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First name: Leslie

Last name: Kuhn

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I strongly support the federal purchase of the 80,000 acres of state school trust lands inside the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, and the 3,200 acres of St. Louis County land included in the land purchase package.

This is a terrific opportunity to permanently protect the Boundary Waters and its public recreation opportunities, mitigation of climate change by carbon sequestration in the healthy woods and wetlands, and valuable wildlife habitat, as well as benefit the Permanent School Fund of Minnesota.

Congress created the Land and Water Conservation Fund for just such purposes, and federal funding of the purchase will protect these areas from potential development by future state or county governments.

Thank you for your consideration and support!