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April 29, 1963

Mr. E. Reeseaman Fryer
Assistant Commissioner
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Department of Interior
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Fryer:

I want to thank you very much for the assistance you gave to my staff and to Harold C. Jordahl in developing plans for a National Recreation Area on Lake Superior in northern Wisconsin. It is my intention to proceed carefully with the drafting of a bill along the lines I mentioned to you at the recent conference. This would involve the placing of land in the Bad River Indian reservation between highway 2 and Lake Superior into the Recreation Area along with land in the Red Cliff Indian reservation between highway 13 and Lake Superior with a buffer strip along the highway to protect against undesirable development.

I would like your suggestions for the wording of proposed legislation which would:

1. Transfer Farm Security Administration lands now within the Bad River Indian reservation to the Bad River Tribal Council and transfer FSA lands North of highway 2 to the National Park Service for inclusion in the Recreation Area.
2. Exchange Tribal Council lands within the Bad River and Red Cliff reservations for lands of equal value farther inland. In this connection, I would like to know the legal significance of the existing boundaries of these Indian reservations. Can we exchange Tribal Council lands within the proposed Recreation Area for land now lying outside the reservation boundaries?
3. Authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acquire allotted lands within both reservations under the following conditions:
 - a. Direct purchase.
 - b. Exchange with the owner for other land elsewhere.



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- c. Acquisition by the Tribal Council of land allotted to individuals with a subsequent exchange for other land elsewhere in order to preserve the tax exempt status.

I would like further advice on the best way to terminate hunting and fishing rights on tribal and allotted lands within the Recreation Area. I would like suggested language for granting members of the Tribal Council first priority in employment and operation of concessions within the National Recreation Area. I would like your suggestions on how this should be handled with the National Park Service.

Mr. Jordahl will work with State officials in Wisconsin on any State legislation necessary to implement this proposal. The National Park Service has asked for a considerable amount of time to investigate the public recreational opportunities offered in the area.

If you have any questions about my request, feel free to contact Bill Bechtel of my staff who is working with Mr. Jordahl in drafting this proposal.

Sincerely yours,

GAYLORD NELSON
U. S. Senator

GN:bdd

cc: Mr. Harold C. Jordahl
21 S. Segoe Road
Madison 5, Wisconsin



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