

Dear Municipality of Squamish,

Upon analysis of the proposed site for the Garibaldi at Squamish ski resort, I would not recommend that you allow for and facilitate its construction. This space, a nexus point for a variety of ecologically protected species, would be detrimentally affected by the introduction of a new ski resort.

To do my analysis of this space, I overlaid a variety of different ecologically protected zones, namely old growth areas, ungulate winter migration zones, and riparian corridors, overtop the project area. Then, I calculated for the total amount of area that would be below 555 meters (the snowline), and calculated for the total space within the project boundaries that is ecologically protected and would be adversely harmed by the construction of this resort. Overlaying these two calculations, we find that the total amount of protected space, and space below the snowline, amounts to 69.6% of the project's area. This number is staggering, displays how the project area would have little space for the development of a resort. Of this, 29% would be below the snowline, 6.78% is covered in old growth tree stands, 7.8% is in mule deer and mountain goat winter habitat, and 26% covers ecologically sensitive riparian corridors.

There are a multitude of environmental concerns correlated with this proposed construction, though I believe the fact that the ski resort is located on winter ungulate migration zones and will have largely diverse effects on riparian corridors are the two principle issues. Inherent to the construction of a large ski resort is the deforestation of large swaths of land to create ski runs, and in doing this, surface water runoff patterns will shift, in turn affecting riparian zones and the animal life and biota that inhabit them. This is a problematic issue for migrating ungulates as well, as migration patterns that are hundreds to thousands of years old will be disturbed, and

could greatly affect the livelihood and potential for these animals to survive through the winter, as they require very specific conditions to do so.

Concluding, I urge you to consider these environmental concerns surrounding the proposed Garibaldi at Squamish ski resort. I do not believe it to be a viable location for the development of a ski resort, and addressing the warming climate, the snow line will only continue to rise, leading to the potential phase out of usability of the resort within the next 50-100 years. This project would be of great detriment to the local ecosystem, and would require a massive amount of capita be invested, with unsure returns.