

January 21, 2021

Mel Bolling (Forest Supervisor)
Jay Pence (District Ranger)
Caribou - Targhee National Forest
1405 Hollipark Drive
Idaho Falls, ID 83401



RE: Formal Request to Drop Interim Cat-Skiing from Project Proposal

Dear Mel and Jay,

With this letter, Grand Targhee Resort (GTR) requests that the concept of providing Snow Cat skiing on an interim basis within the South Bowl area be officially withdrawn from our Project Proposal and as a component of the GTR Master Development Plan (MDP) Proposed Action (and all other action alternatives) as is being reviewed presently in the GTR Projects Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process. Please consider this letter a formal request from GTR to remove the interim Snow Cat skiing from the project proposal, and to replace it with a planned guided side-country ski operation in South Bowl that would be conducted by GTR. We additionally plan that this area/terrain would be available, and remain open to, the general recreating public in a self-guided format, conditions permitting, for self-guided use in a controlled setting. We wish to be clear that GTR is not proposing exclusive use of the area in South Bowl and that this terrain would remain open to the public for self-guided use, conditions permitting, in a controlled setting.

During the public scoping period, members of the public expressed concerns about Snow Cat skiing excluding public access to South Bowl in the interim period between potential project approval and the ultimate installation of proposed South Bowl lift(s) and associated skiing terrain.

In place of the previously conceived Snow Cat skiing operation in South Bowl, GTR would like to propose the implementation of a guided backcountry ski operation. GTR proposes to add an access gate at the top of the South Bowl terrain for guided guests and the general public. With this proposal, GTR does still envision that the South Bowl terrain would be made a

portion of our permitted special use boundary and that we would assume the operational need to conduct routine snow stabilization and snow safety activities within this terrain area. We would provide guided side-country ski trips for our guests who are interested in a more directed and assisted experience or simply allow users to enjoy the terrain in a self-guided capacity. Users of this terrain (both guided and self-guided) would return to the ski area by skinning/skating/traversing along a minimally-maintained egress route, which follows a 5-10 percent contour back to the base of the approved Peaked Lift.

I look forward to working with your team on this important change. Please let me know if there is any additional information I can provide to ensure the removal of the interim Snow Cat skiing project component and its replacement with our proposal for guided and self-guided side-country ski operations as described above.

Respectfully submitted,
Grand Targhee Resort, LLC.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Geordie Gillett". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Geordie Gillett
Vice President and General Manager