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First name: Frank Last name: Baucom Organization:

Title:

Comments: I support the agreement of the U.S. Forest Service and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for the Federal purchase of State-owned school trust lands and the County tax-forfeited land within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness in the Superior Forest in Minnesota. I understand the monies will come from the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund. I also understand that Counties will receive funds from the payment-in-lieu-of-taxes Federal program.

This will be an enormous benefit to Minnesota's Permanent School Fund, facilitate management and stewardship of the lands within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area, and enhance the recreational experience of those using the area. I believe this is the most visited of all wilderness areas in the U.S.

My Grandparents homesteaded a farm close to the Rainy River on the western edge of this area and I was born near there. I have always been interested in the resources and unique natural values of this area, and how it contributes to the well being of residents and others from all over the United States as well as the world. This is the largest area in the U.S. that you can travel over lakes and streams by canoe or other non-motorized water craft (some motors allowed). Please do all you can to make this proposal succeed.