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Organization:

Title:

Comments: My husband and I were married at Holland Lake Lodge and I joined him in coming to Holland Lake to the family cabin almost 20 years ago. Through many family vacations, we have grown up at the lake, brought our kids to the lake and dream of future generations enjoying the natural beauty and wildness of the area. We have also met many Montanans from across the state who come to enjoy the camping, hiking, relaxation and solace that the lake offers.

I am opposed to the proposed development of Holland Lake Lodge by POWDR. I believe that the current proposed development is not aligned with the aims and objectives of the Forest Service and it should not move forward.

The mission of the forest service is to sustain the health, diversity and productivity of the nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations. The forest service aims to sustain the resources, deliver benefits to the public, apply knowledge and learning globally and excel as an organization. (From the USDA Forest Service Strategic Plan - 2015 - 2020).

POWDR's proposal to triple the accommodation capacity of Holland Lake Lodge, thereby felling hundreds of trees, exposing the shoreline, and significantly increasing human impact on the property and across the entire lake will significantly detract from all four aspects of the forest service's objectives. Additionally, the cost of the proposed improvements will most likely have to be recouped through higher prices and a more extensive business plan to support that investment.

The proposed development threatens the habitat of multiple wildlife species (e.g. Lynx, Grizzly, Bull trout, etc), it threatens the future water quality and ecosystem, it threatens public access and the process does not represent the values of the USDA and forest service and their aims to achieve excellence as an agency (through transparency, accountability, etc to the public).

A plan for the future of Holland Lake is a plan that puts preservation of wildlife, resources (trees, air, water) and recreational access for the general public first. It's a plan that will ensure that the lake is there for many more generations and that the life it sustains is thriving.

POWDR's proposal threatens every aspect of the lake's existence and intended use by the FS.

I believe POWDR's proposal is not in the public's interest. I would like to see it rejected and a thorough exploration of the alternatives for the Holland Lake Lodge property completed. I believe there are many ways to accomplish the USFS aims without degrading the lake, the land and the wilderness in the process.