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First name: Marilyn

Last name: Scheffler

Organization:

Title:

Comments: [External Email]Lutsen mountains expansion comments

[External Email]

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I am writing to strongly object to expansion of Lutsen Mountains ski business. In short, I fail to see how ruining part of the Superior National Forest to line the pockets of the new owners meets the objective of maintaining a pristine and ecologically fragile national park. The level of development along the Highway 61 corridor is already increasing (see for example County Road 35 where new construction is ceaseless). The traffic congestion increases every year. To expand 61? Take away more of the wilderness that people are coming north for in the first place.

Please don't let promises of multiple new jobs sway your decision making. Jobs are sitting unfilled and have been for years, our in the service areas. With our immigration system in flux, issuance of additional "green card" workers seems unlikely. Tax revenue? Watch for loopholes benefitting the wealthy only increasing the gap between haves and have nots.

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Lutsen ski area does not have to be bigger and more attractive and draw more crowds. Let it remain small, quaint, and a locally oriented attraction. We do not need more avaricious development on the North Shore. Destroying the natural beauty and wonders of the north woods will help no one in the long run.