Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/16/2022 9:51:34 PM

First name: Carter Last name: Bermingham

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I'm writing today to express my opposition to the expansion and increased commercialization of the Holland Lake Holland Lake area. As a lifelong Montana resident, I've seen the damage that places like Paws Up have done to contribute to the denigration of the experience floating on the Blackfoot River and I have every right to believe that things will be the same up at Holland Lake. Areas like Seeley Lake and Condon have long been spots for serine and peaceful outdoor recreation - often portrayed as a "gem" by locals in the area. Are we to believe that development of this area will lead to better outdoor recreation opportunities for local residents or more revenue for out-of-state developers? For too long now, we as a state have bent our will and sacrificed areas of unbelievable recreation under the guise of economic improvement and "progress". Is Big Sky now a better place for residents or a better place for visitors? Is the Blackfoot now a better spot for locals, or for out of state visitors? Are places surrounding our national parks like Whitefish, Kalispell, Bozeman, etc., becoming places we think of as more equal and equitable, or places of exploitation - all in the name of the dollar. At some point, we have to be able to plant our flag in the ground and declare something sacred - no matter the potential of economic activity in the area. Because once that decision is made, there is no putting the toothpaste back in the tube. I would urge and encourage those to whom this message addresses to please oppose any increase in commercial development of the area. If you're going to do something up at Holland Lake, do it for the locals.