

Protect Minnesota's Wilderness

Untamed.

Unspoiled.

Unprotected.

FRIENDS OF THE
BOUNDARY WATERS
WILDERNESS

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Preserving Hunting and Fishing Traditions



Each year more than one million Minnesotans participate in the state's hunting and fishing seasons. Hunting and fishing are family traditions that have been passed from one generation to the next, beginning with our pioneering ancestors. Minnesota's wild forests provide quality fish and wildlife habitat. These areas, however, are disappearing at alarming rates. Over time, subdivision and development of land has gobbled up favorite hunting spots, and secret fishing holes have become over-crowded with fishing boats, jet skis, pleasure boaters, and party pontoons. Unless we act now, we risk losing an important piece of our hunting and fishing heritage because once Minnesota's wilderness is gone, it's gone forever. Protecting our wild forests and lakes today ensures that our children and grandchildren will enjoy unspoiled hunting and fishing opportunities tomorrow.



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Hunting and fishing are important Minnesota traditions

- ◆ Minnesota boasts hunting and fishing participation rates that are higher than the nation as a whole.
 - In 2001, 15 percent of Minnesotans aged 16 and older hunted. Nationally, the participation rate was only six percent.
 - In 2001, 36 percent of Minnesotans aged 16 and older fished. Nationally, the participation rate was only 16 percent.
- ◆ According to the DNR, hunters and anglers spend more than two billion dollars annually.
- ◆ Hunting and fishing are social activities that are often passed from one generation to the next. According to research by Responsive Management, hunters who lose their hunting partners often quit hunting themselves.

Wild forests provide quality hunting and fishing experiences

- ◆ As urban and rural sprawl consume wildlife habitat and greater numbers of private landowners choose to lease their properties, hunters increasingly look to public lands for hunting opportunities. Roadless lands offer traditional hunting experiences away from the sights, sounds, and crowds that are found elsewhere.
- ◆ Minnesota's roadless areas protect habitat for a variety of wildlife.
 - The Echo River Unit provides excellent habitat for grouse, ducks, deer, and moose.
 - Homer Lake in the Homer Lake Unit provides good walleye fishing.
 - Twenty of the 30 Northeast Minnesota moose hunting zones lie wholly or partially within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.
 - Northern Minnesota's remote lands produce many of the state's top trophy deer.

Hunters and anglers support protection of our wild forests

- ◆ According to a nationwide poll, solitude and natural experiences are very important to seven out of 10 hunters and anglers.
- ◆ The same national poll determined that 84 percent of hunters and 86 percent of anglers support efforts to prevent development in roadless areas.