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First name: Megan Last name: Podolinsky

Organization:

Title:

Comments: To whom it may concern:

I strongly oppose the Holland Lake Lodge Facility Expansion project (#61746) and the associated development of the property near Holland Lake. This project is proposed on PUBLIC land leased by the Flathead National Forest; therefore, any decisions should be heavily influenced and ultimately decided by the public, especially those directly affected in the immediate community.

To forego an environmental assessment under a special use authorization is not only irresponsible but disregards the health of the Holland Lake ecosystem, surrounding area, and connected watersheds. The proposed development will bring immediate impacts from construction activities as well as long term and permanent influences including but not limited to new structures and parking areas, increased traffic (human and vehicular), and many other disturbances related to increased usage of the area. For example, even the proposal to run the lodge in the wintertime could have negative consequences for the area's wildlife and habitat. General improvements to aging structures and utilities is understandable; however, extensively expanding the property into a larger resort seems disconnected from purpose of a special use authorization.

Please consider the public comments on this issue. Many people do not want Holland Lake developed further but would like it to remain an undeveloped space for all recreationalists, not only those guests who can pay to stay at the resort.

Sincerely, Megan Podolinsky