

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs ■ MEPA Office

ENF

**Environmental
Notification Form**

<i>For Office Use Only</i> <i>Executive Office of Environmental Affairs</i>	
EOEA No.:	13157
MEPA Analyst:	Nick ZAVOLAS
Phone:	617-626-1030

The information requested on this form must be completed to begin MEPA Review in accordance with the provisions of the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act, 301 CMR 11.00.

Project Name: Bousquet Ski Area Snowmaking System Water Withdrawal Permitting		
Street: 101 Dan Fox Drive		
Municipality: Pittsfield	Watershed: Housatonic	
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: 1806 41 654E 49 97 591N	Latitude: 42° 25' 10.69"N	Longitude: 73° 16' 41.78"W
Estimated commencement date: 11/03	Estimated completion date: 3/03	
Approximate cost: \$10,000	Status of project design: 50 %complete	
Proponent: Bousquet Ski Area Attn: George Jervas		
Street: 101 Dan Fox Drive		
Municipality: Pittsfield	State: MA	Zip Code: 01201
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: Brett W. Kamienski		
Firm/Agency: SK Design Group, Inc.	Street: 2 Federico Drive	
Municipality: Pittsfield	State: MA	Zip Code: 01201
Phone: (413) 443-3537	Fax: (413) 445-5376	E-mail: bkamienski@sk-designgroup.com

- Does this project meet or exceed a mandatory EIR threshold (see 301 CMR 11.03)?
 Yes No
- Has this project been filed with MEPA before?
 Yes (EOEA No. _____) No
- Has any project on this site been filed with MEPA before?
 Yes (EOEA No. _____) No
- Is this an Expanded ENF (see 301 CMR 11.05(7)) requesting:
- a Single EIR? (see 301 CMR 11.06(8)) Yes No
 - a Special Review Procedure? (see 301CMR 11.09) Yes No
 - a Waiver of mandatory EIR? (see 301 CMR 11.11) Yes No
 - a Phase I Waiver? (see 301 CMR 11.11) Yes No

Identify any financial assistance or land transfer from an agency of the Commonwealth, including the agency name and the amount of funding or land area (in acres):

Are you requesting coordinated review with any other federal, state, regional, or local agency?
 Yes (Specify _____) No

List Local or Federal Permits and Approvals: **Water Management Act Permit, Notice of Intent & Order of Conditions**

Which ENF or EIR review threshold(s) does the project meet or exceed (see 301 CMR 11.03):

- | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land | <input type="checkbox"/> Rare Species | <input type="checkbox"/> Wetlands, Waterways, & Tidelands |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water | <input type="checkbox"/> Wastewater | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Energy | <input type="checkbox"/> Air | <input type="checkbox"/> Solid & Hazardous Waste |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ACEC | <input type="checkbox"/> Regulations | <input type="checkbox"/> Historical & Archaeological Resources |

Summary of Project Size & Environmental Impacts	Existing	Change	Total	State Permits & Approvals
LAND				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Order of Conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Superseding Order of Conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter 91 License <input type="checkbox"/> 401 Water Quality Certification <input type="checkbox"/> MHD or MDC Access Permit <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water Management Act Permit <input type="checkbox"/> New Source Approval <input type="checkbox"/> DEP or MWRA Sewer Connection/Extension Permit <input type="checkbox"/> Other Permits <i>(including Legislative Approvals) – Specify:</i> Will file a Notice of Intent and obtain Order of Conditions prior to any work onsite. See Watershed Management Act Permit Withdrawal Application – Exhibit A.
Total site acreage	181			
New acres of land altered		0		
Acres of impervious area	±2.3	±2.1	±4.4	
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		0		
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		0		
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		0		
STRUCTURES				
Gross square footage	±46,518	±26,100	±72,618	
Number of housing units	0	36	36	
Maximum height (in feet)	±35	0	±35	
TRANSPORTATION				
Vehicle trips per day	100	0	100	
Parking spaces	150	0	150	
WATER/WASTEWATER				
Gallons/day (GPD) of water use	182,950 November thru February	67,050	250,000±	
GPD water withdrawal	182,950 November thru February	67,050	250,000±	
GPD wastewater generation/treatment	0	0	0	
Length of water/sewer mains (in miles)	0	0	0	

CONSERVATION LAND: Will the project involve the conversion of public parkland or other Article 97 public natural resources to any purpose not in accordance with Article 97?
 Yes (Specify _____) No

Will it involve the release of any conservation restriction, preservation restriction, agricultural preservation restriction, or watershed preservation restriction?
 Yes (Specify _____) No

RARE SPECIES: Does the project site include Estimated Habitat of Rare Species, Vernal Pools, Priority Sites of Rare Species, or Exemplary Natural Communities?

Yes (See Exhibit X – Letter from Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program) No

HISTORICAL /ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES: Does the project site include any structure, site or district listed in the State Register of Historic Place or the inventory of Historic and Archaeological Assets of the Commonwealth?

Yes (See Exhibit X – Letter from Massachusetts Historical Society) No

If yes, does the project involve any demolition or destruction of any listed or inventoried historic or archaeological resources?

Yes (Specify _____) No

AREAS OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN: Is the project in or adjacent to an Area of Critical Environmental Concern?

Yes (Specify _____) No

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project description should include (a) a description of the project site, (b) a description of both on-site and off-site alternatives and the impacts associated with each alternative, and (c) potential on-site and off-site mitigation measures for each alternative (You may attach one additional page, if necessary.)

a.) Bousquet Ski Area is located on the south and north sides of Dan Fox Drive at the former intersection with Tamarack Road in Pittsfield, Massachusetts. The site consists of a ski area and water slide park with associated ski slopes, chairlifts, water slides, and pools. A tavern/restaurant building, ski patrol house, and maintenance garage are the three structures located on the portion of property south of Dan Fox Drive. A proposed 36-unit development will be located the eastern portion of the ski area. The proposed development design does not exceed any MEPA thresholds and is not associated with the Water Management Act Permitting. A man-made pond, a pump house, and storage barn are located on the north side of Dan Fox Drive. The man-made pond is fed by a large wetland system to the west of the site (See USGS Locus Map – Figure #1) and during snowmaking operations, a groundwater well located on the south side of Dan Fox Drive just south of the maintenance garage. The well water is directed to the pond through a culvert that runs under Dan Fox Drive (See Site Plan). The water from this pond is used for the snowmaking activities for the ski area. A separate drinking water well for the ski area is located to the south of the parking lot to the east of the tavern building. There are several wetland systems that exist on the property. These wetland systems are associated with the man-made pond and the effluent and influent streams that are connected to the pond. The wetlands are flagged and field located (See Site Plan).

Bousquet Ski Area is surrounded by woodland to the east, south, and west on the portion of property south of Dan Fox Drive. The portion of the property on the north side of Dan Fox Drive is surrounded by woodland to the west, Berkshire West Athletic Club to the north, and Dan Fox Drive to the east and south.

b & c.) Bousquet Ski Area is presently seeking a Water Management Act Permit from the MDEP for water withdrawal from the water well and man-made pond. The work currently proposed at the Bousquet Ski Area site consists of a pump test of the well used for the snowmaking activities on the site. In addition, the well and pond will undergo a snow making simulation for 5 days during the winter when atmospheric conditions are appropriate. The pump test and snowmaking simulation will provide determination of any impact to sensitive receptors (ponds, streams, wetlands and surrounding wells). The pump test and simulation will be in accordance with the Water Management Act Pumping Test Design Guidelines For Non-Potable Wells. As part of the pump test, water levels from the man-made pond, the Bousquet production well (non-potable well), and surrounding wells will be measured to determine if the water draw down from the snowmaking activities will exceed the recovery capacity of the aquifer, as well as impact the drinking water wells of the neighboring properties. The water levels from the above mentioned sources will

be monitored at a pre-determined time frequency as set forth by the WMA Pump Test Guidelines. The planned pumping rate will be the maximum rate at which the snowmaking system can operate. Historic operation of the snowmaking system pumped approximately 120,000 gallons per hour or 2000 gallons per minute. Although, a large portion of this volume is returned to the pond via the return lines on the snowmaking system. The rate will be monitored continuously during the snowmaking simulation.

The alternatives for the project include No-Permit Alternative, which would put Bousquet Ski area in violation of the Water Management Act, and the Preferred Alternative, which is to obtain a Water Management Act Permit and operate in accordance with rules and regulations.

No Permit Alternative – The worst case scenario for the No Permit Alternative would be the shutdown of the Ski Area due to lack of man-made snow. The second scenario would be for the site to continue to withdraw groundwater and surface water for snowmaking activities during the months of November, December, January, and February without proper permitting from the MDEP. Under the second scenario, Bousquet Ski Area would be in violation of the Water Management Act and would be subject to substantial monetary fines. Both scenarios of the No Permit Alternative would be not economically feasible.

The Preferred Alternative – To conduct a pump test and snowmaking simulation to obtain a Water Management Act Permit for the withdrawal of 250,000 gallons per day through the months of November to February for snow making operations at Bousquet Ski Area.

Alternative Sites – The site is suitable for obtaining a Water Management Act Permit for a variety of reasons as follows;

1. The site has been used a ski area since the 1950's and a snowmaking system has been operated at the site since 1956;
2. A new Non-Potable Well was installed in 2001 for the purpose of providing water for snowmaking activities;
3. A surface water pond on the site has been utilized as a water source for the snowmaking activities at the site;
4. A drainage system has been implemented on the site that allows snowmelt to return to the surface water pond on site.