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Title:

Comments: Hello,

I have many concerns with the expansion of the Holland Lake lodge and facilities that is currently being discussed, and I do not approve of this process moving forward.

My first concern is that is seems unneeded, and would damage an already stressed resource in Holland Lake itself. Holland Lake already has a large amount of boating activity for a lake it's size. With no ski resorts nearby and limited trails, boating activity would appear to be the recreational opportunity that would most be increased by creating a larger lodge to accommodate more people.

The trail that is connected to the lodge's location would become extremely stressed, particularly in the first few miles, and the resource damage to this trail, along with the USFS funding then required to keep the trail in proper condition, would also be a negative impact created by this unnecessary expansion.

Out of state companies can not be counted on to have local needs, concerns and well-being as a top priority. Increasing revenue will always be their highest priority, and this will only lead to further conflict with local residents down the road. Being an out of state company that specializes in ski resorts is especially concerning. I think many can imagine a scenario where they use this lodge as a "foot in the door" to eventually push for a new ski resort near Holland Lake. The Holland Lake area is already well-situated with several nearby ski resorts and lifts. This plan states that the increased lodging is needed to make this lodge economically viable. What happens if this is constructed and it is still not seen as economically viable? How much construction should we allow to make a place, an area, economically viable, and what other values that a place holds do we sacrifice in the name of economic viability?

For me, the answer to that question is clear. This project aligns much more with out of state, high earning interests than it does to the interest of the vast majority of Montanans. I strongly stand with the majority, and hope that our voices are heard.