

Debbie Evans

From: Monte @ Turner Sign Arts [monte@signarts.com]**Sent:** Monday, November 12, 2007 4:29 AM**To:** Debbie Evans**Subject:** Bitterroot Resort study

As a 3rd generation Missoulian and business owner I strongly endorse the entire concept of Tom McClay's vision! As it stands, this "public land" is used by only a few of the hardy in the wintertime so by opening up the area for skiing, thousands of people/families will be able to enjoy the recreation opportunities of Carlton Ridge and Lolo Peak. The few who oppose this development can easily go any other direction for 20-30 minutes for hiking and hunting but this area is rare and unique in the fact that it has been discussed and studied for many years as the perfect ski resort. Tom has displayed to all who will listen his plans and tender care for the property and has generously taken field-trips to see and touch what he wants to do for Montana. He will be a wonderful steward of the land.

Sure, more people (they're coming anyway folks so let's make this a positive adventure we can all thrive on), traffic and pollution (this is Missoula! Come on, we get used to it and find ways to make-it-happen with different driving routes, ect), and low wage jobs (no, introductory jobs to encourage people to work harder and move up the ladder to better paying positions). This isn't the same place that I grew up in and it isn't going to remain the way it is today. Look at the Bitterroot Ski Resort as an incredible opportunity to get the horse in front of the cart which is entirely different what we have done over the years. As I said, they're coming anyway so let's make them comfortable and happy to invest in our community.

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FYI...I don't ski and I avoid crowds (ski resorts, Griz games, ect) but I know that this is the right thing to do for Missoula, Montana.

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