

SHINGLE SPRINGS BAND OF MIWOK INDIANS LAND
TRANSFER ACT OF 2025

SEPTEMBER 15, 2025.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the
State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. WESTERMAN, from the Committee on Natural Resources,
submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H.R. 2302]

The Committee on Natural Resources, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 2302) to take certain Federal land in the State of California into trust for the benefit of the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians, and for other purposes, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon with an amendment and recommends that the bill as amended do pass.

The amendment is as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians Land Transfer Act of 2025”.

SEC. 2. REVOCATION OF PUBLIC LAND ORDER; LANDS TO BE TAKEN INTO TRUST.

(a) REVOCATION OF PUBLIC LAND ORDER.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law—

(1) Public Land Order 3309 (Sacramento 071209), dated January 17, 1964 (29 Fed. Reg. 609), is revoked; and

(2) jurisdiction over the land described in the public land order referred to in paragraph (1) is transferred to the Secretary.

(b) TRUST TRANSFER.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, subject to valid existing rights, the Secretary shall place the following land into trust for the benefit of the Tribe:

(1) The approximately 80 acres of land generally depicted as “BLM Land–Proposed Transfer into Trust” on the Map.

(2) The approximately 185 acres of land generally depicted as “Indian Creek Ranch–Proposed Transfer into Trust Land Status” on the Map.

(c) REVIEW; SURVEY.—

(1) REVIEW.—Before the deadline described in subsection (b), the Secretary shall conduct a review of the land described in that subsection to determine if a survey of the land is required.

(2) SURVEY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—If the Secretary determines that a survey is required under paragraph (1) after conducting the review required under that paragraph, the Secretary—

- (i) shall perform a survey of the land taken into trust under subsection (b); and
- (ii) may make minor corrections to the survey and legal land description of the land described in that subsection as the Secretary determines to be necessary to correct clerical, typographical, and surveying errors.

(B) AVAILABILITY.—A survey conducted under subparagraph (A) shall be kept on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate office of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

(d) LANDS PART OF RESERVATION; ADMINISTRATION.—The land taken into trust under subsection (b)—

- (1) is hereby declared to be part of the Reservation; and
- (2) shall be administered by the Secretary in accordance with the laws and regulations generally applicable to property held in trust by the United States for an Indian Tribe.

(e) GAMING PROHIBITED.—Land taken into trust under subsection (b) shall not be used for any class II gaming or class III gaming under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.) (as those terms are defined in section 4 of that Act (25 U.S.C. 2703)).

(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) MAP.—The term “Map” means the map prepared by the Bureau of Land Management titled “Proposed Bureau of Land Management Land Transfer to Shingle Springs Rancheria” and dated May 2, 2025.

(2) RESERVATION.—The term “Reservation” means the reservation of the Tribe.

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

(4) TRIBE.—The term “Tribe” means the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians, Shingle Springs Rancheria (Verona Tract), California.

PURPOSE OF THE LEGISLATION

The purpose of H.R. 2302 is to take certain Federal land in the State of California into trust for the benefit of the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians, and for other purposes.

BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR LEGISLATION

H.R. 2302, introduced by Rep. Tom McClintock (R–CA), would place approximately 80 acres of Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land and 185 acres of fee simple land owned by the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians into trust for the tribe. Gaming on these lands, pursuant to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, would be prohibited.¹

The Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians is located in north central California, in El Dorado County. It has approximately 500 tribally enrolled members.² Descendants of the Miwok and Maidu Indians lived throughout the north central part of California,³ where they once inhabited land from the Sacramento area to the Sierra Nevada Mountains.⁴

On March 11, 1920, the U.S. government provided the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok with a 160-acre parcel, known as the “Verona Tract,” as their Rancheria. The only legal access point to the Verona Tract was through a parcel of land known as the “El

¹ 25 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.

² Tiller, Veronica E. Velarde. *Tiller’s Guide to Indian Country: Economic Profiles of American Indian Reservations*. 3rd ed. Pg. 344.

³ *Id.*

⁴ River City Bank. *Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians*. Oct 2020. <https://rivercitybank.com/shingle-springs-band-of-miwok-indians/#:-:text=Our%20reservation%20was%20originally%20160,economic%20development%20and%20self%2Dsufficiency>.

Dorado Tract.”⁵ The tribe resided on the Verona Tract until the 1960s, when the California Department of Transportation (CalTrans) began work on Highway 50. The site of Highway 50 included an area that crossed over the El Dorado Tract, leaving the tribe with no legal access to the Verona Tract.⁶ As a result, the tribe left the area.

In the mid-1970s, the tribe reorganized under the Indian Reorganization Act as the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok and moved back to the area.⁷ The lack of access to the Rancheria continued until the tribe secured a \$20 million loan to construct an off-ramp from Highway 50 into the Rancheria.⁸ Despite this addition, the tribe has continued to struggle with land acquisition, due to the physical boundary imposed by Highway 50.

In 2014, 40.85 acres of BLM land were placed into trust⁹ for the tribe to assist with tribal housing needs on the Shingle Springs Band’s reservation.¹⁰ However, the land’s terrain has made development for housing difficult.¹¹

Recently, the tribe purchased land, known as the “Indian Creek Subdivision,” which was previously approved for a defunct subdivision. The tribe seeks to place this land into trust and is pursuing this goal legislatively through this bill rather than through the DOI’s administrative process, as their previous attempts to obtain a fee-to-trust approval have been unsuccessful.¹²

The other parcels involved in this legislation will be transferred from the BLM into trust for the tribe. The BLM has not managed the parcel adjacent to the Indian Creek Subdivision well, prompting the tribe and surrounding landowners to raise concerns regarding the possibility of wildfire due to the lack of land management on the part of the BLM. The tribe has taken on a management role for this parcel despite it not being their land.¹³ The additional parcels are also under BLM management and have not been meaningfully used. The tribe intends to manage the land, as they do not have any immediate commercial or development plans.¹⁴

COMMITTEE ACTION

H.R. 2302 was introduced on March 24, 2025, by Representative Tom McClintock (R-CA). The bill was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and within the Committee to the Subcommittee on Indian and Insular Affairs. On April 30, 2025, the Subcommittee on Indian and Insular Affairs held a hearing on the bill. On July 23, 2025, the Committee on Natural Resources met to consider the bill. The Subcommittee on Indian and Insular Affairs was

⁵One Pager on H.R. 2302 provided to the IIA Team by the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok. On file.

⁶*Id.*

⁷*Id.*

⁸House Natural Resources Committee. Testimony of Nicholas Fonseca, Chairman, Shingle Springs Band of Miwok. July 23, 2013. <https://naturalresources.house.gov/uploadedfiles/fonsecatestimony07-23-13.pdf>.

⁹Public Law No: 113–127.

¹⁰S. Rept. 113–197—*To Take Certain Federal Lands Located in El Dorado County, California, Into Trust for the Benefit of the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians, and for Other Purposes*. Senate Indian Affairs Committee. 113th Congress. <https://www.congress.gov/113/crpt/srpt197/CRPT-113srpt197.pdf>.

¹¹Conversation between IIA Staff and the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians. 04.09.25.
¹²*Id.* The tribe completed fee to trust applications in 2015 for different parcels, but they remain in pending status.

¹³*Id.*

¹⁴*Id.*

discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2302 by unanimous consent. Rep. Tom McClintock (R-CA) offered an Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute designated McClintock_057 ANS. The Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute was agreed to by unanimous consent. The bill, as amended, was ordered favorably reported to the House of Representatives by unanimous consent.

HEARINGS

For the purposes of clause 3(c)(6) of House rule XIII, the following hearing was used to develop or consider this measure: hearing by the Subcommittee on Indian and Insular Affairs held on April 30, 2025.

SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

Section 1. Short title

Section 1 establishes that the Act may be cited as the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians Land Transfer Act of 2025.

Section 2. Revocation of Public Land Order; lands to be taken into trust

Section 2 revokes Public Land Order 3309 and transfers specific BLM and fee simple parcels into trust for the benefit of the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians. This section also prohibits gaming on these lands, pursuant to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act.

COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Regarding clause 2(b)(1) of rule X and clause 3(c)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Natural Resources' oversight findings and recommendations are reflected in the body of this report.

COMPLIANCE WITH HOUSE RULE XIII AND CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET ACT

1. *Cost of Legislation and the Congressional Budget Act.* Pursuant to clause 3(c)(2) of House rule XIII and section 308(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, and pursuant to clause 3(c)(3) of House rule XIII and section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee has requested but not received from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office a budgetary analysis and a cost estimate of this bill.

2. *General Performance Goals and Objectives.* As required by clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII, the general performance goal or objective of this bill is to take certain Federal land in the State of California into trust for the benefit of the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians, and for other purposes.

EARMARK STATEMENT

This bill does not contain any Congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined under clause 9(e), 9(f), and 9(g) of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

UNFUNDED MANDATES REFORM ACT STATEMENT

An estimate of federal mandates prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office pursuant to section 423 of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act was not made available to the Committee in time for the filing of this report. The Chair of the Committee shall cause such estimate to be printed in the Congressional Record upon its receipt by the Committee, if such estimate is not publicly available on the Congressional Budget Office website.

EXISTING PROGRAMS

Directed Rule Making. This bill does not contain any directed rule makings.

Duplication of Existing Programs. This bill does not establish or reauthorize a program of the federal government known to be duplicative of another program. Such program was not included in any report from the Government Accountability Office to Congress pursuant to section 21 of Public Law 111–139 or identified in the most recent Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance published pursuant to the Federal Program Information Act (Public Law 95–220, as amended by Public Law 98–169) as relating to other programs.

APPLICABILITY TO LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

The Committee finds that the legislation does not relate to the terms and conditions of employment or access to public services or accommodations within the meaning of section 102(b)(3) of the Congressional Accountability Act.

PREEMPTION OF STATE, LOCAL OR TRIBAL LAW

Any preemptive effect of this bill over state, local, or tribal law is intended to be consistent with the bill's purposes and text and the Supremacy Clause of Article VI of the U.S. Constitution.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

As ordered reported by the Committee on Natural Resources, H.R. 2302 would make no changes in existing law.