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First name: Jim Last name: Steitz Organization:

Title:

Comments: I urge you to complete the proposed buyout of state-owned inholdings in the BWCAW. The existence of these inholdings is a historical artifact from an area when logging and mining the area we today call the Boundary Waters seemed a rational way to fund public schools. Today, we know better. We understand the immense value of keeping the BWCAW contiguous and unbroken ecologically, a purpose for which inholdings pose a potential hazard, especially if some future hostile state government and an allied court demand physical access to the inholdings. Please put this issue to permanent rest by purchasing these inholdings, and let the local governments have a one-time payment for which they can asssume their own fiscal responsibility.