



News Release

For Further Information Contact:
Susie Barnett-Bushong
307-353-2300
www.grandtarghee.com

Statements regarding the Federal Government Decision to exchange 120 Acres at Grand Targhee for 400 Acres at Squirrel Meadows

“The federal governments decision today to exchange 120 acres at Grand Targhee Resort for 400 acres at Squirrel Meadows is a huge win for the members of our local community because future land-use decisions will be under local control. This land exchange will not lead to significantly greater development than the 686 units currently approved in Targhee’s master development plan. Equally important is the fact that the land exchange will protect prime grizzly bear and other wildlife habitat at Squirrel Meadows and within the Greater Yellowstone ecosystem grizzly bear recovery zone. We will continue to work with both counties in Idaho and Wyoming, as well as through the Teton Area Advisory Forum (TAAF) for solutions to regional concerns. Our desire is to develop Targhee’s base area in a manner that maintains its special character, better serves our guests, and protects the environment. The public also benefits from the preservation of wetlands at Squirrel Meadows and the fact that the federal government has retained ownership of all wetlands at the base of the resort.”

From George N. Gillett, Jr., who, along with his family, owns Grand Targhee Resort:

“I am very pleased that the federal government, by way of a very thorough and extensive process, will be able to forever protect the valuable wetlands and wildlife habitats at Squirrel Meadows. The land exchange will assist us in becoming a true year-round resort complete with the variety of lodging, dining, and other activities that recreationalists have grown to expect. It’s no secret that Targhee is a very special place for the people who work and visit here, as well as for my family and me. We, along with Larry Williamson and his staff, look forward to working with the community through the local land use process.”

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