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Title:

Comments: As a longtime Teton Valley resident, I oppose Targhee's expansion into Teton Canyon as well as their summit restaurant plan.

Teton Canyon is a valuable resource for both our local community and our tourism industry. On any given summer day, you can find both local plates and plates from out of state visitors filling the canyon's parking lots. These recreationalists are coming to enjoy Teton Canyon's natural beauty. With a ski lift marring the hillside, the experience will be forever changed.

Additionally, the South Bowl area is closed to mechanical travel for wildlife in the winter and Mono Trees is closed to all human traffic in the winter. Why would we allow a chairlift to be built in either of these places? After being involved in the Big Horn Sheep process several years ago, it is disheartening to see the forest service throwing that work away for the South Bowl involuntary closure.

While I have no qualms with Targhee adding on-mountain lodges and restaurants, the summit of Fred's is not an appropriate place for this development. Not only does this border a wilderness area, it would also be visible from many peaks within Grand Teton National Park. I am also concerned about the amount of terraforming necessary to create this new lodge.