



July 19, 2016

Hon. Tom Vilsack  
Secretary of Agriculture  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.  
Washington, DC 20250

Hon. Sally Jewell  
Secretary of the Interior  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Vilsack, Secretary Jewell, and Director Goldfuss,

The Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness is the most visited Wilderness area in the nation, drawing 250,000 visitors every year. At 1.1 million acres in size, it is the largest Wilderness area east of the Rockies and north of the Everglades. The Boundary Waters offers 1,200 miles of canoe and kayak routes and 2,000 designated campsites, and is home to some of the finest remote angling and hunting our country has to offer. Sportsmen and women venture into the Boundary Waters in pursuit of walleye, bass, pike, trout, bear, deer, grouse, and more.

The Boundary Waters is now jeopardized by recent proposals to bring sulfide-ore copper mining – a risky type of mining that has never before been permitted in Minnesota – to places where pollution will drain into the Boundary Waters. Byproducts of sulfide-ore copper mining (acidic waters, heavy metal contaminants and sulfates) would damage rivers and lakes that flow into the heart of the Boundary Waters, as well as the interconnected waters of Voyageurs National Park, Quetico Provincial Park, and the greater Rainy River Drainage Basin. This could permanently ruin the productive fish & game habitats that make this internationally significant area unique.

Pollution from these mines would flow into the Boundary Waters as well as impact Voyageurs National Park - which help drive the economy of Northeastern Minnesota, where tourism supports nearly 17,000 jobs and brings \$850 million in sales annually to the region. The Boundary Waters and Voyageurs are also significant contributors to Minnesota's outdoor recreation economy, which generates \$11.6 billion in consumer spending and 118,000 direct jobs statewide. The economic health of local communities in northeastern Minnesota, including the region's thriving recreation and tourism industry, depends on the clean water, productive forests, and healthy fisheries and game populations of the Boundary Waters.

We, the undersigned conservation, angling, and hunting organizations and businesses, representing over 6 million members, employees, and customers, support permanent protection for the Boundary Waters watershed from the threat of sulfide-ore copper mining, by preventing future sulfide-ore copper mining on federal lands in the Rainy River Drainage Basin. Specifically, using the best available science as a basis for action, we urge you to:

- 1) Oppose the renewal of the two federal mineral leases adjacent to the Boundary Waters, which are the only two federal mineral leases in the Superior National Forest and expired on December 31, 2013.
- 2) Support the withdrawal of federally owned minerals within the Rainy River Drainage Basin from the federal mineral leasing program.
- 3) Take any additional measures necessary to protect the Boundary Waters and the Rainy River Drainage Basin from the threat of sulfide-ore copper mining.

Note: Neither of these actions would affect mining on state or private lands, nor would they affect Minnesota's taconite mining industry.

We hope we can count on your support for the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness so that this and future generations of sportsmen and women may enjoy the unparalleled angling and hunting opportunities found there.

Sincerely,

NATIONAL

American Fly Fishing Trade Association

Ben Bulis (President)

Bozeman, MT

American Sportfishing Association

Scott Gudes (VP - Government Affairs)

Alexandria, VA

Backcountry Hunters & Anglers

Land Tawney (Executive Director)

Missoula, MT

Bear Trust International

Melissa Reynolds-Hogland, PhD (Executive Director)

Missoula, MT

International Federation of Fly Fishers  
Glenn Erikson (Conservation Chair)  
Livingston, MT

Izaak Walton League of America  
Scott Kovarovics (Executive Director)  
Gaithersburg, MD

National Wildlife Federation  
Collin O'Mara (President and CEO)  
Reston, VA

Orion - The Hunter's Institute  
Mark Hirvonen (President)  
Trumansburg, NY

Pope and Young Club  
Jim Willems (President)  
Chatfield, MN

Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership  
Whit Fosburgh (President and CEO)  
Washington, DC

Wildlife Forever  
Pat Conzemius (Conservation Director)  
Brooklyn Center, MN

#### MINNESOTA

Backcountry Hunters & Anglers - Minnesota Chapter  
Erik Jensen (Co-Chair)  
Minneapolis, MN

Barn Co Entertainment

Joey Klegstad (Chief Operating Officer)

Lakeville, MN

Boathouse Winona

Lyon Smith (Owner)

Winona, MN

Clearwater Historic Lodge & Canoe Outfitters

Erik Danielson (General Manager)

Grand Marais, MN

Double Reed Outdoors

Bradley Schultz (Owner)

Chokio, MN

Ely Outfitting Co. & Boundary Waters Guide Service

Jason Zabokrtsky (Owner)

Ely, MN

Escape MSP

Joey Klegstad (Chief Operating Officer)

Lakeville, MN

Far Out Fly Fishing

Brian Porter (Owner/Guide)

Duluth, MN

French River Muzzleloaders

Brent Gurtek (Owner)

Duluth Twp., MN

Front 20 Outfitters LLC  
Doug Harthan (Owner)  
Perham, MN

Frost River  
David Hoole (Marketing and PR)  
Duluth, MN

Full Curl Brand  
Will Jenkins (President & CEO)  
Andover, MN

General Store of Minnetonka  
Gail and Chris Bollis (Owners)  
Minnetonka, MN

Great Lakes Fly Company  
John Fehnel (Owner)  
Duluth, MN

GreenHead Productions  
Mark Norquist (Owner)  
Minnetonka, MN

Hungry Jack Outfitters  
Dave and Nancy Seaton (Owners)  
Grand Marais, MN

Izaak Walton League of America - Minnesota Division  
Barry Drazkowski (President)  
Saint Paul, MN

Izaak Walton League of America - Bush Lake Chapter

John Crampton (President)  
Bloomington, MN

Izaak Walton League of America - Cass County Chapter  
Jerry Fitzgerald (President)  
Hackensack, MN

Izaak Walton League of America - Chapter 10  
William C. Buckley (President)  
Austin, MN

Izaak Walton League of America - Grand Rapids Wes Libbey Chapter  
Bob Scheierl (Chairman)  
Grand Rapids, MN

Izaak Walton League of America - W.J. McCabe Chapter  
Rich Staffon (President)  
Duluth, MN

International Federation of Fly Fishers - Lew Jewett Chapter  
Ray Morris (President)  
St. Paul, MN

Lakewood Lodge  
Alexis Young  
Walker, MN

Minnesota Conservation Federation  
Gary Botzek (Executive Director)  
St. Paul, MN

Minnesota Kayak Fishing Association  
Grant Carston (Board of Directors / Sponsorship Coordinator)

Roseville, MN

Minnesota Pro Paintball

Joey Klegstad (Chief Operating Officer)

Lakeville, MN

Minnesota Waterfowl Association

Brad Nylin (Executive Director)

Hopkins, MN

Modern Carnivore

Mark Norquist (Owner)

Minnetonka, MN

Namebini

Carl Haensel (Owner)

Duluth, MN

North Shore Outdoors

Kelly Shepard

Grand Marais, MN

Northstar Canoes

Bear Paulsen

Princeton, MN

Piragis Northwoods Company

Steve & Nancy Piragis (Owners)

Ely, MN

Rapala

Gregg Wollner (Executive Vice President)

Minnetonka, MN

River Point Resort & Outfitting Co.

Steve & Jane Koschak

Ely, MN

Riverwood Design

Robert & Val Wagner (Owners)

Bemidji, MN

Rockwood Outfitters

Carl Madsen (co-owner)

Grand Marais, MN

Sawbill Canoe Outfitters

Bill Hansen (President)

Tofte, MN

Skirts Plus

Eric Schwartz

Shakopee, MN

Snowshoe Country Lodge

Ron Brodigan

Isabella, MN

Split Rock Ventures

Gerry Brauer & Doug Yates (Partners)

Duluth, MN

Upper Midwest Council of the International Federation of Fly Fishers

Todd Heggstad (President)

Duluth, MN



ALASKA

Heather's Choice LLC  
Heather Kelley (Owner)  
Anchorage, AK

CALIFORNIA

Abel Automatics, Inc.  
Jeff Patterson (Executive Vice President)  
Camarillo, CA

Nate Ptacek Photography  
Nate Ptacek (Owner)  
Ventura, CA

Okuma Fishing Tackle  
Douglas Lasko (President)  
Ontario, CA

Patagonia, Inc.  
Ron Hunter (Environmental Programs Associate)  
Ventura, CA

COLORADO

Fishpond USA  
John Land Le Coq (Founder)  
Denver, CO

Seek Outside  
Kevin and Angie Timm (Owners)  
Ridgeway, CO

Ross Reels  
Jeff Patterson (Director of Sales & Marketing)

Montrose, CO

FLORIDA

Nautilus Reels

Kristen Mustad (President)

Miami, FL

Yo-Zuri America

Buddy Prause (VP Sales & Marketing)

Port St. Lucie, FL

IDAHO

First Lite

Ryan Callaghan (Marketer)

Ketchum, ID

Smith Optics

Peter Crow (Southeast Sales Manager)

Ketchum, ID

Waterworks - Lamson

Jennifer Lavigne (Sales Manager)

Ketchum, ID

ILLINOIS

Chicago Fly Fishing Outfitters

Andy Kurkulis (Owner)

Chicago, IL

Trout Unlimited - Lee Wulff Chapter

Jerry Sapp (Conservation Chair & Illinois National Leadership Council Representative)

Carpentersville, IL

IOWA

Coldwater Guide Service

Rod Woten (Owner / Guide)

Stuart, IA

KANSAS

Heart of America Flyfishers

Kevin Carril (Conservation Chairman)

Overland Park, KS

MASSACHUSETTS

Cheeky Fishing

Ted Upton (Chief Executive Officer)

Arlington, MA

MONTANA

Adipose Boatworks

Justin Waayenberg (General Manager)

Helena, MT

Mystery Ranch

Ryan Holm (Marketing Manager)

Bozeman, MT

Simms Fishing Products

K.C. Walsh (President)

Bozeman, MT

NEBRASKA

HuntingLife.com and Hunting Insider

Kevin Paulson (Founder & CEO)

Lincoln, NE

NORTH DAKOTA

Paddle Planner, LLC

Ben Strege

Ardoch, ND

OREGON

Loon Outdoors

Alan Peterson (President)

Ashland, OR

SOUTH DAKOTA

South Dakota Wildlife Federation

Chris Hesla (Executive Director)

Pierre, SD

TENNESSEE

Jackson Kayak

Damon Bungard (Product Manager)

Sparta, TN

Orion Coolers

Damon Bungard (Brand Manager)

Sparta, TN

Strike King Lure Company

Allan Ranson (Chief Operating Officer)

Collierville, TN

TEXAS

Temple Fork Outfitters

Rick Pope (President)

Dallas, TX

WASHINGTON

Far Bank Enterprises

- Sage Fly Fishing
- Redington Fly Fishing
- RIO Products

Travis Campbell (President & CEO)

Bainbridge Island, WA

Rajeff Sports, LLC

- Airflo
- ECHO Fly Fishing

Tim Rajeff (President)

Vancouver, WA

WISCONSIN

Athena & Artemis Women's Fly Shop

Geri Meyer (Owner)

Viroqua, WI

Bending Branches

Andrew Stern (Marketing Supervisor)

Osceola, WI

Catch and Capture

Erik Thue (Owner/Guide)

Hayward, WI

Driftless Angler

Mat Wagner (Owner)

Viroqua, WI

Dry Fly Sales

Tony & Kim Ferrie (Owners)  
Black Earth, WI

The Morning Rise Fly Fishing Company  
Brian Senick (Owner)  
Edgerton, WI

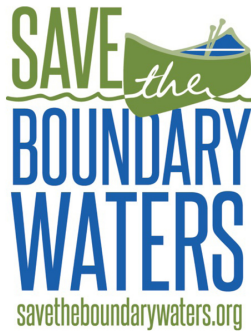
St. Croix Rods  
Paul Schluter (President)  
Park Falls, WI

Vortex Optics  
Mark Boardman (Marketing Manager)  
Middleton, WI

Wisconsin Trout Unlimited  
Linn Beck (State Council Chair)  
Oshkosh, WI

#### CANADA

Northern Edge Travel  
Jeremy Capay (Chief Executive Officer)  
Lac Seul First Nation, Ontario



## **Protect the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness from proposed sulfide-ore copper mining**

Dear Policy Maker,

The Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness is the most visited Wilderness area in the National Wilderness Preservation System, drawing in 250,000 visitors every year. At 1.1 million acres in size, it is the largest Wilderness area east of the Rockies and north of the Everglades. The Boundary Waters offers 1,200 miles of canoe and kayak routes, 237.5 miles of overnight hiking trails and 2,000 designated campsites. Voyageurs spans 218,000 acres, boasts miles of undeveloped shoreline and shares a 55-mile border with Canada that served as a historic canoe highway to the continent's interior. Both the Boundary Waters and Voyageurs are home to iconic wildlife including lynx, wolves, moose and loons. As part of the greatest canoe country wilderness in the world, the Boundary Waters and Voyageurs provide unparalleled opportunities for wilderness experiences.

The Boundary Waters and Voyageurs are now jeopardized by recent proposals to bring sulfide-ore copper mining—a risky type of mining that has never before occurred in Minnesota—to places where pollution will drain into the Wilderness itself. Byproducts of sulfide-ore copper mining (acidic waters, heavy metal contaminants and sulfates) would damage rivers and lakes that flow into the heart of the Boundary Waters, which could permanently ruin the pristine water and unspoiled forests of this place.

Pollution from these mines would flow into the Boundary Waters as well as impact Voyageurs National Park. These beloved national treasures offer unparalleled outdoor experiences to millions of people, and help drive the economy of Northeastern Minnesota, where tourism supports 18,000 jobs and brings \$850 million in sales annually to the region. The Boundary Waters and Voyageurs are also significant contributors to Minnesota's outdoor recreation economy, which generates \$11.6 billion in consumer spending and 118,000 direct jobs statewide. The economic health of local communities in northeastern Minnesota, including the region's thriving recreation and tourism industry, depends on the clean water, healthy fisheries and intact ecosystem of the Boundary Waters.

We support permanent protection for the Boundary Waters watershed from the threat of sulfide-ore copper mining, by preventing future sulfide-ore copper mining on federal lands in the watershed, the Rainy River Drainage Basin. Specifically, we urge you to:

1. Ensure that no leasing of federal minerals occurs within the Rainy River Drainage Basin by denying applications for both new federal mineral leases and federal mineral lease renewals.
2. Withdraw the federally owned minerals within the Rainy River Drainage Basin from the federal mineral leasing program.
3. Take any additional measures necessary to protect the Boundary Waters and Voyageurs from the threat of sulfide-ore copper mining.

We hope we can count on your support for the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness so that we can retain the pristine water and unspoiled forests for this and future generations to enjoy.

Sincerely,



Jessica Ward-Denison  
Applied Energy Innovations  
Minneapolis, MN



Ed Vater  
Bending Branches  
Osceola, WI



Adam Steinke  
Bent River Outfitter  
Mankato, MN



Keith Patterson  
Bergans of Norway  
North American headquarters, Longmont, CO  
International headquarters, Hokksund, Norway



Tracy Singleton  
Birchwood Café  
Minneapolis, MN





Matthew Barthelemy and Michael McLeon  
Brewfully Inspired  
Duluth, MN



Seth Cobb  
Chaco  
Grand Rapids, MI



Scott Cole  
Clean Designs LLC  
Alston, MA



Erik Danielson  
Clearwater Historic Lodge & Outfitters  
Grand Marais MN



**The Conservation  
Alliance**

Outdoor Business Giving Back to the Outdoors

John Sterling  
The Conservation Alliance  
Bend, OR



Davis Smith  
Cotopaxi  
Cottonwood Heights, UT



Greg Wilcox, Dyke Williams  
Country Ways  
Minneapolis, MN



Laura Gauger  
Deer Tail Press  
Duluth MN



Eric Faust  
Duluth Coffee Company  
Duluth, MN



Ian Scherber  
Duluth Screen Printing  
Duluth, MN



Jason Zabokrtsky  
Ely Outfitting Company & Boundary Waters Guide Service  
Ely, MN



Dave Benson  
Epicurean  
Duluth, MN



Kaj Bune  
EXPED USA  
Seattle, WA



John Falconer and Ann Lowe  
Falconer Vineyards  
Red Wing, MN



FontanaSports.com

Elizabeth Ganser  
Fontana Sports Specialties  
Madison, WI



Mark Bartell  
Frost River Trading Co.  
Duluth, MN



Jeremy Kershaw  
Heck of the North Productions LLC  
Duluth MN



Dave Seaton  
Hungry Jack Outfitters  
Grand Marais, MN



Eric Greene  
Kelty  
Boulder, CO



Caroleigh Pierce  
Klean Kanteen  
Chico, CA



Dan Neff  
Lake Superior Art Glass  
Duluth MN

LAKE SUPERIOR  
ART GLASS



Aran Seaman  
LifeStraw  
Vancouver, BC



John Churchill  
Lodge of Whispering Pines  
Ely, MN



Greg Benson  
Loll Designs  
Duluth, MN



Michaella Holden  
Lucent Blue LLC  
Minneapolis, MN



Tom Fritz  
Marmot Mountain LLC  
Rohnert Park, CA



Leslie Rasmussen  
Merrell  
Rockford, MI



Lili Colby  
MTI Adventurewear  
Plympton MA



Ian Scherber  
Neverest Outfitters Co.  
Duluth, MN



Benjamin Skroch  
Nighthawk Canoes  
St. Paul, MN



Barb Gettel  
NorthGate Brewing  
Minneapolis, MN



Todd Bell, Bear Paulsen  
Northstar Canoes  
Princeton, MN



Tom Deschenes  
Old Saw Media  
Duluth, MN



Sam Mix  
Osprey Packs  
Cortez, CO

# OUTDOOR ALLIANCE

Adam Cramer  
Outdoor Alliance  
Washington, DC



Ben Strege  
Paddle Planner LLC  
Ardoch, ND



Hans Cole  
Patagonia  
Ventura, CA



Dave Burleson  
Petzl America  
Salt Lake City UT



Steve and Nancy Piragis  
Piragis Northwoods Company  
Ely, MN



Stephanie Love and Blake Caszier  
Positive Energy Outdoors  
Duluth, MN



**RIVER POINT**  
RESORT & OUTFITTING COMPANY

Jane, Steve and James Koschak  
River Point Resort & Outfitting Company  
Ely, MN



Carl, Carol, Mike & Stephanie  
Rockwood Lodge and Outfitters  
Grand Marais, MN



**RUFFWEAR**

Allison Miles  
Ruffwear  
Bend, OR



Darren Bush  
Rutabaga Paddlesports  
Madison, WI



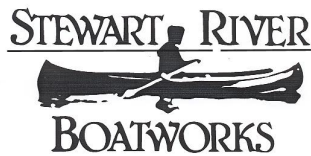
Brady Barnstable  
Seven Sundays  
Minneapolis MN



Eric Greene  
Sierra Designs  
Boulder, CO



Jamie Cooper  
Sigurd Canoe Company  
LaCrosse WI



Adam Comb  
Stewart River Boatworks  
Knife River, MN



Mark C. Morgan  
St. Croix Canoes  
Roberts, MN



Eric Resch  
Stone Creek Coffee Roasters  
Milwaukee WI



Mark and Melinda Spinler  
Superior North Outdoor Center  
Grand Marais, MN



Andrew and Amanda Imes  
SUPERior Paddle  
Duluth MN





Steve McCann  
Toad&Co.  
Santa Barbara, CA



Tony Hoar  
Tony's Trailers  
British Columbia, Canada



Vince and Anne Robichaud  
Trailtopia  
Rochester, MN



Dan Pauly  
Voyageur Maps  
Minneapolis, MN



Gary and Marcy Gotchnik  
Wilderness Outfitters  
Ely, MN



Sue and Paul Schurke  
Wintergreen Dogsled Lodge and



Wintergreen Northern Wear  
Ely, MN



Peta Barrett  
Women's Wilderness Discovery  
Ely, MN

Al Vento Restaurant  
Minneapolis, MN

Adam and Patti Swank  
Amity Coffee  
Duluth MN

Brian Mueller  
Barefoot Aqua Sports  
Minneapolis, MN

Chris Evavold  
Black River Sleds  
Foxboro WI

Lyon Smith and Ed Hoffman  
Boat House Restaurant  
Winona, MN

Heidi Brandenburg  
Brandenburg Gallery  
Ely, MN

Crow Wing Food Coop  
Brainerd, MN

Drew Stevenson  
Decorah Hatchery  
Decorah, IA

Natalie DeRatt  
Eagles Nest Outfitters  
Asheville, NC

Ann Nye and Elli Temple  
Excelsior Bay Books  
Excelsior, MN

Brian Porter  
Far Out Fly Fishing  
Duluth, MN

Ron Brodigan  
Great Lakes School of Log Building  
and Snowshoe Country Lodge  
Isabella, MN

Dale Howey  
Green Rock Apartments  
Minneapolis, MN  
Tony Vavricka  
Hard Water Sports  
St. Paul, MN

Lost Creek Adventures and Folk School  
Cornucopia WI

George Watson  
Mattson Consulting  
Minneapolis, MN

Michael Fischer  
Mend Provisions  
Minneapolis, MN

Donna Donato and Tom Herman  
Multi-Diagnostic Services, Inc.  
New York, NY

Justin and Jenna Rinehart  
Nicollet Bike Shop  
Mankato, MN

Dustin Elsbury  
Northern Prairie Builders  
Burlington, WI

Outdoor Industry Association  
Washington, DC

Michael Kopyy  
Performance Edge  
Hermantown, MN

Adam, Brad and Per  
Pioneer Midwest  
Osseo, MN

Todd Roepke  
Project Canoe  
St. Anthony, MN

Jeff and Sara Lynch  
Sawtooth Outfitters  
Tofte, MN

Mark Schnorr  
South Lake Cycle  
Excelsior, MN

Gail and Chris Bollis  
The General Store of Minnetonka  
Minnetonka, MN

The Swede Outdoors LLC  
Minneapolis, MN

Chris Gardner  
VeloInk  
Belfast, Maine

Tonia Weber  
2<sup>nd</sup>-gear.net  
Cotton, MN

July 19, 2016

Hon. Tom Vilsack  
Secretary of Agriculture  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.  
Washington, DC 20250

Hon. Sally Jewell  
Secretary of the Interior  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20240

Hon. Christina Goldfuss  
Director  
Council on Environmental Quality  
722 Jackson Place, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Secretary Vilsack, Secretary Jewell, and Director Goldfuss,

The Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness in northeastern Minnesota is a national treasure. The Boundary Waters is a breathtaking wild landscape of lakes, streams, and woods that covers 1.1 million acres along the Canadian border. Every year, more than 250,000 people from all over the world visit the Boundary Waters—making it the most heavily used Wilderness Area in the United States. The Boundary Waters is one of National Geographic Traveler Magazine’s “50 Places of a Lifetime,” a list of the world’s “must-see” destinations.

In the same watershed lies Voyageurs National Park, a mosaic of land and water in northern Minnesota along the Canadian border. The park’s 64,000 acres of water are home to an array of wildlife, and the nearly 250,000 visitors each year enjoy wildlife-viewing, camping, and many water-related activities, including kayaking, canoeing, boating, and world-class fishing. Our groups represent millions of active members across the country who value clean water, healthy forests, and opportunities to paddle, camp, hike, and fish throughout our incredible public lands. We are committed to the permanent protection of Voyageurs National Park and the Boundary Waters, the most significant lakeland wilderness in the United States and one of our great remaining wild places.

Sulfide-ore mines proposed to be built immediately adjacent to the Boundary Waters and upstream from both the Boundary Waters and Voyageurs National Park threaten to pollute the pristine waters and mar the quiet beauty of these national treasures. Sulfide-ore mining has a consistent record of environmental devastation, including contaminated waters, degraded forests, and catastrophic spills of toxic materials. It makes no sense to place what the EPA calls the nation’s most toxic industry next to the nation’s most popular Wilderness Area and upstream of a national park.

Pollution from proposed sulfide-ore mines would flow into the Boundary Waters and could impact Voyageurs National Park. These beloved national treasures offer unparalleled outdoor experiences to millions of people and help drive the economy of Northeastern Minnesota, where tourism supports 18,000 jobs and brings \$850 million in sales annually to the region. Minnesota’s outdoor recreation economy generates \$11.6 billion in consumer spending and

118,000 direct jobs statewide. The economic health of local communities in Northeastern Minnesota depends on the clean water, healthy fisheries and intact ecosystem of the Boundary Waters and Voyageurs National Park watershed.

We support permanent protection of the Boundary Waters and Voyageurs National Park watershed through the prohibition of sulfide-ore mining on federal lands in the watershed.

Specifically, we urge you to:

1. Ensure that no leasing of federal minerals occurs within the Boundary Waters watershed by denying applications for new federal mineral leases and for federal mineral lease renewals.
2. Withdraw the federally-owned minerals within the Boundary Waters watershed from the federal mineral leasing program.
3. Take any additional measures necessary to protect the Boundary Waters and Voyageurs National Park from the threat of sulfide-ore mining.

We hope we can count on your support so that this and future generations can enjoy the clean water and quiet beauty of Voyageurs National Park and the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

Sincerely,

League of Conservation Voters  
National Parks Conservation Association  
The Wilderness Society  
Natural Resources Defense Council  
Sierra Club  
American Rivers  
Defenders of Wildlife  
Environment America  
Center for Biological Diversity  
Conservatives for Responsible Stewardship  
Californians for Western Wilderness  
Soda Mountain Wilderness Council  
Friends of Gold Butte  
Klamath Forest Alliance  
Epic-Environmental Protection Information Center  
Earthworks  
Friends of the Missouri Breaks Monument  
The Ernest Oberholtzer Foundation  
Science and Environmental Health Network  
Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy  
Conservation Minnesota  
WaterLegacy  
Mining Impact Coalition of Wisconsin  
Great Old Broads for Wilderness  
Environment Minnesota  
Lower Phalen Creek Project

Izaak Walton League of America - Minnesota Division  
Minnesota Conservation Federation  
Renewing the Countryside  
Minnesota Ornithologists Union  
Alliance for Sustainability  
Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness  
Mankato Area Environmentalists  
Parks & Trails Council of Minnesota  
Crow River Trail Guards  
Future First  
Izaak Walton League of America - McCabe Chapter (Duluth)  
Minnesota Public Interest Research Group