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First name: James
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Comments: Dear Flathead National Forest,

Holland Lake is an incredible, invaluable resource of the Flathead National Forest. The ecological, recreation, and Wilderness values associated with Holland Lake and the Swan Valley are unique and irreplaceable. The current lightly-developed character of the Swan Valley provides wildlife habitat and aquatic ecosystem integrity that is very rare and rapidly disappearing in the United States. Recent land exchanges have provided exceptional opportunities to enhance these current values.

POWDR's - a large ski resort developer and operator based in Park City, Utah - proposed expansion of Holland Lake Lodge will irretrievably diminish these unique and irreplaceable values.

Substantial new commercial development on national forest lands adjacent to Holland Lake will have significant direct, indirect and cumulative impacts on these values.

It is shameful that the Flathead National Forest leadership have pre-determined that such a proposed development will not have significant environmental impacts and a categorical exclusion is an appropriate decision-making process. Is the Forest Service blind to the unique cultural, social and ecological values of the Swan Valley and associated Wildernesses? Why does the Flathead National Forest believe that a major expansion of commercial development on national forest system lands in the Swan Valley is in the public interest?

The Forest Service must change its current course to openly and honestly engage the public in its decision-making on whether it is in the public interest to authorize the proposed modifications to POWDR's special use permit. Any Forest Service decision must fully informed by extensive public comment opportunities and an environmental impact statement that considers, among other relevant factors, the broader land-use, social, and ecological context of the Swan Valley and surrounding Wilderness areas.

Keep it wild!