

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/20/2025 8:22:02 PM

First name: Matt

Last name: Thackray

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Grand Targhee Resort has had a nearly indescribable benefit on my family and I for the past twenty years. We love Grand Targhee and we want to support it so that it can be a sustainable destination for locals and visitors alike. On the question of preserving nature, I believe that only those that experience the power of wilderness can truly become advocates for preserving it. Grand Targhee provides an exceptional exposure to true alpine conditions and undoubtedly has helped cement many conservation stewards, and likely for a lifetime. In this instance support of Alternative 2 is warranted, not to decrease our ideals around conservation but to balance the opportunity of our local business partner and their value to our community.

It is a ski resort that was started in order to provide an economic benefit to the surrounding rural communities - which it clearly does. One only need to attend any number of local events of all different stripes in order to see the generous giving that Grand Targhee distributes throughout our communities. Targhee contributed \$21m in direct labor, spending, housing, and transportation to Teton Valley in 2024. I'm not sure how much of the valley's total that is, but I bet it's the likely majority by one organization. Looking back I see conservation easements for grizzlies, or protecting Teton Creek (corridor project) as paying it forward. Look at building housing or running buses that you can hop on even if you're not riding to the top. We have a great community partner in Targhee and I welcome the chance for us to support their expansion for terrain, services, safety, and to our local benefit. One can currently drive farther up Teton Canyon than this ski terrain will sit above. Let's all consider our individual impacts to wildlife and do our best and not put all the responsibility on one player. I saw a wolverine on Peaked in 2017, so the wildlife do adapt.

Lastly, I have had the pleasure of meeting many of the department heads there, and find there is a great dedicated team focused on respecting nature and treating others well. I think they can be great stewards of this new terrain and welcome the opportunity for them to meet that high standard. Let's support them positively and choose alternative 2. Thank you.