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Comments: I strongly suggest USFS decision-making in this matter be based upon full analysis of the project's impact on not only the immediate parcel of land being leased, but also upon adjacent lands under USFS management.

Traditional access to Upper Holland Lake and thence the Bob has been limited (with purpose, I believe). Halfway along the trail between the lakes the crossing of Holland Creek has been either by a ford for horses and mules or by a one-log footbridge (about the width of a snowshoe). The effect was to limit passage to those willing to wade or teeter--effectively a device to control usage.

I am quite confident USFS will be called upon to enhance and expand access between the two lakes, with full access from both sides of Lower Holland Lake, and probably establishment of a helicopter pad on Upper Holland Lake near the two entries into the Bob (for medical evacuation as well as for tourist availability). A seasonally-staffed ranger station will probably become necessary to lessen USFS liability and to protect the environmental quality of the Upper Holland Lake basin.

The planning and then engineering costs of these "improvements" on USFS-managed land far beyond the Lodge leasehold will be significant...as will costs of maintenance and staffing. Again, this entire matter needs a significant review process for impacts on both environment and finances. A "categorical exclusion" from such review is unwise and irresponsible.

I am equally confident Missoula County will require full formal assessment of the impact of this project upon matters of public health, transportation, and usage density. Still, I wish owners well as they plan a future for the Lodge and for the generations following us.