



COLORADO

Parks and Wildlife

Department of Natural Resources

Northwest Regional Service Center
711 Independent Ave.
Grand Junction, CO 81505

Town of Vail
Chris Neubecker, Planning Manager
Community Development Department
75 South Frontage Road
Vail, CO 81657

RE: CPW Comments for the Consultant's Wildlife Report for the Proposed Vail Resort Employee Housing Project

Dear Mr. Neubecker:

Thank you for the opportunity to review and provide comments on the wildlife report provided to the Town of Vail regarding Employee Housing Project located at Booth Falls Road.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) has a statutory responsibility to manage all wildlife species in Colorado. This responsibility is embraced through CPW's mission to perpetuate the wildlife resources of Colorado and to provide sustainable outdoor recreation opportunities that educate and inspire future generations. One way we fulfill this mission is to respond to requests for comments on wildlife impact reports and land use actions such as this housing development proposal.

CPW has reviewed the wildlife report prepared by the consultant for Vail Resorts and we offer the following comments for your review. We want to emphasize the importance of this area for wintering bighorn sheep.

Based on the information we have reviewed, it is our understanding that approximately less than six acres of the 22 acre parcel will be developed for housing with the remaining acreage being permanently restricted from further development. CPW appreciates the Town of Vail and Vail Resorts offering this combination of development and wildlife habitat conservation.

As we understand the initial step of this development project is a rezone request, because a rezone action does not directly impact wildlife or wildlife habitats CPW does not provide technical wildlife comments. However, should the project move forward CPW is open and willing work closely with Vail planning staff to develop site specific avoidance, minimization and mitigation measures for impacts to wildlife.

CPW appreciates the opportunity to coordinate with the Town of Vail and Vail Resorts on the proposal and the consultant's wildlife report. We are available to provide technical support and recommendations as the project moves forward. If you have any questions, please contact CPW District Wildlife Manager, Bill Andree at 970-328-6563.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Perry Will", written over the printed name and title.

Perry Will
Area Wildlife Manager

Cc JT. Romatzke, NW Regional Manager
Dean Riggs, Deputy NW Regional Manager
Taylor Elm, Land Use Specialist
File.