From: Laura Mosedale
To: Lands, BLM_ES
Subject: [EXTERNAL] In favor of withdrawing Forest Service land in the BWCA from new mineral leasing
Date: Saturday, December 18, 2021 6:37:08 AM

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Dear Mr Radford,

I read with great interest and approval that the BLM is proposing to withdraw 225K acres of land from new mineral leasing in the Rainy River Watershed.

For four generations my family has vacationed in Chippewa National Forest, my grandparents coming from Milwaukee and Washington DC, my parents from New York City, and my own family from London, where we've lived since 1998. My husband, our three children and I have all spent many weeks in the BWCA on camping trips, and so have many others in our summer community.

It is horrifying to think of mineral mines ruining forever these beautiful unspoiled lakes and rivers. Whatever economic benefit a mine could bring to the area would be temporary, but the damage would be permanent. There has never been a copper nickel mine that has not polluted the groundwater, with devastating results. Locals who may welcome the mine would see the value of their properties plummet as toxins made their way on to their land and into their wells. It would spell the end of the tourist industry too.

If we want to survive on this planet, we must do all we can to safeguard what wilderness we have left.

Thank you.

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