

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/30/2022 7:36:09 PM

First name: James

Last name: Sorrells

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Our pristine, protected lands need to remain that way. These are the most significant gifts we can pass on to our children. It is urgent that we continue to uphold and increase the legislation geared toward protecting them. Please stand firm against these attacks on their welfare.

I oppose the proposed Holland Lake Lodge expansion on public land just outside of the Bob Marshall Wilderness and recommended wilderness, which would negatively impact Wilderness, wildlife, and public use of national forest land that belongs to all of us.

The impacts from this inappropriate development would be felt far beyond the immediate area, which is already facing increased development and recreation pressure. The commercialization of the area and the resulting hordes of people who could be here year-round threaten public lands surrounding the area, including the Bob Marshall Wilderness and recommended wilderness.

The "Bob" is one of the crown jewels of the Wilderness System, with some of the best habitat for grizzly bears, lynx, wolverine, elk, and other native wildlife, and more humans in the area would both harm wildlife that need secure habit and wilderness values such as solitude.

The Wilderness could also be negatively impacted by more air traffic (both airplane and helicopter) via motorized sightseeing, heliskiing or heli-hiking in the Missions and Swan Range, mountain biking and bike races, trail running, and other high-impact recreation facilitated by a large four-season resort at Holland Lake and expanded trailhead parking for access to the Wilderness.

Please reject the proposed Holland Lake Lodge expansion and protect the Bob Marshall Wilderness and our other public lands near Holland Lake. The Forest Service should reject the proposal out-of-hand. The FS shouldn't be wasting taxpayer money or citizens' time responding to this inappropriate proposal. If the FS chooses to further consider the project, it should prepare an environmental impact statement that considers the full range of potential impacts at Holland Lake and the surrounding public lands, including the Bob Marshall Wilderness.

Sincerely,
James Sorrells