

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/10/2024 5:24:31 PM

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I've been visiting the BWCA probably a bit more than once a year since 1983. I urge you to maintain its wilderness character. Do not allow it to become just another national or state park. Enforce the permit system. Make it more rigorous if necessary.

And...I support the new regulation on food storage at campsites.

When my wife and I took our first trip into the BWCA and Quetico, someone -- either the outfitter or a ranger -- briefed us on "wildlife experiences" and "bear trouble." I had a fine wildlife experience when a bear crossed a portage I was walking with a Boy Scout. And my family and I had bear trouble in a state park campground known to have scavenging bears when we returned to our campsite -- with all our food locked in our vehicle -- and found that a bear had knocked down my son's tent and attempted to open a can of fuel. The first bear on the portage scurried away, and we've treasured the experience. The second incident led to the bear being trapped and either moved or killed.