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First name: Emmett

Last name: Horvath

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I object to all aspects of Targhee's proposed expansion and development on public lands. The justification that growth is good for everyone is a blatant fallacy, and misleading. The vast majority of the residents of Teton Counties chose to live here because of the natural beauty, myself included; we do not want to watch the landscape we cherish be churned up to benefit a corporate bottom line. Furthermore, allowing Targhee to expand onto public lands will serve to justify further expansion efforts by JHMR and Snow King resorts, as they all have to keep one-uping each other.

My opposition is based on numerous issues, including the impact that expansion and development will have on the natural ecosystem. The proposed projects will result in the destruction of hundreds of threatened White-Bark Pines, impact critical raptor nesting areas, and destroy the habitats of numerous species. Additionally, it will have a detrimental impact on the user experience of backcountry skiers, hikers, and climbers, interrupting viewsheds and blundering into pristine forested terrain. I don't want to be looking at resort development from the top of the Tetons, and I'm confident that few other people would either.

Another point of opposition is based on the detrimental ripple effects that expansion will have on the local communities. While Targhee touts that they will create more jobs, they fail to address the fact that the local communities are already straining under an affordable housing crisis, with this only increasing that problem. The proposed projects appear to be more aimed at drawing in out-of-town skiers who will spend money on amenities than on meeting community and local needs. There's also the issue that any infrastructure increases would, by default of Targhee's location, be in the WUI, in an area that does not have any dedicated fire protection services nearby.

The National Forest is owned by all Americans, and should be preserved and maintained for personal enjoyment and use. The expansionists aspirations of a corporate entity should not take precedent over that primary purpose. I object to and oppose any Targhee expansion outside of the current boundaries, as well as any significant development within current boundaries.