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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Forest Service,

NO Targhee Expansion!

The proposed Grand Targhee expansion is an affront to the environment and a disaster for local people. As a Driggs local, this proposal is a disaster that cannot be allowed. I support alternative action 1: No action. Alternative action plan 3 is less invasive and would be far superior to expansions into Mono Trees and South Bowl, but the restaurant on top of Fred's mountain would be an ugly and disruptive eyesore and should be excluded from that plan.

The expansion into South Bowl and Mono Trees will destroy invaluable habitat for bighorn sheep, moose and a number of other animals. The destruction of valuable habitat is a clear and obvious violation of everything that the forest service and Teton Valley residents support: peaceful coexistence with nature with minimal impact.

The expansion will destroy views and damage the ski hill. The existing ski runs on the new Colter lift have already created an ugly sight from town with massive paths cut through the forest. The south bowl and mono trees expansion disrupt views of the Tetons.

Most importantly, the expansion will be a step towards the destruction of our way of life in Teton Valley. The expansion is directly targeted at increasing corporate revenue, and will exacerbate the housing crisis, driving up housing prices as salaries and hourly wages remain mediocre. Driggs locals of 5 years or a lifetime will be forced out of our homes and will suffer from the profit mongering corporate greed that has destroyed many ski towns before us, such as Jackson Hole right across the pass.

This expansion will destroy our quality of life in Driggs as housing, infrastructure and healthcare fails to keep up with a resort of this size. Wildlife will be destroyed, drinking water will be sullied, and locals will lose their homes and livelihoods. Additionally, the DEIS is lacking in a complete community affordable housing assessment as well as adequate wildlife and water studies.

Blocking this proposed expansion is crucial to the existence and well being of Teton Valley Locals. It should be the forest service's priority to protect its lands for public use and wildlife, and help a community survive a tide of corporatization and displacement.

Thank You.