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Comments: A Federal agency must prepare an EIS if it is proposing a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

As I am sure you will hear thousands of times over, Holland Lake is a special place to countless people, regardless of if you are a native Montanan, transplant, or visitor. I am sure you will receive thousands of objections on this development which is a testament to how Holland Lake holds a special place in people's heart. Some of those objects may raise some serious concerns that should be addressed through this NEPA process, others will simply be voicing their opposition. In either case, it cannot be understated that the proposed project will significantly alter the quality of the human environment at Holland Lake. In no way shape or form are people stating that Holland Lake is a pristine, undeveloped mountain lake. In fact, the argument for a categorical exclusion to NEPA is that the area is already developed and this only adds "a little bit more" development. I know you can only analyze what has been proposed, but I would challenge you to consider when the final straw is reached. What level of development is "too much"? As several commenters will state, the development will never get smaller, in fact it will only grow over time. It will start with a lodge and a couple dozen cabins, then a couple dozen more in 5 years maybe, then another lodge 5 years after that, then another, and another... till the entire shoreline of Holland Lake is 1 mega resort. If you give a mouse a cookie, chances are, he will want to rent jet skis and water ski boats, and then paragliding and sail boats, etc... You get my point. Even though you are to only analyze what has been proposed, I would at least challenge you to write into a master plan that no further development can happen (including expansion of recreational services).

The Quality of the Human Environment: Anyone who has spent a few nights at the Holland Lake campground, or one of the residential cabins, or at the iconic Holland Lake Lodge will agree: the quality of the human environment at Holland Lake is incredible due to the fact that there honestly aren't a ton of humans around. Any increase to the human capacity at Holland Lake, weather that be through added campsites, cabins, or the lodge would cause significant deterioration of the human experience at Holland Lake. The significance is such that an environmental impact statement is required. Additionally, due to the high level of public attention, the USFS should elevate the public involvement to match this.

Under NEPA guidelines, a CE may be considered in the following examples: issuing administrative personnel procedures, making minor facility renovations (such as installing energy efficient lighting), and reconstruction of hiking trails on public lands.

The facility improvements proposed go far beyond "renovations" and would more than double (if not triple?) the human footprint in the area. And the hiking trail expansion also goes far beyond "reconstruction" but would include further expansion of the human footprint.