



BOUNDARY WATERS CANOE AREA WILDERNESS

*LANDS AND WATERS PROTECTED FOR OVER 100 YEARS FOR THE
WORLD'S GREATEST CANOE COUNTRY*

- THE BOUNDARY WATERS IS A UNIQUE LAKELAND - BOREAL FOREST WILDERNESS THAT IS THE MOST VISITED WILDERNESS IN AMERICA
- OVERWHELMING SCIENTIFIC AND ECONOMIC EVIDENCE SHOWS THAT SULFIDE ORE COPPER MINING IN THE WATERSHED OF THE BOUNDARY WATERS WOULD PERMANENTLY DAMAGE THE WILDERNESS AND HARM THE COMMUNITY
- SEVENTY PERCENT OF MINNESOTANS OPPOSE COPPER MINING NEAR THE BOUNDARY WATERS; 56% OF MN CD 8 CITIZENS OPPOSE THIS MINING
- FOR OUR GOVERNMENT TO FUNCTION PROPERLY, POLICY DECISIONS MUST BE BASED ON THE BEST AVAILABLE EVIDENCE AND THE VALUES AND VIEWS OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE
- THE SYSTEM HAS BEEN CORRUPTED BY THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION

HERE'S HOW:

FOREST SERVICE CONSENT:

- By law the U.S. Forest Service must consent to any mining approvals; in 2016 it withheld its consent to the renewal of the only two federal mining leases in the watershed
- U.S. Forest Service Decision of December 14th, 2016 found that copper mining in the watershed was an **unacceptable risk** to the Boundary Waters and the Superior National Forest
 - Scientific evidence applied
 - 2 public hearings with 2,900 people attending
 - 74,000 people said no to copper mining



**VOIDED
BY TRUMP
ADMINISTRATION**



Forest Service Mineral Withdrawal Study:

- U.S. Forest Service initiated the legal process to consider a 20-year mining ban because the area is too valuable and too vulnerable for mining
- Under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act mining approvals were suspended for 24 months during the study and decision period
 - Scientific evidence submitted; 55 high quality science and economic reports detailing the harm mining would cause
 - 3 public hearings with 2,700 people attending
 - 180,000 people said no to copper mining


**CANCELLED
BY TRUMP
ADMINISTRATION**



TWIN METAL MINES LEASE RENEWAL:

- Cancelled leases reinstated unlawfully; challenged in U.S. District Court
- Environmental Assessment (short form assessment) for renewal issued over the holidays and during the federal government shutdown; intended to limit public engagement
 - Scientific evidence submitted
 - 94,000 people said no to copper mining


**TRUMP ADMINISTRATION
REFUSED TO READ ANY
SCIENTIFIC REPORTS,
CONSIDERED NO ENVIRONMENTAL
IMPACTS, AND DISMISSED PUBLIC
CONCERNS; LEASES
RENEWED**



The State/ Federal Review Process for a Mine Plan and State/ Federal Standards Will Not Protect the Boundary Waters

<p>STATE /FEDERAL EIS ON PROJECT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• New Trump administration policy requires a federal EIS to be completed in 1 year and be less than 150 pages long• In contrast, the federal EIS on prospecting permits took 6 years and hundreds of pages; the PolyMet EIS took 12 years and thousands of pages	 <p>TRUMP ADMINISTRATION HAS NO INTENTION OF CONSIDERING SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE OR THE PUBLIC'S VIEWS</p>
<p>STATE/ FEDERAL PERMITTING PROCESS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• By law only limited scientific information from EIS is considered in permitting process; most scientific information is deemed irrelevant, including<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Economics○ Human health impacts○ Impacts on the Boundary Waters, including on the forests, wetlands, and plants, fish, birds, animals, and wilderness character• Operating assumption is that impacts can be mitigated or fixed; damage to the Boundary Waters cannot be fixed or mitigated• Permitting standards allow pollution of air and water; no pollution is allowed within the Boundary Waters	 <p>THE PERMITTING SYSTEM IS NOT PROTECTIVE OF THE BOUNDARY WATERS</p>