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Comments: I think the Lutsen Ski Resort expansion should not be approved as proposed. I would prefer to see no expansion at all. The North Shore of Lake Superior is a unique area because it is still largely undeveloped, with much natural beauty. It offers many recreational opportunities which are healthy and have a low impact on the natural environment. As the North Shore gets built up and gentrified, affluent people will be able to enjoy large 'backyards' that are accessible to them but not to others. Bringing 1,000's more people to that area in the winter will bring an end to the affordable natural area that has been a Minnesota heritage for all of our history.

There are already too many ATVs and the like on public lands, and our lakes are already suffering from too much runoff from lawns and agriculture, as well as 'wake boats' and other expensive noisy toys. Ever-larger ski resorts will contribute to the loss of natural areas.

The fact that resorts in the western US are becoming larger all the time does not mean that Minnesota should compromise the Superior National Forest. The argument that Lutsen needs to expand or close up reflects profit-oriented business thinking, and neglects the benefits of the rest of us. If people need ever-more expensive and daring thrills, let them go elsewhere.