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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Having skied at Grand Targhee for the last 36 years with my family, back-country skied, hiked the area in the summer, and now being a full-time resident in the valley, I would like to speak up about some of the concerns I have for the expansion of Grand Targhee.

Teton Canyon has always been a special place, hiking in the summer or XC skiing in the winter. I would hate to see a negative impact on the moose, bear, and birds of the canyon that I have always seen. Also, grizzly and wolverine inhabit the area, would their habitat also be negatively impacted? How will the new lift coming down into Teton Canyon affect the wildlife, who summer and winter there? Will skiing and hiking in the canyon still be a place of solitude and quiet as it has been? Has this been studied?

How will avalanche "bombing" affect the other snow loads in the canyon, not necessarily on the Grand Targhee property? Has this been studied?

I and my family have always enjoyed the atmosphere of Grand Targhee over the larger resorts, such as Jackson Hole, Vail, you get the idea. Will this new expansion forever change the flavor of the mountain that attracted everyone in the first place?

How will the new facilities at Grand Targhee affect the night sky reserve? Can the current night sky reserve be maintained? I can't help but feel that this expansion will add visual disturbance from night lights, as well as housing and chair lift additions to the hill, that would be visible to the valley day and night. Has this been studied?

How will the new facilities change the traffic flow in the whole valley, and especially in Driggs, and on up to the ski hill? What impact will this have on valley residents? Will highway 33 need to be expanded? Has this been studied?

Where will the new employees live? There is already a shortage of housing in the valley. Has this been looked into?

Will all the new construction alter the quality of water in Teton Creek, and thus the valley? Has this been studied?

What will the carbon footprint of the new Grand Targhee expansion be? How will this add to the rising carbon levels?

Thank you for your attention to this matter.