

December 3, 2021

F. David Radford

Deputy State Director of Geospatial Services

BLM Eastern States Office

5275 Leesburg Pike,

Falls Church, VA 22041

Dear Mr. Radford,

I'm writing encourage you to withdraw the Superior National Forest from mineral leasing actions for 20 years. The nonferrous copper-nickel mining industry has an abysmal track record in Montana and elsewhere and cannot be safely done without significant risk to fragile wilderness areas.

I visit the Boundary Waters Canoe Area (BWCA) annually, our nation's most visited federal wilderness, *and consider it a national treasure and an important part of a legacy to leave to future generations.* A 20,000-ton-per-day mine should not be permitted to operate on a shoreline of a lake that drains into the BWCA watershed.

Withdrawing the Superior National Forest, which includes the BWCA, from mineral leasing actions for 20 years or longer would protect this vulnerable wilderness from the pollution, impairment, and destruction from potential mining operations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Adam Ennen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "A".