)</td>
<td>(1)</td>
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<tr>
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<td>(20)</td>
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</table>
Table 5-1 (continued). Summary of Vegetation Impacts

Estimated number of trees to be cut for new and widened trails, and ski lifts.

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<th>Tree Type</th>
<th>Project Clearing Totals, including credits</th>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Black Cherry</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ironwood</td>
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<td>282</td>
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