

Public Law 117–267
117th Congress

An Act

Dec. 27, 2022
[H.R. 478]

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to take certain land located in Pinal County, Arizona, into trust for the benefit of the Gila River Indian Community, and for other purposes.

Blackwater
Trading Post
Land Transfer
Act.

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Blackwater Trading Post Land Transfer Act”.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **BLACKWATER TRADING POST LAND.**—The term “Blackwater Trading Post Land” means the approximately 55.3 acres of land as depicted on the map that—

(A) is located in Pinal County, Arizona, and bordered by Community land to the east, west, and north and State Highway 87 to the south; and

(B) is owned by the Community.

(2) **COMMUNITY.**—The term “Community” means the Gila River Indian Community of the Reservation.

(3) **MAP.**—The term “map” means the map entitled “Results of Survey, Ellis Property, A Portion of the West ½ of Section 12, Township 5 South, Range 7 East, Gila and Salt River Meridian, Pinal County, Arizona” and dated October 15, 2012.

(4) **RESERVATION.**—The term “Reservation” means the land located within the exterior boundaries of the reservation created under sections 3 and 4 of the Act of February 28, 1859 (11 Stat. 401, chapter LXVI), and Executive orders of August 31, 1876, June 14, 1879, May 5, 1882, November 15, 1883, July 31, 1911, June 2, 1913, August 27, 1914, and July 19, 1915, and any other lands placed in trust for the benefit of the Community.

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

SEC. 3. LAND TAKEN INTO TRUST FOR BENEFIT OF THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall take the Blackwater Trading Post land into trust for the benefit of the Community, after the Community—

(1) conveys to the Secretary all right, title, and interest of the Community in and to the Blackwater Trading Post Land;

(2) submits to the Secretary a request to take the Blackwater Trading Post Land into trust for the benefit of the Community;

(3) conducts a survey (to the satisfaction of the Secretary) to determine the exact acreage and legal description of the Blackwater Trading Post Land, if the Secretary determines a survey is necessary; and

(4) pays all costs of any survey conducted under paragraph (3).

(b) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—Not later than 180 days after the Blackwater Trading Post Land is taken into trust under subsection (a), the map shall be on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the Secretary.

(c) LANDS TAKEN INTO TRUST PART OF RESERVATION.—After the date on which the Blackwater Trading Post Land is taken into trust under subsection (a), the land shall be treated as part of the Reservation.

(d) GAMING.—Class II and class III gaming under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.) shall not be allowed at any time on the land taken into trust under subsection (a).

(e) DESCRIPTION.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall cause the full metes-and-bounds description of the Blackwater Trading Post Land to be published in the Federal Register. The description shall, on publication, constitute the official description of the Blackwater Trading Post Land.

Survey.
Determinations.

Deadline.
Public
information.

Deadline.
Federal Register,
publication.

Approved December 27, 2022.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 478 (S. 371):

SENATE REPORTS: No. 117–6 (Comm. on Indian Affairs) accompanying S. 371.
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Vol. 167 (2021): May 12, considered in House. Prior proceedings vacated;
considered and passed House.

Vol. 168 (2022): Dec. 19, considered and passed Senate.

