

is held invalid, the remainder of the Act and the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.’’

§ 742. Definitions

For the purposes of this subchapter—

(a) “Tribe” means any of the following tribes or bands of Indians located in the State of Utah: Shivwits, Kanosh, Koosharem, and Indian Peaks Bands of the Paiute Indian Tribe.

(b) “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

(c) “Lands” means real property, interests therein, or improvements thereon, and includes water rights.

(d) “Individual Indian” means any individual Indian whose name appears on the final roll prepared pursuant to section 743 of this title.

(e) “Tribal property” means any real or personal property, including water rights, or any interest in real or personal property, that belongs to the tribe and either is held by the United States in trust for the tribe or is subject to a restriction against alienation imposed by the United States.

(Sept. 1, 1954, ch. 1207, § 2, 68 Stat. 1100.)

§ 743. Membership roll; preparation and initial publication; appeal from inclusion or omission from roll; finality of determination; final publication

Each tribe shall have a period of six months from September 1, 1954, in which to prepare and submit to the Secretary a proposed roll of the members of the tribe living on September 1, 1954, which shall be published in the Federal Register. If a tribe fails to submit such roll within the time specified in this section, the Secretary shall prepare a proposed roll¹ for the tribe, which shall be published in the Federal Register. Any person claiming membership rights in the tribe or an interest in its assets, or a representative of the Secretary on behalf of any such person, may, within sixty days from the date of publication of the proposed roll, file an appeal with the Secretary contesting the inclusion or omission of the name of any person on or from such roll. The Secretary shall review such appeals and his decisions thereon shall be final and conclusive. After disposition of all such appeals by the Secretary, the roll of the tribe shall be published in the Federal Register, and such roll shall be final for the purposes of this subchapter.

(Sept. 1, 1954, ch. 1207, § 3, 68 Stat. 1100.)

§ 744. Personal property rights; restrictions

Upon publication in the Federal Register of the final roll as provided in section 743 of this title, the rights or beneficial interests in tribal property of each person whose name appears on the roll shall constitute personal property which may be inherited or bequeathed, but shall not otherwise be subject to alienation or encumbrance before the transfer of title to such tribal property as provided in section 745 of this title

¹ So in original. Probably should be “roll”.

without the approval of the Secretary. Any contract made in violation of this section shall be null and void.

(Sept. 1, 1954, ch. 1207, § 4, 68 Stat. 1100.)

§ 745. Tribal property

(a) Procedure for transfer; compensation of agents or attorneys

The Secretary shall, within six months after the publication of each final membership roll, notify the tribe of the period of time during which the tribe may study means of disposition of tribal property, real and personal, under supervision of the United States. Such period shall not be less than three months and not more than two years, including any authorized extension of the original periods. The Secretary is authorized to provide such reasonable assistance as may be requested by the tribe in the formulation of a plan for the disposition or future control and management of the property, including necessary consultations with representatives of Federal departments and agencies, officials of the State of Utah and political subdivisions thereof, and members of the tribe. During such period, the tribe may elect—

(1) to apply to the Secretary for the transfer to a corporation or other legal entity organized by the tribe in a form satisfactory to the Secretary of title to all or any part of the tribal property, and the Secretary is authorized to make such transfer: *Provided*, That the Secretary of the Interior shall not approve any form of organization that provides for the transfer of stock or an undivided share in corporate assets as compensation for services of agents or attorneys unless such transfer is based upon an appraisal of tribal assets that is satisfactory to the Secretary;

(2) to apply to the Secretary for the transfer to one or more trustees designated by the tribe of title to all or any part of the tribal property, real and personal, the title to be held by such trustee for management or liquidation purposes under terms and conditions prescribed by the tribe, and the Secretary is authorized to make such transfer if he approves the trustees and the terms and conditions of the trust;

(3) to apply to the Secretary for the sale of all or any part of the tribal property, and for the pro rata distribution among the members of the tribe of all or any part of the proceeds of sale or of any other tribal funds, and the Secretary is authorized and directed to sell such property upon such terms and conditions as he deems proper and to make such distribution among the members of the tribe after deducting, in his discretion, reasonable costs of sale and distribution; and

(4) to apply to the Secretary for a division of all or any part of the tribal land into parcels for members and for public purposes, together with a general plan for the subdivision showing the approximate size, location, and number of parcels, and the Secretary is authorized to issue patents for that purpose.

(b) Property not transferred in accordance with recognized procedure

Title to any tribal property that is not transferred in accordance with the provisions of sub-

section (a) of this section shall be transferred by the Secretary either to all members of the tribe as tenants in common or to one or more trustees designated by him for the liquidation and distribution of assets among the members of the tribe under such terms and conditions as the Secretary may prescribe: *Provided*, That the trust agreement shall provide for the termination of the trust not more than three years from the date of such transfer unless the term of the trust is extended by order of a judge of a court of record designated in the trust agreement.

(c) Selection of trustees; approval by Secretary; election to retain property

When approving or disapproving the selection of trustees in accordance with the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, and when designating trustees pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, the Secretary shall give due regard to the laws of the State of Utah that relate to the selection of trustees: *Provided further*, That the trust agreement shall provide that at any time before the sale of tribal property by the trustees the tribe may notify the trustees that it elects to retain such property and to transfer title thereto to a corporation, other legal entity, or trustee in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (a) of this section, and that the trustees shall transfer title to such property in accordance with the notice from the tribe if it is approved by the Secretary.

(d) Reservation of subsurface rights

Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the Secretary is directed to reserve subsurface rights in tribal property from any sale or division of such property, and to require any trustee or trustees to whom title to tribal property is transferred to retain title to the subsurface rights in such property for not less than 10 years.

(Sept. 1, 1954, ch. 1207, § 5, 68 Stat. 1100.)

DISCONTINUANCE OF IRRIGATION WORKS; TRANSFER OF TITLE

Act Sept. 1, 1954, ch. 1207, § 22, 68 Stat. 1104, provided that not later than two years after Sept. 1, 1954, the management and operation of irrigation works for Indian lands of the tribe by the Bureau of Indian Affairs was to be discontinued, and that, upon such discontinuance, the Secretary was to cancel the unpaid irrigation operation and maintenance assessments and reimbursable irrigation construction charges against such lands and transfer the title to such irrigation works to water users, water user's associations organized for such purpose, or to corporations organized, or trustees designated, as provided in this section.

§ 746. Individual property

(a) Transfer of unrestricted control

The Secretary is authorized and directed to transfer within two years after September 1, 1954 to each member of each tribe unrestricted control of funds or other personal property held in trust for such member by the United States.

(b) Removal of restrictions on sales or encumbrances; fee simple title

All restrictions on the sale or encumbrance of trust or restricted land owned by members of

the tribe (including allottees, heirs, and devisees, either adult or minor) are removed two years after September 1, 1954, and the patents or deeds under which titles are then held shall pass the titles in fee simple, subject to any valid encumbrance: *Provided*, That the provisions of this subsection shall not apply to subsurface rights in such lands, and the Secretary is directed to transfer such subsurface rights to one or more trustees designated by him for management for a period not less than 10 years. The title to all interests in trust or restricted land acquired by members of the tribe by devise or inheritance two years or more after September 1, 1954 shall vest in such members in fee simple, subject to any valid encumbrance.

(c) Multiple land ownership; partition; sale; election to purchase; unlocated owner

Prior to the time provided in subsection (b) of this section for the removal of restrictions on land owned by more than one member of a tribe, the Secretary may—

(1) upon request of any of the owners, partition the land and issue to each owner a patent or deed for his individual share that shall become unrestricted two years from September 1, 1954;

(2) upon request of any of the owners and a finding by the Secretary that partition of all or any part of the land is not practicable, cause all or any part of the land to be sold at not less than the appraised value thereof and distribute the proceeds of sale to the owners: *Provided*, That any one or more of the owners may elect before a sale to purchase the other interests in the land at not less than the appraised value thereof, and the purchaser shall receive an unrestricted patent or deed to the land; and

(3) if the whereabouts of none of the owners can be ascertained, cause such lands to be sold and deposit the proceeds of sale in the Treasury of the United States for safekeeping.

(Sept. 1, 1954, ch. 1207, § 6, 68 Stat. 1101.)

§ 747. Property of deceased members

(a) Federal laws inapplicable to probate

The Act of June 25, 1910 (36 Stat. 855), the Act of February 14, 1913 (37 Stat. 678), and other Acts amendatory thereto shall not apply to the probate of the trust and restricted property of the members of a tribe who die six months or more after September 1, 1954.

(b) State, etc., laws applicable to probate

The laws of the several States, Territories, possessions, and the District of Columbia with respect to the probate of wills, the determination of heirs, and the administration of decedents' estates shall apply to the individual property of members of the tribe who die six months after September 1, 1954.

(Sept. 1, 1954, ch. 1207, § 7, 68 Stat. 1102.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Act of June 25, 1910, referred to in subsec. (a), is act June 25, 1910, ch. 431, 36 Stat. 855, which enacted sections 47, 93, 151, 202, 337, 344a, 351, 352, 353, 372, 403, 406, 407, and 408 of this title, section 6a-1 of former Title 41, Public Contracts, and section 148 of Title 43, Public