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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Protect the Boundary Waters from sulfide mining

Dear U.S Forest Service,

I support the proposed mineral withdrawal to protect the watershed of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness ("Boundary Waters"). The Boundary Waters is too sensitive and important an area to risk the treat of pollution by sulfide-ore copper mining.

The Boundary Waters is America's most popular and fresh water-rich Wilderness Area. Covering over one million acres, with more than 1,000 pristine lakes and 1,200 miles of rivers and streams, the Boundary Waters offers unmatched fishing, hunting, and other public lands wilderness recreational opportunities for all Americans to enjoy. The Boundary Waters is priceless, irreplaceable, and should not be put at risk of perpetual pollution from the dangerous sulfide mining.

- * The lakes, rivers, and streams of the Boundary Waters watershed are among the cleanest waters in North America, and are especially sensitive to the acids and heavy-metals found in copper mine pollution.

- * The Boundary Waters is also the most popular Wilderness Area in the United States, and the largest east of the Rockies and north of the Everglades. Visitors travel by boats and canoes and can choose routes to avoid having to carry their gear, making the Boundary Waters more accessible to families, children and people with physical limitations.

- * The Boundary Waters supports a strong, sustainable, and growing outdoor recreation industry in Minnesota and the Arrowhead of Northeastern Minnesota.

I urge the U.S. Forest Service to do everything necessary to protect the Boundary Waters from sulfide-ore copper mining pollution.

Sincerely,

J 'UleneLaQue

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