Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/4/2022 1:57:57 PM

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Title:

Comments: I grew up in western Montana and return to visit my family there often. I've spent the past 15 years working in Seattle real estate, watching this region grow at an astronomical pace along with small towns nearby. Montanans would categorize most of my clients and friends here as "city dwellers on tech salaries with disposable income." The perception may be that a contingent of people like this are exactly those coming in and ruining Montana. I don't necessarily disagree. But I'm here to offer what might be a surprising comment. Most of the people I know within this slice of society I'm confident would NOT want to see Holland Lake Lodge developed further, myself certainly included. Not everyone with money wants to pave over someone's back yard so that they can vacation there. Increasingly I see appreciation for small, quiet, rustic destinations without miles of parking lots, gift shops, and lines out the door to pick up your rentals. Even if that means putting up with some lack of modern conveniences. City folks have all the conveniences they could possibly want at the their fingertips, but they don't have tranquility and they can't buy it. I understand the age old argument that with development comes jobs. But you can't unwind this. If you build it, they will come, and the peace and quiet and "authenticity" that Montanans and tourists alike appreciate will be gone.