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Comments:

I am concerned and therefore object at this time to Grand Targhee Resort's expansion plans. In the face of rapid growth in the region and climate change it seems this is a very short sighted plan despite the multi-faceted long term repercussions.

Scientific modeling must be utilized to determine what will be feasible in the long term for Grand Targhee in the face of climate change (though common sense is adequate.) It is time we start being realistic about climate change-developing a lower elevation, south facing slope does not make sense.

Furthermore, it is unclear the extent to which the broader context of declining biodiversity, increasing habitat fragmentation, species migration due to climate change, and so on have been taken into account.

While this narrow slice of the Tetons' west side may be deemed able to tolerate such a level of disturbance and development, it does not account for the bigger picture of development throughout the valley and evidence of the negative impact on wildlife that may be seen in many different ways as wildlife is increasingly being pushed into ever smaller movement corridors. Rarely do we take the time to spiral out further to look at the region; the country; and so on yet this is of vital importance. While the global scale of the planet's imperiled biodiversity and habitat loss may feel difficult to equate to what may feel like a small development project in some relatively well protected corner of the world, we must think globally, and act locally if we are to stem the tide of species (including plant) decline and extinction. This trend is only going to intensify with climate change, climate related migration (humans and non). The IUCN, UN and additional studies by international scientific governing bodies all attest to this. If every development project sees itself as not the problem, and an exception to the alarming trend and projections, we will continue to fail at protecting the future of species other than humans.

This scale of dialogue must be a part of the decision making process, particularly in a place like the Tetons where conservation is not only part of Teton County Wyoming's Comprehensive Plan and vision for the future of the county, but also routinely indicated as a priority amongst residents. I urge the deciding committees to weigh the short term, hyper-local benefits with the long term, more global risks. It's not worth it. Thank you for your time.