

[CHAPTER 868]

AN ACT

August 28, 1937

[S. 2774]

[Public, No. 397]

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to relinquish in favor of the Blackfeet Tribe of the Blackfeet Indian Reservation, Montana, the interest in certain land acquired by the United States under the Federal Reclamation Laws.

Blackfeet Indians,
Mont.
Relinquishment of
lands held for reclamation purposes to.

Conditions.

Title to be held in
trust.

Provisos.
Easements, etc., reserved.

Approval by tribal
council.

Expenditure authorized.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized to relinquish in favor of the Blackfeet Tribe of the Blackfeet Indian Reservation, Montana, the interest acquired by the United States for Federal reclamation purposes in the lands within the exterior boundaries of the present Blackfeet Indian Reservation, that were acquired for Federal reclamation purposes and are determined in the opinion of said Secretary not to be needed for such purposes. Such relinquishment shall be conditioned upon the repayment into the reclamation fund of a sum equal to the amount taken therefrom for the purchase of the lands so relinquished, including the amounts paid for the benefit of allottees where the land acquired for Federal reclamation purposes was allotted land. Upon such relinquishment and payment being made, the title to said lands shall be and remain in the United States in trust for the Indians of the Blackfeet Tribe of the Blackfeet Indian Reservation of Montana: *Provided*, That in making such relinquishments the Secretary may reserve for Federal reclamation purposes such easements and rights as in his opinion may be required for present or future developments under the Federal reclamation laws, and the amount payable into the reclamation fund on account of such relinquishment shall be reduced by the value of the easements and rights so retained for Federal reclamation purposes, such value to be conclusively ascertained by said Secretary: *Provided further*, That no relinquishments herein authorized shall be effective unless approved in writing by the Blackfeet Tribal Council.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized to expend from any moneys on deposit in the Treasury of the United States to the credit of the Blackfeet Indians not to exceed \$30,000 for the purpose of carrying out the purposes of this Act.

Approved, August 28, 1937.