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Comments: This message is for the forest service, and I hope decision makers at Lutsen will also read this.

I love Lutsen. I have been skiing there since maybe 1989. My wife and I got married at the Summit Chalet. I have mountain biked there. Alpine slide. Gondola rides. Hikes. We have stayed at Eagle Ridge for weekend trips up north.

But I find myself being against this expansion plan. My main reason is this: skiing at Lutsen is already too expensive. You want to add more terrain, more snow making, multiple new lifts, new base area, etc. How are you going to accomplish any of this without passing on the cost to skiers? It's already what, $100 a day to ski? What is it going to be after expansion, $200? Your goal is to compete with resorts out west? Even with the expansion, you can't compete with what western resorts can offer. And skiing at Lutsen will be more expensive than going out west. The thought of that makes me MORE likely to plan a trip to Colorado than take the four hour drive north to Lutsen.

If Lutsen gets the privilege of expanding into PUBLIC land, explain to me how that benefits the PUBLIC. Making skiing more financially available to more families would be a benefit. But I know the opposite will be true. No to expansion.