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Comments:

*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.

This kind of purchase is exactly what the land and water conservation act was designed to carry out, to protect critical elements of the landscape, to protect both land and water, and to safeguard open space.

As an individual who has served on the Board of Directors of to land. Trust, I can absolutely concur with this kind of abuse of land, and conservation fund dolla.

In addition, the Wilderness act of 1964 absolutely provides this kind of purchase as a mechanism to add land to Wilderness areas. A key feature of the Wilderness act is its provision that private land within the boundaries of a bonus area, once obtained by the federal government, is automatically included within the Wilderness area.

This purchase will make, the management of this Wilderness area, much more reasonable and easier. It will also benefit the funds for schools much more than any land exchange would ever do.

I urged the forest service to proceed with this purchase, and subsequent inclusion of this land into the wilderness area surrounding it.