

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/11/2024 7:11:56 PM

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Comments: The Land and Water Conservation Fund's was created to give protection to Federal Lands and Waters. The state school trust has been unable to produce revenue due to the location of the awarded lands in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. The exchange of the lands for capital which can be invested will fulfill the purpose of the original land grant. At the same time, it will be in accordance with the Wilderness requirements.

While opponents see no opportunity for any individuals to profit in some way from this transaction, the original school trust lands were intended solely to provide revenue to the Permanent School Fund. It has been opined by respected sources that the greatest revenue will come from the direct sale of these lands, as opposed to a complicated and costly trade, which might benefit individuals as well.

It is clear that this transaction will benefit the public in providing the greater funds for the public education purpose and will benefit maintenance of the public Wilderness as well. Please act on this plan in the public interest.