

Date submitted (UTC-11): 10/11/2020 5:08:42 PM

First name: Katie

Last name: Houmes

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

Dear Mel Bolling, c/o Jay Pence:

Re: Grand Targhee Master Development Plan

Thank you for the opportunity to express my thoughts regarding this proposal. I truly hope that my concerns, as well as many those of others, are not disregarded. I grew up skiing at Grand Targhee and have a 1-year old son. I am excited to share with him the opportunity that I had as a child.

This proposal, if approved, would dramatically change the culture of the resort, would urbanize our community in Teton Valley and would threaten the sensitive environment and wildlife that we treasure.

I am in tremendous OPPOSITION regarding restaurant building, especially the restaurant at the top of Fred's mountain. This is the edge of our wilderness boundary. In a time when rural expansion and outdoor movements are booming, we need to protect our sensitive wildernesses now more than ever! We need to strive for a culture of minimal impact and responsible enjoyment of nature rather than sell out to greed and provide cheap thrills at devastating expense to our environment. I have grave concerns regarding the forest destruction that would take place and the ludicrous feat of delivering septic, water and electricity to the top of the mountain. Additionally, this will be a permanent scar on the top of a beautiful mountain and will be an eyesore for each community members' treasured views.

I am also in OPPOSITION to the expansion of lift access. I have skied Targhee for nearly 30 years, the terrain is great as is. As a lifetime, Wyoming resident, I have seen how the wilderness and wildlife has changed and is more and more threatened by human encroachment. When is enough, enough? If Targhee wants to offer more terrain, why not create lift access to the already approved area on Peaked?

I am in OPPOSITION to the creation of night skiing. In all reality, Targhee is one of the coldest resorts I have ever skied. I very much question the success of this endeavor without any help from solar warming. Furthermore, light pollution is a big concern for me as a community member. Finally, as a teenager, I often ventured over to Snow King for night skiing and witnessed illicit drug use and alcohol use that is frequently associated with night skiing. This is stated only to point out the safety concerns for all involved when driving home on the winter roads while people are more likely to be under the influence.

Grand Targhee is a great resort. I understand its need to remain successful financially in order to keep the lifts running. In my opinion, this proposal seems to be a move of greed rather than a move of sustainable growth. I strongly believe that this proposal threatens our community and environment in countless ways and I hope that it is not approved.