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Comments: The federal purchase of the 80,000 acres of state school trust lands inside the BWCAW, and the 3,200 acres of St. Louis County land included in the land purchase package is a no brainer. It will be protected as a Wilderness, and be more efficiently administered.

A federal purchase is legal under the Weeks Act. Congress created the Land and Water Conservation Fund for just such purposes. It will place more money in Minnesota's Permanent School Fund than would a land exchange, according to analyses by the local Timberjay newspaper and others.

We support this purchase.