

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/7/2022 7:24:37 AM

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Comments: As a former Swan Valley resident, I am quite familiar with Holland Lake and the lodge. My time in the area was spent both recreating and working in natural resources. The proposed changes to the special use permit will drastically harm the character of the area and is not in the best interest of the public. Further, the use of a categorical exclusion for this expansion project is not warranted because the proposed changes include a conspicuous increase in square footage of the authorized facilities and dramatic increases in both the scope and magnitude of authorized activities.

Along with altering the natural character of the area, the proposed expansion will also have adverse socioeconomic effects through a demographic change in the use in the area. Upscale development such as is proposed at Holland Lake will tend to displace local residents and Montanans from the area, as has happened in other areas of the country and the state experiencing similar upscale development.

If this proposed expansion was on private land, I would not expect to have much of a voice in this matter. But, I remind the Forest Service, this is public land, owned by WE THE PEOPLE. I believe the overwhelming voice of the people will show that we wish to deny this expansion of the special use permit.