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Ministry of Employment and Investment
Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks

REVIEW OF JUMBO CREEK SKI RESORT PROPOSAL TO RESUME

VICTORIA—The environmental assessment of the proposed Jumbo Creek ski resort in the East Kootenay region will resume, Employment and Investment Minister Glen Clark and Environment, Lands and Parks Minister Moe Sihota announced today.

The proposed ski resort is located in the Purcell mountain range, west of Invermere and the existing Panorama ski resort. Decisions on the proposal were deferred in January 1993 pending completion of a land-use plan for the East Kootenay region.

"With the announcement of the East Kootenay Land-Use Plan on March 13, it's time to continue with consideration of the Jumbo Creek ski resort proposal," said Clark.

A commercial alpine skiing policy review of the proposal began in 1992 and was suspended during discussions on the regional land-use plan led by the Commission on Resources and Environment.

The review process will now resume and continue until the Environmental Assessment Act is proclaimed, at which time there will be a transition to the environmental assessment process. The review will be comprehensive—involving an assessment of environmental, social, economic, health, cultural and heritage effects—and will include extensive public and First Nation consultation.

"The East Kootenay Land-Use Plan includes the Jumbo Valley within the special resource management zone category—a designation which allows this type of development to be considered," said Clark.

"The proponents of this project have shown a great deal of understanding and co-operation while awaiting the completion of the land-use plan," said Sihota. "I'm pleased they will now be in a position to have the project considered through a fair and comprehensive environmental review process."

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Contact: Don Zdravec
Assistant Director, Communications
Ministry of Employment
and Investment
(604) 356-1024

Bill Irwin
Regional Director, BC Lands Kootenay Region
Ministry of Environment, Lands
and Parks
(604) 426-1414