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First name: Anon

Last name: kaf

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Lutsen Mountains Ski Area Expansion Project

I've been a volunteer for the Superior Hiking Trail and the North Country Trail for the past 10 years, and I've hiked through the Lutsen area a number of times, and have led hikes in the area. I'm not too pleased with Lutsen's plans and see it negatively affecting the trail. I've read the Superior Hiking Trails comments on this project, and I agree with everything they say. It'll also make it harder for the volunteers that maintain this section of trail as access to the trail will be more difficult. It looks like it would take 2 to 3 days for a volunteer to maintain it. If a campsite isn't available then it makes it almost impossible to maintain. I can't tell from the map, but if the reroute is to stay on the ridgetops it might also be hard to get water. This reroute might also negatively affect the Superior Trail Races.

Kim Fishburn

President, Star of the North Chapter

North Country Trail Assn.