

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/12/2024 12:59:30 PM

First name: Leigh

Last name: OBrien

Organization:

Title:

Comments: As do many others, I 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!

A federal purchase will increase the efficiency of administering and protecting the BWCAW as a Wilderness, and prevent state or county governments from developing these lands.

Specifically, a federal purchase will provide far more income to Minnesota's Permanent School Fund than would a land exchange, according to analyses by local newspapers and others. As opposed to the assertions of 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!!