

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/12/2024 7:39:12 PM

First name: Jaye

Last name: Trottier

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I enthusiastically endorse the federal acquisition of the 80,000 acres of state school trust lands within the BWCAW, as well as the 3,200 acres of St. Louis County land encompassed in the land purchase deal.

Such a federal acquisition would enhance the management and preservation of the BWCAW as a wilderness area and would prevent potential development by future state or county administrations.

Moreover, a federal purchase would yield significantly greater revenue for Minnesota's Permanent School Fund compared to a land exchange, as indicated by analyses from the local Timberjay newspaper among others.

Contrary to the claims of some local legislators, a federal purchase is entirely lawful under the Weeks Act, and the Land and Water Conservation Fund was established by Congress precisely for such objectives.