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Comments: As a 3rd generation Montanan, with two more generations now following me, I was sad to hear that yet another of our special places might be given over to the more wealthy citizens of this country. And make no mistake; this would be the end point if POWDR is allowed to redevelop the Holland Lake Lodge according to their current plan.

The past couple of years have been brutal for those of us regular Montanans who love nature for nature's sake. Our rock solid sense of place for our beautiful Western Montana home is being tragically threatened by forces we could've never imagined. The pandemic and social media have brought the hordes to our doorstep. Suddenly, the nature based experiences we've enjoyed have become harder to find. Overcrowding and all the annoyances that come with jostling through the masses, many striving for entirely different recreational experiences in mind, is not conducive to inner peace and being one with nature.

Places we've visited regularly have become so popular that one needs to be making reservations months or even years ahead to get a reservation. MTFWP and USFS campsites, rooms at any of the National Park Lodges, or at privately owned lodges on federal land, such as the Holland Lake Lodge, are in big demand. Then there's the cost, especially for room reservations, that are fast becoming out of reach for many of us regular Montanans.

Private corporations, such as POWDR, exist to make a profit, pure and simple. I can see where they might be an ok fit for places like Lake Tahoe, which is huge and has attracted crowds for years. But they're certainly not a fit for Holland Lake, or for the regular folks who know and love this special spot. If this project goes through as planned, many of these folks will be displaced, not able to stomach what changes in use and numbers of users, this new, over the top development will most assuredly bring to their once peaceful haven.

I urge you to please give Holland Lake its rightful due. Take a step back from your Categorical Exclusion decision for the proposed project - and move forward with an in-depth Draft Environmental Impact Statement, followed by public comment, and then a final EIS.

Thank you for your consideration.