

COACHELLA VALLEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

POST OFFICE BOX 1000

COACHELLA, CALIFORNIA

March 8, 1956

RECEIVED

JMC
MAR 9 1956

U. S. Atty. - Lands Division
Los Angeles, California

Mr. Laughlin E. Waters
United States Attorney
Lands Division
821 Federal Building
Los Angeles 12, California

Dear Sir:

Re: Civil No. 18045-HW - MGF:fbp ✓

Thank you for your letter of January 9, 1956 relative to the proposed exchange of lands described in the above-numbered action for lands now under Reclamation Withdrawal.

This District is now negotiating with the County of Riverside to acquire the State's interest in Parcels 997, 998, 1000, and 1002. We have already acquired the State title to Parcel No. 999. In checking further, we find that Parcel No. 1001 has not been deeded to this District and should not have been included in the original list.

Following acquisition of the State titles, it will be the District's purpose to quiet the title to these parcels.

Action on our application to the State of California for a State exchange is being held up pending the outcome of our negotiations with you. That application will be withdrawn when we are certain that an exchange as heretofore proposed will be effected.

Yours very truly,

C. S. Hale

C. S. Hale
General Manager

ADDRESS REPLY TO
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
LANDS DIVISION
AND REFER TO
INITIALS AND NUMBER

MGF:fbp

United States Department of Justice

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
821 FEDERAL BUILDING
LOS ANGELES 12

March 12, 1956

RECEIVED
NPS, REGION FOUR OFFICE

MAR 13 1956

Director
DATE *3-20-56*
 TELETYPE ACTION
REGION FOUR OFFICE *B7M*

	SURNAME	DATE
REG. DIR.		
ASST. R.D.		
OPERATIONS		
ADMIN.		
COOP. ACT.		
INTERP.		
LEGAL		
<i>Lands</i>	<i>B7M</i>	<i>12</i>

Mr. B. F. Manbey
Regional Chief of Lands
National Park Service
180 New Montgomery Street
San Francisco, California

Re: No. 18045-HW Civil
Your reference: L1423

Dear Mr. Manbey:

Enclosed herewith is copy of a letter dated March 8, 1956, received from C. S. Hale, General Manager, Coachella Valley County Water District, which is self-explanatory.

Very truly yours,

LAUGHLIN E. WATERS
United States Attorney

M. G. Franciscus

M. G. FRANCISCUS
Assistant U. S. Attorney

Enclosure

RECEIVED
Chief Clerk's Office
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Director

In reply refer to
L1423

1956 MAR 25 AM 10:32

180 New Montgomery Street
San Francisco, California

March 21, 1956

File
Spills
~~*File*~~

Laughlin E. Waters Esq.
U. S. Attorney
Division of Lands, Dept of Justice
821 Federal Building
Los Angeles 12, California

Re: No. 18045 HW-Civil

Dear Mr. Waters:

Attention Asst U. S. Attorney Franciscus

This acknowledges your letter of March 12 attaching copy of letter of March 8 from Mr. C. S. Hale, General Manager, Coachella Valley County Water District. We note that you say the letter is "self explanatory." However, we think there must have been correspondence with Mr. Hale which we have not seen.

It will be recalled that under date of May 22, 1955 you sent us a copy of Mr. Hale's letter of May 11 suggesting that the United States acquire their interests by an exchange under which the Water District would obtain certain lands in the Coachella Valley in Riverside County in lieu of payment.

On July 15, 1955 we wrote you stating that representatives of the Water District had also called in at our Washington Office with the same proposal. We mentioned further that we had taken the matter up with the State Supervisor, Bureau of Land Management, Sacramento, since any exchange would necessarily have to be under provisions of the Taylor Grazing Act. Our letter to you of the above date stated also that State Supervisor Hoffman had informed us on June 10 that the Bureau of Land Management had been advised that the Coachella Valley County Water District had a proposed application for a state exchange involving the same selected lands, and that in view of that proposed application to the state, the subject selected lands would not be available for selection by the Coachella Valley County Water District under a private exchange.

We assume that the Water District was so notified by your office at that time. However, Mr. Hale's letter of March 8, 1956 appears to indicate that he is still working on his original suggestion that the Water District's interest in Parcels 997, 998, 999, 1000, and 1002 be exchanged with the National Park Service under provisions of the Taylor Grazing Act for the lands the Water District needs in Riverside County outside the national monument lands. If this is incorrect, then presumably these parcels would be dropped from the action.

1107

At your convenience may we have your further explanation as our Washington Office will need to know whether or not these parcels will be dropped from the action.

Sincerely yours,

B. F. Manbey
Regional Chief of Lands

Copy to Director w/incoming *LM*
Joshua Tree "
BLM, Sacramento

In reply refer to
LL423

Director

180 New Montgomery Street
San Francisco, California

April 12, 1956

Laughlin E. Waters Esq.
U. S. Attorney
Division of Lands
Department of Justice
821 Federal Building
Los Angeles 12, California

Re: Civil No. 18045 HW
Joshua Tree NM
(Attention Asst U. S. Attorney Franciscus)

Franciscus
Sparks
Harrison
File

1956 APR

Dear Mr. Waters:

This is in reply to your letter of March 23 regarding Parcels 997, 998, 999, 1000, and 1002, included in the above Condemnation Action, and in which parcels the Coachella Valley County Water District is endeavoring to secure the interest of the State of California.

We sent you copy of our memorandum of March 30 on that subject, and now attach copy of Acting Assistant Director Lee's reply of April 10. It will be seen that Mr. Lee agrees that it is preferable that these lands continue in the proceeding, and he concludes with the statement that we will therefore "allow the condemnation to proceed in the manner proposed in our memorandum of March 26 to the Assistant Solicitor." Incidentally, Mr. Lee mentions that this office had been sent a copy of the letter of March 26, however, to date none has been received. In any event, it seems clear that the intention is to include all of the parcels in question, 997, 998, 999, 1000, and 1002 in the Declaration of Taking.

Sincerely yours,

B. F. Manbey
Regional Chief of Lands

Attachment

Copy to Director ✓
Joshua Tree

JOTR

In reply refer to:
11423-L

Siler 6/17

JUN 18 1957

Memorandum

To: Acting Assistant Solicitor, National Parks

From: Assistant Director

Subject: Condemnation Proceedings, United States v. 10,838.50 Acres of Land, More or Less, in the County of Riverside, State of California, Civil No. 18045 -HW, Joshua Tree National Monument

This has reference to your memorandum of March 13 regarding the subject condemnation action.

We now attach a file of correspondence from the Region Four Office on the subject. Included therein is a listing of the lands that should be excluded from the proceedings. It will be noted that United States Attorney Waters agrees with the listing.

You will also note the comments regarding Parcels 997, 998, 1000, 1001, and 1002 "acquired" by the Coachella Valley County Water District subsequent to the filing of the Declaration of Taking. We doubt, however, that the Water District can show good title.

We have not discussed the possibility of exchange of these parcels with the Bureau of Land Management since it seems obvious that the Water District must necessarily show good title to them before they could be used as "offered" lands in an exchange. It also seems obvious that the Water District cannot show good title to these parcels if they were "acquired" subsequent to June 15, 1956, the date of the Order of Possession in the Declaration of Taking. We agree with Assistant United States Attorney McPherson that these parcels should remain in the proceedings. Accordingly, they are not included in the list of lands proposed for dismissal therefrom.

However, we suggest that this Department recommend to the Department of Justice that it, in turn, recommend to the Court that a final judgment covering these particular parcels be held in abeyance until not later than January 1, 1958. During this intervening period the Water District could endeavor to find public land outside the monument suitable for exchange and, if successful, agree

JOTR

with the Bureau of Land Management as to exchange values. If this can be done, we can then recommend that these parcels be dismissed from the proceedings. If it appears unlikely, after about six months, that an exchange can be arranged, a final judgment covering these parcels can then be entered by the Court.

To: (SGD) JACKSON E. PRICE
Assistant Director

Attachment

Copy to: Regional Director, Region Four (2)
Lands

JMSiler:lt 6/17/57



RECEIVED
Work's Office
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

To Director

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

In Reply refer to:
File L 1423

Joshua Tree National Monument
Brawley, California

1957-AUG 21 AM 8:15

De la

August 14, 1957

File

Mr. E. J. Palmer
Assistant to State Supervisor's office
Room 1314, Bartlett Building
215 West 7th Street
Los Angeles 14, California

Dear Mr. Palmer:

It is my understanding that the Coachella Valley County Water District is considering acquisition of all or parts of Sections 29 and 33, T. 18, R. 7E in Joshua Tree National Monument. The purpose of such acquisition being to exchange this land for other public domain land elsewhere outside of the Monument.

As you know, the National Park Service is anxious to acquire all private lands within the Monument as rapidly as possible so that these lands may be preserved in their natural state for public enjoyment and recreation.

These two sections of land are very desirable for Park purposes as they lie in a very scenic part of the Monument. Quail Spring, which has been a source of water for wildlife for many years is located in Section 33. Section 29 lies below Section 33 in the same drainage and lands there particularly well to subdivision and other good possibilities for water development.

I want you to know that any exchange, which will eventually bring these two sections into Federal ownership will be heartily endorsed by the National Park Service.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd) E. N. FLADMARK

Elmer N. Fladmark
Superintendent

cc: Paul B. Winters
Coachella Valley
Water District (4)
Regional Director,
Region Four

JOTR

COPY

COPY

COPY

COACHELLA VALLEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

Post Office Box 1058
Coachella, California

October 17, 1957

Refer To: L1423

Mr. Elmer N. Fladmark, Superintendent
Joshua Tree National Monument
Twentynine Palms, California

Dear Mr. Fladmark:

Re: Civil No. 18045 - HW

Since our original proposal to exchange lands in the Joshua Tree National Monument for Government lands in the Lower Coachella Valley, the acquisition by the District of title to lands in Public Water Reserve No. 56 has become more important. Therefore, while the District has acquired the State's title and secured a judgment quieting title in favor of the District to the following described parcels, our application for exchange has not yet been filed.

The tracts of land, as shown on Page 41 of the Lis Pendens filed in the above-numbered action, are as follows:

<u>No.</u>	<u>Acreage</u>	<u>Description</u>
997	639.84	Sec. 1, T. 4S., R. 9E.
998	637.92	Sec. 3, T. 4S., R. 9E.
999	643.28	Sec. 5, T. 4S., R. 9E.
1000	585	Parts of Sec. 11, T. 4S., R. 9E.
1002	10	SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec. 11, T. 4S., R. 9 E.

You will note that our descriptions are not the same as those in your letter of October, 11, 1957.

We expect, in the very near future, to make a determination of the lands for which the above described parcels are to be traded.

COPY

COPY

COPY

Mr. Fladmark

-2-

October 17, 1957

* As soon as this is accomplished, we will file our application for exchange and so advise you. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Yours very truly

Lowell O. Weeks
General Manager-Chief Engineer

LOW:bs

Dir

L1423
~~11425~~

RECEIVED
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
MARCH 24 1958

March 19, 1958
File

1958 MAR 24 AM 9:23

Memorandum 24 AM 9:23

To: Superintendent, Joshua Tree
From: Regional Chief of Lands, Region Four
Subject: Proposed exchange with Coachella Valley County Water District covering lands in Joshua Tree NM

This office recently checked with Mr. Lewis as to the lands involved in the above exchange. These, we understand, involve Sections 29 and 33, T 1 S, R 7 E, SBB&M (former Tallman lands). We were not sure whether this had any connection with the lands in Pinto Basin in which the Water District has a part interest.

Mr. Lewis says they have no connection with those sections. You may have known this, but we wished to get the information for our records.

(SGD) B. F. MANBEY
B. F. Manbey
Regional Chief of Lands

Copy to Director ✓

JOTR

DIRECTORS
LEON KICKLEY
PRESIDENT
KATHON B. RUMHOLDT
VICE PRESIDENT
A. HAROLD BRONLEY
GEORGE H. LEACH
JACK PROBY



21423
[Handwritten signature]
[Handwritten signature]

1958 **COACHELLA VALLEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT**

POST OFFICE BOX 1058
COACHELLA, CALIFORNIA
TELEPHONE 8-3941

August 11, 1958

PRS
LNP
APPLY TO BE
PREPARED BY
FOR SIGNATURE
COPY OF LETTER
NY BK
FOR MAIL COPY

Honorable Fred A. Seaton
Secretary of the Interior
Washington 25, D. C.

Attention: Roger Ernst, Assistant Secretary of the Interior

Dear Sir:

The Coachella Valley County Water District, a public agency of the State of California, is at this time filing with the Bureau of Land Management at its Los Angeles office, an application for exchange of District owned lands for Government lands, some of which are now under Reclamation withdrawal and some which are being considered for Reclamation Withdrawal responsive to a request from this District to the Bureau of Reclamation.

Therefore, the Coachella Valley County Water District petitions the United States to order the restoration of the withdrawn lands for exchange with the Coachella Valley County Water District only. If these lands cannot be restored for exchange with the District, then the District requests that the lands now under Reclamation Withdrawal be retained in that status and that the pending application of withdrawal of additional lands be completed.

The lands which the District wishes to acquire will be used for a public purpose. The Coachella Branch of the All-American Canal and the East Side Dike and detention works are located upon some of the lands described. The lands located on the west side of the Coachella Valley are required for rights of way for flood protection works similar to those constructed on the east side of the valley. These flood protection works will protect valuable agricultural lands, a portion of the Coachella Canal and the distribution system works on the west side of the valley. Also, agricultural drainage is a necessity in Coachella Valley because of rising water tables and the installation of tile drainage systems requires good gravel

RECEIVED
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
1958 AUG 29 11 27 AM
GUA 8781

Honorable Fred A. Seaton

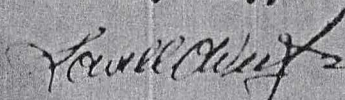
Page 2 52 : August 11, 1958

and sand filters around the tile. Some of these lands proposed to be acquired by the District contain the only source of this sand and gravel in the Coachella Valley. It is important that the lands in Coachella Valley be adequately drained in order for the District to be able to meet its annual payments to the Secretary of the Interior on the canal and distribution system.

The lands offered by the District to the Government are located within the Joshua Tree National Monument and are among the lands that the Federal Government is trying to obtain for consolidation of the Monument area. It will be to the benefit of the Government to have these lands in Government ownership rather than in possession of private individuals. So this proposed exchange will be of assistance in a Federal land program.

Enclosed for your information is a copy of the application being forwarded to the Bureau of Land Management at Los Angeles, California, and other correspondence relative to the filing of this application.

Yours very truly,



Lowell O. Weeks
General Manager - Chief Engineer

LOW:bks
Enclosures

December 19, 1958

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Region Four

From: Superintendent, Joshua Tree National Monument

Subject: Mimeographing of Schedule for Declaration of Taking

At the time I was in Mr. Jensen's office relative to the case of our Declaration of Taking, he requested that we type the schedule which he had prepared to be presented to the court. I discussed this with Mr. Manbey by telephone, and he stated this could be done in your office.

Attached is Mr. Jensen's schedule, prepared in longhand, for which he wants stencils cut and mimeographed. The case is set for March 2, 1959. He stated anytime during January would be satisfactory for this to reach him.

His instruction is as follows: Cut stencil and send 25 mimeographed copies to Mr. Jensen. Double space between each individual. Number each item as in the attached sample. Mimeograph on legal size paper.

When completed, they should be mailed direct to Mr. Jensen, and this office would appreciate a few copies for record.

SGD/WM. R. SUPERNAUGH

Wm. R. Supernaugh
Superintendent

Attachment

11423

1959 JAN 7 AM 7 53

Region Four
180 New Montgomery Street
San Francisco 5, California

December 31, 1958

Jensen
File

Laughlin E. Waters, Esq.
U. S. Attorney, Division of Lands
Department of Justice
821 Federal Building
Los Angeles 12, California

Attn: Assistant U. S. Attorney Jensen

Re: Civil No. 18045 HW--Joshua Tree

Dear Mr. Waters:

Towards the end of this month, Superintendent Supernaugh called this office stating that Mr. Jensen had asked that he have cut the stencils and have mimeographed 25 copies of the newly revised list of parcels covered in the Declaration of Taking under the above condemnation action. We promised that we would have the work done in this office, since Mr. Supernaugh does not have the necessary facilities.

When we came to examine the longhand list, it was obvious that it would be a mistake to go right ahead with the cutting of stencils, so we are first preparing a complete type-written draft of the entire list, since we are sure that there will need to be a number of small corrections.

This list we hope will be completed within about a week or ten days and will be mailed immediately to Mr. Jensen for checking. When returned to us checked, we will cut the stencils and complete the mimeographing.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD.) B. F. MANBEY

B. F. Manbey
Regional Chief of Lands

cc: Director, with cc
Supt.'s memo 12-19-58
Supt., Joshua Tree

JOTR

Director

L1423

RECEIVED
Chief Clerk's Office
NATIONAL ARCHIVES SERVICE

1959 JAN 19 AM 8:29
Region Four
180 New Montgomery Street
San Francisco 5, California

January 13, 1959

D. E. Lee
[Signature]

File

Laughlin E. Waters, Esq.
U. S. Attorney, Department of Justice
Division of Lands
821 Federal Building
Los Angeles 12, California

Attn: Asst. U. S. Attorney Jensen

Re: Civil No. 18045-151-Joshua Tree

Dear Mr. Waters:

This is further to our letter of December 31 informing you that this office had promised to cut the stencils covering the revised list of parcels of land covered in the Declaration of Taking under the above condemnation action. Incidentally, there is attached copy of Superintendent Supernaugh's memorandums of December 19 making that request.

As our letter of December 31 indicated, it was apparent to us that it would first be necessary to make a complete typewritten rough draft of the entire list before it would be safe to cut the stencils.

We are now attaching this complete rough draft of 31 pages, together with your sample first sheet and Mr. Jensen's longhand list. This rough draft was prepared by my secretary, who, incidentally, has had considerable law office experience of this kind. Also attached is copy of some pertinent notes she has appended.

If Mr. Jensen will check the entire list, making such changes and additions as he may find necessary, and then return it, we will proceed with the cutting of the stencils and mimeographing. It would be well that your office indicate the complete wording for the top of page 1.

JOTR

As this is a very lengthy job and we ourselves have a considerable amount of continuing work on hand, we shall appreciate the rough draft being returned as quickly as is reasonably possible, and with full details as to any changes, so as to fit it in with other important work as conveniently as possible.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD.) B. F. MANBEY

B. F. Manbey
Regional Chief of Lands

Attachments

cc: Director
Supt., Joshua Tree



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

11423

1959 MAR 20 AM 7 59

Region Four
180 New Montgomery Street
San Francisco 5, California

March 16, 1959

S. E. Lee
[Signature]
File

Laughlin E. Waters, Esq.
U. S. Attorney, Department of Justice
Division of Lands
821 Federal Building
Los Angeles 12, California

Attn: Asst. U. S. Attorney Jensen

Re: Civil No. 18,045 HW--Joshua Tree

Dear Mr. Waters:

The status of those lands in which the Coachella Valley County Water District has an interest is not clear from our records. It will be recalled that the Coachella Valley County Water District wishes to use such interest or ownership in a contemplated exchange. Copies of correspondence appeared to show that while those parcels were to remain in the action, they were to be "held back" should the exchange seem likely to materialize.

We have reference to parcels 997, 998, 999, 1000, 1001, and 1002, but we are particularly concerned now with parcel 999, since there is a road within that section, the policy on which may prove of some importance. None of these parcels appeared in the 31-page list we prepared for Mr. Jensen. We would greatly appreciate Mr. Jensen's explaining the status of those parcels, and particularly No. 999.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd.) B. F. MANBEY

B. F. Manbey
Regional Chief of Lands

cc: Director ✓
Supt., Joshua Tree

JOTR