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Mountain Resorts Branch Kamloops Office: 510-175 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue Kamloops, BC V2C 5W1

Victoria Office: PO Box 9852 Stn Prov Govt Victoria, BC V8W 9T5

To Whom it May Concern,

## **RE: ZINCTON ALL SEASON RESORT PROPOSAL**

A large scale 4-season resort proposal for an area in the beautiful Selkirk Mountains may seem like a terrific idea to some, however, don't be fooled by promises to protect and enhance this wonderfully unique area and its wildlife. We at Hunters for BC - SCI share many of the concerns that countless people in the Kootenay region and the province have.

Much of BC including the Columbia / Kootenay region has seen decades of industrial, commercial, residential, and recreational exploitation of its wild places, fish, and wildlife. This proposal for Zincton and the surrounding area is no different and is money driven with little regard for long term impacts to wildlife. Once wilderness is developed for any reason the changes are immediate and long term.

While the developer acknowledges the Grizzly Bears in the area, there is no evidence anywhere to suggest this year-round resort can exist without dramatic impacts to habitat, feeding areas, denning sites, seasonal movements plus minimizing human / bear conflicts with so many daily and yearly visitors. Homes, infrastructure, roads, trail networks, vehicles, hikers, bikers, skiers, snowmobiles, and ATVs will inevitably have a very negative impact on the local Grizzlies.

Please do not be misled by propaganda supporting such a large-scale resort development. This highly sensitive area also supports moose, elk, mule deer, whitetail deer, mountain goat, black bear, cougar, wolf, coyote, lynx, bobcat, wolverine, beaver, pine marten, raptors, grouse and more! The mountain slopes and valleys provide critical habitats for all these species plus the clear streams and lakes abound with trout.

A four season resort will have negative impacts on all species. From valley bottoms to sub alpine to alpine...fish and wildlife rely on this intact habitat for denning, travel, mating, birthing, and spawning. The outcome of this development will NOT favour our fish and wildlife.

HUNTERS FOR BC SCI 5070 MacKinnon Road Peachland, BC V0H 1X2 www.HuntersForBC.ca Finally with habitat loss, fractured habitat, linear corridors, roads, trails, noise, conflict, and displacement our concerns also turn to vehicle / wildlife collisions and highway mortality which will inevitably come with higher human density and traffic.

Please stand with us and say NO to the Zincton All Season Resort Proposal. Our fish, wildlife and wild places will thank us for many generations to come.

Respectfully,

Robin Unrau President - Hunters for BC – SCI www.huntersforbc.ca