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Comments: As I understand, a federal purchase of the 80,000 acres of school trust lands inside the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness and the 3,200 acres of land included from St. Louis County, will increase the efficiency of administering and protecting the BWCAW as a Wilderness, and prevent future state or county governments from developing these lands. This is a wonderful way to protect these lands that should be conserved for future generations.

A federal purchase will provide far more income to Minnesota's Permanent School Fund than would a land exchange, according to analyses by the local Timberjay newspaper and others.

Unlike the assertions of the local legislators, a federal purchase is perfectly legal under the Weeks Act. Furthermore, Congress created the Land and Water Conservation Fund for this reason. The short sightedness of so many is disappointing - lands like these are what make Minnesota GREAT and once they are gone there goes the wildlife along with them - never to return or replaced. I totally support this purchase.