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Title:

Comments: Based on decades of experience, National Park Service (NPS) and other grizzly bear management specialist clearly communicate their efforts today relate to human-bear relations, with a focused on training people, not bears. Having visited the Holland Lake area, it is obvious these professionals are trying to protect the threatened grizzly bear population. As a scientist, an avid outdoors person, and defender of wildlife, Tourons have no idea how to act responsibly while visiting areas inhabited by bears.

According to NPS research, the current and positive economic impact is considerable, perhaps exceeding \$35k per bear, so bear managers are working with people to minimize conflicts. The wild landscape is shrinking the size of secure bear habitat while simultaneously introducing a variety of attractants that encourage bears to roam into "urban wildlife zone". There are not enough wildlife personnel to educate visitors and recently relocated homeowners. People no idea they've entered bear country. This is especially true in recreation-oriented and mountain-adjacent areas like Flathead valley and the greater Holland Lake area.

Plunking a larger resort down on Holland Lake will have negative effects and will not be limited to the 15-acre property. Numerous studies, fact-based research shows that recreational development on the edge or in public lands have ancillary effects that extend far into the surrounding area.

Ignoring reality and allowing the Holland Lodge expansion without an environmental impact assessment is completely contrary to the Endangered Species Act, as well as judicial rulings in 2021. The expansion will seriously disrupt the habit and corridors used by endangered wildlife, and this is contrary to public law.

As People travel further and more frequently into remote areas, bear encounters increase. In this case, the encounters will result in killing of People and endangered bears.

Stop the madness, do not accept the expansion. Protect our Public Lands.