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First name: Patricia Last name: Serra Organization:

Title:

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.

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

according to analyses by the local Timberjay newspaper and others, such a federal purchase will benefit Minnesota's Permanent School Fund by providing more income than would a land exchange.

Additionally, unlike the assertions of the 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.