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Comments: To Whom It May Concern,

The economic vitality of the Teton Valley is highly dependent on revenue from tourism, and Grand Targhee Resort (GTR) is one of the main drivers of tourism revenue in the valley.

GTR is a great, little resort but, unfortunately, it is hugely overshadowed by the amenities and capacity of most other western ski resorts and as such has a difficult time competing for those valuable tourism dollars. Without a major expansion, there is significant concern that GTR will be forced to shut down; taking with it the jobs, tax revenue and recreation opportunities with it. This, in turn, would cause irreparable economic harm to the region.

With the expansion will come a significant increase in new jobs and growth in the tax base. In addition to jobs and revenue provided by the resort itself, there will be tangential benefits in areas like Driggs and Victor, in terms of restaurants, shops, real estate development and more.

I trust that the Forest Service will do your due diligence to ensure that the environmental impact of the proposed expansion will be minimal.

With that being said, I am hopeful that the expansion will be green-lit to proceed, considering that the economic benefits appear to greatly outweigh the potential negative environmental impact.

-Sean