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First name: Unity Last name: Minton Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing in opposition to Grand Targhee's expansion plan - particularly the alternatives that allow Targhee to develop outside of their current permit boundary. This expansion would have negative impacts on the wildlife, especially if they are allowed to develop in the South Bowl and Mono Trees area. This is currently an important habitat for many species including moose, bears, elk, mountain lions and many more as well as numerous birds of prey species and would severely disrupt their habitat and livelihood.

The proposed Tar ghee expansion would also negatively impact our community and lifestyle of local residents by adding more and more traffic and tourists into a community that is already trying to keep up with the growing demands of a rapidly increasing population. This would put further strain on our transportation system and traffic, waste management system (which is already under immense strain), local emergency services, water supply, and not to mention that it would forever alter the untouched beauty of some of these undeveloped areas on Forest Service land. Once it's developed that open space is gone.

Another important thing to consider is the unique situation that Grand Tar ghee Ski resort is located in Wyoming and a totally different state than the community that it serves and because of this, the local community in Teton County, Idaho is highly impacted while not receiving any monetary or tax benefits.

As stated in Teton County News - "Teton County, Idaho, does not receive property tax, sales tax, real estate transfer fees, inclusionary zoning fees, or other sources of revenue from the resort's operations".

One last thing I would like to mention is the loss of the authentic, laid back "small" mountain resort feel, which is why so many of us moved here and continue to reside in Teton County, Idaho. With the expansion of so many resorts into large-scale mountain resorts with mega lines and mega prices, the smaller independent ski areas are becoming increasingly rare while also more highly desired. Grand Targhee is a great resort as it is now and does not need to expand or change anything. The recent addition of the Colter lift was a great expansion and they do not need to just keep growing exponentially.

I hope you take these important issues into consideration and decide to vote NO to Grand Targhee expansion, ESPECIALLY expansion outside of the current Special Use Permit (SUP) area. Thank you for your time and consideration.