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Title:

Comments: Please, please do not approve the Holland Lake Lodge expansion.

Others have commented that this expansion is a major change which should not be approved under a Categorical Exclusion but require a full environmental impact statement. I will leave the legalities to others more knowledgeable than me. For my comment I think the issue transcends identifying and mitigating of environmental impacts.

My wife and I have lived in Montana for more than forty years, raising three children and now have two grandchildren living in Seeley Lake. Holland Lake is a place where our children gained a love of nature; in our canoe, marveling at the crystal clear water, seeing trout 20 30 feet below us; a picnic under the water fall, the trailhead for hikes into the wilderness, loons and ducks, learning to pay attention as we hike through the home of bears, a crisp clear fall day under golden larch.

The plan is to" upgrade access to the outdoors", "improve the lodge" "provide the public with upgraded accommodations and recreation opportunities"

Maybe the "upgrade" is to let the pine and larch grow for another hundred years instead removing them for a parking lot. Upgrade the sewage lagoon? how about our grandchildren's children floating quietly on crystal clear water listening to loons. Maybe instead of high-speed internet and looking at a screen, kids could watch the glow of the evening sun on the mountains.

Provide the public with upgraded accommodations? If this is like other POWDR resorts most of the public won't be able to afford to stay at Holland Lake Lodge; certainly no one with an average Montana wage. In season rooms at POWDR's Snowbird Resort start at \$517/night for the basic, road view efficiency, a family friendly condo at only \$1,109/night. Maybe the public needs more places with affordable recreation opportunities, why not low cost USFS managed cabins instead of a destination resort. The wealthy who come to Montana already have upgraded places to go like Paws Up or Big Sky.

Please do not approve the Holland Lake lodge expansion, please leave some places of magic and beauty for the rest of us.