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Organization: Tetonia

Title: Mayor

Comments: June 20, 2025

United States Forest Service

Caribou-Targhee National Forest

Kim Pierson, Forest Supervisor

1405 Hollipark Drive

Idaho Falls, ID 83401

RE: Grand Targhee Resort Master Development Plan Projects Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) Public Comment

Dear Supervisor Pierson:

I am sending comments as the Mayor of Tetonia, Idaho. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed Grand Targhee Resort Master Development Plan Project's Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

While I generally support the ability of local businesses to economically grow and develop in a positive and beneficial manner, a proposed project of this size will impact many local businesses and jurisdictions. I am hopeful that this project can proceed in a way that will minimize the negative impacts to those neighboring businesses and jurisdictions. Through mutual discussion and decision-making, I am hopeful that we can find some mutually beneficial solutions to the opportunities and problems that are inherent in such a proposal.

First, much of the benefit for this proposed growth would help our Wyoming neighbors; much of the burden would fall on the Idaho side of the border. This burden would impact our city and county infrastructures and resources. Our roads, water and sewer systems would see an increased demand which will be a difficulty for our Idaho towns. Specifically, this would impact Tetonia, Driggs, Victor and Teton County (Idaho). Idaho resources would be required for guest services, employee housing, transportation, medical, food, lodging and entertainment. I urge that the Idaho participants be included in all discussions and decisions so that we can hopefully find ways to minimize these burdens on the Idaho neighbors. I am hopeful that the burdens and the benefits can be equitably shared between the Idaho and Wyoming stakeholders.

Second, we need to find ways to protect our wildlife populations that would be impacted by the proposed growth and development. We need to protect our natural resources including our water, air, wildlife, light, dark, and enjoyment of property rights. I urge that we do not allow any growth that will destroy any of these valuable natural resources. For any allowed growth, I urge that we establish methods of growth that will preserve our natural resources and our rights to enjoy such natural resources.

In order to proceed in a reasonable and equitable manner, I respectfully request that we proceed in a manner that ensures the following:

- Our Idaho cities' and counties' comprehensive plans need to be respected and supported;
- We need to develop a cost sharing mechanism to help fund the increased burden on our towns and counties;
- We need to ensure that there is sufficient employee housing for the increased workers needed for such an expansion;

- We need to make sure that the infrastructure in our local jurisdictions is protected;
- We need to ensure that our local residents' quality of life is not adversely affected;
- We need to ensure that our sensitive environment areas are protected;
- We need to ensure that our wildlife and wildlife habitat is protected;
- We need to ensure the maximum protection of our natural resources including water, air, light and darkness.

Thank you for your consideration of these important matters.

Sincerely yours,

Brent W. Schindler
Mayor
City of Teton