

Media Contact: Jeff Hanle  
970/300-7122  
jhanle@aspensnowmass.com

**ASPEN/SNOWMASS ANNOUNCES Over \$23 Million in PLANNED Capital Improvements for the 2006-07 Season**

***Including New Elk Camp Gondola at Snowmass***

***and New Cabins on Aspen Mountain's Silver Queen Gondola***

**Aspen/Snowmass, Colo.** April 18, 2006 - There are exciting changes in store for the 2006-2007 winter season at Aspen/Snowmass with more than \$23 million in improvements slated. Snowmass will see a new gondola connecting the base area with Elk Camp. Aspen Mountain's Silver Queen Gondola will get brand new cabins. And, terrain improvements will take place at Aspen Highlands and in the Snowmass Pipeline Terrain Park.

**SNOWMASS**

**Elk Camp Gondola:** The new Elk Camp Gondola will feature spacious eight passenger cabins that will transport guests from the base of Fanny Hill to the alpine scenery of Elk Camp in 7.5 minutes. The gondola boasts an angle station at the base of Funnel which allows mid-way loading and unloading on the uphill leg only. The cabins are black with silver trim and lettering.

Length: 8,583 ft.  
Vertical Rise: 1,372 feet  
Ride Time: 7.5 minutes  
Cost: \$13 million

**Coney Terrain Park:** Improvements are planned for the superpipe and terrain park on Coney Glade including dirt features and additional snowmaking.

**Assay Hill Realignment:** The Assay Hill chair on Snowmass will be realigned to give easy access to the angle station on the Elk Camp Gondola at the base of Funnel. It will be upgraded from a fixed grip double to a fixed grip quad allowing beginners easier unloading.

**ASPEN MOUNTAIN**

**Silver Queen Gondola:** Aspen Mountain's Silver Queen Gondola will be fitted with new cabins during the spring of 2006. The new, six-passenger cabins will provide guests with more room on the 14 minute ride to the summit of Aspen

Mountain. The cabins are designed to provide stunning 360 degree views on the ride to the top.

Cost of project: \$8 million

### **ASPEN HIGHLANDS**

**Deep Temerity Glading:** An additional 20-30 acres of new terrain will be cleared in the area served by the new Deep Temerity lift which opened in 2005. Plans call for clearing lines below Mushroom to open up new terrain allowing multiple routes to the skier's right of the Deep Temerity Chair.

### **BUTTERMILK**

**The Return of ESPN Winter X Games 11:** The 11<sup>th</sup> annual ESPN Winter X Games will return to Buttermilk at Aspen/Snowmass for a sixth consecutive year. It was announced at the start of Winter X Games 10 that the event will remain at Aspen/Snowmass through 2010, for a total of nine consecutive years (2002-2010). Winter X Games 11 is scheduled for Thurs., January 25 through Sun., January 28, 2007.

The annual Winter X Games is the premier winter action sports event in the world, featuring athletes from across the globe competing for medals and prize money in the following sports: Moto X, Skiing, Snowboard and SnoCross. Winter X Games 11 will air live on ESPN and ABC and will feature nighttime events.

Aspen Skiing Company operates the four mountains in the Aspen/Snowmass area - Snowmass, Aspen Mountain, Aspen Highlands and Buttermilk - as well as the award-winning Ski & Snowboard Schools of Aspen/Snowmass. The area offers unparalleled nightlife and off-slope activities as well. Aspen/Snowmass is accessible by two of the most convenient airports in the mountains - Aspen Sardy Field (ASE) (3 miles from Aspen) and Eagle County Regional Airport (EGE) (70 miles from Aspen). For more information on Aspen Skiing Company, please call 800-525-6200 or 970-925-1220, or visit the company's website at [www.aspensnowmass.com](http://www.aspensnowmass.com).

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