



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Swan Lake
Ranger District

200 Ranger Station Road
Bigfork, MT 59911
(406) 837-7500
Fax (406) 837-7503

File Code: 1950

Date: September 1, 2022

Dear Interested Party,

The USDA Forest Service (USFS) Flathead National Forest is proposing the Holland Lake Lodge Facility Expansion project to repair the existing historic lodge and improve or replace facilities to provide modern amenities and respond to the growing public demand. Holland Lake Lodge operates under the authority of a Resort/Marina Term Special Use Permit (USFS Authorization ID: SWA 456), with the USFS. The USFS may authorize Holland Lake Lodge, Inc. to implement these improvements. All activities would occur within the existing 15 acre permitted area.

The project is in the following location: Township 20 North; Range 16 West; Section 35 (SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of NW $\frac{1}{4}$ and NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$). The entire area is comprised of NFS lands.

Based on a preliminary assessment, intentions are to categorically exclude the proposed project from documentation in an environmental impact statement or an environmental assessment under 36 CFR 220.6(e)(22): *Construction, reconstruction, decommissioning, or disposal of buildings, infrastructure, or improvements at an existing recreation site, including infrastructure or improvements that are adjacent or connected to an existing recreation site and provide access or utilities for that site.*

The full public scoping package can be found on the Holland Lake Lodge Expansion project webpage at: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=61746>.

The Flathead National Forest will be hosting a public meeting about the Holland Lake Lodge Facility Expansion Project on Thursday September 8th, 2022, from 5:00-7:00 pm MST on the Holland Lake Lodge grounds at 1947 Holland Lake Lodge Rd, Condon, MT 59826. The purpose for this public meeting is to engage in information sharing with the public on project activities and to answer questions.

Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record and will be available for public review. Electronic comments must be submitted through the project webpage at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=61746>. On the right side of the project webpage there is a box "Get Connected" click on the 'Comment/Object on Project' link to submit your comment. The sender should receive an automated electronic acknowledgment from the agency as confirmation of receipt. If the sender does not receive an automated acknowledgment for receipt of comments, it is the sender's responsibility to ensure timely receipt by other means. Acceptable formats for electronic submission are text or html email, Adobe portable document format (PDF), and formats viewable in Microsoft Office applications (e.g., Word). Please address your written comments to Project Leader Shelli Mavor, Swan Lake Ranger District, 200 Ranger Station Road, MT 59911. The office business hours for those submitting hand-delivered comments are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.

Sincerely,

KURTIS E STEELE
Flathead National Forest Supervisor

