

Public Law 107-371
107th Congress

An Act

Dec. 19, 2002
[H.R. 4874]

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to disclaim any Federal interest in lands adjacent to Spirit Lake and Twin Lakes in the State of Idaho resulting from possible omission of lands from an 1880 survey.

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

SECTION 1. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:

(1) The meander lines in the original surveys by John B. David, deputy surveyor, of two lakes in the State of Idaho, Spirit Lake, formerly known as Lake Tesemini, located in T. 53 N., R. 4 W., Boise Meridian, and Twin Lakes, formerly known as Fish Lake, located in T. 52 N. and T. 53 N., R. 4 W., Boise Meridian, do not reflect the current line of ordinary high water conditions.

(2) All lands adjacent to the original meander lines have been patented.

(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to direct the Secretary of the Interior to issue a recordable disclaimer of interest by the United States to any omitted lands or lands lying outside the record meander lines in the vicinity of the lakes referred to in subsection (a).

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) RECORDABLE DISCLAIMER OF INTEREST.—The term “recordable disclaimer of interest” means a document recorded in the county clerk’s office or other such local office where real property documents are recorded, in which the United States disclaims any right, title, or interest to those lands found lying outside the recorded meander lines of the lakes referred to in section 1(a)(1), including omitted lands, if any.

(2) OMITTED LANDS.—The term “omitted lands” means those lands that were in place on the date of the original surveys referred to in section 1(a)(1) but were not included in the survey of the township and the meander lines of the water body due to gross error or fraud by the original surveyor.

(3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

SEC. 3. SURVEYS.

The Secretary shall—

(1) conduct a survey investigation of the conditions along the lakeshores of Spirit Lake and Twin Lakes in the townships referenced in section 1(a); and

(2) after the completion of the survey investigation, resurvey the original meander lines along the lakeshores, using the results of the survey investigation.

SEC. 4. DISCLAIMER OF INTEREST IN LANDS ADJACENT TO SPIRIT LAKE AND TWIN LAKES, IDAHO. Records.

Upon acceptance and approval of the surveys under section 3 by the Secretary, the Secretary shall—

(1) prepare a recordable disclaimer of interest with land descriptions, using the lot or tract numbers of the omitted lands, if any, and lands lying outside the record meander lines, as shown on the survey plats; and

(2) record such recordable disclaimer of interest simultaneously with the filing of the surveys.

SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary \$400,000 to carry out this Act. Funds appropriated to carry out the purposes of this Act may be available without fiscal year limitation.

Approved December 19, 2002.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 4874 (S. 2585):

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 107-676 (Comm. on Resources).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 148 (2002):

Oct. 1, considered and passed House.

Nov. 19, considered and passed Senate.

