

Jordan-Reily Nomination

CHRISTINA THOMURE

Nominated by:
Gene Fulkerson

Christina Thomure works with Grand Targhee Resort's Sustainability Program and as a Commercial Sales Manager for Creative Energies, a renewable energy company with offices in WY and ID. Christina has served on steering committees for the Greater Yellowstone Framework for Sustainable Development, the Linx co-op feasibility study, and was the program contact for Grand Targhee Resort's participation in UnCommon Sense.



photo courtesy Teton's Valley-Citizen

When you enjoy the highest degree of productivity from the lowest number of resources, that's just good business; it's also called sustainability, a recent buzzword in both public and private sectors. As Grand Targhee Resort's Director of Sustainability, Christina Thomure has generated the momentum and established the dialogue necessary for a greater understanding of how this type of environmentally minded efficiency can affect a cultural shift into gear for the greater good.

"We are still learning about what 'good' is, trying to create a support network," Christina said. "People already love Grand Targhee. I want them to be proud of the resort for what we're doing up here by looking at every option available to lessen our impacts. We have to think inside of our island, but outside the box."

For the past three years, Christina has promoted these beliefs as she has helped steer Grand Targhee through the rough waters of trying to be environmentally friendly and economically viable simultaneously.

She became involved with the Yellowstone Business Partnership, a relationship she has fostered and enhanced at Targhee. A recent graduate of the YBP's Uncommon Sense two-year program and a member of Teton Valley's Green Forum, Christina has placed a priority on continually educating herself and passing that knowledge and training along to Targhee's proactive community of employees.

From grasping the greenhouse gases that Targhee emits to understanding how to best divert the resort's waste stream, Christina is encouraged by the change in behavior that has taken place up at 8,000 feet.

"From the front line to senior management, priorities have shifted to focus on sustainability," Christina said.

While she acknowledged significant challenges as Targhee tries to put the best practices in place as a Wyoming resort that depends on an Idaho gateway, Christina feels equipped with the sharp shears necessary to cut through the red tape she will encounter along the way. From a vision of a composting greenhouse that could supply the resort to the idea of a satellite university to teach sustainability up at altitude, Christina's mind is filled with ideas for the future.

In the meantime, Christina helps Grand Targhee establish itself as a leader in the industry by minimizing its impacts on the environment while maximizing the outdoor experience that brought her to the Rocky Mountains from the Midwest.

Christine's efforts in greening her environment and educating others qualifies her for Far West's Jordan-Reily Award.