



# BITTERROOT RESORT

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **MISSOULA-AREA RECREATION ENTHUSIASTS AND COMMUNITY LEADERS VOLUNTEER TO LEAD BITTERROOT RESORT STEERING COMMITTEE**

MISSOULA – Community leaders representing recreation-based organizations and diverse businesses have volunteered to contribute to the conceptualization and development of the proposed Bitterroot Resort near Missoula.

The Bitterroot Resort team today announced the formation of its community-based advisory committee to help steer development of the proposed ski destination on the Maclay Ranch that seeks use of the National Forest lands of Carlton Ridge and Lolo Peak.

“It is crucial that our development team understand Bitterroot Valley priorities and work to incorporate the suggestions of our neighbors into our overall plan,” said Jim Gill, Bitterroot Resort chief operating officer. “This committee will be a vital link, not only bringing those issues to the table, but also serving as ambassadors to share project plans with their communities. It is a pleasure working with such an enthusiastic and committed group.” Gill brings more than three decades of valuable ski industry experience to the Bitterroot team; having previously served as General Manager at Breckenridge and Jackson Hole Mountain Resort.

The Bitterroot Resort Steering Committee is comprised of 33 Missoula-area recreation enthusiasts and community leaders. With the overall mission of assuring the social and political success of the project, committee members are serving on a volunteer basis to advise the resort team about community recreation priorities.

“Tourism plays a significant role in the health of the state economy, and this project has the potential to significantly impact the economic vitality of Western Montana,” said Jay Robson, steering committee participant and member of the Montana Travel Advisory Council. “As community leaders, we should take the opportunity to engage with the resort team to help craft a resort for the benefit and enjoyment of all Bitterroot Valley residents.”

The Steering Committee meets regularly with members of the Bitterroot team. A committee membership list is attached.

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## About Bitterroot Resort

Bitterroot Resort is a proposed all-season destination resort in Western Montana that would utilize land on the private Maclay Ranch and on the National Forest lands of Carlton Ridge and Lolo Peak, adjacent to the Selway/Bitterroot wilderness. With the greatest vertical descent in North America, Bitterroot Resort proposes a world-class alpine, snowboard and cross-country ski venue complete with a four-season resort village and residential community. The goal of the Bitterroot Resort team is to create a model of sustainable development which promotes the creation of an aesthetic village community, maximizes open space, and blends into the landscape. The resort will also incorporate a village replete with cultural and recreational opportunities for the local community and visiting public. For more information on the proposed resort, visit [www.skibitterrootresort.com](http://www.skibitterrootresort.com).

### Bitterroot Resort Steering Committee Membership

| Name                     | Role in Community  |
|--------------------------|--|
| Bob Anderson             | Owner, Gull Ski Shop   |
| Collin Bangs             | Realtor  |
| Greg Beach               | Businessman  |
| Jon Bernthal             | Businessman  |
| James Banister           | Nurse, St. Patrick's Hospital; former ski patroller, Marshall Ski Area   |
| David Bjornson           | Attorney   |
| Sheila Callahan          | KMSO   |
| Tom Coston, Jr.          | Railroad Marketing Manager; President, Stevensville Community Foundation, Inc; Vice President, Stevensville Community Center Complex, Inc.; Alpine skier   |
| Dick Goldsmith           | Owner, Business  |
| Len LaBuff               | Open Road Bicycles   |
| Rich Lane                | Natural Resources Consultant; Active with Swim Missoula non-profit; Former Chairman, Montana FWP Commission; Past CEO, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation   |
| Jennifer Boatwright Lint | Attorney   |
| Ingrid Lovitt-Abramson   | Consultant   |
| Eric Kress               | Physician  |
| Kathy McGann             | Veterinarian, Owner, Cats on Broadway; Board of Directors, Western Montana Small Animal Emergency Clinic; President, Missoula Nordic Ski Club; Member, Northern Rockies Orthopedic Bicycle Racing Team |
| Barb Neilan              | Missoula Convention & Visitors Bureau  |
| Kathi Olson              | Realtor, Artist  |
| Gordon Opel              | Health and Wellness Instructor   |
| Mike Peissig             | Businessman; Missoula Chamber of Commerce President  |
| David Roberts            | Engineer; Energy Star Certified Builder; Business owner; Soccer player; Alpine and Nordic skier  |
| Kimberly Roth            | Financial Advisor; Board member, Missoula Convention and Visitors Bureau   |
| Jay Robson               | Dollar Rent-A-Car; Montana Tourism Advisory Council; Glacier County Regional Tourism Council; Member, Convention and Visitors Bureau   |
| Dan Schneiter            | Businessman  |
| Mark Springer            | Owner, Dayspring Restoration; Board member, Missoula Chamber of Commerce; Chairman, Missoula Heart Walk; Member, Missoula-Sentinel Kiwanis   |
| Dale Stovall             | Pilot; Retired Brigadier General, USAF   |
| Howard Toole             | Attorney   |

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| Pete Vann      | Owner, Vann's Appliance  |
| Dirk Visser    | CEO  |
| Keith Ward     | Owner, Bob Ward and Sons   |
| John Weyhrich  | Veterinarian; Board member, Missoula Nordic Ski Club; Member, Team Stampede/5 Valley Velo; Advisory board member, Missoula Bicycle/Pedestrian Program; President, Montana Bicycle Racing Association |
| Laurie Winters | Associate Partner, IBM Business Consulting; Cub Scout Master, Lone Rock Pack 34, Florence.   |
| Diane Wolfe    | Executive Director, Bitterroot Valley Chamber of Commerce; Board member, Glacier Country   |
| Bill Woody     | Owner, Nightingale Nursing   |