Data Submitted (UTC 11): 7/21/2023 6:50:41 PM
First name: Trevor
Last name: Matuszek
Organization:
Title:
Comments: Dear Ranger Stiles,

Jackson Hole Mountain Resort has asked for permission to make a wad of developments, yet offers no real commitment to increasing access for public land owners. I hope that you will channel your inner Gifford Pinchot and advocate for the public in this regard. In particular I would like the uphill travel policy at Jackson Hole Mountain Resort amended so that uphill travel is allowed during the winter season. As it stands no uphill travel is officially permitted at the resort even after the resort has ceased operations for the season. This policy, combined with $200+ lift tickets, effectively restricts access of the general public to a large swath of the Bridger Teton National Forest. Critics of an uphill policy point to grooming operations, winch cats, avalanches and avalanche control, as well as unskilled downhill skiers, as reasons why uphill travel is not feasible. However, with designated routes for uphill travel, these hazards are mitigated. For comparison, other ski areas with avalanche terrain and grooming operations, such as Alta, Mammoth, and Telluride have successfully implemented uphill travel policies.

Access to public lands is on trend. As you work with Jackson Hole Mountain Resort, please advocate for an uphill policy that will increase access to the Bridger Teton National Forest for folks who are willing to walk.
Thank you,
Trevor Matuszek