

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 11/20/2021 11:00:00 AM

First name: Timothy

Last name: Wotzka

Organization:

Title:

Comments: November 19, 2021 Full Moon / Start of Winter

TO: Constance Cummins, Forest Supervisor

Superior National Forest

SUBJECT: Lutsen Mountains Ski area expansion

Please find for: Alternative 1- No Action Alternative

1.

How could the USFS allow clearcutting of [ldquo]old maple[rdquo] on a steep slope with poor soil conditions??? Alternative 2? The clay/silt soil is prone to moving/slumping . Please view the current slumping in the Temperance River area. Historically There have many washouts Highway 61!! September of 1977 , Caribou River washout.

The Ash pond washout in 1993 at Taconite Harbor. The North Shore receives these isolated rain events. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency has been cleaning up the Poplar River for the past 10 to 15 years!! Due to ??? My God I am getting old!!

2.

How could the USFS allow Alternative 2? A guest expansion from 2850 to 6300 people per day???The US Census population of Cook County is only 5400 people!!!This expansion would only help the wealthy and elite of Cook County. Housing is a problem in Cook County, the cost of housing is a problem in Cook County. The expansion only provides seasonal jobs, at a low wage!! Lutsen Mountain cannot compete with the [ldquo]out west[rdquo] skiing in the mountains. At best this is a weekend getaway for the people in the metro area. Minnesota, as you well know has COLD weather making it difficult to enjoy your ski experience. Please keep Cook County affordable for ALL people!

3.

How about the protection of wildlife, especially the birds. Smaller birds do not like large openings along the [ldquo]shore[rdquo] [hellip] they get [ldquo]picked off[rdquo] by all the raptors in the open areas.

Lynx needs all help in can get. Please help all the wildlife.

4.

The Superior Hiking Trail (SHT): Don't Move the SHT , it belongs on the top of the ridge!!

People have put a lot of hard work in locating, building and maintaining the SHT. It truly is a gem of Minnesota!!
Please save hiking on SHT!! The SAWTOOTHs are GREAT!!

Summary: (The BIG picture)

There are currently (3) ski areas in the Arrowhead. Lutsen, Giants Ridge, and Spirit Mountain. Giants Ridge is subsidized by IRRRB (Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board)[hellip]. Spirit Mountain has gone to the State Legislature for dollars!!! GOD save us!!

Lutsen can stand on its own merits!!! I think..

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.