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Comments: I support 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 within the land purchase package.

A federal purchase would help with protecting and managing lands of the BWCAW as a true Wilderness, and prevent future state or county governments and outside corporations from developing these lands.

A federal purchase will provide far more income to Minnesota's Permanent School Fund, as initially intended when the school funds trusts were created, than would a land exchange, according to analyses by the local Timberjay newspaper and reports.

Contrary to the assertions of the local legislators, a federal purchase is legal under the Weeks Act. In addition, Congress created the Land and Water Conservation Fund for just such purposes.