

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 12/6/2021 3:40:56 PM

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

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Please consider this further comment from me. Sharon Hexum-Platzer 154 Evergreen Road Lutsen, MN

I noted earlier my concern for the amount of water currently being taken from Lake Superior and perhaps other bodies of water in the future. With warming temperatures this would mean a request from Lutsen Mountains for even more water as the runs expand. This is poor resource use.

Along with this is the amount of Sno Max or other chemical snowmaking enhancer being increased. With the environmental study not having complete data on the effects of that/those product[s] we do NOT KNOW what that will mean for water shed, animal or bird access to any reservoirs that hold the product. And to quote another source -- incomplete data is bad data.

Recently I heard a dull machine roar coming from the West. I thought it must be some entity in the gravel pit just off Caribou Trail. No....it was the snowmaking machines. If we can hear that now a few miles from the Hill area, I can't imagine how disturbing this is nearer and how much more will be heard with additional machines. Please consider that this affects animals as well as the human animal!

Finally has no one answered the need for Dark Skies. Cook County is one of those rare areas where we enjoy night skies because of the darkness. Yet looking to the West, there is the glow of lights over the Lutsen Ski Hill area. This is BEFORE expansion. What will our sky look like in the next years?! This is not only poor use of utilities but a horrid use of a dark sky resource.

I thought I was okay with limited expansion but now I am rethinking this. Just like many requests....once asked and given, it can't be undone AND what are the chances that even more will be asked later....water, energy, accepting noise limits, and overuse of lighting at night.