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Comments: Please deny the proposed expansion requested by Lutsen Ski area for the following reasons:

- 1) The beauty of the Lutsen area has been degrading with each expansion. The land looks so scarred by the tree removal for ski runs, buildings, and roads. Lutsen Ski area is already suffering from the "loving it to death" phenomenon. The proposed expansion would further degrade the remaining beauty of the area. Bigger is not better. What makes Lutsen Ski area a wonderful place is the natural beauty of the area itself. Further expansion would negatively impact this natural beauty.
- 2) Worker shortage. As reported frequently on WTIP, Boreal, and the Cook County Herald; there is a lack of workers in the area - even before the Covid-19 pandemic.
- 3) Strain on the infrastructure. The roads, emergency services, affordable housing, etc. The community of Cook County cannot support the proposed expansion.
- 4) Strain on the environment. The proposed expansion would mean further human impacts on the environment - waste management, noise, light pollution, habitats of birds and animals.
- 5) Strain on the local economy. The property taxes in Cook County are already very high. The costs of the proposal would likely fall to the property owners to deal with - just look at the Superior National golf course or the previously proposed zip line business in Grand Marais.

Please deny the Lutsen ski expansion proposal.