

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/7/2022 1:29:33 AM

First name: Sarah

Last name: Hamblock

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Holland Lake is a Montana treasure. I love the quiet solitude the lake offers as well as the ample public camping and access to the Bob Marshall Wilderness. The expansion of Holland Lake Lodge to a mega resort would increase traffic and put undue pressure on the ecosystems, surface water, ground water, and USFS trails in the area surrounding the lake. The Forest Service is showing extreme shortsightedness by proposing to skip the EIS. The categorical exclusion of an EIS referenced by Kurt Steele is meant for small scale improvements ie addition of solar panels, redrilling a well, installing a new septic system, NOT for projects that increase the existing building footprint by 466%. I am an environmental engineer and understand the rigor and time that go into an EIS. These processes take time for good reason. Rushing an approval on such a huge project will come back to bite us. Montana is not a land of plenty for out-of-state money to exploit. We must protect our natural resources and make decisions that consider our environment and our people. Look no further than Big Sky for an example of huge development, big money, and a polluted environment. Big Sky has become a haven for out of state folks with cash to spend, not unlike POWDR's vision of the Holland Lake expansion. The expense of Big Sky's water treatment (or lack-there-of) has fallen on common Montanans (who can't even afford to ski the mountain). Don't let this mistake happen again by understating the impact this development would have on Montana.