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First name: Laurinda

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Organization: Defend Our Parks LLC

Title: Communications Director

Comments: I support the federal government's plan to purchase 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. I support this because I believe that a federal purchase will increase the efficiency of administering and protecting the BWCAW as a Wilderness, and prevent future state or county governments from developing these lands. I also believe that 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. Congress created the Land and Water Conservation Fund to make it clear that the people support such purchases.