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Title:

Comments: I support Alternative 3 of the draft EIS, and strongly object to any expansion of the Special Use

Permit area of Grand Targhee Resort.

The main reason I oppose expansion is because it is not in the public interest to privatize public lands. Expanding ski area resort boundaries into mono trees and south bowl would eliminate access to that area for anyone that isn't a customer of the ski resort.

This South Bowl/ Mono Trees area is critical habitat for Bighorn Sheep, including a rare mineral lick that would turn into a developed area if the expansion is allowed.

Additionally, the skier use data from Grand Targhee shows that is not at all necessary to expand the current resort footprint. Data from the Teton Backcountry Alliance and JH Conservation Alliance show that Grand Targhee has 200,000 annual skiers visit the resort with access to 2,602 acres of skiable terrain. At Jackson Hole Mountain Resort, which has 2,500 acres of skiable terrain, there are greater than 500,00 skiers per year. While the ski areas are close in size, the skier numbers at Targhee come nowhere close to the numbers at JHMR. It would be wasteful of precious natural resources to expand the resort when there is already plenty of terrain to ski for the limited number of guests that visit Targhee.

Thank you for reviewing my comments. Again, please consider the impact to wild places and the public interest in protecting public land. Any expansion of resort boundaries would not serve public interest because it would limit access to national forest lands and impact critical habitat for wildlife.