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First name: Jenna

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hello,

My name is Jenna Allen. My family moved to Montana right after I turned two years old. It has been my home for 28 years. My Mom, Dad, Grandpa and I have been camping at Holland Lake for as long as I can remember. In fact, it is one of the only locations where I have memories of my parents together before they divorced when I was a young child.

I'm writing to ask you to please stop this project. I am not anti-progress. As an open minded relatively young person, I am happy for us to march forward to improving things where we can. However, I do not believe that this project is progress. Having reviewed the proposal, I strongly object to the project as what is just another instance of Montana being pillaged for increased profits. What makes Montana unique is it's lesser-traveled and lesser-known humility in comparison to other places. It is mostly those outside Montana who seems so keen to capitalise off it's natural beauty rather than to let it quietly be enjoyed by those who are willing to. I have watched, sadly, as Montana continues to be terra-formed into a holiday park for Californias and wealthy folk who want an escape from the frenetic and overly developed lives in which they have created and ensconced themselves.

Holland Lake is a a special place to be sure. But it is special like Montana. Simple and unmarked by the decadent trappings of other places. Holland Lake is a place for families to make simple and cherished memories, no matter what they can or cannot afford.

Please stop and consider that by developing this area, that Holland Lake will be stripped of the very character that makes it desired by outsiders. You will eventually render it completely unremarkable, dooming it to be yet another part of the world lost to over development and our need to commodify things to their death.

Please understand that all I have said is not a bud to keep Montana in a bygone era. Progress, when coupled with the correct reverence for the past, is a necessary and beautiful things. But this project does not accomplish that. It does not leave Holland Lake to be a place for Montana families. It does not leave Holland Lake to be a place of simply and easy natural beauty. This project is the first step of tearing Holland Lake away from itself.

As a girl who has untold childhood memories of early mornings snuggled in tents parents, card games by fires with my friends, days floating and playing in the water with my dog; it is my entire wish for others to have the opportunities to make those memories. My family wouldn't have been able to afford to give them to me under the conditions of this new project. And for all those who would miss out, I say please please stop this project.

Thank you for your time.

Warm Regards,
Jenna Allen