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## Taos Ski Valley Celebrates Environmental Sustainability Success with Golden Eagle Award

After a milestone year of environmental achievements, Taos Ski Valley takes home top honors in annual SKI Magazine Golden Eagle Awards

**TAOS SKI VALLEY, N.M., July 25, 2017** – Following a dedicated and ongoing effort to enhance sustainability and environmental efforts throughout the resort, <u>Taos Ski Valley</u> received top honors in the 2017 <u>Golden Eagle Awards for Environmental Excellence</u> in the medium-sized ski resort category in April. The awards are the ski industry's most prestigious honor for recognizing resort environmental programs and projects.

The awards program, presented by SKI Magazine and the National Ski Areas Association (NSAA), recognized Taos for its far-reaching environmental efforts, including:

- This year Taos became the first B Corp™ ski resort in the world. Certified B Corps
  are required to meet the highest standards of verified economic, social, and
  environmental performance, and public transparency.
- Taos' comprehensive and groundbreaking <u>Taos Verde</u> environmental initiatives program, which looks to enhance greenbusiness practices and to build a more resilient and sustainable community.
- Taos has taken drastic actions over the past two years to reduce its overall energy consumption by 10.9 percent. The resort is a participant in the NSAA Climate Challenge, and has committed to a 20 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by the year 2020. Taos has incorporated geothermal heating and cooling in The Blake at Taos Ski Valley, its new hotel, and has discontinued the sale of disposable plastic bottles in all facilities. Taos offers reusable bottles as an alternative and expects to remove 10,000 plastic bottles from its waste stream annually.
- Taos has partnered with the <u>Taos Community Foundation</u> (TCF) to raise funds for the nonprofit's mission to build a more creative, caring and thriving community. In 2017, Taos Ski Valley and The Taos Ski Valley Foundation have together given more than \$250,000 to TCF.
- On the mountain, Taos pursued forest health projects in partnership with the US
   Forest Service and The Nature Conservancy to expand skiable terrain while reducing wildfire risk and improving the vital Rio Grande watershed.

"Taos Ski Valley's commitment to sustainability and efforts to protect the natural beauty of this unique landscape are a source of great pride to me," said <u>Louis Bacon</u>, a <u>noted</u>



<u>conservation philanthropist and owner of Taos Ski Valley and Chairman of The Taos Ski</u> Valley Foundation.

"We are dedicated to mitigating the effects of climate change on our operations and maintaining the health of our mountain ecosystem," said David Norden, CEO of Taos Ski Valley. "Additionally, we are committed to our local community, our employees and the people who visit Taos. We express this through unwavering transparency, open communication and public investment. We are very proud to be recognized for our hard work, and the people who have helped execute the Taos vision."

More information about Taos Ski Valley's sustainability efforts can be found online: <a href="http://www.skitaos.com/sustainability/">http://www.skitaos.com/sustainability/</a>.

## **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 is authentic charm while investing in new amenities both onmountain 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 <a href="https://tsv.imagerelay.com">www.skitaos.com</a>. For media images of Taos Ski Valley please visit <a href="https://tsv.imagerelay.com">https://tsv.imagerelay.com</a>.

## About The Taos Ski Valley Foundation

The Taos Ski Valley Foundation, the New Mexico affiliate of Louis Bacon's Moore Charitable Foundation supports local conservation nonprofits as well as local educational and community programs.