

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2912

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.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 20, 2019

Ms. MCSALLY (for herself and Ms. SINEMA) introduced the following bill;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs

A BILL

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.

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 “Blackwater Trading
5 Post Land Transfer Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

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

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

9 (B) is owned by the Community.

10 (2) COMMUNITY.—The term “Community”
11 means the Gila River Indian Community of the Res-
12 ervation.

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

18 (4) RESERVATION.—The term “Reservation”
19 means the land located within the exterior bound-
20 aries of the reservation created under sections 3 and
21 4 of the Act of February 28, 1859 (11 Stat. 401,
22 chapter LXVI), and Executive orders of August 31,
23 1876, June 14, 1879, May 5, 1882, November 15,
24 1883, July 31, 1911, June 2, 1913, August 27,

1 1914, and July 19, 1915, and any other lands
2 placed in trust for the benefit of the Community.

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

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

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall take the
8 Blackwater Trading Post Land into trust for the benefit
9 of the Community, after the Community—

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

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

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

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

22 (b) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—Not later than 180 days
23 after the Blackwater Trading Post Land is taken into
24 trust under subsection (a), the map shall be on file and

1 available for public inspection in the appropriate offices
2 of the Secretary.

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

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

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

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