**October 9, 2022**

US forest Service – Flathead National Forest

Attn: Kurt Steele, Supervisor and Shelli Mavor, Project Lead

The sale of the Holland Lake Lodge to an out of state corporation, POWDR, is a clear and present threat not only to the immediate wild, natural, and unspoiled environment surrounding the Lodge, but would set an appalling president for future destruction and degradation of the entire Swan Valley. The Swan is flanked by the Mission Mountain Wilderness on the west side and by the Swan Mountain Range to the east. Holland Lake Lodge and the Swan are the jumping off points for entry into the Bob Marshall Wilderness. Any attempt at development bordering these precious wilderness areas is wrong!

POWDR’s proposed expansion of the Lodge, 26 NEW cabins, a restaurant, paved parking lots, etc. is obscene! The dangers to Federally listed endangered animal species, species that are being considered for Federal protection, and designated critical habitat are enormous! Then there are also fish species and their habitat found in Holland Lake and Holland Creek. The Bull Trout that live in Holland Lake and Holland Creek are GENETICALLY DISTINCT and must be protected. This area is also designated as critical habitat for Canada lynx. Wolverine have been proposed for listing under the Endangered Species Act. This area is ideal habitat for both Canada lynx and wolverine as long as there is NO development. And of course, there are the Montana grizzly bears. The area surrounding the Lodge is the primary conservation area for grizzly bears in the Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem. It is imperative that the linkage for genetic interchange between the Bob Marshall Wilderness, the Mission Mountain Wilderness, the Rattlesnake Wilderness, and all roadless habitats surrounding these wilderness areas for the Montana grizzly bears be protected and maintained. The Swan Valley needs to keep its Undeveloped and natural environment.