

Public Law 104-276
104th Congress

An Act

Oct. 9, 1996
[S. 1802]

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain property containing a fish and wildlife facility to the State of Wyoming, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. CONVEYANCE OF CERTAIN PROPERTY TO WYOMING.

(a) CONVEYANCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior shall convey in “as is” condition, to the State of Wyoming without reimbursement—

(A) all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the portion of the property commonly known as “Ranch A” in Crook County, Wyoming, other than the portion described in paragraph (2), consisting of approximately 600 acres of land (including all real property, buildings, and all other improvements to real property) and all personal property (including art, historic light fixtures, wildlife mounts, draperies, rugs, and furniture directly related to the site, including personal property on loan to museums and other entities at the time of transfer);

(B) all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to all buildings and related improvements and all personal property associated with the buildings on the portion of the property described in paragraph (2); and

(C) a permanent right of way across the portion of the property described in paragraph (2) to use the buildings conveyed under subparagraph (B).

(2) RANCH A.—Subject to the exceptions described in subparagraphs (B) and (C) of paragraph (1), the United States shall retain all right, title, and interest in and to the portion of the property commonly known as “Ranch A” in Crook County, Wyoming, described as Township 52 North, Range 61 West, Section 24 N½ SE¼, consisting of approximately 80 acres of land.

(b) USE AND REVERSIONARY INTEREST.—

(1) USE.—The property conveyed to the State of Wyoming under this section shall be retained by the State and be used by the State for the purposes of—

(A) fish and wildlife management and educational activities; and

(B) using, maintaining, displaying, and restoring, through State or local agreements, or both, the museum-quality real and personal property and the historical

interests and significance of the real and personal property, consistent with applicable Federal and State laws.

(2) ACCESS BY INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The State of Wyoming shall provide access to the property for institutions of higher education at a compensation level that is agreed to by the State and the institutions of higher education.

(3) REVERSION.—All right, title, and interest in and to the property described in subsection (a) shall revert to the United States if—

(A) the property is used by the State of Wyoming for any other purpose than the purposes set forth in paragraph (1);

(B) there is any development of the property (including commercial or recreational development, but not including the construction of small structures, to be used for the purposes set forth in subsection (b)(1), on land conveyed to the State of Wyoming under subsection (a)(1)(A)); or

(C) the State does not make every reasonable effort to protect and maintain the quality and quantity of fish and wildlife habitat on the property.

(c) ADDITION TO THE BLACK HILLS NATIONAL FOREST.—

(1) TRANSFER.—Administrative jurisdiction of the property described in subsection (a)(2) is transferred to the Secretary of Agriculture, to be included in and managed as part of the Black Hills National Forest.

(2) NO HUNTING OR MINERAL DEVELOPMENT.—No hunting or mineral development shall be permitted on any of the land transferred to the administrative jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture by paragraph (1).

Approved October 9, 1996.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—S. 1802 (H.R. 3579):

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 104-711 accompanying H.R. 3579 (Comm. on Resources).

SENATE REPORTS: No. 104-290 (Comm. on Environment and Public Works).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 142 (1996):

Sept. 4, H.R. 3579 considered and passed House.

Sept. 24, S. 1802 considered and passed Senate.

Sept. 26, considered and passed House.