

Subpart L—Tribal Purchase of Interests Under Special Statutes

§ 30.260 What land is subject to a tribal purchase option at probate?

Sections 30.260 through 30.274 apply to formal Indian probate proceedings

Location of trust or restricted land	Statutes governing purchase
(a) Yakima Reservation or within the area ceded by the Treaty of June 9, 1855 (12 Stat. 1951).	The Act of December 31, 1970 (Pub. L. 91–627; 84 Stat. 1874; 25 U.S.C. 607 (1976)), amending section 7 of the Act of August 9, 1946 (60 Stat. 968).
(b) Warm Springs Reservation or within the area ceded by the Treaty of June 25, 1855 (12 Stat. 37).	The Act of August 10, 1972 (Pub. L. 92–377; 86 Stat. 530).
(c) Nez Perce Indian Reservation or within the area ceded by the Treaty of June 11, 1855 (12 Stat. 957).	The Act of September 29, 1972 (Pub. L. 92–443; 86 Stat. 744).

that relate to the tribal purchase of a decedent's interests in trust and restricted land under the statutes shown in the following table.

§ 30.261 How does a tribe exercise its statutory option to purchase?

(a) To exercise its option to purchase, the tribe must file with the agency:

- (1) A written notice of purchase; and
- (2) A certification that the tribe has mailed copies of the notice on the same date to the judge and to the affected heirs or devisees.

(b) A tribe may purchase all or part of the available interests specified in the probate decision. A tribe may not, however, claim an interest less than decedent's total interest in any one individual tract.

§ 30.262 When may a tribe exercise its statutory option to purchase?

(a) A tribe may exercise its statutory option to purchase:

(1) Within 60 days after mailing of the probate decision unless a petition for rehearing has been filed under § 30.237 or a demand for hearing has been filed under § 30.268; or

(2) If a petition for rehearing or a demand for hearing has been filed, within 20 days after the date of the decision on rehearing or hearing, whichever is applicable, provided the decision on rehearing or hearing is favorable to the tribe.

(b) On failure to timely file a notice of purchase, the right to distribution of all unclaimed interests will accrue to the heirs or devisees.

§ 30.263 May a surviving spouse reserve a life estate when a tribe exercises its statutory option to purchase?

Yes. When the heir or devisee whose interests are subject to the tribal purchase option is a surviving spouse, the spouse may reserve a life estate in one-half of the interests.

(a) To reserve a life estate, the spouse must, within 30 days after the tribe has exercised its option to purchase the interest, file with the agency both:

(1) A written notice to reserve a life estate; and

(2) A certification that copies of the notice have been mailed on the same date to the judge and the tribe.

(b) Failure to file the notice on time, as required by paragraph (a)(1) of this section, constitutes a waiver of the option to reserve a life estate.

§ 30.264 When must BIA furnish a valuation of a decedent's interests?

(a) BIA must furnish a valuation report of the decedent's interests when the record reveals to the agency:

(1) That the decedent owned interests in land located on one or more of the reservations designated in § 30.260; and

(2) That one or more of the probable heirs or devisees who may receive the interests either:

(i) Is not enrolled in the tribe of the reservation where the land is located; or

(ii) Does not have the required blood quantum in the tribe to hold the interests against a claim made by the tribe.