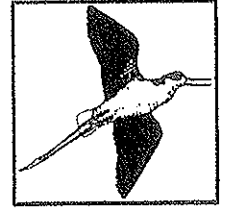


# Bridgerland Audubon Society



Cache County Planning and Zoning Commission  
179 North Main St.  
Logan, Utah 84321  
Re: Cherry Peak Ski Resort Proposal

Dear Commission:

The Bridgerland Audubon Society (BAS) wishes to go on record as opposing the Cherry Peak Ski Resort proposal. We have reviewed a copy of the letters submitted by the Bear River Watershed Council and the Western Wildlife Conservancy and agree with their comments.

It is the mission of BAS to conserve, enhance, and enjoy the natural environment with special emphasis on birds and their habitats for the benefit and education of humanity and for the biological diversity of the Earth. The Cherry Peak proposal would compromise our mission in the following ways:

- a) Reduction of critical wildlife habitat, especially related to Sharp-tailed Grouse and the outstanding songbird breeding area provided by the diversity of habitats found in the proposed area compromising the Cherry Creek watershed which is currently considered high quality due to its relatively pristine condition. This project would impact surface water quality, aquifer recharge, and the riparian zone adjacent to the stream which provides outstanding bird habitat. Riparian habitat makes up less than 1% of Utah's land cover but provides food, water, and/or cover for over 75% of Utah's bird species and numerous other wildlife. It is the most diverse wildlife habitat in the state.
- b) The proposed project will negatively impact critical mule deer winter range.
- c) The incompatibility of this type of development with the adjacent Naomi Wilderness area which provides habitat for the Northern Goshawk, which along with the Sharp-tailed Grouse is listed as a "State Sensitive Species".
- d) Finally, due to the potential impact on birds and wildlife, we believe a NEPA process to determine the impacts and necessary mitigation should be a condition included in the permit, should it be granted.

In conclusion we ask that the Commission deny the request for a conditional use permit because the proposed resort is not compatible with surrounding uses and therefore is neither eligible for consideration or appropriate for the site.

Bridgerland Audubon Society Board  
P.O. Box 3501  
Logan UT 84323-3501