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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I object to the Holland Lake Lodge Expansion.

For decades I have visited friends in the Swan Valley and have hiked numerous trails in the Mission Wilderness. Besides the natural beauty, I have appreciated the rustic buildings seen in the Swan Valley.

The buildings proposed for the Holland Lake Lodge are neither rustic nor aesthetically pleasing. It's obvious from the overflowing turnout at public meetings and the numbers of people commenting on this project that Montanans treasure our wild places and are not interested in having a little city plopped down on the land that has been treasured by families visiting Holland Lake.

I have worked for the U.S. Forest Service most of my life. I am familiar with Environmental Impact Statements and Categorical Exclusions. It was shocking to learn that the scoping document suggests using a CE with this project when the magnitude of the buildings alone would require an EIS, not to mention the impact of a substantial increase in visitor use on public lands and consequential habitat degradation.

It is time to question the motives behind those involved with this project, both government and private individuals, and assess if this is truly in the best interests of the land that is managed and the historical uses of the area. Is it really "Caring for the Land and Serving People"? I think not.