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Comments: To Whom It May Concern.

I wholeheartedly endorse the federal acquisition of the 80,000 acres of state school trust lands located within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAW), as well as the 3,200 acres of St. Louis County land that is part of this land purchase initiative. This federal acquisition will streamline the management and protection of the BWCAW as a designated Wilderness area, ensuring that future state or county governments do not develop these precious lands. Moreover, studies conducted by the Timberjay newspaper and other credible sources indicate that this federal purchase will generate significantly more revenue for Minnesota's Permanent School Fund compared to a mere land exchange. It is important to clarify that, contrary to the claims made by some local legislators, a federal purchase is entirely permissible under the Weeks Act. In fact, Congress established the Land and Water Conservation Fund specifically for initiatives like this one. Together, we can safeguard our natural treasures while supporting our schools.

Thank you,