

## **The Save Mt. Spokane Coalition**

**The Lands Council \* Spokane Mountaineers \*  
Upper Columbia River Group of the Sierra Club**

*I support the Save Mt. Spokane Coalition*

Governor Chris Gregoire  
Office of the Governor  
PO Box 40002  
Olympia, WA 98504-0002  
Fax: 360-753-4110

Dear Governor Gregoire:

I am opposed to further expansion of the Mt. Spokane Ski and Snowboard Park into the intact ecosystem and watershed on the north and west slopes of Mt. Spokane, and support permanently designating this area as a Natural Forest Area. I want the Mt. Spokane Ski and Snowboard Park to be successful and financially viable operation, but fiscal viability should not be at the expense of fragmenting the last remaining large intact native forests near Spokane.

**I am opposed to the ski area expansion for the following reasons:**

- **Negative Impacts to year around recreation**
- **Negative Impacts to a rare sub-alpine ecosystem**
- **Negative Impacts to wildlife**

The natural forests on the north and west slopes of Mt. Spokane are a very important natural resource that provides wildlife habitat, recreational hiking, snowshoeing, back country skiing, birding and other activities 365 days a year. The impacts of expanding the ski area are too great to trade off fragmenting this unique forest habitat for winter recreation lasting only 90-120 days. Cutting ski runs and building chair lifts requires clearing all vegetation and will forever alter the scenic beauty of this unique forest ecosystem enjoyed year around.

It is critical that these forests remain intact. Permanently designating these lands as a Natural Forest Area will protect this unique area for future generations.

Sincerely,