Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/11/2024 9:24:34 PM First name: Pat Last name: Pesko Organization: Title:

Comments: I am very much in favor of protecting the BWCAW as a wilderness! It is irreplaceable. As such, I support the federal purchase of 80,000 acres of state school lands inside the BWCAW. I also would like to see 3,200 acres of St. Louis County land to be included in the purchase package.

While many local legislators assert the purchase is illegal, it IS legal under the Weeks Act. This land can be purchased with the Conservation Fund, a fund created to purchase and conserve land.

Thank you.