

Kootenai Tribes submitted a formal request to reinstate negotiations related to compacting of activities at the National Bison Range and ancillary properties (Northwest Montana Wetland Management District, Pablo and Ninepipe NWRs), pursuant to the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (Pub. L. 93-638). In response to this request, negotiations between the CSKT and the Service on an annual funding agreement for that portion of the National Bison Range Complex within the Flathead Indian Reservation began in the summer of 2003.

The Tribal Self-Governance Act of 1994 was enacted as an amendment to Pub. L. 93-638 and incorporated as Title IV of that Act. The Self-Governance Act allows qualifying self-governance tribes the opportunity to request AFAs with the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and non-BIA agencies within the Department of the Interior. When dealing with non-BIA agencies, including the Service, qualifying tribes may enter into AFAs that would allow them to conduct certain activities of such non-BIA agencies. Eligible activities include Indian programs (programs created for the benefit of Indians because of their status as Indians); activities otherwise available to Indian tribes (any activity that a Federal agency might otherwise contract to outside entities); and activities that have a special geographic, historical, or cultural significance to an Indian tribe.

Pub. L. 93-638 and the regulations that implement the law (25 CFR part 1000.129) prohibit the inclusion of activities in an AFA that are inherently Federal functions. The Refuge has no special Indian programs. All activities of the Service on national wildlife refuges are for the benefit of the fish and wildlife resources, their habitats, and the American public. Activities that may have a special relationship with a tribe are the most promising for inclusion in an AFA. Whether to enter into an agreement with a tribe for these activities is discretionary on the part of the Service. The Service recognizes that many members of the CSKT who live near the National Bison Range have a cultural, historical, or geographical connection to the land and resources of the National Bison Range and, therefore, may feel very much part of these lands. The proposed draft agreement provides for the CSKT to perform certain programs, services, functions, and activities for the National Bison Range Complex during a 1-year period.

Dated: July 6, 2004.

Matt Hogan,

Acting Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Land Acquisitions; Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians of California

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Final Agency Determination to take land into trust under 25 CFR Part 151.

SUMMARY: The Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs made a final agency determination to acquire approximately 1.71 acres of land into trust for the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians of California on April 21, 2004. This notice is published in the exercise of authority delegated by the Secretary of the Interior to the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs by 209 Departmental Manual 8.1.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: George Skibine, Office of Indian Gaming Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, MS-4543 MIB, 1849 C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20240; Telephone (202) 219-4066.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice is published to comply with the requirement of 25 CFR Part 151.12(b) that notice be given to the public of the Secretary's decision to acquire land in trust at least 30 days prior to signatory acceptance of the land into trust. The purpose of the 30-day waiting period in 25 CFR Part 151.12(b) is to afford interested parties the opportunity to seek judicial review of final administrative decisions to take land in trust for Indian tribes and individual Indians before transfer of title to the property occurs. On April 21, 2004, the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs decided to accept approximately 1.71 acres of land into trust for the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians of California under the authority of the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934, 25 U.S.C. 465. The 1.71 parcel is located with the exterior boundaries of the Agua Caliente Indian Reservation in Palm Springs, Riverside County, California. The parcel is an existing parking lot which supports the Band's Spa Resort and Casino.

The property is located within the exterior boundaries of the Agua Caliente Indian Reservation in Palm Springs,

Riverside County, California and is described as follows:

A portion of Lot 69 of Section 14, Township 4 South, Range 4 East, San Bernardino Meridian as shown on the supplemental plat showing amended lottings in Section 14, Township 4 South, Range 4 East, San Bernardino Meridian prepared by the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Washington, DC dated May 27, 1958, also shown as parcel 2 of parcel map No. 15314 recorded in Parcel Map Book 86 at page 100, records of Riverside County, California, described as follows: (*PRO Tab 5*)

Commencing at the Northeast corner of said Lot 69;

Thence North 89°45'04" West along the North line of said Lot 69, a distance of 34.80 feet;

Thence South 00°14'56" West, a distance of 15.00 feet to the true point of beginning.

Thence North 89°45'04" West and parallel to the northerly line of said Lot 69, a distance of 229.20 feet to the westerly line of said Lot 69;

Thence South 00°04'20" East along the westerly line of said Lot 69, a distance of 299.92 feet to the Southwest corner thereof;

Thence South 89°45'00" East along the southerly line of said Lot 69, a distance of 249.11 feet;

Thence North 00°04'35" West and parallel to the East line of said Lot 69, a distance of 280.03 feet to the beginning of a tangent curve concave southwesterly and having a radius of 20.00 feet;

Thence northwesterly along said curve through a central angle of 80°40'29" and a length of 31.30 feet to the true point of beginning.

Also shown as parcel 2 of Parcel Map No. 15314, in the City of Palm Springs, County of Riverside, State of California, on file in Book 86 of parcel maps, page 100, in the Office of the County Recorder of said County.

Dated: April 21, 2004.

Aurene M. Martin,

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

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