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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Lutsen Mountain Ski Area Expansion Project

My name is Tim Pratt. I live in Caddo Mills, Texas and spend at least two months of the year on the North Shore of Lake Superior in Minnesota and have in each the past 25 years. I will move to Grand Marais permanently this December and plan fully to purchase a season pass to Lutsen Ski Resort. I have only skied three times, but loved it so much that I want to do it as much as I can!

However, I would like to express my strong opposition to the acquisition of forest land for an expansion of the Lutsen Ski Resort.

People have been flocking to the area for years and years and they would continue to do so even if there wasn't a ski hill at all. They come to experience nature, the forest and the lakes. They come for what you have, not the attractions we can build on it.

The people in favor of this expansion will tell you how incredibly successful they are on one hand and then on the other, tell you how, without another 400-600 acres, they will be unable to survive at all. Which is it?

We know the area can survive without having a ski hill twice the size of what is there now. The people here have done it since this place was settled. But, we don't know if we can handle the impact that this expansion and the resulting population boom will have on the area. We are running the risk of ruining the nature that people come here to enjoy. All of this, to fatten the accounts of the resort owner under the guise of doing what is best for the people in the area? How did this place ever survive before he got here?

Please, do not hand over such a perfect and natural public resource to be converted into a private ski resort.

Sincerely,

Tim Pratt

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