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Comments: As a budding backcountry skier and an avid resort skier, I am asking 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.

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.
- * Users of the Superior Hiking Trail would be displaced by having chair lifts, clear cut ski runs and a chalet very near to the trail.
- * It would cause similar displacement for users of the High Climber Mountain bike trail. From Various viewpoints along the trail, you can see Moose mountain, and the value of that viewpoint would be reduced with the expansion plan. The draft fails to acknowledge this.

Backcountry skiing is on the rise, while inbounds skiing is not. Why not give the people what they want and LEAVE IT THE WAY IT IS? Because LMC is greedy and are catering to the rich.

Please choose "No Action" for 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.