



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Washington Office

P.O. Box 96090
Washington DC
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File Code: 2580

Date: October 15, 2003

Patrick O'Donnell
President
Chief Executive Officer
Aspen Skiing Company
Post Office Box 1248
Aspen, CO 81612

Dear Mr. O'Donnell

As you know, excellent visual air quality is a landmark of the central mountains of Colorado. The partnership that exists between the USDA Forest Service and the Aspen Skiing Company to monitor visibility at the Maroon Bells IMPROVE aerosol site will contribute enormously in our efforts with the State of Colorado and others to keep Colorado mountain air clean and clear for generations to come.

Thanks to the Aspen Skiing Company's Steve Sewell, its Environment Foundation's Auden Schendler and Sign Shop's Brian Smith and Gus Oliver, I am pleased to acknowledge the highly professional and informative sign placed prominently on Aspen Mountain explaining our combined air quality related values protection efforts. Erection of the sign coincides with both the 30th anniversary of the Forest Service Air Program and the 40th anniversary of the Wilderness Act in 2004. In addition, the display acknowledges over twelve years of the Aspen Skiing Company's on-going support of the local air quality partnership, including the White River National Forest's Aspen Ranger District and the Aspen Wilderness Workshop.

This example of support by the Aspen Skiing Company including the provision of its ski lift facilities for transporting air quality monitoring technicians, as well as past grant money provided by its Environment Foundation for surface water quality monitoring, confers great stewardship of our National Forests and earns the appreciation of people who enjoy them.

Once again, thank you for your contributions that serve to protect the White River National Forest and wilderness values.

MARTHA KETELLE
Forest Supervisor

