

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/12/2024 8:03:48 PM

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Comments: I am writing in support 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.

BWCAW, if federally purchased, will increase the efficiency of administering and protecting the area as a Wilderness, and prevent future state or county governments from developing these lands.

In addition, a federal purchase will enhance Minnesota's Permanent School Fund much more than a land exchange would; this according to the local Timberjay newspaper's analysis, and others.

A federal purchase is legal under the Weeks Act despite what some local legislators are asserting; indeed, Congress created the Land and Water Conservation Fund for just such purposes.