

FOREST SERVICE BUYS ARMY'S SKI TOW ON TENNESSEE PASS

The army's ski tow near the summit of Tennessee pass, which was erected in 1942 as part of the training equipment at now-discontinued Camp Hale, has been purchased by the United States forest service, according to an announcement Wednesday by John W. Spencer, regional forester. The forest service hopes to have the tow operating for civilians by the start of next winter's ski season.

"The project as a whole," said Spencer, "is believed to be one of

the best in Colorado from the standpoint of terrain and existing facilities. The tow will be operated by an outsider, under special permit from the forest service. He has not yet been selected."

Towns in central-western Colorado, from Pueblo to Grand Junction, joined in urging that the forest service take over the ski tow, instead of letting it be dismantled.

The tow is 6,150 feet in length, is electrically-operated, and can handle 500 passengers an hour. Its

leading point is within half a mile of the summit of Tennessee pass. It is close to the Tennessee pass station on the Denver & Rio Grande Western railroad.

No overnight accommodations nearer to the tow than Leadville, ten miles away, will be available until after the war, but plans are under consideration for adequate accommodations in the future.