

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/7/2022 11:32:22 PM

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Comments: The below comments are written on behalf of POWDR:

The proposed changes to the Holland Lake Lodge are consistent with routine activity contemplated by the Special Use Permit ("SUP") under which it operates. This is one of the reasons The Flathead Forest Plan identifies Holland Lake as a Focused Recreation Management Area 7 (GA-SV-MA7-Holland Lake). Such improvements have also been contemplated as part of the current Flathead National Forest Land Management Plan (2018 revision), which the SUP issuance was consistent with.

As such, the cumulative effects of the changes will not create a significant additional impact to Holland Lake's environment or wildlife beyond what was anticipated in the permit and the master plan. For context, the proposed changes would, at maximum, add 100 people to the existing user base, which includes the neighboring campground (capacity 560 people), parking lot and trailhead (parking lot approx. capacity 60 cars, road parking approx. capacity 40 cars), and existing Holland Lake Lodge recreation site (maximum capacity 65 people).

In sum, the proposed changes to the Holland Lake Lodge are limited to the construction and/or reconstruction of infrastructure and improvements within an existing recreation site. Since impacts have already been considered in the grant of the special use permit, as well as in the creation of the Flathead National Forest Land Management Plan (2018 revision), both of which anticipate a certain level of growth, a categorical exclusion is appropriate. POWDR appreciates the guidance and expertise of the many multidisciplinary professionals at the United States Forest Service and cooperating agencies. We are confident that the level of additional environmental review appropriate to the scope of this project will be selected.