From: Tom Koshiol
To: Lands, BLM_ES
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mineral Leasing Withdrawal
Date: Saturday, December 18, 2021 11:21:35 AM

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On October 21, 2021, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) published a notice in the Federal Register initiating a 90-day public comment period on an application from the Forest Service to withdraw 225,378 acres of land from new mineral leasing in the Rainy River Watershed near the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAW) for 20 years.

To Whom It May Concern,
I'm writing in support of withdrawing 225,378 acres of land from new mineral leasing in the Rainy River Watershed near the BWCA for 20 years – and hopefully someday permanently. The risks of the very toxic sulfide mining being proposed for this are is far too great. Once the pristine nature of this area is lost for the short-term gain of a foreign company, it can never be returned, compromising the bedrock long-term economic benefit and recreational opportunities it now provides. The proven negative track record of this industry's environmental disasters spells certain unrepairable damage, regardless of the promises being made.
Sincerely,
Tom Koshiol
Paynesville, MN