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Organization:

Title:

Comments: My strong opposition can be expressed to Grand Targhee Resort (GTR) expanding beyond its current boundaries. While supporting Grand Targhee's efforts to update its facilities and improve visitor experience within its current footprint, expansion into surrounding wildlands could have detrimental consequences that outweigh potential benefits.

The following are the negative impacts of expansion:

Habitat loss and fragmentation for wildlife: Expanding the resort would directly and indirectly impact important wildlife habitats, disrupting migration corridors and increasing human-wildlife conflict.

Impacts on dispersed recreation: The proposed expansion threatens popular areas used for backcountry skiing, Nordic skiing, snowshoeing, and other forms of quiet recreation. These activities provide significant value to the community and should be protected.

Loss of natural scenic beauty: The expansion would negatively affect the stunning views and overall character of the area.

Additionally the South bowl area is such a small, low angle terrain area, it is inconceivable that Targhee would need that area to "improve" their resort. It seems more a performative action in order to inflate their "skiable acreage" and charge more for season and day passes. The trajectory Targhee is headed will cut off all locals from being able to afford to ski in their own backyard.

Prioritize the protection of the environment and community values by considering the long-term consequences of this expansion.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Amanda Penn