



**Media Contacts:**

Claire Mylott for Taos Ski Valley  
Claire@feedmedia.com  
(303) 257-2928

**Taos Ski Valley Kicks Off Hiking and Biking Trail Development, Improvements**

*In partnership with the U.S. Forest Service, Taos Ski Valley will improve on-mountain trail opportunities and build upon four-season offerings*

**Taos, NM – September 24, 2018** – This month Taos Ski Valley kicked off an on-mountain trail development effort that will improve the visitor experience and create additional four-season recreation opportunities.

Improvements to the longtime favorite Williams Lake Trail are underway now and will wrap up next month. The improvements will transition the first 4,500 feet of the trail from an uninspiring utility road to a more enjoyable, wooded hiking trail experience. This free, 3.7-mile, intermediate trail is used year-round and culminates at a picturesque lake bordered by stunning mountain vistas. The move also re-routes the beginning of the trail from Taos Ski Valley-owned land to U.S. Forest Service land, ensuring this popular trail always stays open to the public and adheres to national standards.

Development of Taos Ski Valley's new mountain biking trails will kick off in May of 2019. First priority will be two beginner/intermediate trails. These thrilling flow trails will offer 6.5 miles of terrain, featuring berms, rollers and bridges. These trails will open to the public in late summer of 2019. In the future, six advanced trails will be added, bringing the total mountain biking terrain to 15 miles. Access to the mountain biking trails will require a lift ticket.

"Expanding the outdoor recreational offerings in and around the mountain gives the region more four-season options and is part of our continued investment in the area," said Taos Ski Valley CEO David Norden. "The biking trails and the newly improved Williams Lake hiking trail will give skiers and non-skiers alike terrific new on-mountain options."

Taos Ski Valley developed these trail plans in partnership with and in approval of the U.S. Forest Service. Meticulous efforts were taken to design trails and improvements that would be non-disruptive to the mountain ecosystem.

As America's first and only B-Corp ski resort, Taos Ski Valley is committed to ensuring that every investment, upgrade and operational decision is underpinned by a commitment

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to environmental sustainability, social responsibility, and economic contribution to the local communities in Taos and Northern New Mexico.

## **About Taos Ski Valley**

Nestled among the pristine peaks of northern New Mexico, Taos Ski Valley is undergoing a \$300 million renaissance making it one of North America's premier vacation and adventure destinations. With over 300 inches of average annual snowfall, 300 days of sunshine and more than 1,200 skiable acres, Taos Ski Valley offers a relaxed, friendly atmosphere, breathtaking scenery and exhilarating terrain for every ability level for a spirited mountain experience unlike any other. The resort is maintaining its authentic charm while investing in new amenities both on-mountain and in the base area. Taos Ski Valley is proud to participate in the Mountain Collective, a collaboration of iconic, independent ski destinations. To learn more about Taos Ski Valley, and see the future plans for the Ski Valley, please visit [www.skitaos.com](http://www.skitaos.com).

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