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KICKING HORSE MOUNTAIN RESORT APPLICATION TO AMEND THE EXISTING CONTROLLED RECREATION AREA





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Reg Nolander
Sr. Manager, Major Projects | Mountain Resorts Branch
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
510 – 175 2nd Avenue
Kamloops, BC V2C 5W1

Via Email: Reg.Nolander@gov.bc.ca

Dear Mr. Nolander

Re: Proposed amendment to the Kicking Horse Mountain Resort Controlled Recreation Area

Kicking Horse Mountain Resort (“KHMR”) is applying to amend the existing Controlled Recreation Area (“CRA”) boundary, as approved by the Province of British Columbia as a part of the Master Development Agreement.

I. Overview

The proposed CRA amendment would include the region known as “Rudi’s Bowl”, to the North of the current operational boundary (Feuz Bowl) and within the boundaries of the Northernmost point in the CRA, Molar Bowl.

Currently this terrain is within Purcell Heli-skiing’s land tenure and is subject to an Agreement to amend the Lands Tenure in favor of inclusion within the KHMR CRA.

2. Mapping

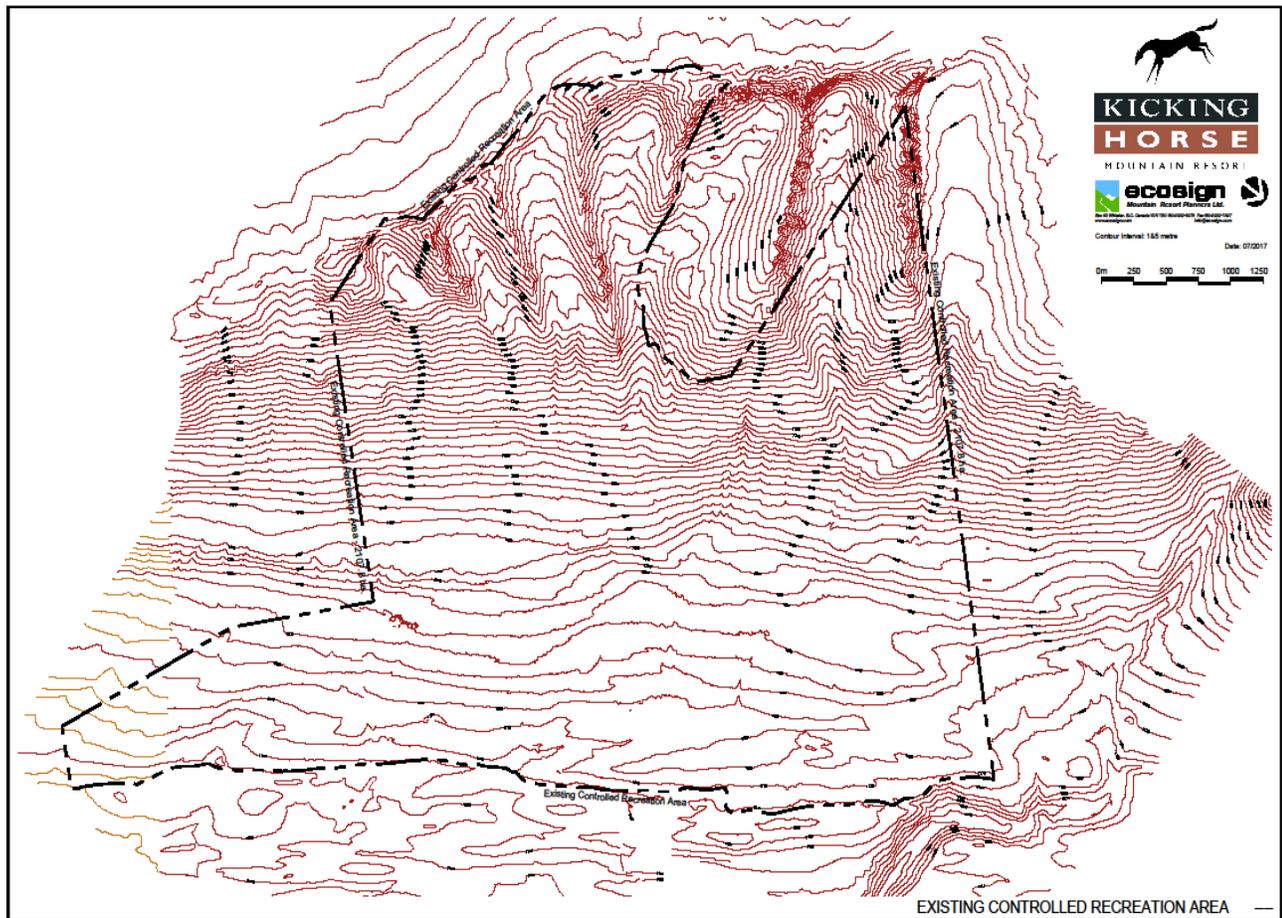


Figure 1 – Current CRA

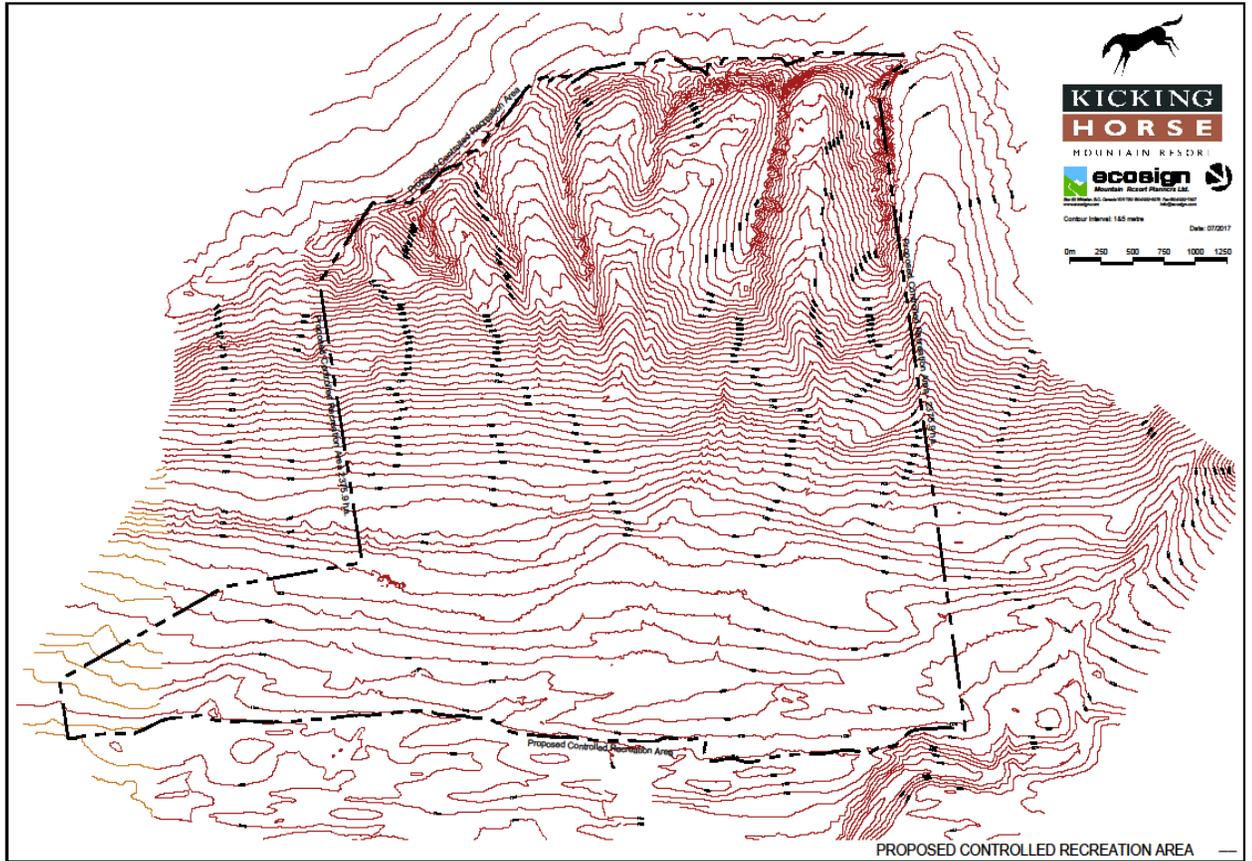


Figure 2 – Proposed CRA Amendment



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3. Subject Crown Lands

The proposed amendment to the KHMR CRA lies to the North of the existing operational boundary within Feuz Bowl. Known as Rudi's Bowl, this terrain offers a number of direct benefits to KHMR and the public at large:

Public Safety

There are many risk and safety benefits associated with the proposed amendment including, but not limited to:

- Formal control of this terrain will provide for enhanced avalanche mitigation measures (including the monitoring and both passive and active control) of terrain that is frequently accessed by backcountry skiers who have utilized KHMR ski lift infrastructure.
- Providing regular and controlled access to this terrain will allow for regular skier and rider compaction leading to enhanced snow stabilization.

Diversified User Experience

KHMR's current terrain is divided 60% Expert, 20% Intermediate and 20% Beginner. The terrain offered by Rudi's Bowl is predominantly Intermediate in nature, modifying KHMR's terrain in favor of intermediate users.

Initial analysis by Ecosign Mountain Planners suggest:

“The decision to request use of Rudi's Bowl represents a very substantial breakthrough in the development of Kicking Horse. Given consideration of elevation, exposures, snowfall and general terrain it is pretty evident to us that Rudi's Bowl possesses the best developable ski terrain in the Kicking Horse Resort area. Addition of Rudi's Bowl to the Kicking Horse Resort will almost certainly be a significant game changer to the positive.”

And also “At this location there are pure intermediate slopes emanating down the fall line to the south and southeast.”

Mr. Paul Mathews, Chairman and CEO of Ecosign



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Through the inclusion of the identified intermediate terrain, the proposed amendment is anticipated to provide economic benefits to the Resort, the Town of Golden and the Province, including:

- Increased visitor numbers associated with new Beginner and Intermediate Alpine terrain
- Anticipated associated growth within KHMR and the Golden Regional bed base, associated with an increase in visitor numbers.

4. Development Description

In the near term, potential development would be limited to the addition of new terrain to the resort. Access by skiers and snowboarders will be by ground only (hiking), offering a minimum of six new Intermediate ski runs on the Southerly aspects of Rudi's ridge, as well as the potential for at least one Beginner run.

Should future market conditions allow Rudi's Bowl may be accessed from the existing CRA with the addition of one ski lift, landing on the ridge at an elevation of approximately 2,340m

There are no proposed or anticipated land use activities in the proposed amendment other than downhill skiing and snowboarding.

5. Environment

KHMR retained McElhanney Consulting Services to conduct an Environmental Review of the proposed expansion terrain. The environmental features are considered typical of the lands found within the existing KHMR CRA, attached for further reference.



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6. Conclusion

KHMR appreciates the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations taking this amendment of the CRA and MDA into consideration. If you have any further questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Yours Sincerely,

Kicking Horse Mountain Resort

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