Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/19/2025 9:20:37 PM

First name: Leslie
Last name: Prendergast

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I would like to express my concerns with the Grand Targhee expansion. While I have concerns with many aspects of this expansion, I am in favor of alternative 3; no SUP expansion for Mono Trees and South Bowl. In particular, I am concerned about the visibility of South Bowl, and regarding both SUP areas, the wildlife and the noise.

As a frequent visitor of Teton Canyon, Jedediah Smith Wilderness, and Grand Teton National Park I am vehemently against seeing ski runs, ski lifts, and buildings which would be visible from so many places in GTNP and JSW. I go to wilderness areas to get away from civilization and to have a natural view. Having South Bowl (and the restaurant at the top of Fred's Mountain) visible would ruin many peoples nature experiences in GTNP and JSW.

There are issues with the noise that would be generated by more lifts and the construction of Mono Trees and South Bowl. Several of these new lifts may run in the summer for biking access, and running ski lifts produce noise which can travel quite far. I have been in the JSW in the summer, miles away from Grand Targhee and have heard the noise of Dreamcatcher chairlift running. The noise would impact not only users of Teton Canyon and JSW, but may affect the wildlife in the area as well. In addition the noise generated by construction will be ongoing for many years, as build out would not happen all at once. The helicopters, and large machinery produce a lot of noise that carries quite far.

An additional concern is about the wildlife habitat that would be diminished for critical populations of bighorn sheep, grizzly bears, wolverines, and potentially lynx. Mono Trees has old growth forest which provides a lower elevation habitat for many animals, and South Bowl has vital south facing habitat which can melt out earlier in the spring for bighorn sheep and grizzly bears to utilize. Both of these areas receive little human use which is important in an area that is quite heavily used by people.

Lastly, the Grand Targhee expansion in general will have detrimental impacts on Teton County, Idaho. The increase in people both visiting and working at Targhee will put additional strain on already struggling infrastructure, emergency services, and roads. Grand Targhee does not need to expand into Mono Trees and South Bowl to provide a great skier experience. Keep the growth where it is already allowed. Thank you for your consideration of the above points.