

Via Electronic Transmittal

October 12, 2020

Messrs Jay Pence and Mel Bolling

RE: Grand Targhee Resort 2018 Master Development, Project 58258

I offer these comments to assist Caribou-Targhee National Forest in conducting an appropriate and effective Environmental Impact assessment of the proposed expansion by Grand Targhee Resort.

While I recognize that Grand Targhee has certain rights under the existing Special Use Permit, the resort should not be permitted to develop additional terrain outside of the existing SUP area until they have finished the existing development entitlements. The skiing industry will continue to change in the future and their proposed use of the new terrain may not be in the long term interest of the resort, the Forest Service or the local citizens.

I do not support any further developments that adversely affect the nearby wildlife habitat areas. The foothills are under increasing pressure from land development on private property and wildlife should not suffer habitat degradation from development on Forest Service property.

I am concerned that the expansion of the conditional use permitted area will conflict with the year round use of Teton Canyon. That canyon serves as a year-round recreation resource as it now stands, including for Nordic and backcountry skiing, and its value to dispersed recreation should not be diminished by resort expansion.

Any and all development at Grand Targhee resort should comply with the intent of the Night Sky ordinances of both Teton Counties, Wyoming and Idaho. The proposed improvements should not add either direct or reflected light to the night Sky of either Teton County.

The proposed chairlift capacities indicate the resorts ambition to become of major resort. The parking and transportation networks, however, do not exist to support such a development. As with ski resorts throughout the west, Grand Targhee needs to work with the local communities to assure adequate traffic and parking resources and should not leave that burden to the local communities in any significant extent.

Thank you for taking my comments. Please keep me on your notification list for this project.

David E. Stice

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