

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/1/2021 2:33:43 AM

First name: Andrew

Last name: Mueller

Organization:

Title:

Comments: To Whom it May Concern:

I'm a backcountry skier and a resort skier. I am writing to ask that you deny permission to Lutsen Mountains to develop pristine public lands with chairlifts, parking lots, base facilities and on-mountain chalets for commercial use. Moose Mountain is some of the best and only terrain for backcountry skiing, Nordic touring and other sustainable, public-access winter recreation in Minnesota.

Some of my concerns with the current Draft EIS are:

- \* The Purpose and Need statement is too narrow. It doesn't consider a variety of skier uses, such as backcountry and sidecountry, or other non-skiing uses.
- \* The evidence does not support the need for expansion and would cause environmental harm.
- \* Commercial expansion would reduce equitable access to a limited resource on public lands: vertical terrain, untracked snow, quiet forests (not just for skiers but also for family snowplay, snowshoeing and any other non-fee activities)
- \* Based on climate goals set by the current administration, we need to be protecting 30% of our lands rather than developing them

Please do not approve the proposed Special Use Permit for a Lutsen Mountains Resort expansion. Leave the terrain and our public lands the way they are.

Thank you for your consideration.

Andrew Mueller