

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/5/2022 7:54:31 PM

First name: Caroline

Last name: Bean

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am deeply concerned about the Forest Service's proposal to allow a huge expansion of facilities at historic Holland Lake. I am particularly concerned that, according to your scoping documents on the project, "Based on a preliminary assessment, intentions are to categorically exclude the proposed project from documentation in an environmental impact statement or an environmental assessment." That intention is based on the fact that there are already existing facilities - but what is proposed will fundamentally change the nature of this quiet, rustic, fairly secluded area and have significant impacts on its non-human inhabitants.

Proposing to allow this expansion without comprehensive analysis of its impacts is irresponsible, and I urge you to undertake a full Environmental Impact Statement and to fully involve the public in any decision made. As seen by the large number of comments you have already received, there is substantial public interest, and opposition, to this proposed expansion.

I am deeply concerned about impacts to threatened grizzly bears, Canada lynx and other species who will undoubtedly be displaced from the area, and in the case of grizzly bears, be potentially killed as a result of increased conflicts between humans and bears. Impacts from this expansion will be felt far beyond the project's 15 acres.

I urge you not to move forward with this project without a full environmental review of its impacts on wildlife, plants, Holland Lake, the historic and rural nature of the area, the soundscape, viewshed, water quality, solitude and all other impacts.