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First name: Gail

Last name: Mott

Organization:

Title:

Comments: A critically important effort is under with the collabortaion of the DNR and Forest Service that are proposing a federal purchase of school trust lands within the BWCAW, using monies from the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund. It is important to note that a federal purchase will make administration of the BWCAW more efficient and provide far more money to the Permanent School Fund than would a land exchange, according to various analyses, including one by the local Timberjay newspaper. And this purchase proposal could finally resolve the lingering question of the BWCAW's school trust lands not providing any income for the Permanent School Fund.

Please move ahead with the federal purchase of these school trust lands within the BWCAW, and ignore the plea from the state legislators for a land exchange. Congress created the Land and Water Conservation Fund for just such purposes.

Yours in hope,

Gail Mot