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Comments:

Holland Lake, a respite from weeks of temperatures of 100 degrees and higher, a place to watch clouds pass from one mountain range to another, to dry camp in a trailer or tent for around \$15 a day, to have access to nearby trails and meet backpackers who have spent who have spent days on the trail experiencing the wilderness while traversing from Ovando to this still lonely but increasingly pressured lake.

The campground throughout its history only used by kayakers and canoeists by the end of summer 2022 housed trees and a lake coated in dust from the adjoining unpaved road. Now, motor boats were tied to campground trees and large groups partied onboard before speeding their way across the lake where few fish now survive and lily pads are beginning to fade.

How will traditional users, those of us who have sought refuge here for years and the wild creatures who call this area home, benefit from tripling the size of Holland Lake Lodge and cabins where people pay \$300 per person per day and kick up dust from the unpaved road as they pass? Will the education programs promised by the lodge teach about water ecology and sentiment damage to the lake? Will they be taught about Montana's outdoor heritage and constitution that promises a clean and healthful environment? What about those of us who call this place home because we treasure its wild lands and the environment it provides? Because someone owns a 100-year lease about to expire, does their desire to make a human playground outweigh the needs of people who have lived here all their lives? Montanans know our wages and retirement incomes will be low but more than anything we treasure our open spaces.

What will the public gain from this takeover of the lake? A paved road? Improved campground? Less congestion on the already heavily used trails, a more pristine lake, more opportunities for solitude and quiet reflection? Improved habitat for the wildlife that frequent the area?

Lakes are scarce in Montana and those that exist are suffering from low water levels, warming waters, and increasing pressure from humans. DO NOT exasperate pressure on this already fragile small lake by creating a new large haven for the rich.