

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/4/2022 3:15:55 PM

First name: Spencer

Last name: Bartow

Organization:

Title:

Comments: As a fifth generational Montanan, this is not what the state needs. With these expansions comes more people and despite what the tourism office or the state thinks, the people do not want that. With those people, the places that are "improved" are then trashed by overcrowding, excessive use, and people litter everywhere. As much as everyone can preach "pack it in pack it out" people still find a way.

As someone who recently had to move to Utah as well, I have begun to see the impact of the "improvement" of wild areas first hand, and it truly does not feel the same once the ease of access is put in. Especially in the places that the suggested expansions are. POWDR and what it has done with Park city and Utah are not Montana. That is not the way of life and desire of my statesmen. The outdoors have become so industrialized in Utah and the places this company has touched that it takes the "soul" out of what they intend to put in. Giant modern lodgings detract from the forest land and natural landscape so much more than they add. After all, we aim for no trace left behind.

These sorts of lodges also attract the wealthy, who then buy up these lands and influence the politics and lifestyle of the state. Our unfortunately run tourism office now advertises the beautiful state in other states to bring in that wealth. Again, the statesmen do not want this. Montana is an incredibly beautiful place, truly unlike any other I've ever seen. Keep it the Last Best Place. Protect our nation and states forests. Do not invite more unwelcome developments and ruin the place that I and so many generations of people have been raised in and appreciate with all of their hearts.