

10 Sigma Place  
Riverdale, NY 10471-1216  
4 November, 2021

F. David Radford,  
Deputy State Director of Geospatial Services  
BLM Eastern States Office

RE: Superior National Forest Withdrawal Application

5275 Leesburg Pike  
Falls Church, VA. 22041

Dear Director Radford:

I write in support of the proposal to ban mining on federal lands adjacent to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area.

Every summer I come out from New York to Minnesota to visit the Boundary Waters. I know that I am not the only one who finds my life restored by this irreplaceable wilderness.

The fresh waters of northern Minnesota must be protected. These vast interconnected water systems are vulnerable to casual misuse. It is well known that 100% of mines leak.

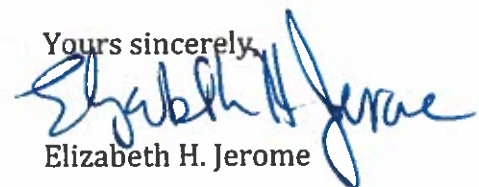
The proposed mining is for non-ferrous metals. Copper-nickel mining leaks deadly sulfides into water systems that kill plants, animals, and aquatic life. We will lose forever a fresh water wilderness area that is loved by people from all over the world.

I can also add that sulfide ore mining risks the livelihood of First Nations peoples in Minnesota to whom safe waters for wild rice and fishing were promised by treaty. Sulfide ore mining would also destroy a \$100million/ year recreation economy of northern Minnesota for a short-term profit to out-of-state administrators and share-holders.

The BWCA is a precious and irreplaceable true wonder of the world. It is sacred land, not only for Minnesota's First Nations, but also for many fortunate others across the globe who have had the chance to see it first-hand. We would like this wilderness area to be protected so that our children and grandchildren may take spiritual strength from it in years to come.

I urge you to place a ban on non-ferrous mining near this internationally known and valued natural resource.

Yours sincerely,

  
Elizabeth H. Jerome

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