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First name: Thomas

Last name: Peter

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

Mel Bolling, C/O Jay Pence

Teton Basin District Ranger

P.O. Box 777

Driggs, ID. 83422

Dear Mr. Pence and Mr. Bolling,

We have lived in Driggs and skied for years at Grand Targhee. We hike the trails in and around Grand Targhee. We are so fortunate to have these pristine lands available for the wildlife, wildflowers, streams, and undisturbed terrain in around this area. Grand Targhee is special because it is a smaller ski resort, and is still a very natural area for the most part. Grand Targhee has done a good job in making a great place to be, by not being too big and overdeveloped.

This plan now being proposed is several ski lifts too large. It is going into areas that should never be developed. Having hiked the south side of Mary's Nipple and Table Mountain many times I have already seen the deterioration from the increased popularity of these areas. This is with access now being primarily hiking in three four or five miles uphill. This is one of the most beautiful pristine areas in the United States and belongs to the people of the United States and needs to be preserved.

The South Bowl West and South Bowl East and its connector with roads and lifts, are in the middle of this basically wilderness area. It is a disaster. This area will destroy a natural watershed that feeds into the valley. It will destroy an area that is not really accessible at all in winter, and hence a haven for wildlife. It is not an area that can handle human civilization and should be left alone. Our Teton Valley, Idaho is a very special place. This will ruin much of it. We strongly oppose this part of the plan and this whole area should be off limits to roads and other developments.

We already have bike trails at Targhee and the Big Holes. We already have cross country ski and snowshoe areas. We also have this special pristine area that you now want to destroy as a natural area. Do not do it!

From those who have hiked here and seen how fragile this area is, please listen. No roads, no lifts, no development in this area.

This is a huge mistake!

Sincerely
Tom Peter