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First name: Susan Last name: Miller Organization:

Title:

Comments: I urge you to NOT allow expansion of Grand Targhee's boundaries. The Teton Mountain Range is one of the jewels of our continent and its wild nature should not be tampered with by allowing resort expansion. Our public lands, and especially the national forest wilderness surrounding the resort are truly irreplaceable.

The visual impacts from development would be quite harmful. Hiking out from Alaska Basin in the heart of the southern Tetons, and looking up at gleaming metal lifts and all the human activity and noise would be truly awful, and I can't even imagine seeing a shiny box of a restaurant on top of Fred's Mountain from Grand Teton National Park. Disruptions like these would irreparably harm the Teton experience for those travelers who value its grandeur, solitude and wild nature.

Putting lifts on a southerly aspect seems extremely short sighted given our warming climate.

I think we've reached a tipping point: carving out more of this landscape for large scale, industrial human use, that is now utilized by many animal and plant populations, from grizzly bears to herds of elk and sheep, to our iconic white bark pines, is no longer a viable idea or forward thinking. As a collective group of western humans, we simply have to progress to be able to consider the wants, needs and rights of other species and how altering the landscape may disrupt things in ways we can't foresee. There aren't many spaces left in our country like this, where animals roam freely and humans can experience true solitude. The Tetons are finite in area and this land should be treasured and valued in its undeveloped state.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.