

Inside Stevens

Friday, February 15, 2008

Stevens Pass Mountain Bike Park

The Stevens Pass Mountain Bike Park started as an idea in a meeting about two years ago. The goal was to research viable summer operations at Stevens Pass. It didn't take long to focus on lift accessed mountain biking as the starting point for summer operations.

The research began and the first trip was to Whistler for the International Mountain Bike Association (IMBA) World conference. During the IMBA conference we got some information on Gravity Logic which is a consulting company that does bike park specific work. Gravity Logic are the people who created and built the Whistler bike park. One lunch meeting with them and the ball started rolling.

Our goal is to build a high quality, sustainable trail system, from day one. Using Gravity Logic as consultants, in summer 2007 we began the preliminary ground work for the trail system and have put together our first phase of the park which will be on Hogsback chairlift. These trails will consist of both machine built and hand built single track. There will be varying levels of trails for beginner, intermediate, and advanced riders. Intermediate and advanced trails will have features built into them including jumps, berms, bank turns and wood features.

We are currently working with the Forest Service and going through the environmental review process. We are on a time line for approval in May of 2009. Once we are approved we will begin construction of the trail system. If all goes as planned, the first full summer of operation will begin in the summer of 2010. We will spend several weeks this summer (2008) planning and preliminary work laying out trail for the second phase of the bike park. This second phase will begin the Forest Service environmental review process after phase one approval. All of this is still contingent on Forest Service approval.

The amount of support that we have received without any formal announcement has been overwhelming. Feel free to email us at anytime to the email below with your comments and feedback. We are keeping all email address that come in with bike park specific comments so that we can create a database of riders and supporters for future communication and updates. Please look for updates periodically on our website and on the internet at ridemonkey.com and MTBR.com.

I can say that the staff here at Stevens is just as anxious and excited as everyone else to create and get a bike park up and running. We will start small but will do it right, that I can promise!

See you on hill,

Joel Martinez
Director of Operations
Stevens Pass Resort