



March 23, 2020

Gopaul Noojibail
Acting Superintendent
Grand Teton National Park
P.O. Box 170
Moose, WY 83012-0170

Dear Superintendent Noojibail,

Teton County, the Town of Jackson, and St. John's Health recognize the tremendous value that Grand Teton National Park brings to our town, county, citizens, and economy. We also recognize the dual mandate of the National Park Service to preserve and protect natural resources while allowing for the enjoyment of the general public.

We are writing to express our concerns regarding the operation of Grand Teton National Park during the Covid-19 pandemic that has led to a declaration of National Emergency.

As you may know, Teton County and the Town of Jackson have implemented aggressive measures to reduce the rates of infection in our county. We have mandated the closure of many non-essential businesses and limited the size of gatherings through a public health order issued by Dr. Travis Riddell, our County Public Health Officer.

We have taken these steps in order to reduce the peak demand for critical health care services, and to attempt to keep that demand in line with our treatment capacity. While our hospital is as prepared as possible, it has a limited capacity to treat residents of our county, and a large and sudden increase in the number of patients needing critical care services could overwhelm its capacity and our ability to treat everyone in need.

We are particularly concerned that an influx of visitors will increase that peak demand for critical health care, and that we will not have the capacity to treat those visitors.

We hope that you keep that concern in mind as you make decisions regarding the operation of both Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks during this national emergency.

We further urge you to consider the Public Health Orders that have been issued by Dr. Riddell – as well as future orders – as you make operational decisions that will impact the health of Teton County residents. While it is our understanding that those orders do not apply to National Park operations, we believe it is critical that we are consistent in our response to this pandemic.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and for your service and concern for the well-being of our residents and tourists alike.

Sincerely,

Natalia D. Macker, Chairwoman
Teton County Board of County Commissioners

Attest: Sherry L. Daigle
Teton County Clerk

Pete Muldoon, Mayor
Town of Jackson

Attest: Sandy Birdyshaw,
Town of Jackson

Jodie Pond, Director
Teton County Health Department

Dr. Travis Riddell
Teton District Health Officer

Dr. Paul Beaupre, Chief Executive Officer
St. John's Health



March 23, 2020

Tricia O'Connor
Forest Supervisor
Bridger Teton National Forest
P.O. Box 1888
Jackson, WY 83001

Dear Supervisor O'Connor,

Teton County, the Town of Jackson, and St. John's Health recognize the tremendous value that Bridger-Teton National Forest brings to our town, county, citizens, and economy. We also recognize the dual mandate of the National Park and Forest Service to preserve and protect natural resources while allowing for the enjoyment of the general public.

We are writing to express our concerns regarding the operation of Bridger-Teton National Forest National Parks during the Covid-19 pandemic that has led to a declaration of National Emergency.

As you may know, Teton County and the Town of Jackson have implemented aggressive measures to reduce the rates of infection in our county. We have mandated the closure of many non-essential businesses and limited the size of gatherings through a public health order issued by Dr. Travis Riddell, our County Public Health Officer.

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Jodie Pond, Director
Teton County Health Department

Dr. Travis Riddell
Teton District Health Officer

Dr. Paul Beaupre, Chief Executive Officer
St. John's Health



March 23, 2020

Cameron Sholly
Superintendent
Yellowstone National Park
PO Box 168
Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190-0168

Dear Superintendent Sholly,

Teton County, the Town of Jackson, and St. John's Health recognize the tremendous value that Yellowstone National Park brings to our town, county, citizens, and economy. We also recognize the dual mandate of the National Park Service to preserve and protect natural resources while allowing for the enjoyment of the general public.

We are writing to express our concerns regarding the operation of Yellowstone National Park during the Covid-19 pandemic that has led to a declaration of National Emergency.

As you may know, Teton County and the Town of Jackson have implemented aggressive measures to reduce the rates of infection in our county. We have mandated the closure of many non-essential businesses and limited the size of gatherings through a public health order issued by Dr. Travis Riddell, our County Public Health Officer.

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