

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3617

AN ACT

To provide equitable treatment for the people of the Village Corporation established for the Native Village of Saxman, Alaska, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Cape Fox Land Enti-
3 tlement Finalization Act of 2024”.

4 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

5 In this Act:

6 (1) **CAPE FOX.**—The term “Cape Fox” means
7 the Cape Fox Village Corporation, a Village Cor-
8 poration for the Native Village of Saxman, Alaska,
9 organized pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Set-
10 tlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.).

11 (2) **FEDERAL LAND.**—The term “Federal land”
12 means the approximately 180 acres of surface land
13 within the Tongass National Forest in the State of
14 Alaska, as generally depicted on the Map.

15 (3) **MAP.**—The term “Map” means the map en-
16 titled “Cape Fox Village Corporation Final Selec-
17 tion” and dated December 18, 2023.

18 (4) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means
19 the Secretary of the Interior.

20 **SEC. 3. WAIVER OF CORE TOWNSHIP REQUIREMENT FOR**
21 **CERTAIN LAND.**

22 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Notwithstanding section 16(b) of
23 the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C.
24 1615(b)), Cape Fox shall not be required to select or re-
25 ceive conveyance of the approximately 185 acres of
26 unconveyed land described in subsection (b) located within

1 the township in which the Native Village of Saxman, Alas-
 2 ka, is located.

3 (b) LAND DESCRIBED.—The land referred to in sub-
 4 section (a) is as follows:

5 (1) Approximately 40 acres in T. 74 S., R.90
 6 E., sec. 10, SWNE, Copper River Meridian.

7 (2) Approximately 144.57 acres in T.75 S.,
 8 R.91 E., sec. 1, lots 1, 3, and 4, Copper River Me-
 9 ridian.

10 **SEC. 4. SELECTION OUTSIDE EXTERIOR SELECTION**
 11 **BOUNDARY.**

12 (a) SELECTION AND CONVEYANCE OF SURFACE ES-
 13 TATE.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enact-
 14 ment of this Act, if Cape Fox submits to the Secretary
 15 a written notice of selection of the Federal land, the Sec-
 16 retary shall, on receiving that written notice, convey the
 17 Federal land to Cape Fox.

18 (b) CONVEYANCE OF SUBSURFACE ESTATE.—On
 19 conveyance to Cape Fox of the surface estate to the Fed-
 20 eral land under subsection (a), the Secretary shall convey
 21 to Sealaska Corporation the subsurface estate to that Fed-
 22 eral land.

23 (c) TIMING.—It is the intent of Congress that the
 24 Secretary complete the conveyances to Cape Fox and
 25 Sealaska Corporation under subsections (a) and (b), re-

1 spectively, as soon as practicable after the date on which
 2 the Secretary receives a written notice of the selection of
 3 Cape Fox under subsection (a), but not later than 180
 4 days after the date on which the Secretary receives that
 5 written notice.

6 (d) ENTITLEMENT FULFILLED.—The conveyance of
 7 Federal land to Cape Fox and the subsurface interest in
 8 the Federal land to Sealaska Corporation under sub-
 9 sections (a) and (b), respectively, shall be considered to
 10 fulfill the entitlement of—

11 (1) Cape Fox under section 16 of the Alaska
 12 Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1615); and

13 (2) Sealaska Corporation to any subsurface in-
 14 terest in the Federal land under section 14(f) of that
 15 Act (43 U.S.C. 1613(f)).

16 **SEC. 5. PUBLIC ACCESS EASEMENT.**

17 The conveyance of the Federal land under section 4
 18 shall be subject to the reservation of a public easement
 19 under section 17(b) of the Alaska Native Claims Settle-
 20 ment Act (43 U.S.C. 1616(b)) to allow for access to Na-

- 1 tional Forest System land further inland on Revillagigedo
- 2 Island from the George Inlet.

Passed the Senate December 19 (legislative day, December 16), 2024.

Attest:

Secretary.

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