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Comments: I do not support the Holland Lake Expansion plan and insist the USFS preforms on environmental assessment to analyze the impacts of this plan.

New facilities that increase the amount of people that visit Holland Lake and the surrounding forest could have large impacts on the environment. Construction of new buildings create sound pollution and water pollution which are both extremely harmful to wildlife and delicate lake ecosystems. Increases in visitors will increase the amount of human impacts in the area as well. Animals can become more accustomed to human presence which is often harmful and even deadly for the animal, such as bears. Increases in trash can also be expected.

We also can consider the impact visitors will have by driving to Holland lake. The most likely places visitors will be coming from are from the Missoula or the Kalispell area, both of which are about a 1.5 hour car drive to the lake. This will require visitors to drive over 70 miles. Estimates can be made to calculate the carbon emissions from driving to the lodge before an increase in visitation and after.

There are many ways this expansion can impact the Holland Lake area. It is the responsibility of the forest service to ensure we leave no trace and manage the land in a way that is beneficial to every species and individual, not just one company based in a different state. There are examples of how high visitation can harm the NW MT ecosystems in places like Glacier National Park. This plan should not be enacted until all proper analysis has been done to demonstrate Holland Lake and the surrounding ecosystem will not be harmed by this expansion plan.