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Organization:

Title:

Comments:

Dear Forest Supervisor Mel Bolling,

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments regarding the Grand Targhee Master Development Plan projects. There are a myriad of valid concerns spanning from the displacement of backcountry skiers due to the South Bowl expansion, to the impacts to wildlife e.g. lynx and bighorn sheep from new ski trails, lift construction, and an increase in users; today I focus my comment on three foundational issues.

1. Please do not expand into South Bowl due to the worrisome impacts this would have on the adjacent Jedediah Smith Wilderness. Solitude, primitive recreation, and many other wilderness characteristics would be jeopardized by this expansion of the ski area boundary.
2. It is inappropriate to amend the 1997 Revised Caribou-Targhee National Forest plan at the request of a private developer. Stick to the Special Use Permit boundaries and wildlife management as outlined in the current plan. These can be updated with proper public involvement during the next forest plan revision process.
3. The Grand Targhee Master Plan was noticed on August 26, 2020. This means that the Caribou-Targhee National Forest can and should choose to not use the new and flawed CEQ NEPA changes, and instead stick the procedural law as it has been upheld since 1978.

Thank you for considering my comments today. I look forward to staying engaged throughout this process to ensure positive outcomes for the future of Grand Targhee, and the public wildlands these proposed projects stand to impact.