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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Citing The Code of Federal Regulations; Title 36 Chapter II Part 220 § 220.6(c):

"...(if) the proposed action may have a significant effect on the environment, prepare an EA. If the responsible official determines, based on scoping, that the proposed action may have a significant environmental effect, prepare an EIS."

New development (eg: new buildings) is NOT included in the U.S. Forest Service guidance for categorical exclusions. Period. About-face. New construction of any kind should be properly scoped with an EIS. Categorical exclusion, the lowest level of National Environmental Policy Act analysis, is appropriate for a number of items, BUT expanding a private, commercial resort is not one of them.

Please do the work to reach out to local communities and locals that recreate in this area year-round to collect their input. This area is adjacent to the third largest wilderness area complex in the lower 48 states. Please be more sensitive to the buffer zone surrounding this special area, the rustic characteristics of what is already in place (history), and the precedent you could be setting for future "high-end resort" development around the entire Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex (and other wilderness areas in our nation's system).

Perhaps some upgrades to current facilities would be permissible for CE, but the plans presented for expansion certainly are not fitting according to federal guidelines. It seems rather likely that you'll be exposing the NF to liability if you proceed with a simple CE for this project. Please do better. Thank you.