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Comments: I strongly oppose the proposed expansion and additional development of Holland Lake Lodge. This is public land and should not be utilized for private profit in this particular manner. I support the use of public land for local livelihoods (e.g. sustainable timber management, grazing permits, outfitting and guiding), but I do not support allowing a large out-of-state corporation to put a large development on Forest Service land, especially on a pristine and undeveloped mountain lake in a remote and rural area.

I am concerned about negative impacts to aquatic and terrestrial species and the aquatic and terrestrial ecosystem, to the viewshed, and to the local community. Holland Lake is a pristine lake with stunning clear blue water and a thriving aquatic ecosystem. The Swan Valley is a unique area, containing notable biodiversity, many different forest types and thriving wildlife. Residents in the Swan Valley have been working for decades to ensure that the area is not overdeveloped and that wildlife in the area can co-exist with humans.

Local businesses in the Swan Valley oppose this development, as there is no local economic benefit and it would spoil one of the lakes that people love to visit. So the worry is that this development would actually hurt the tourism economy in the Swan Valley by turning Holland Lake into a resort development, displacing the many Montanans and out-of-state visitors who come to the Swan Valley to experience undeveloped nature.

It seems very clear that this is only the first step for POWDR and that future development into the Swan Range will follow the expansion of Holland Lake Lodge. Thus, negative impacts to the environment and the community will not be limited to this proposal, but will balloon as POWDR expands its footprint over time. This is surely just a foot in the door for POWDR to turn the Swan Valley into a playground for the rich and famous.

In terms of process, this proposal clearly requires an Environmental Assessment and potentially an Environmental Impact Statement. The comment period is ridiculously short.

And there is simply no reason to allow this proposal to move forward. Holland Lake has two lovely campgrounds on Forest Service land, and a number of small cabins tucked into the forest and barely visible from the lake. The Lake has a boat ramp and thus is accessible to a wide range of visitors. The POWDR development simply turns public land into an exclusive resort with attendant negative impacts on the environment and on the local community.

Thank you for considering these comments.