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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. According to local analysis, this purchase will provide far more income to Minnesota's Permanent School Fund than would a land exchange, and that should be the priority. It makes no sense to push for a deal that would provide less income for the fund. A federal purchase is perfectly legal under the Weeks Act, and Congress created the Land and Water Conservation Fund for just such purposes.

This federal purchase is a win for the schools, tourism and the environment.