



July 24, 2023

Thomas Hall
Forest Supervisor
Superior National Forest
8901 Grand Avenue Place
Duluth, Minnesota 55808

Re: Lutsen Proposal

Dear Forest Supervisor Hall,

We write to request that the Forest Service defer a decision on our proposal for the foreseeable future in consideration of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by the Forest Service and the three Chippewa Tribes in May.

We commend the Forest Service and the Tribal leaders of the three Chippewa Tribes for agreeing to this historic MOU that we hope and believe will usher in a new era of government-to-government relations and respect. The Forest Service's approach to Tribal retained rights has changed significantly since we began our process, and we welcome the shift to honor Tribal rights in our region and believe it is long overdue.

While we wish the MOU had been in place from the start of our process, with the MOU having been signed, we would like to pull back and start afresh under the MOU principles. We desire to ensure a modified proposal would include a clear net benefit for the retained rights of the Chippewa Tribes under the 1854 Treaty.

We understand that engagement with the Treaty parties will require considerable time and we have no fixed timetable for this engagement. Our only goal is to take the time that is needed to find a solution that will benefit the Tribes, the community, and the public.

Kind regards,

Charles Skinner

Charles Skinner
President and Owner
Lutsen Mountains Ski Area
Midwest Family Ski Resorts

Charlotte Skinner

Charlotte Skinner
Chief of Staff
Lutsen Mountains Ski Area
Midwest Family Ski Resorts

cc: Regional Forester Gina Owens
Deputy Regional Forester Jimmy Copeland