

**Connie Cummins
Forest Supervisor, Superior National Forest
c/o Michael Jimenez, Project Leader
8901 Grand Avenue Place
Duluth, MN 55808
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Subject: Comments on the Lutsen Mountains Ski Area Expansion Project

Dear Forest Supervisor Cummins,

I own a Graphic and Web Design business in Cook County and I believe Lutsen Mountain's proposed expansion will bring additional tourism to our area, local jobs, and revenue to our economy.

Winter has always been a challenging time for many businesses in Cook County and unquestionably, without Lutsen Mountains many businesses in our community would not survive. This expansion will provide additional, much-needed revenue for businesses across Cook County and bolster our County's reputation as a premiere outdoor destination.

I also believe this expansion is an essential improvement for Lutsen Mountains. With all of the consolidations in the ski industry over the past decade, the ski industry has become increasingly competitive. This expansion will help Lutsen Mountains remain competitive among Midwest Ski Areas in the following ways:

- Expanding beginner and expert terrain. Lutsen Mountains is currently lacking in this terrain, and this expansion will attract a wider variety of skill levels.**
- Improving the skier's experience with better circulation and more reliable snow due to upgraded snowmaking.**
- Improving guest services by enhancements to the base area and additional parking.**
- Bolstering our County's reputation as a premiere outdoor destination.**

I think this project, and the master development plan (MDP), are well designed and will transform the downhill skiing experience at Lutsen Mountains in a way that is environmentally friendly, economically beneficial, and provide long-lasting benefits for our community.

Sincerely,

**Molly Larson
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