

109TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4951

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to take lands in Yuma County, Arizona, into trust as part of the reservation of the Cocopah Indian Tribe, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 14, 2006

Mr. GRIJALVA introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Resources

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to take lands in Yuma County, Arizona, into trust as part of the reservation of the Cocopah Indian Tribe, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Cocopah Lands Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

6 Congress finds the following:

7 (1) The reservation of the Cocopah Indian
8 Tribe of Arizona is located in Yuma County, Ari-
9 zona.

1 (2) That reservation was created by an Execu-
2 tive order signed by President Woodrow Wilson in
3 1917.

4 (3) That reservation is made up of 3 noncontig-
5 uous tracts of land.

6 (4) The Tribe inhabits all 3 parts of the res-
7 ervation.

8 (5) The Tribe purchased the additional lands to
9 provide infrastructure to housing areas, water, and
10 economic development to tribal members.

11 (6) The current trust land base of the reserva-
12 tion is insufficient to provide such needs.

13 (7) The Tribe acquired 7 parcels of land contig-
14 uous to its present reservation lands in 1986, 1993,
15 1997, and 2005, and these parcels are currently
16 classified as “Indian Lands” under Federal law.

17 (8) The acquired parcels shall not be taken into
18 trust for gaming purposes.

19 (9) The best means of solving the Tribe’s land
20 and economic needs to its tribal members is to re-
21 quire the Secretary to take lands in Yuma County,
22 Arizona, that are acquired by the Tribe into trust
23 for the Tribe subject to the provisions of this Act.

1 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

2 For the purpose of this Act, the following definitions
3 apply:

4 (1) **TRIBE.**—The term “Tribe” means the
5 Cocopah Indian Tribe of Arizona.

6 (2) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means
7 the Secretary of the Interior.

8 **SEC. 4. LANDS TO BE TAKEN INTO TRUST.**

9 (a) **LANDS TO BE TAKEN INTO TRUST.**—If the Tribe
10 transfers title to the land described in subsection (b) to
11 the Secretary, the Secretary shall take that land into trust
12 for the benefit of the Tribe, if at the time of such transfer
13 there are no adverse legal claims to such land, including
14 outstanding liens, mortgages, or taxes owed.

15 (b) **LAND DESCRIBED.**—The land referred to in sub-
16 section (a) is described as follows:

17 (1) **PARCEL 1 (SIBLEY PURCHASE 1986).**—Lot 4
18 and the SW¹/₄, of the NW¹/₄, of Sec. 1, T. 10 S.,
19 R. 25 W., of the Gila and Salt River Base and Me-
20 ridian, Yuma County, Arizona, except that portion
21 of the SW¹/₄, of the NW¹/₄, of said Sec. 1, T. 10 S.,
22 R. 25 W., lying southeasterly of the north right-of-
23 way line of the Bureau of Reclamation levee.

24 (2) **PARCEL 2 (SIBLEY PURCHASE 1986).**—Lot 1
25 and the SE¹/₄, of the NE¹/₄, of Sec. 2, T. 10 S., R.

1 25 W., of the Gila and Salt River Base and Merid-
 2 ian, Yuma County, Arizona.

3 (3) PARCEL 3 (MCDANIEL PURCHASE 1993).—
 4 That part of the E¹/₂, of the SE¹/₄, lying south of
 5 the East Main Bureau of Reclamation Canal right
 6 of way in Sec. 30, T. 9 S., R. 23 W., of the Gila
 7 and Salt River Base and Meridian, Yuma County,
 8 Arizona.

9 (4) PARCEL 4 (HOLLAND PURCHASE 1997).—
 10 That portion of the NW¹/₄, of the NE¹/₄, of Sec. 31,
 11 T. 16 S., R 22 E., of the San Bernardino Base and
 12 Meridian, Yuma County, Arizona, lying north of the
 13 levee and Salinity Canal; except the north 220 feet.

14 (5) PARCEL 5 (HOLLAND PURCHASE 1997).—An
 15 easement over the easterly 15 feet of the north 220
 16 feet of that portion of the NW¹/₄, of the NE¹/₄, of
 17 Sec. 31, T. 16 S., R. 22 E., of the San Bernardino
 18 Base and Meridian, Yuma County, Arizona, lying
 19 north of the levee and Salinity Canal for irrigation
 20 purposes.

21 (6) PARCEL 6 (POWERS PURCHASE 1997).—Lots
 22 21, 24, and 25, Sec. 29, and lots 16 and 17 and the
 23 N¹/₂, of the SW¹/₄, of the SE¹/₄, of Sec. 30, T. 16
 24 S., R. 22 E., of the San Bernardino Meridian, Yuma
 25 County, Arizona, according to the dependent resur-

vey of the Bureau of Land Management, accepted
December 9, 1960.

(7) PARCEL 7 (SPEED WAY PURCHASE 2005).—

That portion of the W¹/₂ of the SE¹/₄ of Sec. 30, T.
9 S., R. 21 W., of the Gila and Salt River Base and
Meridian, Yuma County, Arizona, lying South and
East of the East Main Canal; except the south 33
feet thereof; except one-third interest in and to all
mineral rights, as reserved in the deed recorded in
Docket 1461, page 600, records of Yuma County,
Arizona.

(c) LANDS TO BE MADE PART OF THE RESERVA-
TION.—Land taken into trust pursuant to subsection (a)
shall be considered to be part of the Tribe's initial reserva-
tion.

(d) SERVICE AREA.—For the purposes of the delivery
of Federal services to enrolled members of the Tribe, the
Tribe's service area shall be Yuma County, Arizona.

(e) GAMING PROHIBITED.—Land taken into trust for
the benefit of the Tribe under this Act shall not be used
for gaming under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act.

SEC. 5. REGULATIONS.

The Secretary may promulgate such regulations as
may be necessary to carry out this Act.

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