Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/11/2024 3:39:23 PM First name: Rose Last name: Chilcoat Organization: Title:

Comments: I wholeheartedly support a federal purchase of the state and county land parcels within the BWCA Wilderness area. This is a win-win solution to the lack of funding for Minnesota schools and would provide much more coherent management of the BWCA by the US Forest Service. These lands would gain Wilderness protections thus helping ensure the BWCA would endure as a truly protected landscape and watershed. Threats are real and would be devastating to the local economies that are dependent on the clean waters and wild places the BWCA provides. The Land and Water Conservation Fund was established by Congress for just such acquisitions that benefit the people of the United States. The time is now to consolidate these lands.