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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hello,

I would like to take time to tell you my thoughts on this project and maybe you can take this into consideration. I have read over every document and looked at the proposals there are a couple of factors that I saw living here in Whitefish and seeing the state of our trails and forest use. One is the amount of people there going from 50 to over 150 people per day. This will more than triple the amount of people that are staying there. The individuals that go to these places don't naturally have the leave no trace mentality because well a lot of don't know this is Forest Service land. If you have ever seen the bottom of Whitefish Lake and Flathead lake is it littered with beer cans, hair ties, pull tabs cigarette butts etc. It probably already does have that in it just not into concentration. Opening up the trail more as it is probably needed however once people and their dogs go hiking the dog poops probably less than a hundred yards in a trail. Most people even if bags are posted and signs are there will not pick up their dog poop and eventually it will get into the lake as everything goes downhill into water. These are two small factors to consider when opening up to more people. I am 100% for taking the existing building and restoring them or adding small houses with a communal composting toilet. However, the tearing down and rebuilding more is going to change this land forever. Living here I have noticed two types of people come here. The ones that really love it and are willing to go out and suffer somewhat to enjoy the places take only pictures, and leave only footsteps. The other is people who need hair dryers, perfume Starbuck coffee and high speed Internet. This place and Powdr attract the latter. There is a place for them however it isn't here. This place even though I am sure that bear proof containers are going to be used will attract more bears, are we willing to euthanize more bears? As with the 2 times the people there will be that many more attractants for bears. The company POWDR is into charging people money what they could very well do for free as its our forest our birthright as Westerners and Americans our Legacy. If this decision is signed as is this will change this semi pristine place forever, and it sacrifices the people who live and enjoy this area for its remoteness semi wildness. I understand the need for people to recreate and the many uses of our forests, however, this isn't a mine that must be reclaimed, nor a timber project that can be replanted, this will be a project that will affect the Holland Lake and this part of the forest for possibly a couple hundred years.

Thanks for your time,

Brent