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Organization:

Title:

Comments: As a concerned Alta resident, local business owner, and an advocate for responsible growth, I am concerned about the need for this level of expansion project proposal for Grand Targhee Resort. GTR has not taken advantage of already approved terrain expansion on the West side of Peaked Mountain which would greatly improve terrain options from beginner to advanced skiers and riders. I would also like to address the need for additional eateries as the existing ones can barely make a profit at the current levels of business. I would like to see some investment in the already approved expansion projects before moving forward on this massive proposal. Further more, I am the owner and operator of Teton Backcountry Guides and we have operated a yurt in Teton Canyon for the last 4 yrs. We have also operated guided tours in the proposed terrain expansion areas for the last 20yrs. We are concerned about avalanche mitigation, noise from operations and crowds directly effecting our cliental that want a backcountry mountain experience. As the popularity of the backcountry increases, we see the need for this type of area being kept in the backcountry. We at TBG also question the need for a yurt on the GTR premises. TBG already operates a yurt in Teton Canyon, and a successful yurt system in the Tetons for the last 21 years with another yurt being very close to the north boundary of GTR, on Commissary Ridge. . We have questioned the need for a yurt just adjacent to Teton Canyon on Grand Targhee permitted area. TBG has requested an additional yurt site areas on multiple occasions over the last 20 yrs and have been denied. Why does Grand Targhee get to become a yurt service and become a direct competitor of our small mom and pop business. We feel the EIS should consider the effect of Targhee's proposal on other outfitters on the CTNF. In closing, as an Alta resident and an outfitter on the CTNF, I am concerned about the size of this proposed expansion. I would like to know what the mitigation effects will be due to noise from the development, unsightly lift towers, restaurant lights at night, zipline cables gleaming in the western sun. This seems to be going beyond the scope of what Grand Targhee was originally developed and we hope the EIS questions the true need for this expansion. It is a great local ski hill that residents do not want to see be developed into another JHMR. Thank for your time.