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First name: Alice

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Mr. Bolling,

I understand that "need" is one of the criteria being reviewed for Grand Targhee Resort's proposed Master Development Plan. I would request that you consider the needs of wildlife and other users of USFS lands, especially in the Teton Canyon area, as well as the expressed needs of GTR. It is difficult to grasp how GTR can claim to need the boundary expansions when they have not yet developed the 600 acres of skiable terrain on Peaked Mountain within the current boundary.

Teton Canyon is heavily used every winter by cross-county skiers (on and off the groomed tracks), fat bike riders, snowmobilers, and backcountry skiers (many of whom get towed in/out by snowmobile). I believe it would be negligent and unfair not to consider the needs and rights of the current users and how those users would be affected by the proposed GTR expansion into the Teton Canyon area. My husband and I often ski in Teton Canyon and we are concerned that the eventual development into the proposed expansion area would interfere with, if not ruin, the experiences of the current users.

Furthermore, please also give careful consideration to the wildlife in the proposed expansion area and how they will be affected. Moose in Teton Canyon are already impacted by the current uses in the Teton Canyon area, and it seems reasonable to assume that they will be even more impacted by expanded use of the area. A thorough study should be undertaken to document all the wildlife present during the winter in the entire proposed expansion area, with thoughtful analysis of how the wildlife would be impacted by the additional human and mechanical uses, including noise and lights.