

106TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 438

To provide for the settlement of the water rights claims of the Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy's Reservation, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 22, 1999

Mr. BRUNS (for himself and Mr. BAUCUS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

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## A BILL

To provide for the settlement of the water rights claims of the Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy's Reservation, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Chippewa Cree Tribe  
5 of the Rocky Boy's Reservation Indian Reserved Water  
6 Rights Settlement Act of 1999”.

7 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

8 Congress finds that—

1           (1) in fulfillment of its trust responsibility to  
2 Indian tribes and to promote tribal sovereignty and  
3 economic self-sufficiency, it is the policy of the  
4 United States to settle the water rights claims of the  
5 tribes without lengthy and costly litigation;

6           (2) the Rocky Boy's Reservation was estab-  
7 lished as a homeland for the Chippewa Cree Tribe;

8           (3) adequate water for the Chippewa Cree  
9 Tribe of the Rocky Boy's Reservation is important  
10 to a permanent, sustainable, and sovereign homeland  
11 for the Tribe and its members;

12           (4) the sovereignty of the Chippewa Cree Tribe  
13 and the economy of the Reservation depend on the  
14 development of the water resources of the Reserva-  
15 tion;

16           (5) the planning, design, and construction of  
17 the facilities needed to utilize water supplies effec-  
18 tively are necessary to the development of a viable  
19 Reservation economy and to implementation of the  
20 Chippewa Cree-Montana Water Rights Compact;

21           (6) the Rocky Boy's Reservation is located in a  
22 water-short area of Montana and the Compact con-  
23 templates the development of additional water sup-  
24 plies, including importation of domestic water, to  
25 meet the needs of the Chippewa Cree Tribe;

1           (7) proceedings to determine the full extent of  
2           the water rights of the Chippewa Cree Tribe are cur-  
3           rently pending before the Montana Water Court as  
4           a part of In the Matter of the Adjudication of All  
5           Rights to the Use of Water, Both Surface and Un-  
6           derground, within the State of Montana;

7           (8) recognizing that final resolution of the gen-  
8           eral stream adjudication will take many years and  
9           entail great expense to all parties, prolong uncer-  
10          tainty as to the availability of water supplies, and  
11          seriously impair the long-term economic planning  
12          and development of all parties, the Chippewa Cree  
13          Tribe and the State of Montana entered into the  
14          Compact on April 14, 1997; and

15          (9) the allocation of water resources from the  
16          Tiber Reservoir to the Chippewa Cree Tribe under  
17          this Act is uniquely suited to the geographic, social,  
18          and economic characteristics of the area and situa-  
19          tion involved.

20 **SEC. 3. PURPOSES.**

21          The purposes of this Act are as follows:

22               (1) To achieve a fair, equitable, and final settle-  
23               ment of all claims to water rights in the State of  
24               Montana for—

25                       (A) the Chippewa Cree Tribe; and

1 (B) the United States for the benefit of  
2 the Chippewa Cree Tribe.

3 (2) To approve, ratify, and confirm, as modified  
4 in this Act, the Chippewa Cree-Montana Water  
5 Rights Compact entered into by the Chippewa Cree  
6 Tribe of the Rocky Boy's Reservation and the State  
7 of Montana on April 14, 1997, and to provide fund-  
8 ing and other authorization necessary for the imple-  
9 mentation of the Compact.

10 (3) To authorize the Secretary of the Interior  
11 to execute and implement the Compact referred to in  
12 paragraph (2) and to take such other actions as are  
13 necessary to implement the Compact in a manner  
14 consistent with this Act.

15 (4) To authorize Federal feasibility studies de-  
16 signed to identify and analyze potential mechanisms  
17 to enhance, through conservation or otherwise, water  
18 supplies in North Central Montana, including mech-  
19 anisms to import domestic water supplies for the fu-  
20 ture growth of the Rocky Boy's Indian Reservation.

21 (5) To authorize certain projects on the Rocky  
22 Boy's Indian Reservation, Montana, in order to im-  
23 plement the Compact.

24 (6) To authorize certain modifications to the  
25 purposes and operation of the Bureau of Reclama-

1 tion's Tiber Dam and Lake Elwell on the Marias  
2 River in Montana in order to implement the Com-  
3 pact.

4 (7) To authorize the appropriation of funds  
5 necessary for the implementation of the Compact.

6 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

8 (1) COMPACT.—The term “Compact” means  
9 the water rights compact between the Chippewa  
10 Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy's Reservation and the  
11 State of Montana contained in section 85–20–601 of  
12 the Montana Code Annotated (1997).

13 (2) FINAL.—The term “final” with reference to  
14 approval of the decree in section 5(b) means comple-  
15 tion of any direct appeal to the Montana Supreme  
16 Court of a final decree by the Water Court pursuant  
17 to section 85–2–235 of the Montana Code Anno-  
18 tated (1997), or to the Federal Court of Appeals, in-  
19 cluding the expiration of the time in which a petition  
20 for certiorari may be filed in the United States Su-  
21 preme Court, denial of such a petition, or the  
22 issuance of the Supreme Court's mandate, whichever  
23 occurs last.

1           (3) FUND.—The term “Fund” means the Chip-  
2           pewa Cree Indian Reserved Water Rights Settlement  
3           Fund established under section 10.

4           (4) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term “Indian tribe”  
5           has the meaning given that term in section 101(2)  
6           of the Federally Recognized Indian Tribe List Act of  
7           1994 (25 U.S.C. 479a(2)).

8           (5) MR&I FEASIBILITY STUDY.—The term  
9           “MR&I feasibility study” means a municipal, rural,  
10          and industrial, domestic, and incidental drought re-  
11          lief feasibility study described in section 7.

12          (6) MISSOURI RIVER SYSTEM.—The term “Mis-  
13          souri River System” means the mainstem of the  
14          Missouri River and its tributaries, including the  
15          Marias River.

16          (7) RECLAMATION LAW.—The term “Reclama-  
17          tion Law” has the meaning given the term “rec-  
18          lamation law” in section 4 of the Act of December  
19          5, 1924 (43 Stat. 701, chapter 4; 43 U.S.C. 371).

20          (8) ROCKY BOY’S RESERVATION; RESERVA-  
21          TION.—The term “Rocky Boy’s Reservation” or  
22          “Reservation” means the Rocky Boy’s Reservation  
23          of the Chippewa Cree Tribe in Montana.

1           (9) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
2 the Secretary of the Interior, or his or her duly au-  
3 thorized representative.

4           (10) TOWE PONDS.—The term “Towe Ponds”  
5 means the reservoir or reservoirs referred to as  
6 “Stoneman Reservoir” in the Compact.

7           (11) TRIBAL COMPACT ADMINISTRATION.—The  
8 term “Tribal Compact Administration” means the  
9 activities assumed by the Tribe for implementation  
10 of the Compact as set forth in Article IV of the  
11 Compact.

12           (12) TRIBAL WATER CODE.—The term “tribal  
13 water code” means a water code adopted by the  
14 Tribe, as provided in the Compact.

15           (13) TRIBAL WATER RIGHT.—

16           (A) IN GENERAL.—The term “Tribal  
17 Water Right” means the water right set forth  
18 in section 85–20–601 of the Montana Code An-  
19 notated (1997).

20           (B) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—The defini-  
21 tion of the term “Tribal Water Right” under  
22 this paragraph and the treatment of that right  
23 under this Act shall not be construed or inter-  
24 preted as a precedent for the litigation of re-  
25 served water rights or the interpretation or ad-

1           ministration of future compacts between the  
 2           United States and the State of Montana or any  
 3           other State.

4           (14) **TRIBE.**—The term “Tribe” means the  
 5           Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy’s Reserva-  
 6           tion and all officers, agents, and departments there-  
 7           of.

8           (15) **WATER DEVELOPMENT.**—The term “water  
 9           development” includes all activities that involve the  
 10          use of water or modification of water courses or  
 11          water bodies in any way.

12 **SEC. 5. RATIFICATION OF COMPACT AND ENTRY OF DE-**  
 13 **CREE.**

14          (a) **WATER RIGHTS COMPACT APPROVED.**—Except  
 15 as modified by this Act, and to the extent the Compact  
 16 does not conflict with this Act—

17           (1) the Compact, entered into by the Chippewa  
 18          Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy’s Reservation and the  
 19          State of Montana on April 14, 1997, is hereby ap-  
 20          proved, ratified, and confirmed; and

21           (2) the Secretary shall—

22           (A) execute and implement the Compact  
 23          together with any amendments agreed to by the  
 24          parties or necessary to bring the Compact into  
 25          conformity with this Act; and



1 (B) take such other actions as are nec-  
2 essary to implement the Compact.

3 (b) APPROVAL OF DECREE.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days  
5 after the date of enactment of this Act, the United  
6 States, the Tribe, or the State of Montana shall pe-  
7 tition the Montana Water Court, individually or  
8 jointly, to enter and approve the decree agreed to by  
9 the United States, the Tribe, and the State of Mon-  
10 tana attached as Appendix 1 to the Compact, or any  
11 amended version thereof agreed to by the United  
12 States, the Tribe, and the State of Montana.

13 (2) RESORT TO THE FEDERAL DISTRICT  
14 COURT.—Under the circumstances set forth in Arti-  
15 cle VII.B.4 of the Compact, 1 or more parties may  
16 file an appropriate motion (as provided in that arti-  
17 cle) in the United States district court of appro-  
18 priate jurisdiction.

19 (3) EFFECT OF FAILURE OF APPROVAL TO BE-  
20 COME FINAL.—In the event the approval by the ap-  
21 propriate court, including any direct appeal, does  
22 not become final within 3 years after the filing of  
23 the decree, or the decree is approved but is subse-  
24 quently set aside by the appropriate court—

1 (A) the approval, ratification, and con-  
 2 firmation of the Compact by the United States  
 3 shall be null and void; and

4 (B) except as provided in sections 11(g)(1)  
 5 and 13(a) and (c)(3), this Act shall be of no  
 6 further force and effect.

7 **SEC. 6. USE AND TRANSFER OF THE TRIBAL WATER RIGHT.**

8 (a) ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT.—As pro-  
 9 vided in the Compact, until the adoption and approval of  
 10 a tribal water code by the Tribe, the Secretary shall ad-  
 11 minister and enforce the Tribal Water Right.

12 (b) TRIBAL MEMBER ENTITLEMENT.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—Any entitlement to Federal  
 14 Indian reserved water of any tribal member shall be  
 15 satisfied solely from the water secured to the Tribe  
 16 by the Compact and shall be governed by the terms  
 17 and conditions of the Compact.

18 (2) ADMINISTRATION.—An entitlement de-  
 19 scribed in paragraph (1) shall be administered by  
 20 the Tribe pursuant to a tribal water code developed  
 21 and adopted pursuant to Article IV.A.2 of the Com-  
 22 pact, or by the Secretary pending the adoption and  
 23 approval of the tribal water code.

24 (c) TEMPORARY TRANSFER OF TRIBAL WATER  
 25 RIGHT.—Notwithstanding any other provision of statutory

1 or common law, the Tribe may, with the approval of the  
2 Secretary and subject to the limitations and conditions set  
3 forth in the Compact, including limitation on transfer of  
4 any portion of the Tribal Water Right to within the Mis-  
5 souri River Basin, enter into a service contract, lease, ex-  
6 change, or other agreement providing for the temporary  
7 delivery, use, or transfer of the water rights confirmed to  
8 the Tribe in the Compact, except that no service contract,  
9 lease, exchange, or other agreement entered into under  
10 this subsection may permanently alienate any portion of  
11 the Tribal Water Right.

12 **SEC. 7. FEASIBILITY STUDIES AUTHORIZATION.**

13 (a) MUNICIPAL, RURAL, AND INDUSTRIAL FEASIBIL-  
14 ITY STUDY.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—

16 (A) STUDY.—The Secretary, through the  
17 Bureau of Reclamation, shall perform an MR&I  
18 feasibility study of water and related resources  
19 in North Central Montana to evaluate alter-  
20 natives for a municipal, rural, and industrial  
21 supply for the Rocky Boy's Reservation.

22 (B) USE OF FUNDS MADE AVAILABLE FOR  
23 FISCAL YEAR 1999.—The authority under sub-  
24 paragraph (A) shall be deemed to apply to  
25 MR&I feasibility study activities for which

1 funds were made available by appropriations for  
2 fiscal year 1999.

3 (2) CONTENTS OF STUDY.—The MR&I feasibil-  
4 ity study shall include the feasibility of releasing the  
5 Tribe’s Tiber allocation as provided in section 8 into  
6 the Missouri River System for later diversion to a  
7 treatment and delivery system for the Rocky Boy’s  
8 Reservation.

9 (3) UTILIZATION OF EXISTING STUDIES.—The  
10 MR&I feasibility study shall include utilization of ex-  
11 isting Federal and non-Federal studies and shall be  
12 planned and conducted in consultation with other  
13 Federal agencies, the State of Montana, and the  
14 Chippewa Cree Tribe.

15 (b) ACCEPTANCE OR PARTICIPATION IN IDENTIFIED  
16 OFF-RESERVATION SYSTEM.—The United States, the  
17 Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy’s Reservation, and  
18 the State of Montana shall not be obligated to accept or  
19 participate in any potential off-Reservation water supply  
20 system identified in the MR&I feasibility study authorized  
21 in subsection (a).

22 (c) REGIONAL FEASIBILITY STUDY.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—

24 (A) STUDY.—The Secretary, through the  
25 Bureau of Reclamation, shall conduct, pursuant

1 to Reclamation Law, a regional feasibility study  
2 (referred to in this subsection as the “regional  
3 feasibility study”) to evaluate water and related  
4 resources in North-Central Montana in order to  
5 determine the limitations of those resources and  
6 how those resources can best be managed and  
7 developed to serve the needs of the citizens of  
8 Montana.

9 (B) USE OF FUNDS MADE AVAILABLE FOR  
10 FISCAL YEAR 1999.—The authority under sub-  
11 paragraph (A) shall be deemed to apply to re-  
12 gional feasibility study activities for which  
13 funds were made available by appropriations for  
14 fiscal year 1999.

15 (2) CONTENTS OF STUDY.—The regional fea-  
16 sibility study shall—

17 (A) evaluate existing and potential water  
18 supplies, uses, and management;

19 (B) identify major water-related issues, in-  
20 cluding environmental, water supply, and eco-  
21 nomic issues;

22 (C) evaluate opportunities to resolve the  
23 issues referred to in subparagraph (B); and

24 (D) evaluate options for implementation of  
25 resolutions to the issues.

1           (3) REQUIREMENTS.—Because of the regional  
2 and international impact of the regional feasibility  
3 study, the study may not be segmented. The re-  
4 gional study shall—

5                   (A) utilize, to the maximum extent pos-  
6 sible, existing information; and

7                   (B) be planned and conducted in consulta-  
8 tion with all affected interests, including inter-  
9 ests in Canada.

10 **SEC. 8. TIBER RESERVOIR ALLOCATION.**

11           (a) ALLOCATION OF WATER TO THE TRIBE.—

12                   (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall perma-  
13 nently allocate to the Tribe, without cost to the  
14 Tribe, 10,000 acre-feet per year of stored water  
15 from the water right of the Bureau of Reclamation  
16 in Lake Elwell, Lower Marias Unit, Upper Missouri  
17 Division, Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program, Mon-  
18 tana, measured at the outlet works of the dam or at  
19 the diversion point from the reservoir. The allocation  
20 shall become effective when the decree referred to in  
21 section 5(b) has become final in accordance with  
22 that section.

23                   (2) AGREEMENT.—The Secretary shall enter  
24 into an agreement with the Tribe setting forth the  
25 terms of the allocation and providing for the Tribe's

1 use or temporary transfer of water stored in Lake  
2 Elwell, subject to the terms and conditions of the  
3 Compact and this Act.

4 (3) PRIOR RESERVED WATER RIGHTS.—The al-  
5 location provided in this section shall be subject to  
6 the prior reserved water rights, if any, of any Indian  
7 tribe, or person claiming water through any Indian  
8 tribe.

9 (b) USE AND TEMPORARY TRANSFER OF ALLOCA-  
10 TION.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the limitations  
12 and conditions set forth in the Compact and this  
13 Act, the Tribe shall have the right to devote the  
14 water allocated by this section to any use, including  
15 agricultural, municipal, commercial, industrial, min-  
16 ing, or recreational uses, within or outside the Rocky  
17 Boy's Reservation.

18 (2) CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS.—Notwith-  
19 standing any other provision of statutory or common  
20 law, the Tribe may, with the approval of the Sec-  
21 retary and subject to the limitations and conditions  
22 set forth in the Compact, enter into a service con-  
23 tract, lease, exchange, or other agreement providing  
24 for the temporary delivery, use, or transfer of the  
25 water allocated by this section, except that no such

1 service contract, lease, exchange, or other agreement  
2 may permanently alienate any portion of the tribal  
3 allocation.

4 (c) REMAINING STORAGE.—The United States shall  
5 retain the right to use for any authorized purpose, any  
6 and all storage remaining in Lake Elwell after the alloca-  
7 tion made to the Tribe in subsection (a)(1).

8 (d) WATER TRANSPORT OBLIGATION; DEVELOP-  
9 MENT AND DELIVERY COSTS.—The United States shall  
10 have no responsibility or obligation to provide any facility  
11 for the transport of the water allocated by this section to  
12 the Rocky Boy’s Reservation or to any other location. Ex-  
13 cept for the contribution set forth in section 11(c)(3), the  
14 cost of developing and delivering the water allocated by  
15 this section or any other supplemental water to the Rocky  
16 Boy’s Reservation shall not be borne by the United States.

17 (e) ACT NOT PRECEDENTIAL.—The provisions of  
18 this section regarding the allocation of water resources  
19 from the Tiber Reservoir to the Tribe shall not be con-  
20 strued as precedent in the litigation or settlement of any  
21 other Indian water right claims.

22 **SEC. 9. ON-RESERVATION WATER RESOURCES DEVELOP-**  
23 **MENT.**

24 (a) WATER DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS.—The Sec-  
25 retary, through the Bureau of Reclamation, is authorized



1 and directed to plan, design, and construct, or to provide,  
2 pursuant to subsection (b), for the planning, design, and  
3 construction of the following water development projects  
4 on the Rocky Boy's Reservation:

5 (1) Bonneau Dam and Reservoir Enlargement.

6 (2) East Fork of Beaver Creek Dam Repair  
7 and Enlargement.

8 (3) Brown's Dam Enlargement.

9 (4) Towe Ponds' Enlargement.

10 (5) Such other water development projects as  
11 the Tribe shall from time to time consider appro-  
12 priate.

13 (b) IMPLEMENTATION AGREEMENT.—The Secretary,  
14 at the request of the Tribe, shall enter into an agreement,  
15 or, if appropriate, renegotiate an existing agreement, with  
16 the Tribe to implement the provisions of this Act through  
17 the Tribe's annual funding agreement entered into under  
18 the self-governance program under title IV of the Indian  
19 Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25  
20 U.S.C. 458aa et seq.) by which the Tribe shall plan, de-  
21 sign, and construct any or all of the projects authorized  
22 by this section.

23 (c) BUREAU OF RECLAMATION PROJECT ADMINIS-  
24 TRATION.—

1           (1) IN GENERAL.—Congress finds that the Sec-  
2           retary, through the Bureau of Reclamation, has en-  
3           tered into an agreement with the Tribe, pursuant to  
4           title IV of the Indian Self-Determination and Edu-  
5           cation Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 458aa et seq.)—

6                   (A) defining and limiting the role of the  
7           Bureau of Reclamation in its administration of  
8           the projects authorized in subsection (a);

9                   (B) establishing the standards upon which  
10          the projects will be constructed; and

11                  (C) for other purposes necessary to imple-  
12          ment this section.

13          (2) AGREEMENT.—The agreement referred to  
14          in paragraph (1) shall become effective when the  
15          Tribe exercises its right under subsection (b).

16 **SEC. 10. CHIPPEWA CREE INDIAN RESERVED WATER**  
17 **RIGHTS SETTLEMENT TRUST FUND.**

18          (a) ESTABLISHMENT OF TRUST FUND.—

19                  (1) IN GENERAL.—

20                   (A) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is hereby es-  
21           tablished in the Treasury of the United States  
22           a trust fund for the Chippewa Cree Tribe of the  
23           Rocky Boy’s Reservation to be known as the  
24           “Chippewa Cree Indian Reserved Water Rights  
25           Settlement Trust Fund”.

1 (B) AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNTS IN  
2 FUND.—

3 (i) IN GENERAL.—Amounts in the  
4 Fund shall be available to the Secretary  
5 for management and investment on behalf  
6 of the Tribe and distribution to the Tribe  
7 in accordance with this Act.

8 (ii) AVAILABILITY.—Funds made  
9 available from the Fund under this section  
10 shall be available without fiscal year limita-  
11 tion.

12 (2) MANAGEMENT OF FUND.—The Secretary  
13 shall deposit and manage the principal and interest  
14 in the Fund in a manner consistent with subsection  
15 (b) and other applicable provisions of this Act.

16 (3) CONTENTS OF FUND.—The Fund shall con-  
17 sist of the amounts authorized to be appropriated to  
18 the Fund under section 11(c) and such other  
19 amounts as may be transferred or credited to the  
20 Fund.

21 (4) WITHDRAWAL.—The Tribe, with the ap-  
22 proval of the Secretary, may withdraw the Fund and  
23 deposit it in a mutually agreed upon private finan-  
24 cial institution. That withdrawal shall be made pur-

1 suant to the American Indian Trust Fund Manage-  
2 ment Reform Act of 1994 (25 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.).

3 (5) ACCOUNTS.—The Secretary of the Interior  
4 shall establish the following accounts in the Fund  
5 and shall allocate appropriations to the various ac-  
6 counts as required in this Act:

7 (A) The Tribal Compact Administration  
8 Account.

9 (B) The Economic Development Account.

10 (C) The Future Water Supply Facilities  
11 Account.

12 (b) FUND MANAGEMENT.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—

14 (A) AMOUNTS IN FUND.—The Fund shall  
15 consist of such amounts as are appropriated to  
16 the Fund and allocated to the accounts of the  
17 Fund by the Secretary as provided in this Act  
18 and in accordance with the authorizations for  
19 appropriations in paragraphs (1), (2), and (3)  
20 of section 11(c), together with all interest that  
21 accrues in the Fund.

22 (B) MANAGEMENT BY SECRETARY.—The  
23 Secretary shall manage the Fund, make invest-  
24 ments from the Fund, and make available funds  
25 from the Fund for distribution to the Tribe in

1 a manner consistent with the American Indian  
2 Trust Fund Management Reform Act of 1994  
3 (25 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.).

4 (2) TRIBAL MANAGEMENT.—

5 (A) IN GENERAL.—If the Tribe exercises  
6 its right pursuant to subsection (a)(4) to with-  
7 draw the Fund and deposit it in a private fi-  
8 nancial institution, except as provided in the  
9 withdrawal plan, neither the Secretary nor the  
10 Secretary of the Treasury shall retain any over-  
11 sight over the accounting, disbursement, or in-  
12 vestment of the funds.

13 (B) WITHDRAWAL PLAN.—The withdrawal  
14 plan shall provide for—

15 (i) the creation of accounts and allo-  
16 cation to accounts in a fund established  
17 under the plan in a manner consistent with  
18 subsection (a); and

19 (ii) the appropriate terms and condi-  
20 tions, if any, on expenditures from the  
21 fund (in addition to the requirements of  
22 the plans set forth in paragraphs (2) and  
23 (3) of subsection (c)).

1           (c) USE OF FUND.—The Tribe shall use the Fund  
2 to fulfill the purposes of this Act, subject to the following  
3 restrictions on expenditures:

4           (1) Except for \$400,000 necessary for capital  
5 expenditures in connection with Tribal Compact Ad-  
6 ministration, only interest accrued on the Tribal  
7 Compact Administration Account referred to in sub-  
8 section (a)(5)(A) shall be available to satisfy the  
9 Tribe’s obligations for Tribal Compact Administra-  
10 tion under the provisions of the Compact.

11           (2) Both principal and accrued interest on the  
12 Economic Development Account referred to in sub-  
13 section (a)(5)(B) shall be available to the Tribe for  
14 expenditure pursuant to an economic development  
15 plan approved by the Secretary.

16           (3) Both principal and accrued interest on the  
17 Future Water Supply Facilities Account referred to  
18 in subsection (a)(5)(C) shall be available to the  
19 Tribe for expenditure pursuant to a water supply  
20 plan approved by the Secretary.

21           (d) INVESTMENT OF FUND.—

22           (1) IN GENERAL.—

23           (A) APPLICABLE LAWS.—The Secretary  
24 shall invest amounts in the Fund in accordance  
25 with—

1 (i) the Act of April 1, 1880 (21 Stat.  
2 70, chapter 41; 25 U.S.C. 161);

3 (ii) the first section of the Act entitled  
4 “An Act to authorize the payment of inter-  
5 est of certain funds held in trust by the  
6 United States for Indian tribes”, approved  
7 February 12, 1929 (25 U.S.C. 161a); and

8 (iii) the first section of the Act enti-  
9 tled “An Act to authorize the deposit and  
10 investment of Indian funds”, approved  
11 June 24, 1938 (25 U.S.C. 162a).

12 (B) CREDITING OF AMOUNTS TO THE  
13 FUND.—The interest on, and the proceeds from  
14 the sale or redemption of, any obligations of the  
15 United States held in the Fund shall be cred-  
16 ited to and form part of the Fund. The Sec-  
17 retary of the Treasury shall credit to each of  
18 the accounts contained in the Fund a propor-  
19 tionate amount of that interest and proceeds.

20 (2) CERTAIN WITHDRAWN FUNDS.—

21 (A) IN GENERAL.—Amounts withdrawn  
22 from the Fund and deposited in a private finan-  
23 cial institution pursuant to a withdrawal plan  
24 approved by the Secretary under the American  
25 Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act of

1           1994 (25 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.) shall be invested  
2           by an appropriate official under that plan.

3           (B) DEPOSIT OF INTEREST AND PRO-  
4           CEEDS.—The interest on, and the proceeds  
5           from the sale or redemption of, any obligations  
6           held under this paragraph shall be deposited in  
7           the private financial institution referred to in  
8           subparagraph (A) in the fund established pur-  
9           suant to the withdrawal plan referred to in that  
10          subparagraph. The appropriate official shall  
11          credit to each of the accounts contained in that  
12          fund a proportionate amount of that interest  
13          and proceeds.

14          (e) AGREEMENT REGARDING FUND EXPENDI-  
15          TURES.—If the Tribe does not exercise its right under  
16          subsection (a)(4) to withdraw the funds in the Fund and  
17          transfer those funds to a private financial institution, the  
18          Secretary shall enter into an agreement with the Tribe  
19          providing for appropriate terms and conditions, if any, on  
20          expenditures from the Fund in addition to the plans set  
21          forth in paragraphs (2) and (3) of subsection (c).

22          (f) PER CAPITA DISTRIBUTIONS PROHIBITED.—No  
23          part of the Fund shall be distributed on a per capita basis  
24          to members of the Tribe.



1 **SEC. 11. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2 (a) FISCAL YEAR 1999 APPROPRIATIONS.—Of the  
3 amounts made available by appropriations for fiscal year  
4 1999 for the Bureau of Reclamation, \$1,000,000 shall be  
5 used for the purpose of commencing the MR&I feasibility  
6 study under section 7(a) and the regional study under sec-  
7 tion 7(c), of which—

8 (1) \$500,000 shall be used for the MR&I study  
9 under section 7(a); and

10 (2) \$500,000 shall be used for the regional  
11 study under section 7(c).

12 (b) FEASIBILITY STUDIES.—There is authorized to  
13 be appropriated to the Department of the Interior, for the  
14 Bureau of Reclamation, for the purpose of conducting the  
15 MR&I feasibility study under section 7(a) and the regional  
16 study under section 7(c), \$3,000,000 for fiscal year 2000,  
17 of which—

18 (1) \$500,000 shall be used for the MR&I fea-  
19 sibility study under section 7(a); and

20 (2) \$2,500,000 shall be used for the regional  
21 study under section 7(c).

22 (c) CHIPPEWA CREE FUND.—There is authorized to  
23 be appropriated for the Fund, \$21,000,000 to be allocated  
24 by the Secretary as follows:

25 (1) TRIBAL COMPACT ADMINISTRATION AC-  
26 COUNT.—For Tribal Compact Administration as-

1       sumed by the Tribe under the Compact and this Act,  
2       \$3,000,000 is authorized to be appropriated for fis-  
3       cal year 2000.

4               (2) ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT.—For  
5       tribal economic development, \$3,000,000 is author-  
6       ized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2000.

7               (3) FUTURE WATER SUPPLY FACILITIES AC-  
8       COUNT.—For the total Federal contribution to the  
9       planning, design, construction, operation, mainte-  
10      nance, and rehabilitation of a future water supply  
11      system for the Reservation, there are authorized to  
12      be appropriated—

13                   (A) \$2,000,000 for fiscal year 2000;

14                   (B) \$8,000,000 for fiscal year 2001; and

15                   (C) \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2002.

16               (d) ON-RESERVATION WATER DEVELOPMENT.—

17                   (1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be  
18      appropriated to the Department of the Interior, for  
19      the Bureau of Reclamation, for the construction of  
20      the on-Reservation water development projects au-  
21      thorized by section 9—

22                           (A) \$13,000,000 for fiscal year 2000, for  
23                           the planning, design, and construction of the  
24                           Bonneau Dam Enlargement, for the develop-  
25                           ment of additional capacity in Bonneau Res-

1           ervoir for storage of water secured to the Tribe  
2           under the Compact;

3           (B) \$8,000,000 for fiscal year 2001, for  
4           the planning, design, and construction of the  
5           East Fork Dam and Reservoir enlargement, of  
6           the Brown's Dam and Reservoir enlargement,  
7           and of the Towe Ponds enlargement of which—

8                   (i) \$4,000,000 shall be used for the  
9                   East Fork Dam and Reservoir enlarge-  
10                  ment;

11                  (ii) \$2,000,000 shall be used for the  
12                  Brown's Dam and Reservoir enlargement;  
13                  and

14                  (iii) \$2,000,000 shall be used for the  
15                  Towe Ponds enlargement; and

16           (C) \$3,000,000 for fiscal year 2002, for  
17           the planning, design, and construction of such  
18           other water resource developments as the Tribe,  
19           with the approval of the Secretary, from time to  
20           time may consider appropriate or for the com-  
21           pletion of the 4 projects enumerated in sub-  
22           paragraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (1).

23           (2) UNEXPENDED BALANCES.—Any unex-  
24           pended balance in the funds authorized to be appro-  
25           priated under subparagraph (A) or (B) of paragraph

1 (1), after substantial completion of all of the  
2 projects enumerated in paragraphs (1) through (4)  
3 of section 9(a)—

4 (A) shall be available to the Tribe first for  
5 completion of the enumerated projects; and

6 (B) then for other water resource develop-  
7 ment projects on the Reservation.

8 (e) ADMINISTRATION COSTS.—There is authorized to  
9 be appropriated to the Department of the Interior, for the  
10 Bureau of Reclamation, \$1,000,000 for fiscal year 2000,  
11 for the costs of administration of the Bureau of Reclama-  
12 tion under this Act, except that—

13 (1) if those costs exceed \$1,000,000, the Bu-  
14 reau of Reclamation may use funds authorized for  
15 appropriation under subsection (d) for costs; and

16 (2) the Bureau of Reclamation shall exercise its  
17 best efforts to minimize those costs to avoid expendi-  
18 tures for the costs of administration under this Act  
19 that exceed a total of \$1,000,000.

20 (f) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—The amounts authorized to  
22 be appropriated to the Fund and allocated to its ac-  
23 counts pursuant to subsection (c) shall be deposited  
24 into the Fund and allocated immediately on appro-  
25 priation.

1           (2) INVESTMENTS.—Investments may be made  
2 from the Fund pursuant to section 10(d).

3           (3) AVAILABILITY OF CERTAIN MONEYS.—The  
4 amounts made available for use under subsection (a)  
5 shall be deemed to have been available for use as of  
6 the date on which those funds were appropriated.  
7 The amounts authorized to be appropriated in sub-  
8 sections (b) and (c)(1) shall be available for use im-  
9 mediately upon appropriation.

10           (4) LIMITATION.—Those moneys allocated by  
11 the Secretary to accounts in the Fund or in a fund  
12 established under section 10(a)(4) shall draw inter-  
13 est consistent with section 10(d), but the moneys au-  
14 thorized to be appropriated under subsection (d) and  
15 paragraphs (2) and (3) of subsection (c) shall not be  
16 available for expenditure until the requirements of  
17 section 5(b) have been met so that the decree has  
18 become final and the Tribe has executed the waiver  
19 and release required under section 13(c).

20           (g) RETURN OF FUNDS TO THE TREASURY.—

21           (1) IN GENERAL.—In the event that the ap-  
22 proval, ratification, and confirmation of the Compact  
23 by the United States becomes null and void under  
24 section 5(b), all unexpended funds appropriated  
25 under the authority of this Act together with all in-

1       terest earned on such funds, notwithstanding wheth-  
2       er the funds are held by the Tribe, a private institu-  
3       tion, or the Secretary, shall revert to the general  
4       fund of the Treasury 12 months after the expiration  
5       of the deadline established in section 5(b).

6               (2) INCLUSION IN AGREEMENTS AND PLAN.—  
7       The requirements in paragraph (1) shall be included  
8       in all annual funding agreements entered into under  
9       the self-governance program under title IV of the In-  
10      dian Self-Determination and Education Assistance  
11      Act (25 U.S.C. 458aa et seq.), withdrawal plans,  
12      withdrawal agreements, or any other agreements for  
13      withdrawal or transfer of the funds to the Tribe or  
14      a private financial institution under this Act.

15           (h) WITHOUT FISCAL YEAR LIMITATION.—All money  
16      appropriated pursuant to authorizations under this Act  
17      shall be available without fiscal year limitation.

18      **SEC. 12. STATE CONTRIBUTIONS TO SETTLEMENT.**

19           Consistent with Articles VI.C.2 and C.3 of the Com-  
20      pact, the State contribution to settlement shall be as fol-  
21      lows:

22               (1) The contribution of \$150,000 appropriated  
23      by Montana House Bill 6 of the 55th Legislative  
24      Session (1997) shall be used for the following pur-  
25      poses:

1 (A) Water quality discharge monitoring  
2 wells and monitoring program.

3 (B) A diversion structure on Big Sandy  
4 Creek.

5 (C) A conveyance structure on Box Elder  
6 Creek.

7 (D) The purchase of contract water from  
8 Lower Beaver Creek Reservoir.

9 (2) Subject to the availability of funds, the  
10 State shall provide services valued at \$400,000 for  
11 administration required by the Compact and for  
12 water quality sampling required by the Compact.

13 **SEC. 13. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.**

14 (a) NONEXERCISE OF TRIBE'S RIGHTS.—Pursuant  
15 to Tribal Resolution No. 40–98, and in exchange for bene-  
16 fits under this Act, the Tribe shall not exercise the rights  
17 set forth in Article VII.A.3 of the Compact, except that  
18 in the event that the approval, ratification, and confirma-  
19 tion of the Compact by the United States becomes null  
20 and void under section 5(b), the Tribe shall have the right  
21 to exercise the rights set forth in Article VII.A.3 of the  
22 Compact.

23 (b) WAIVER OF SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY.—Except to  
24 the extent provided in subsections (a), (b), and (c) of sec-  
25 tion 208 of the Department of Justice Appropriation Act,

1 1953 (43 U.S.C. 666), nothing in this Act may be con-  
2 strued to waive the sovereign immunity of the United  
3 States.

4 (c) TRIBAL RELEASE OF CLAIMS AGAINST THE  
5 UNITED STATES.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—Pursuant to Tribal Resolu-  
7 tion No. 40–98, and in exchange for benefits under  
8 this Act, the Tribe shall, on the date of enactment  
9 of this Act, execute a waiver and release of the  
10 claims described in paragraph (2) against the United  
11 States, the validity of which are not recognized by  
12 the United States, except that—

13 (A) the waiver and release of claims shall  
14 not become effective until the appropriation of  
15 the funds authorized in section 11 has been  
16 completed and the decree has become final in  
17 accordance with the requirements of section  
18 5(b); and

19 (B) in the event that the approval, ratifica-  
20 tion, and confirmation of the Compact by the  
21 United States becomes null and void under sec-  
22 tion 5(b), the waiver and release of claims shall  
23 become null and void.

24 (2) CLAIMS DESCRIBED.—The claims referred  
25 to in paragraph (1) are as follows:



1 (A) Any and all claims to water rights (in-  
2 cluding water rights in surface water, ground  
3 water, and effluent), claims for injuries to  
4 water rights, claims for loss or deprivation of  
5 use of water rights, and claims for failure to ac-  
6 quire or develop water rights for lands of the  
7 Tribe from time immemorial to the date of rati-  
8 fication of the Compact by Congress.

9 (B) Any and all claims arising out of the  
10 negotiation of the Compact and the settlement  
11 authorized by this Act.

12 (3) SETOFFS.—In the event the waiver and re-  
13 lease do not become effective as set forth in para-  
14 graph (1)—

15 (A) the United States shall be entitled to  
16 setoff against any claim for damages asserted  
17 by the Tribe against the United States, any  
18 funds transferred to the Tribe pursuant to sec-  
19 tion 11, and any interest accrued thereon up to  
20 the date of setoff; and

21 (B) the United States shall retain any  
22 other claims or defenses not waived in this Act  
23 or in the Compact as modified by this Act.

24 (d) OTHER TRIBES NOT ADVERSELY AFFECTED.—  
25 Nothing in this Act is intended to quantify or otherwise

1 adversely affect the land and water rights, or claims or  
2 entitlements to land or water of an Indian tribe other than  
3 the Chippewa Cree Tribe.

4 (e) ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE.—In implement-  
5 ing the Compact, the Secretary shall comply with all as-  
6 pects of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969  
7 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), the Endangered Species Act of  
8 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.), and all other applicable  
9 environmental Acts and regulations.

10 (f) EXECUTION OF COMPACT.—The execution of the  
11 Compact by the Secretary as provided for in this Act shall  
12 not constitute a major Federal action under the National  
13 Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.). The  
14 Secretary is directed to carry out all necessary environ-  
15 mental compliance required by Federal law in implement-  
16 ing the Compact.

17 (g) CONGRESSIONAL INTENT.—Nothing in this Act  
18 is intended to—

19 (1) alter the trust responsibility of the United  
20 States to the Tribe; or

21 (2) prohibit the Tribe from seeking additional  
22 authorization or appropriation of funds for tribal  
23 programs or purposes.

24 (h) ACT NOT PRECEDENTIAL.—Nothing in this Act  
25 shall be construed or interpreted as a precedent for the

- 1 litigation of reserved water rights or the interpretation or
- 2 administration of future water settlement Acts.

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