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Comments: I live in Missoula, close by Holland Lake. My wife and I have often visit the Swan Valley area. We have hiked trails at and near Holland Lake. The proposed expansion of the lodge would destroy the rustic charm of the lodge and surroundings. As a summer season facility, the lodge makes a minimal impact on the environment. Greatly expanding both the number of guests and operational duration would be a major impact on the area, including wildlife, especially endangered grizzlies. Also, the expansion almost certainly will lead to new and invasive recreational uses, such as mountain biking, helicopter use, etc.

The categorical exemption was not intended for such large-scale projects. Therefore, I strongly urge you to complete a full environmental assessment before approving any expansion.

Roger Holtom