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Organization:

Title:

Comments: [External Email]Lutsen Mountains Ski Area Expansion Project

[External Email]

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Hello,

I am writing to express my concern for the proposed expansion of Lutsen Ski Resort onto adjacent Superior National Forest public lands. Downhill skiing, especially at Lutsen, is a very expensive, exclusionary activity that is only available for a portion of the year to a small segment of the population. This destructive proposal will eliminate or irreversibly alter many potential uses of the forest by a variety of interests, including hiking, hunting, and backcountry skiing for just a single one. The north shore forest is heavily fragmented and suffering from various threats including climate change, white tailed deer overpopulation and the "shrubification" of the landscape following second growth forest die-off. The wild 2/3's of Moose mountain represents a healthy and intact forest of cedars, maples and various other hardwoods. The loss of these public lands sets a bad precedent and will further degrade the forests of the north shore. Thank you for reading my comments.

Sincerely,

Daniel Westholm

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