



17 July 2017

The Honorable Richard M. Nolan  
Member of Congress  
2366 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Nolan,

The North Country Trail Association supports the provisions found in H.R. 3115, the Superior National Forest Land Exchange Act of 2017. Specifically we note:

- The reroute of the North Country National Scenic Trail (NCNST) as proposed under H.R. 1026 (North Country National Scenic Trail Route Adjustment Act) would fall well north of Embarrass, in the Lake Vermilion area, so the enactment of H.R. 3115 would not impact the new route of the NCNST.
- The current interim route utilized by hikers on the roads and paved trails between Ely and Remer would also be unaffected under the proposed land exchange.
- The land exchange proposal effectively balances much needed jobs and economic benefits with proactive land management strategies that consider

the recreational and tourism values also essential in benefitting the north country.

- The NCNST community recognizes the values of interpreting working landscapes as part of the experience in traversing the north country landscapes on the NCNST.

As such, the NCTA appreciates your efforts in advancing H.R. 3115. Thank you for your leadership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of the initials "B.S." followed by a stylized, cursive signature.

Bruce Matthews, Executive Director  
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