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First name: Sine

Last name: Scribbick

Organization:

Title:

Comments: To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the proposed expansion of Grand Targhee Resort. This expansion threatens to disrupt critical wildlife habitats, degrade the natural environment, and alter the character of our beloved Teton Valley.

#### Environmental and Wildlife Concerns:

The targeted expansion areas are vital habitats for numerous species, including bighorn sheep, moose, elk, grizzly bears, and Canada lynx. These areas have been identified as winter conservation areas, emphasizing its importance for the region's wildlife. Developing the areas into ski terrain would lead to habitat loss, increased human-wildlife conflicts, and disturbances to species during critical life stages .

#### Community and Aesthetic Impacts:

The proposed expansion includes the construction of new lifts, roads, and facilities, which would introduce light pollution, noise, and visual disturbances to the area. Teton Valley is recognized as a dark sky community, and the introduction of artificial lighting and increased traffic would compromise the quality of life for residents and visitors alike .

#### Infrastructure and Water Quality Risks:

The expansion plans involve significant infrastructure development, likely including new septic systems and increased water usage. Given the area's steep terrain and proximity to municipal water sources, there is a heightened risk of sedimentation and contamination, which could affect the drinking water quality for communities in Driggs, Idaho, and Alta, Wyoming .

#### Fire Risk Concerns:

The proposed development sites are located in areas with high wildfire risk. The combination of dense vegetation, steep slopes, and prevailing winds creates a dangerous situation where fires could rapidly spread, threatening both the resort and surrounding communities .

I urge you to consider the long-term consequences of this expansion on our environment, wildlife, and community. It is imperative that we prioritize sustainable development and preserve the natural beauty and ecological integrity of the Teton Range. I respectfully request that you oppose the proposed expansion and support initiatives that keep Grand Targhee Resort within its current boundaries.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,

Sine Scribbick