

the Interior to Withdraw and Reserve Lands of the Public Domain and Other Lands Owned or Controlled by the United States”.

EX. ORD. NO. 12688. TRANSFER AUTHORITY  
CHOCTAWHATCHEE NATIONAL FOREST, FLORIDA

Ex. Ord. No. 12688, Aug. 15, 1989, 54 F.R. 34129, provided:

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and laws of the United States of America, including Pub. L. No. 668, 76th Cong., 3d Sess., 54 Stat. 655 (1940), to ensure that excess property under the control of the Department of Defense within and adjacent to the Choctawhatchee National Forest, Florida, is transferred to the Department of Agriculture for inclusion in the National Forest, it is hereby ordered as follows:

The Secretary of Defense is hereby delegated the President's authority under Pub. L. No. 668, 76th Cong., 3d Sess., 54 Stat. 655 (1940), to transfer such property within or adjacent to the boundaries of Choctawhatchee National Forest, Florida, that is no longer required for military purposes, to the Secretary of Agriculture to be restored to national forest status. To the extent this order delegates the President's authority under Pub. L. No. 668, 76th Cong., 3d Sess., 54 Stat. 655 (1940), to the Secretary of Defense, it supersedes Executive Order No. 10355 [set out above], which delegates the President's authority to revoke withdrawals and reservations of public lands to the Secretary of the Interior. The Secretary of Defense will document the transaction by letter of transfer between the Departments. The Secretary of Defense, 30 days prior to taking any action to transfer property pursuant to this order, shall notify the Secretary of the Interior of the effective date and time for “opening” of the lands to relevant land laws. The authority delegated by this order may be further redelegated within the Department of Defense.

GEORGE BUSH.

**§ 142. Rights of occupants or claimants of oil- or gas-bearing lands; exceptions to withdrawals**

This section and section 141<sup>1</sup> of this title shall not be construed as a recognition, abridgment, or enlargement of any asserted rights or claims initiated upon any oil- or gas-bearing lands after any withdrawal of such lands made prior to June 25, 1910: *And provided further*, That there shall be excepted from the force and effect of any withdrawal made under the provisions of this section and section 141<sup>1</sup> of this title all lands which are, on the date of such withdrawal, embraced in any lawful homestead or desert-land entry theretofore made, or upon which any valid settlement has been made and is at said date being maintained and perfected pursuant to law; but the terms of this proviso shall not continue to apply to any particular tract of land unless the entryman or settler shall continue to comply with the law under which the entry or settlement was made.

(June 25, 1910, ch. 421, § 2, 36 Stat. 847; Aug. 24, 1912, ch. 369, 37 Stat. 497; Pub. L. 94-579, title VII, § 704(a), Oct. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2792.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 141 of this title, referred to in text, was repealed by Pub. L. 94-579, title VII, § 704(a), Oct. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2792.

CODIFICATION

Act Aug. 24, 1912, substituted “metalliferous minerals” for “minerals other than coal, oil, gas, and phos-

phates” in the first clause of this section, and “June 25, 1910” for “the passage of this Act” in the second proviso of this section.

In the last proviso of this section, “national forest” substituted for “forest reserve”, in view of act Mar. 4, 1907, ch. 2907, 34 Stat. 1269, providing that forest reserves should be known as national forests.

The provisions of the last proviso of this section were also classified to section 471 of Title 16, Conservation.

AMENDMENTS

1976—Pub. L. 94-579 struck out provisions that all lands withdrawn under the act of June 25, 1910, be open to exploration, occupation, and purchase under the mineral laws of the United States in respect to minerals other than coal, oil, gas, and phosphates and that no national forest be created or additions thereto made to those created before Aug. 24, 1912, in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Colorado, or Wyoming, except by Act of Congress.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1976 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 94-579, title VII, § 704(a), Oct. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2792, provided that the amendment made by section 704(a) is effective on and after Oct. 21, 1976.

SAVINGS PROVISION

Amendment by Pub. L. 94-579 not to be construed as terminating any valid lease, permit, patent, etc., existing on Oct. 21, 1976, see section 701 of Pub. L. 94-579, set out as a note under section 1701 of this title.

**§ 143. Repealed. Pub. L. 86-533, § 1(14), June 29, 1960, 74 Stat. 248**

Section, act June 25, 1910, ch. 421, § 3, 36 Stat. 848, required Secretary of the Interior to report withdrawals to Congress.

**§ 144. Entries on land withdrawn as valuable for oil or gas validated**

Entries existing on February 7, 1925, and allowed prior to April 1, 1924, under the Stock Raising Homestead Act of December 29, 1916 (Thirty-ninth Statutes at Large, page 862) [43 U.S.C. 291 et seq.], for land withdrawn as valuable for oil or gas, but not otherwise reserved or withdrawn, are validated, if otherwise regular: *Provided*, That at date of entry the land was not within the limits of the geologic structure of a producing oil or gas field.

(Feb. 7, 1925, ch. 147, § 12, 43 Stat. 812.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Stock Raising Homestead Act of December 29, 1916, referred to in text, is act Dec. 29, 1916, ch. 9, 39 Stat. 862, as amended, which was classified generally to subchapter X (§ 291 et seq.) of chapter 7 of this title and was repealed by Pub. L. 94-579, title VII, §§ 702, 704(a), Oct. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2787, 2792, except for sections 9 and 11 which are classified to sections 299 and 301, respectively, of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 291 of this title and Tables.

**§ 145. Sale of lands withdrawn**

Whenever in the opinion of the Secretary of the Interior any lands which have been withdrawn under the provisions of sections 141<sup>1</sup> and 142 of this title for the purpose of exploratory drilling to discover water supplies for irrigation or other purposes, and which have had wells or other permanent improvements placed thereon

<sup>1</sup> See References in Text note below.

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