Public Law 99-23
99th Congress

An Act

To declare that the United States holds in trust for the Cocopah Indian Tribe of Arizona certain land in Yuma County, Arizona.

Apr. 15, 1985
[H.R. 730]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, subject to all valid existing rights, all right, title, and interest of the United States in the following described tracts of land shall be held by the United States in trust for the Cocopah Indian Tribe of Arizona and shall be part of the reservation of such tribe:

(1) As part of the West Cocopah Reservation, containing 2,140.91 acres, more or less:

GILA AND SALT RIVER MERIDIAN, ARIZONA

Township 9 South, Range 24 West

Section 18, lot 17;
Section 19, lots 24 and 25; and
Section 30, lots 19 and 27.

Township 9 South, Range 25 West

Section 24, lots 1 and 3 to 12 included;
Section 34, lots 1 and 2; and
Section 35, lots 8, 9, 12 to 26 included, and east half southeast quarter.

Township 10 South, Range 25 West

Section 2, lots 12 to 17 included and 19 to 27 included;
Section 10, lots 1 and 2;
Section 11, lots 5 to 16 included;
Section 14, lots 8 and 9; and
Section 15, lots 5 to 7 included, and northeast quarter northeast quarter.

(2) As part of the East Cocopah Reservation, containing 1,481.68 acres, more or less:

GILA AND SALT RIVER MERIDIAN, ARIZONA

Township 9 South, Range 23 West

Section 30, southeast quarter southwest quarter; and
Section 31, lots 1 to 4 included, northeast quarter, east half northwest quarter, northeast quarter southwest quarter, northeast quarter southeast quarter, and west half southeast quarter.

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Township 10 South, Range 24 West

Section 1, lots 1, 2, 5 to 8 included, south half northeast quarter and east half southeast quarter;
Section 12, northeast quarter and east half southeast quarter; and
Section 13, lots 7 to 9 included, east half northeast quarter, northeast quarter southeast quarter, and south half south half.

(3) As the North Cocopah Reservation, containing 614.18 acres, more or less:

SAN BERNARDINO MERIDIAN, ARIZONA

Township 16 South, Range 21 East

Section 24, lot 1; and
Section 25, lots 7 to 17 included.

Township 16 South, Range 22 East

Section 19, lot 10; and
Section 30, lots 11, 12, 13, 19, 20, 22, and south half southwest quarter.

SEC. 2. (a) Nothing in this Act shall deprive any person or entity of any legal existing right-of-way, legal mining claim, legal grazing permit, legal water right, accretion claim, or other legal right or interest which such person or entity may have in lands described in section 1 of this Act.

(b) That portion of the lands described in paragraph 2 of section 1 which are the subject of a dedication for a garbage disposal recorded at book 167, page 464 of the Yuma County Recorder's office shall remain subject to such dedication for as long as such lands are used for landfill or related purposes.

SEC. 3. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, Executive Order Numbered 11988 of May 24, 1977, 42 Federal Register 26951, as amended, shall apply to lands described in section 1 of this Act.

3 CFR, 1977 Comp., p. 117.

SEC. 4. (a) There are reserved to the United States the following rights-of-way upon, over, and across the lands described in section 1 of this Act:

(1) A right-of-way of sixty feet from the margin of the Colorado River on the international boundary with the Republic of Mexico, as described in Public Land Reservation of May 27, 1907;

(2) Rights-of-way for existing facilities of the Yuma reclamation project, the Colorado River front work and levee system, and the Yuma Mesa conduit;

(3) A right-of-way of fifty feet on each side of the center line of the Pesch header, as shown on the United States Bureau of Reclamation, Yuma project, drawing numbered 35-303-634;

(4) A right-of-way for power and transmission facilities within the north seventeen feet of the south fifty feet of the southeast quarter southwest quarter, section 30, township 9 south, range 23 west, Gila and Salt River meridian;

(5) A right-of-way of two hundred feet measured horizontally landward from the high water mark of the Colorado River bankline for channel rectification, bankline maintenance, and preservation of the floodway, as well as a right, at all proper times and places, to free ingress to, passage over, and egress

from the lands described in section 1 of this Act, for the purpose of exercising, enforcing, and protecting the rights reserved in this right-of-way; and

(6) An option for a right-of-way for sludge disposal for the Yuma desalting plant on sections 24 and 25 (excluding lots 5 and 6), township 16 south, range 21 east, and sections 19 and 30, township 16 south, range 22 east, San Bernardino meridian. This option shall be exercised within five years after the date of the enactment of this Act. The right-of-way, if exercised, shall terminate on the date on which the Secretary of the Interior determines that such right-of-way is not needed for such purposes. The rights-of-way which the Bureau of Reclamation currently has in lots 5 and 6 of section 25, township 16 south, range 21 east, San Bernardino meridian, shall be retained. Any determination by the Secretary of the Interior under this paragraph shall be published in the Federal Register.

Federal Register, publication.

(b) In the event that any of the rights-of-way reserved by this section shall be abandoned, as determined by the Secretary of the Interior, such rights shall revert to the Cocopah Tribe.

SEC. 5. In the event that title to any private lands located within section 1 or 2, township 10 south, range 25 west, Gila and Salt River meridian, which are contiguous to the West Cocopah Reservation, is subsequently acquired by the Cocopah Tribe, such lands shall thereupon become part of, and shall be within the exterior boundary of, the west reservation of the Cocopah Tribe.

Approved April 15, 1985.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 730:

HOUSE REPORT No. 99-24 (Comm. on Interior and Insular Affairs).
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 131 (1985):
Apr. 1, considered and passed House.
Apr. 3, considered and passed Senate.