

Date submitted (UTC-11): 10/13/2020 7:32:09 AM

First name: Amanda

Last name: Head

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

I strongly oppose the Targhee expansion for a multitude of reasons. I have many concerns regarding everything it will affect. My first concern is for the natural community this will directly upset. I worry for the abundant wildlife, insects, trees, birds and land. Keeping the canyon pristine and quiet is very important, especially in a world that is losing its forests at an alarming rate due to fire and human expansion.

I don't want to lose back country access to an area that people have enjoyed skiing for years. There is a BIG difference between low impact backcountry skiing and expanding a ski resort that includes building roads, ski lifts, and buildings on our pristine national forest. Turning South Bowl and beyond from an "earn your turns" area that is available to anyone to an area that is only accessible to the elitist rich community via cat skiing makes me sad and frustrated.

Then there is our human community. The expansion is happening in Wyoming, but the towns directly affected are in Idaho. We need to take a good long look at what the impacts will be to an already growing Teton Valley Idaho. What about our roads, hospital, schools, sewer systems, wildlife corridors, Fire/EMS, water ways, ranches and farms?

"If you build it they will come" has already proven itself true with the mountain biking up at Targhee. Think about what will happen to this area if plans to expand and become another Vail, Jackson Hole, or Aspen are implemented. I fear that we will lose more than just skiing privileges - we will lose our quiet and simple way of life Teton Valley is known for and appreciated by so many.