

Public Law 108-230
108th Congress

An Act

May 28, 2004
[H.R. 708]

To require the conveyance of certain National Forest System lands in Mendocino National Forest, California, to provide for the use of the proceeds from such conveyance for National Forest purposes, 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. LAND CONVEYANCE, FARAWAY RANCH, MENDOCINO NATIONAL FOREST, CALIFORNIA.

(a) CONVEYANCE REQUIRED.—Subject to subsection (b), the Secretary of Agriculture shall convey to the owner of the property known as the Faraway Ranch in Lake County, California (in this section referred to as the “recipient”), by quitclaim deed, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the following National Forest System lands in Mendocino National Forest in Lake County, California:

(1) “Faraway Ranch, Tract 39” (approximately 15.8 acres), consisting of a portion of lot 6 of section 4, township 18 north, range 10 west, Mount Diablo base and meridian, as generally depicted on the map entitled “Faraway Ranch, Tracts 39 and 40” and dated June 30, 2002.

(2) “Faraway Ranch, Tract 40” (approximately 105.1 acres) consisting of a portion of the N1/2SW1/4 and lot 7 of section 4, and a portion of lots 15 and 16 of section 5, township 18 north, range 10 west, Mount Diablo base and meridian, as generally depicted on the map referred to in paragraph (1).

Deadline.

(b) TIME FOR CONVEYANCE.—The Secretary shall make the conveyance under subsection (a) not later than 120 days after the date on which the recipient deposits sufficient funds with the Bureau of Land Management, California State Office, Branch of Geographic Services, to cover survey work costs and with the Forest Service, Mendocino National Forest, to cover Forest Service direct transaction costs described in subsection (e).

(c) CORRECTIONS.—With the agreement of the recipient, the Secretary may make minor corrections to the legal descriptions and map of the lands to be conveyed pursuant to this section.

(d) CONSIDERATION.—As consideration for the conveyance under subsection (a), the recipient shall pay to the Secretary an amount equal to the fair market value of the National Forest System lands conveyed under such subsection. The fair market value of such lands shall be determined by an appraisal that is acceptable to the Secretary and conforms with the Federal appraisal standards, as defined in the Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land

Acquisitions developed by the Interagency Land Acquisition Conference.

(e) PAYMENT OF COSTS.—All direct transaction costs associated with the conveyance under subsection (a), including the costs of appraisal, title, and survey work, shall be paid by the recipient.

(f) USE OF PROCEEDS.—

(1) DEPOSIT.—The Secretary shall deposit the amounts received by the Secretary as consideration under subsection (d) in the fund established by Public Law 90-171 (commonly known as the Sisk Act; 16 U.S.C. 484a).

(2) USE.—Funds deposited under paragraph (1) shall be available to the Secretary until expended, without further appropriation—

(A) for the acquisition of land and interests in land for National Forest System purposes in the State of California; and

(B) for reimbursement of costs incurred by the Forest Service in making the conveyance under subsection (a).

(3) STATUS OF ACQUIRED LAND.—Notwithstanding Public Law 85-862 (16 U.S.C. 521a), any lands acquired under paragraph (2)(A) shall be managed as lands acquired under the Act of March 1, 1911 (commonly known as the Weeks Act; 16 U.S.C. 480, 500, 515 et seq.), regardless of whether any of the lands conveyed under subsection (a) were reserved from the public domain.

SEC. 2. WITHDRAWAL.

Subject to valid existing rights, the lands to be conveyed under subsection (a) of section 1 are hereby withdrawn from all forms of location, entry, and patent under the public land laws and the mining and mineral leasing laws of the United States.

Approved May 28, 2004.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 708:

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 108-293 (Comm. on Resources).

SENATE REPORTS: No. 108-242 (Comm. on Energy and Natural Resources).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Vol. 149 (2003): Oct. 8, considered and passed House.

Vol. 150 (2004): May 19, considered and passed Senate.

