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First name: Ralph

Last name: Mossman

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear people, as a Teton Valley resident who enjoys skiing at Grand Targhee, I have been reluctant to comment, but I also think my decades of experience in the region is valuable. I was a member of the Jedediah Smith Wilderness Task Force which assisted the USFS in setting management direction for the Wilderness almost 40 years ago.

First, Targhee is already quite large, and the skier experience is awesome with the ability to feel solitude very easily available as it currently exists. The main problem Grand Targhee has is getting there. The road to Targhee limits the number of people who can get there. Until that access changes in a way that allows more skiers to get to Targhee, I don't think expanded terrain is needed.

Second, expanding to the South bowl is a bad idea because ski conditions on a south facing slope are marginal for all but a very limited time in mid winter. I know there are other issues there, but my point is that the very limited time that skiing there will be good, makes those other issues more important. The benefits are just not worth the problems.

Third, the Jedediah Smith Wilderness is very small. Impacts like light trespass are serious because of this small size. The Wilderness is blessed to have the protection of being mostly between the eastern and western slopes in a way that produces a feeling of isolation which is fundamental to the Wilderness experience. Please ensure that any future development does not impact that experience. One light on a ridgetop, that can be seen for miles from within the Wilderness, is a huge and unnecessary impact.

Last, my understanding is that this is just a plan, and that expansion would not happen for awhile. I understand the desire of Targhee's owners to want to know future options, but conditions on the ground could change by the time any expansion would happen. I would rather see a framework developed that allows permissions granted in a more efficient process, so the Resort is not forced to plan decades before actual expansion.