

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/20/2024 5:13:30 AM

First name: Tamara

Last name: Morrissey

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I love to go to the BWCA wilderness, but I try to avoid any lakes with motor boats as they ruin the wilderness feel for me. I'd say less than 10% of my trips involved anyone fishing.

In the name of accessibility, I think it is okay to allow a little more wear and tear on campsites and portages within 1-2 days paddle from entry points. I really appreciate these areas for day tripping and less strenuous overnight trips now that I am older and previously when I've taken first timers or kids out to experience wilderness. For these areas, I have two suggestions: 1) Adding bear boxes might result in less tree damage from throwing bear ropes and hanging packs. 2) Each year some of these campsites could be closed to camping, but open for day use (lunch & bathroom breaks). There would need to be some communication/maps/signs so people would know which sites are day vs overnight use that year, but I believe this could give sites a break from the wear caused by overnight campers while still maintaining accessibility.

Do you have data about which entry points and groups are traveling only 1-2 days paddle from entry points vs those traveling farther? Do you have data about which lakes/campsites are suffering from more garbage or tree damage? I'd think that type of data could help guide how permits are issued to help preserve the wilderness going forward.