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Title:

Comments: Objectivity, the first thing I thought of when responding to the Forest Services request for public comment on the proposed Holland Lake Lodge Facility Expansion. We are faced today with difficult decisions between people on both sides committed to their convictions.

Congress established the Forest Service 117 years ago to provide quality water and timber for our nations benefit. The Forest Service's role has expanded over the years to provide the scientific and technical knowledge necessary to protect and sustain our natural resources on all lands providing benefits to people within the capabilities of the land.

And here lies the question. Does the proposed project expansion provide the benefit within the capabilities of the land. I am opposed to the expansion of the resort because I do not believe it does as it will not conserve and sustain the value of this resource.

To what extent does the role of the Forest Service to provide public access and recreational opportunities in our national forest jeopardize the integrity and value of the resource. The ever increasing demands of outdoor recreation will continue to force hard decisions about balancing opportunities and resource impacts.

Although I have thought about it, I do not believe we need to know more about Powdr Corporation or the existing owners of Holland Lake Lodge and their business arrangement to make a decision about this proposed expansion. I do know that the past few years and Covid has had a great impact on their business.

I also don't believe our emotions and personal memories we have experienced with family and friends at Holland Lake over the last 25 years should be considered in this opposition to this expansion. We Montanans must be considerate and share our home as long as it is compatible with our natural resources.

This proposed expansion at Holland Lake Lodge Complex would unquestionably change forever what we value most about this Montana treasure. Let us not expand our horizons to the detriment of what we hold most dear.

Thank you!

William Gibson