

CHAP. 776.—An Act To create within the San Bernardino National Forest in Riverside County, California, a national game preserve under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture, and to authorize an exchange of Government land for privately owned land within the area of said preserve.

July 3, 1926.
[H. R. 8120.]
[Public, No. 497.]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there is hereby created within the San Bernardino National Forest in Riverside County, California, for the protection of game animals, and as the recognized breeding place therefor, the Tahquitz National Game Preserve, which shall include the following lands: Sections 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, and 35, township 3 south, range 3 east, San Bernardino meridian; sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 33, 34, 35, and 36, township 4 south, range 3 east, San Bernardino meridian; and sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 24, township 5 south, range 3 east, San Bernardino meridian; but the establishment of this reservation shall not interfere with any existing right or withdrawals made prior to passage of this Act: *Provided*, That all the land with the exterior boundary of the aforesaid tract shall first become the property of the United States.

Tahquitz National Game Preserve, Calif. Created within San Bernardino National Forest.

Lands included.

Existing rights protected.

Proviso. Federal ownership required.

Determination of unsurveyed areas.

National forest provisions continued.

Unauthorized hunting, etc., on game preserve, a misdemeanor.

Punishment for.

Administrative regulations to be made.

Destruction of predatory animals.

Acceptance of private lands within game preserve, and other lands or timber given in exchange therefor.

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That where the Government survey has not been completed the aforesaid description shall be deemed to refer to and be determined by lines projected from the official survey.

SEC. 2. That the lands included in said game preserve shall continue to be parts of the national forest and nothing contained in this Act shall prevent the Secretary of Agriculture from permitting other uses of said lands under and in conformity with the laws and rules and regulations applicable thereto so far as any such use may be consistent with the purposes for which said game preserve is established.

SEC. 3. On lands within the game preserve established in section 2 of this Act, hunting, pursuing, poisoning, killing, or capturing by trapping, netting, or any other means, or attempting to hunt, pursue, kill, or capture any wild animals or birds for any purpose whatever upon the lands of the United States within the limits of said game preserve shall be unlawful except as hereinafter provided, and any person violating any provision of this section or any of the rules and regulations made under the provisions of this Act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and shall, upon conviction in any United States court, be fined in a sum not exceeding \$500, or be imprisoned for a period not exceeding six months, or shall suffer both the fine and imprisonment, in the discretion of the court.

SEC. 4. The Secretary of Agriculture shall execute the provision of this Act, and he is hereby authorized to make all needful rules and regulations for the administration of such game preserves in accordance with the purpose of this Act, including regulations for hunting, capturing, or killing predatory animals, such as wolves, coyotes, cougar, and other species destructive to livestock or wild life within the limits of said game preserve.

SEC. 5. Upon the recommendation of the Secretary of Agriculture the Secretary of the Interior be, and hereby is, authorized in his discretion to accept, on behalf of the United States, title to any lands in private ownership within the boundaries of the game preserve established hereby, and make exchange therefor under the provisions of the Act approved March 20, 1922 (Forty-second Statutes, page 465).

Approved, July 3, 1926.