

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/8/2022 1:46:11 AM

First name: grace

Last name: siloti

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

I am making a final addition to my previous comment 9/6/2022 on Holland Lake expansion proposal #61746.

As we the public dig deeper into this proposal we unearth many mistakes, overlooks and just non truths of things told in early September 2022. I would like to see a comment period extended for all these loss ends to be answered we the people you work for deserve that! There are many loss ends such as:

1. The rumors of an outfitters expansion to service and exploit our wilderness which is already over used. We are afraid this would increase the day hiking trails, pack trips, over use of our water ways like rivers, creeks and lakes, and much more.
2. More studies into the increase of traffic already a problem with loss of animals, and human life, noise pollution, dust and road repairs.
3. The water shed and the lakes ability to handle this amount of more usage on an already very stressed small lake. This would only yet destroy another water shed, which we can not afford to loss.
4. Parking of 140+ cars is not even imaginable for our tiny Holland Lake, the pollution from that alone would be devastating.
5. Removal of trees will only destroy the shade that protects the lake from heat of our warming climates we are already seeing effects of. The birds, fish and animals rely and depend on this foliage.
6. Acres 10.53 turned into 15 acres still not enough room. Enough will never be enough.
7. We are a very health community, we do not need more job as in many places throughout the country, we need workers. Our community has low crime, neighbors helping neighbors. This community should be a poster child for what a community should be. We have all sacrificed to live with nature and not destroy it. Why do you think we have one of the most successful and fully functioning eco systems in the USA. We have no greed here to destroy.

Categorical exclusion will not provide the answers we are all looking for. This was made clear at the Condon Meeting this CE would only look at impacts of endangered animals Bull trout and grizzly, we need impact on all living creatures including humans as well. A full Environmental Impact Study is warranted with no questions asked.

For the Forest Service to think the impacts are not significant enough to just push through CE, is an insult.

I have lived in Condon Montana since 1976. I would like to share our history of the Swan Valley, over a number of decades .

The Swan Valley has been presented with multiple conservation efforts. Here are 4 major initiatives for preservation in the swan Valley.

1 - Conservation easements:

Conservation easements impacted a huge percentage of private acreage in the Swan Valley.

Big promotion of Conservation values. Private lands with restrictions on development and Uses.

Conservation groups such as Trust for public lands, Mt. Land Reliance, Vital Ground, Nature Conservancy and Five Valley Trust, hold restrictive use easements. Next.

2 - Grizzly Bear Linkage Zones:

Extensive studies which were done here in our valley that indicated grizzlies and their important part of the eco system, and how fragile it is.

To this day we work hard and sacrifice to live with the grizzlies. Then we have...

3 - Montana Legacy Project:

Montana Legacy project was the conservation of Timber Co. lands (like Plum Creek) to convert into Forest Service lands . One of the larges conservation projects in the USA history. Swan Valley saw the conversation of 67,000 acres to USFS. Out of their total of 310,000 acres in Montana.

4 - Crown of the Continent.

This top off on just how special this valley truly is. The Swan valley is very much a part of the Crown of the Continent. To promote scientific research and recognition of the most valuable eco system, special and fully functioning eco systems in the United States, or even the world.

There you have at least 4 major influences for low density , fragile eco system and preservation at the highest priority, layered on us for decades.

Now a destination resort. How does that fit with these other initiatives, I am very confused.

It does not even tap into Open Spaces and Stream setbacks, wild river destinations,

Incongruent!

I am at loss for words for the greed it must take to even propose such destruction. I heard John Cummings was very concerned about global warming. The hypocrisy by he and his colleagues that have spoken to us is insulting, to our intelligence of our respect and love for where we live and sacrifice to m maintain.

I am asking for a complete EIS.

Extension for comments, to connect the dots of other proposals that have been presented to our community in such a short time spanned, such as:

Expansion of outfitter territory Swan Mountain Outfitters Concession for Glacier Park, and now the proposed wilderness boundary from Glacier to the USFS boundary at the summit. Rumor of already with POWDR.

Transfer station up Barber creek Rd.

Holland Lake Lodge Proposal

All of this in a few short months to little Condon Montana, We want answers.