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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I write in support of the federal purchase of both 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 a federal purchase will increase the efficiency of administering and protecting the BWCAW as a Wilderness. I believe that it would also prevent future state or county governments from developing these lands. According to analyses by the local Timberjay newspaper and others, a federal purchase would provide far more income to Minnesota's Permanent School Fund than would a land exchange.

Contrary to the assertions of the local legislators, a federal purchase is perfectly legal under the Weeks Act. And it was for just such purposes that Congress created the Land and Water Conservation Fund.