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Water Action Day Activists Fighting for Minnesota's Pristine Boundary Waters Wilderness

Supporters of America's most-popular Wilderness will join clean water advocates at the State Capitol on April 19 to fight for the protection of Minnesota's pristine waterways.

Saint Paul, MN - On April 19, supporters of the [Campaign to Save the Boundary Waters](#) and [Sportsmen for the Boundary Waters](#) will join Water Action Day's clean water advocates from across Minnesota at the State Capitol for a day of action on water issues affecting Minnesotans.

One of the most critical water issues on the agenda is the threat posed by sulfide-ore copper mining to America's most visited Wilderness Area, the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. The Boundary Waters contains 1.1 million acres of pristine water and unspoiled woodlands. Some of the world's cleanest water can be found in the Boundary Waters and along with the Superior National Forest, it contains 20 percent of all the fresh water in the entire National Forest System.

These clean waters are now under immediate threat from Chilean mining giant Antofagasta, which owns Twin Metals Minnesota, and its proposed sulfide-ore copper mines. The proposed sulfide-ore copper mines would be built within the Boundary Waters watershed and would carry [acid mine drainage](#) and other pollution [downstream](#) into the Boundary Waters. Sulfide-ore copper mining is part of the most toxic industry in America and poses a serious threat to the clean water of the Boundary Waters. Minnesotans agree on this point, as [recent polls](#) show overwhelming support for protecting the Boundary Waters. Polling shows 58 percent of Minnesotans are opposed to sulfide-ore copper mining near the Boundary Waters and only 27 percent are in favor.

Water Action Day will offer supporters of the Boundary Waters Wilderness and clean water the opportunity to make their voices heard and tell legislators to protect Minnesota's most precious natural resource from the dangers of sulfide-ore copper mining. The event will feature a full day of legislative meetings, listening sessions and speakers culminating in a rally held in the Capitol Rotunda at 1:30 p.m.

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The Campaign to Save the Boundary Waters is a broad coalition of more than 35 partner organizations, including conservation, sportsmen and veteran's groups. The Campaign is also supported by more than 250 local and national businesses. The Campaign is led by Northeastern Minnesotans for Wilderness, which is based in Ely, Minnesota. For more information, visit SavetheBoundaryWaters.org.