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Organization:

Title:

Comments: To whom it may concern,

I am writing as a concerned citizen of Teton Valley, ID. The proposed expansion of Grand Targhee Resort will have many negative impacts on our local environment if approved. As a backcountry skier that frequents Teton Canyon, I am very concerned about the harmful affects this expansion will have on the wildlife in the region. I have seen bighorn sheep, mountain goats, moose, elk, ermine, wolverines, grouse, & countless other bird species while recreating in Teton Canyon. The greatest part about the area is the peaceful, wild nature of it...all of which would be affected negatively by adding 7 new chairlifts & way too many ski runs. The avalanche mitigation necessary to control such a steep, rugged area would be extremely harmful to the wildlife habitats as well. Last year, the USFS outlawed dogs in Teton Canyon during the winter months for many of the same reasons, so even the thought of such an expansion by & for humans is unfathomable.

Another major issue with the expansion of Grand Targhee is that the infrastructure of the resort is nowhere near ready for such an influx of people. Parking, restrooms, lodging, & dining services need to expand considerably to accommodate such an expansion..in fact they need to expand simply to meet current demands. Please consider these thoughts when making your decision regarding this expansion. Thank you for your time.