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Comments: The quantity of entry permits is entirely inconsistent with providing a wilderness experience. For example, a wilderness experience should not include a daily, often worrisome hunt for an open campsite nor should it include having to deal with crowded portages. It's really become more like a very large state park - solitude is often hard to come by, these "wilderness lakes" in summer are often noisy as well as being overfished. Still beautiful but a wilderness? Only in the colder months.

This is obviously why people seeking a more genuine wilderness experience only go in spring or fall or just default to Quetico which is much closer to the wilderness ideal. I go to the bwca in the fall or not at all even though I'd much prefer the summer weather. Unfortunately the bwca in summer can be a zoo. Obviously there is a fair bit of commerce that is predicated on the current level of permits. However, I would remind the USFS that their charge is to maintain a wilderness area, not to maintain a million acre rustic campground and the associated vendors.