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Comments: I heartily 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 in the land purchase package.

This 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.

Investing in this federal purchase provides 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 just such purposes.

Wilderness protections enrich our nation like nothing else. They are one of our greatest treasure and insurances of current and future nation wealth and wellbeing. Please join me and other wilderness advocates in supporting this federal purchase.