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Comments: I support the federal acquisition of the 80,000 acres of state school trust lands within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAW), as well as the 3,200 acres of St. Louis County land included in the proposal.

This federal purchase would streamline the management and protection of the BWCAW as a designated Wilderness area, ensuring that future state or county governments cannot develop these lands. Additionally, according to analyses by the Timberjay newspaper and other sources, the federal acquisition would generate significantly more revenue for Minnesota's Permanent School Fund compared to a land exchange.

Contrary to claims made by local legislators, a federal purchase is entirely legal under the Weeks Act. Moreover, Congress established the Land and Water Conservation Fund precisely for this type of conservation effort.