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First name: Whitney

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: As a 5th generation Montanan, I grew up in the orientation and perspective that our public lands were sacred and precious. Not only to preserve and protect our history and wild life populations, but also to serve as educational tools and opportunity for students and younger generations. I have watched our great city of Missoula be completely over run by hard line Republicans, looking for another house to own and optional religious exemption from vaccines. This has wrecked our housing market, littered our rivers with abandoned tubes and bottles, and left locals feeling taken advantage of and fighting for resources. Holland lake is a special and precious place in western Montana. This is the place my mom taught me how to fish and canoe. This is where my partner and I go to hike, swim, and take in our gorgeous state we work hard to take care of. I'm deeply concerned that the development of this lodge and areas could tarnish and restrict the access and conservation of Holland lake. I asked that you keep Montanas in mind as you consider this decision. I asked that you think of our children and students, the vitality and opportunity our vast land and history offer. I ask that you keep Indigenous communities in mind, who have already had so much of their history stripped away through genocide and racism. We are so fortunate to have the access to public lands that we do and I believe that Montanas take this privilege and responsibility seriously. The disrespect I have seen of recent transplants in Missoula tells me that Holland lake and surrounding land would be treated as a capitalist development and not with the care and respect Montana land deserves. Consider the citizens who works and pay taxes into our local economy. Thank you for your time!