

Ski Hill Well Permit Application Information

Snow Making

To make 1 acre-foot of snow, (1 acre, 1 foot deep) takes 160,000 to 200,000 gallons of water. Example: Well Pumping 1000 GPM would take 160 to 200 hours of pumping to create 1 acre foot of snow in ideal weather conditions. Ideal weather conditions include 28 degrees or colder temperatures, at 28 degrees ideal humidity for good snow is 20% to 50%.

The Ski Hill has 14 skiable acres – 14 acres of 1-foot-deep snow would take 2,240,000 to 2,800,000 gallons of water to create.

How many acre feet of snow each year are we looking at making?

How many skiable acres?

Snow Making and Potable Water

In order to use the well for both purposes we will have to apply for a non-exempt well permit which must be included in a court approved augmentation plan. And the well must be 600 feet away from other wells unless a waiver is obtained.

Some things to consider.

The Park Creek subdivision on the other side of 149 across from the Ski Hill has wells that are dry or have difficulty producing enough water.

Wells in Lake City Heights and the San Juan Estates are running dry more frequently with some residents in Lake City Heights using water cisterns and purchasing water from the Town to get through the year. San Juan Estates is proposing a water use agreement with the Town due to issues with their wells.

The ski hill is in an over-appropriated area and even if we did drill a well that was not within 600 feet there is no guarantee that it would produce enough water to make the amount of snow we need.

If the board decides to move forward with this then we need to plan on hiring a water engineer to design and engineer the snow making system, determine the acre feet per year usage, and locate the best site for the well.