

MOUNT SHASTA SKI PARK LIFT EXTENSION PROJECT

May 3, 2022



RECOMMENDATION

1

Approve Zone Change

- This amends the Planned Development to allow for current uses and facilities to occur

2

Approve the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND)

- CEQA associated with construction of Grey Butte Ski Lift

PROJECT SUMMARY

Zone Change

Amend Planned Development and Master Plan

- Inclusion of Backcountry Program
- Removal of development plans for Section 10
- Removal of inconsistent language
- Removal of facilities and uses no longer planned or proposed
- Formatting updates

Use Permit

Construction of Grey Butte ski lift (approximately 4,300 feet)

- Will lift skiers from 6,932 to 7,536 feet

A Subsequent Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) has been prepared pursuant to CEQA

CEQA

Subsequent Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) was prepared.

Initial Study (IS) identified potentially significant effects on the environment, but

- 1. Revisions in the project plans or proposals made by, or agreed to by, the applicant would avoid the effects or mitigate the effects to a point where clearly no significant effect on the environment would occur; and
- 2. There is no substantial evidence in light of the whole record before the public agency that the project, as revised, may have a significant effect on the environment.

NO IMPACT OR
LESS THAN
SIGNIFICANT

Agriculture and Forestry Resources

Air Quality

Energy

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Hazards and Hazardous Materials

Mineral Resources

Population and Housing

Public Services

Utilities and Service Systems

Wildfire

AESTHETICS

Temporary visual impacts caused by construction activities?

- **Mitigation Measure AES-1:** Project construction equipment and activities shall not be staged at or reach an elevation higher than the ridge of Grey Butte, ensuring that the cultural sites of Panther Meadows and Mount Shasta will be protected from temporary visual impacts.

Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?

- **Mitigation Measure AES-2:** The ski lift facility shall be constructed so as not to reach an elevation higher than the ridge of Grey Butte, ensuring that the cultural sites of Panther Meadows and Mount Shasta will be protected from visual impacts.

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

- **Mitigation Measure BIO-1:** Implement Preconstruction Nesting Bird Survey; **Mitigation Measure BIO-2:** Implement Timber Harvest Plan Surveys and Protection Buffers for sensitive wildlife species.

Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish and wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?

- **Mitigation Measures BIO-1 and BIO-2** (see item A.; **Mitigation Measure BIO-3:** Designate the Wildlife Protection Area and Botany Rare Plant Area as barred from mechanical entry

Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?

- **Mitigation Measure BIO-3:** Designate the Wildlife Protection Area and Botany Rare Plant Area as barred from mechanical entry.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5?

- **Mitigation Measure CUL-1: Implement Mitigation Measure AES-1 and AES-2**

GEOLOGY AND SOILS

Result in
substantial
soil erosion
or the loss
of topsoil?

- **Mitigation Measure GEO1:** The Ski Park shall adopt an updated erosion and sedimentation control plan that addresses erosion risk of the new and existing ski trail, roads, and trails during operational and nonoperational seasons.

HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would:

Result in substantial on- or offsite erosion or siltation;

Mitigation Measure HYD-1: Implement Mitigation Measure GEO-1.

Substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite;

Mitigation Measure HYD-1: Implement Mitigation Measure GEO-1.

- **Mitigation Measure GEO1:** The Ski Park shall adopt an updated erosion and sedimentation control plan that addresses erosion risk of the new and existing ski trail, roads, and trails during operational and nonoperational seasons.

LAND USE PLANNING

Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?

- **Mitigation Measure LAN-1: Implement Mitigation Measure GEO-1.**

NOISE

Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or in other applicable local, state, or federal standards?

- **Mitigation Measure NOS-1:** Schedule helicopter construction activities so as not to overlap with tribal cultural ceremonies at Panther Meadows.

RECREATION

Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?

- **MM REC-1:**
Implement the Mitigation Measures in this Initial Study.

TRANSPORTATION

Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?

- **Mitigation Measure TRANS-1:** An overflow turn around will be constructed just north of the SR 89 and SPH intersection to prevent vehicles from backing up onto SR 89. The use of this overflow turn around is triggered when the number of vehicles exceeds 1,955 vehicles in a given day. This is the threshold number of vehicles is based on traffic count data from 2019 to 2022. Once the Intersection Operational Analysis is complete adjustments to the vehicle cap may be made if justified.

TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k)?

- **Mitigation Measure TRI-1: Implement Mitigation Measures AES-1 and AES-2.**

PUBLIC COMMENTS (SUPPORT)

More Accessible Terrain and Better Recreation

Increased Tourism and Local Commerce Benefits

Resort Enhancement

Increased Quality of Life

Competition with Larger Resorts

Increased Jobs

Important to the Ski Park's Sustainability

Increased Revenue and Tax Dollars

PUBLIC COMMENTS (OPPOSITION)

Aesthetics

Over-use of Water for Snow-making

Spiritual Significance of Mount Shasta to Local Tribes

Noise/Light Pollution

Wildlife Concerns

Deforestation

Unpermitted Lodging

AGENCY COMMENTS



Caltrans

Supportive of project

Operational Analysis needed to determine capacity of intersection



Cal Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)

Supportive of project

Appreciative of mitigation measures related to nesting and migratory birds

QUESTIONS?

