

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/6/2022 5:52:48 PM

First name: Joan

Last name: Miles

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Please add my name to the thousands of other Montanans who object to the currently proposed expansion project for Holland Lake, and to the Forest Service's intention to utilize a categorical exemption for this project. It is stunning to see how inappropriate this sizeable expansion is, and the impacts this will have on Holland Lake and the Swan Valley environs. And to learn that Mr. Steele is only now understanding that this proposal doubles the size of the land that will be impacted! What is going on? This needs a full environmental analysis and review. And I have yet to see any effort by the Forest Service to work with Missoula County on water and sewage issues. Missoula County, through its Health Department, is the governing entity that has the final say on whether the proposal provides safe and adequate on-site sewage treatment and to date it has been shut out of project review. I simply do not understand how the Forest Service can look kindly on a large sewage disposal system that would be located close to the lake - and at lake level - while it continues to restrict those individuals who lease property on the other side of the lake from installing safe septic systems. Many are required to continue to use outhouses. (And by the way - properly placed and designed septic disposal systems placed far from the lake would be far more protective of Holland Lake than the current situation.) Where is the equity in any of this!? Is it the decision of the Forest Service that a private entity intending to make significant profits is more important and has more flexibility than the people who have lived on, and protected the lake, for decades? This whole process, this whole proposal is wrong. Simply WRONG. A reasonable upgrade for the Holland Lake facilities makes sense. But the current proposal submitted by Powdr and Mr. Wohlfeil should not be approved. They need to go back to the drawing board, involve the public and other appropriate governing entities, and come up with something that can be supported by all.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.