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Comments: As a former resident of the Swan (the Lindbergh Lake Lodge, Diamond L Bar Ranch), I am appalled to see that for a supposed 'right reason' Holland Lake Lodge is to become 'Glacier National Park South'.

During our 27 year stint as owners of the Lindbergh Lake Lodge (a private home), we experienced what truly is the Montana Experience. I had the honor of living in the LLL for many years and got to see its raw beauty first hand. I worked to help maintain water quality at the headwaters of the Swan River above Lindbergh Lake, running water quality reports to Helena for testing every spring and fall, sometimes as often as 6 times per year. I studied grizzly bear corridors between the Missions and the Swan (class 1B), and turned in reports to the Craighead Institute for their grizzly study and traffic information. I also worked with the regional forest rangers on hunting and fishing activities and infractions. If this 'expansion project goes forward', the first time a visitor is encountered by a grizzly, it will undoubtedly be termed the grizzly's fault, when it will truly be the influx of countless visitors as a result of an ill-planned and under-researched expansion.

The corridor of travel for grizzlies, elk, and deer and other wildlife between the Missions and the Swans will definitely be impacted greatly by such a development. Montana Highway 83 already has one of the highest rates of vehicle-wildlife collisions per year. Did anyone mention that in the planning? I doubt it.

Regardless of precautions, water quality and quantity will be effected. As the forest service so wisely initiated back in 1991, the native bull trout protection efforts have paid off. After decades of compliance, all those efforts will be for naught if further fishing pressure is initiated through any expansion of traffic in the Swan. Long term goals and effects seem to have been forgotten in this 'expansion project' at Holland Lake.

The proposed expansion will effect more than just fish and other wildlife. Montana Highway 83 will have to be widened to accommodate the inevitable traffic increase. The road surface itself will have to be updated and most likely have to be widened to the Lake County line and quite possibly all the way to Kalispell (FYI, Lake County is one of the poorest counties tax wise). Has anyone asked Lake County commissioners and officials if they have money in their budget to contribute for additional highway repairs, maintenance, and updates? The same question applies to Missoula County. These additional costs will become the burden of the state of Montana and its residents. I seriously doubt that POWDR will throw in any extra monies for that. But I'll bet they're thinking about a possible ski hill.

The Forest Service is and will most likely always be short of money. Is this the proper fix to their budgeting woes? The proposed expansion at Holland Lake is ill-conceived, poorly planned, and definitely myopic. Taking a nearly pristine area and tearing it down reminds me of an old song from the 1960's. Let's not tear it down and build a parking lot. Pretty soon, all we'll have left is a mud puddle surrounded by a bunch of over-used bare ground.