

Date submitted (UTC-11): 10/8/2020 6:45:33 AM

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Comments:

Grand Targhee Master Development Plan Projects

Industrial recreation has already inundated much of the Teton Valley. I urge the Forest Service to give the highest priority to an analysis of the long term effects of the proposed plan on the valley's wildlife, vegetation, erosion potential, and backcountry skiers. Climate change would be one of the many criteria.

If carried out in adherence with these principles, a decision against approval of the plan should result. Even minor encroachments into the South Bowl, Mono Trees, and greater Teton Valley are likely to create serious unintended consequences. A comprehensive EIS should make these threats clear.

Backcountry enthusiasts have the lowest level of harmful impacts on the valley's environment and ecology and the highest level of appreciation for the natural values of the valley. It is in the best interest of the region and the US public that backcountry users be protected from intensive development.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment for the record.