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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear US Forest Service,

I encourage you to proceed with extreme caution on the Holland Lake Lodge Expansion. I am not opposed to renovating and restoring the current lodge. The Holland Lake Lodge is a historic building that could be preserved both in its exterior finishes and its lakefront footprint. But I am opposed to expanding the "Lodge" if that means adding additional buildings that will change the character of the lodge as viewed from the Lake or the character of the Lake and its human use patterns.

I am also a Forest Service lease holder on Holland Lake. My family holds a historic cabin lease on Holland Lake. My lease forbids me from altering my property beyond what is already existing. I encourage the Forest Service to apply the same standard to the Lodge. I am forbidden to clear a view of the lake from my cabin - my lease restrictions prohibit the clearing of trees to provide any view of the Lake. I encourage the Forest Service to apply the same standard to the Holland Lake Lodge. I understand that the current building is visible from the Lake. I expect that no further buildings, new or old, will be visible from the Lake when the renovations are completed. The Lodge already has more lake access and more visibility than any other lease holder on the Lake. I am strongly opposed to allowing the developer/owner of the Holland Lake Lodge to expand the existing facility in any way that changes the visual character of Historic Holland Lake Lodge and grounds as viewed from the Lake. If my rustic cabin whose exterior has not been changed since it was built in 1950 is forbidden from being seen from the Lake, any new construction or site alterations at the Lodge should conform to the same standards. You state the "Holland Lake Lodge operates under a special use permit authority", I do not care what you call it - my Historic Cabin and the Holland Lake Lodge and both of Forest Service land that neither of us can own. We are both lease holders - I expect the Forest Service to apply an equal standard to the Historic Cabin leases and the Holland Lake Lodge lease.

I urge caution with the expansion plans. Holland Lake is a rare lake of size in the region that is in the Bull Trout watershed. No actions, alterations or construction at the Lodge site should be allowed to impact the water quality of the lake. Holland Lake has hosted rare nesting Loons in Montana in recent years. I expect that the changes to the Lodge will not be permitted to impact the nesting of the Loons. The expanded Lodge facility is intended to attract more visitors. I am not opposed to that in principle, but motorized watercrafts need to be restricted or even banned if more people are going to be encouraged to use the Lake by visiting the Lodge. It would be a tragedy if the new expanded Holland Lake Lodge offered motorized watercraft rentals, especially "personal watercraft" which are particularly noisy and disruptive to the peaceful character of the relatively pristine Holland Lake. Holland Lake small compared to Flathead Lake. If the Lodge owners/developers believe the Lodge can only be economically viable as a business by destroying the visual and audio character of the Lake by encouraging motorized use of the lake, then the permit MUST be denied. The developers can go to Flathead Lake which is larger and can accommodate more boat traffic if they need to rent motorized watercrafts. I am not opposed to the Lodge renting non-motorized watercraft (standup paddle boards, kayaks, canoes, rowboats, etc), and I am not opposed to the Lodge providing a limited number of electric low-power motors for equal access opportunities for physically challenged individuals that cannot physically power a non-motorized watercraft. But no motorized watercraft rented, owned, or operated by the Lodge should be powerful enough to generate a wake. Personally, I think all motorized watercrafts should be prohibited on Holland Lake because the lake is too fragile and small to accommodate many of them. The Lake is crowded when there are even 5 motorboats on the Lake. And on some recent Fourth Of July Weekends the motorized traffic on the Lake was disruptive to the character of the Lake and dangerous for the people using the Lake.

Please do not allow the renovations and expansions at the Holland Lake Lodge to alter the character of Holland

Lake. Do not allow Joni Mitchell to once again be a profit with her words:

"They paved paradise  
And put up a parking lot  
With a pink hotel, a boutique  
And a swinging hot spot

Don't it always seem to go  
That you don't know what you've got  
Till it's gone  
They paved paradise  
And put up a parking lot"

All US Forest Service lease holders (Lodge and Cabins) need to live by the same rules.

Preserve the Lake.

Preserve the Lodge.

DO NOT destroy Holland Lake.

I oppose any changes to the "special use permit" of Holland Lake Lodge that will change the character of the Lodge or the Holland Lake.