Indian Affairs - Office of Public Affairs

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Notice is being published in the Federal Register that about 35,000 acres of land within the boundaries of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota has been declared excess by the Air Force, and administrative jurisdiction has been transferred to the Secretary of the Interior.

The land had been part of the Badlands Air Force Gunnery Range. It was formerly part of the reservation trust lands.

Certain portions of this land, formerly owned by individuals, may be repurchased by those persons according to provisions of Public Law 90-468. Such persons should file an application with the Bureau of Indian Affairs' Superintendent of the Pine Ridge Agency within one year from the date of publication of notice in the Federal Register.

It is expected that only a few persons will have the right to repurchase. Most of the land will be held in trust by the United States for the reservation's Oglala Sioux Tribe.