Data Submitted (UTC 11): 12/8/2021 8:14:59 PM First name: Nathaniel Last name: Merrill Organization: Title:

Comments: As a resident of Minnesota and all season camper and recreator on the North Shore, 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.

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.