

**§ 32. Lease of lands within park**

The Secretary of the Interior is authorized and empowered to lease for a period not exceeding twenty years, at an annual rental to be determined by him, to any person, corporation, or company he may authorize to transact business in the Yellowstone National Park, separate tracts of land, not exceeding twenty acres each, at such places not to exceed ten in number to any one person, corporation, or company, in said park as the comfort and convenience of visitors may require for the construction and maintenance of substantial hotel buildings and buildings for the protection of stage, stock, and equipment.

Such lease or leases shall not include any of the geysers or any objects of curiosity or interest in said park, or exclude the public from free and convenient approach thereto, or include any ground within one-eighth of a mile of any of the geysers of the Yellowstone Falls, the Grand Canyon, or the Yellowstone River, Mammoth Hot Springs, or any object of curiosity in the park; nor shall such lease convey either expressly or by implication any exclusive privilege within the park, except on the premises held thereunder and for the time therein granted. Every lease made for any property of said park shall require the lessee to observe and obey each and every provision in any Act of Congress, every rule, order, or regulation made or which shall hereafter be made and published by the Secretary of the Interior concerning the use, care, management, or government of the park, or any object or property therein under penalty of forfeiture of such lease, and shall be subject to the right of revocation and forfeiture, which shall therein be reserved by the Secretary of the Interior.

The provisions of this section are not to be construed as mandatory upon the Secretary of the Interior, but the authority herein given is to be exercised in his sound discretion.

(Aug. 3, 1894, ch. 198, 28 Stat. 222; June 4, 1906, ch. 2570, 34 Stat. 207; Mar. 2, 1907, ch. 2518, 34 Stat. 1219.)

**Editorial Notes****CODIFICATION**

The first paragraph of this section is from act June 4, 1906, as amended by act Mar. 2, 1907, which changed the authorized term of leasing from ten years to twenty years as set out above. It superseded earlier provisions covering similar matter contained in the first sentence of act Aug. 3, 1894.

The second paragraph of the section is from act Aug. 3, 1894, which contained a further proviso that "persons or corporations now holding leases of ground in the park may, upon the surrender thereof, be granted new leases hereunder, and upon the terms and stipulations contained in their present leases, with such modifications, restrictions, and reservations as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe" which has been omitted as temporary and executed.

A further provision that "so much of that portion of the act of March third, eighteen hundred and eighty-three, relating to the Yellowstone Park as conflict with the act, be and the same is hereby, repealed" and the portion of the act March 3, 1883, referred to in such provision, have been omitted from the Code, the last named portion having been superseded by the Acts cited to text.

**§ 33. Mortgages by lessees within the park**

Any person, corporation, or company holding a lease within Yellowstone Park for the purposes described in section 32 of this title is authorized, with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, to execute mortgages upon his or its rights, properties, and franchises, including his or its contract or contracts with the Secretary of the Interior, and such mortgages, together with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior may be filed for record in the office of the Secretary of the Interior, and when so recorded shall have all the effect of a public record. Any mortgage, lien, or encumbrance created under the provisions of this section shall be subject to the rights of the Government to compel the enforcement of the terms of the lease or contract of the mortgagor, and any purchaser under a foreclosure of such encumbrance shall take subject to all the conditions assumed by the original lessee or contractor.

(June 4, 1906, ch. 2570, 34 Stat. 207.)

**§ 34. Road extensions**

Road extensions and improvements shall be made in the Yellowstone National Park under and in harmony with the general plan of roads and improvements to be approved by the Secretary of the Interior.

(July 1, 1918, ch. 113, § 1, 40 Stat. 678.)

**§ 35. Private use of electricity from lighting and power plant**

Private parties or companies doing business in the Yellowstone National Park under authority from the Government may be permitted, in the discretion of the Secretary of the Army, to use electricity furnished by the electric lighting and power plant of Fort Yellowstone and Mammoth Hot Springs at actual cost to the Government for operation, maintenance, and depreciation of the plant and 10 per centum additional, under such regulations as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Army.

(Mar. 3, 1903, ch. 1007, § 1, 32 Stat. 1130; July 26, 1947, ch. 343, title II, § 205(a), 61 Stat. 501.)

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries****CHANGE OF NAME**

Department of War designated Department of the Army and title of Secretary of War changed to Secretary of the Army by section 205(a) of act July 26, 1947, ch. 343, title II, 61 Stat. 501. Section 205(a) of act July 26, 1947, was repealed by section 53 of act Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 641. Section 1 of act Aug. 10, 1956, enacted "Title 10, Armed Forces" which in sections 3010 to 3013 continued military Department of the Army under administrative supervision of Secretary of the Army.

**§ 36. Disposition of surplus elk, buffalo, bear, beaver, and predatory animals**

The Secretary of the Interior is authorized, in his discretion and under regulations to be prescribed by him, to give surplus elk, buffalo, bear, beaver, and predatory animals inhabiting Yellowstone National Park to Federal, State, county, and municipal authorities for preserves,

zoos, zoological gardens, and parks. He may sell or otherwise dispose of the surplus buffalo of the Yellowstone National Park herd, and all moneys received from the sale of any such surplus buffalo shall be deposited in the Treasury of the United States as miscellaneous receipts.

(Jan. 24, 1923, ch. 42, 42 Stat. 1214.)

### § 36a. Disposition of surplus elk

The Secretary of the Interior is authorized in his discretion, and under regulations to be prescribed by him, to sell or otherwise dispose of the surplus elk from the Yellowstone National Park herd, and all moneys received from the sale of any such surplus elk shall be deposited in the Treasury of the United States as miscellaneous receipts.

(Mar. 4, 1929, ch. 707, 45 Stat. 1644.)

### § 37. Provision of feed and range facilities for game animals

As a means of providing within township 8 south, ranges 7 and 8 east, and township 9 south, ranges 7, 8, and 9 east, Montana principal meridian, the winter range and winter feed facilities indispensable for the adequate and proper protection, preservation, and propagation of the elk, antelope, and other game animals of the Yellowstone National Park and adjacent lands, the Secretary of the Interior, in his discretion, and subject to the limitation hereinafter prescribed may, and is, authorized to perform the following acts:

(a) Accept and deposit in a special fund in the Treasury, and expend for the acquisition of lands as herein authorized, private funds donated for such purpose.

(b) Acquire by purchase, or by acceptance of donations or bequests, such lands in private or State ownership within the townships above described as he may deem necessary to carry out the purpose of sections 37 to 40 of this title.

(May 26, 1926, ch. 399, § 1, 44 Stat. 655.)

### § 38. Exchange for State or private lands authorized

The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized in his discretion to accept, on behalf of the United States, title to any lands held in private or State ownership within the townships described in section 37 of this title, and in exchange therefor may patent not to exceed an equal value of national forest land in the State of Montana, surveyed and nonmineral in character, or the Secretary of Agriculture may authorize the grantor to cut and remove not to exceed an equal value of timber within the national forests of said State, the values in each case to be determined by the Secretary of Agriculture: *Provided*, That before any such exchange is effected, notice of the contemplated exchange reciting the lands involved shall be published once each week for four successive weeks in some newspaper of general circulation in the county or counties in which may be situated the lands to be accepted and in some like newspaper published in any county in which may be situated any lands or timber to be given in such exchange. Timber given in exchange shall be cut

and removed from national forests under the laws and regulations relating to the national forests and under the direction and supervision and in accordance with the requirements of the Secretary of Agriculture.

(May 26, 1926, ch. 399, § 2, 44 Stat. 655; Pub. L. 86-509, § 1(f), June 11, 1960, 74 Stat. 205.)

### Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

#### TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Functions of Secretary of the Interior under this section, with respect to exchanges of lands held in private or State ownership for national forest lands or timber in Montana, transferred to Secretary of Agriculture, see Pub. L. 86-509, June 11, 1960, 74 Stat. 205, set out as a note under section 2201 of Title 7, Agriculture.

### § 39. Reservation of timber, minerals, or easements by owners on exchange

Reservations of timber, minerals, or easements, the values of which shall be duly considered in determining the values of the lands conveyed, may be made by the owner or owners thereof in lands conveyed to the United States under the provisions of sections 37 to 40 of this title. Where such reservations are made, the right to enjoy them shall be subject to such reasonable conditions respecting ingress and egress and the use of the surface of the land as may be deemed necessary by the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture, whichever may be responsible for the handling and use of the land as provided in said sections: *Provided*, That all property, rights, easements, and benefits authorized by this section to be retained by or reserved to owners of land conveyed to the United States shall be subject to the tax laws of the States where such lands are located.

(May 26, 1926, ch. 399, § 3, 44 Stat. 656.)

### § 40. Additions to park; entry under other acts

The President of the United States is authorized, in his discretion, to add by Executive proclamation to Yellowstone National Park any or all of the lands within a certain territory or tract in township 9 south, ranges 7 and 8 east, Montana principal meridian, to wit: Beginning at a point on the north line of said Yellowstone National Park where said line crosses the divide between Reese Creek and Mol Heron Creek, thence northeasterly along said divide to the junction of said divide with the branch divide north and west of Reese Creek; thence along said branch divide in a northeasterly and easterly direction around the drainage of Reese Creek, to the Yellowstone River; thence southerly and southeasterly along the west bank of the Yellowstone River to the line marking the western limits of the town of Gardiner, Montana; thence south on said town limits line to the northern boundary of Yellowstone National Park; thence west along the north boundary of Yellowstone National Park to the point of beginning, which are unappropriated lands of the United States or which may be acquired by the United States under the provisions of sections 37 to 40 of this title, within the territory described in this section, subject, however, to all valid existing claims and to reservations such as are au-