ABOUT TERRAIN PARKS

Terrain Parks are areas within a ski area that include acrobatic features. e.g. jumps, rails, halfpipes etc. similar to those seen in skiing and snowboarding competitions, including the Olympic games. Unlike the Olympics and other professional competitions, at most ski resorts there are no guidelines or standards for layout, isolation and/or barriers to inadvertent entrance, use of spotters and most importantly the design and engineering of the features. Terrain Parks have a significantly higher frequency accident and injury and are the cause of many catastrophic injuries, particularly death and paralysis in young people.

There is an organization, the US Terrain Park Council, the USTPC, https://usterrainparkcouncil.org, that is attempting to work with ski resorts to develop guidelines and standards for Terrain Parks. It has developed a SMART PARKS CERTIFICATION PROCESS which has produced a set of practical guidelines for terrain parks: the Smart http://usterrainparkcouncil.org/certification.html - 6.3kb. To date, no resort has taken advantage of USTPC’s safety Certification program.