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Survey of Indian reserves. Letter from the Secretary of the Interior, transmitting copy of letter from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, with estimate of appropriations required for surveying Indian reserves, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1871, &c

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SURVEY OF INDIAN RESERVES.

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L E T T E R

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

TRANSMITTING

*Copy of letter from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, with estimate of appropriations required for surveying Indian reserves, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1871, &c.*

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JANUARY 13, 1870.—Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
Washington, D. C., January 11, 1870.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of a letter of the 26th October last, from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, together with an "estimate of appropriations required for surveying Indian reserves for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1871, and for the present fiscal year," amounting to four hundred and eighty thousand two hundred and eighty-six dollars, (\$480,286,) and respectfully invite the favorable consideration of Congress to the subject.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. D. COX,  
*Secretary of the Interior.*

Hon. JAMES G. BLAINE,  
*Speaker House of Representatives.*

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,  
Washington, D. C., October 26, 1869.

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith an estimate, in duplicate, of appropriation required for surveying Indian reserves under treaty stipulations, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1871, and for the present fiscal year.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. S. PARKER,  
*Commissioner.*

Hon. J. D. COX,  
*Secretary of the Interior.*

OFFICE SUPERINTENDENT INDIAN AFFAIRS,  
*Olympia, Washington Territory, March 16, 1868.*

SIR: Referring again to your letter of the 6th of February, I desire as nearly as practicable to comply with your request, by stating the necessity of defining the boundaries of unsurveyed Indian reservations in this superintendency. The exact amount of work that the surveys would involve is quite impossible to state, but I think an estimate approximating sufficiently near to answer the necessities of the case can be made.

In the Tulalip reservation are (38) thirty sections of land lying upon the sound, with a water front of one-half probably of its entire contour.

Port Madison reservation embraces two sections of land lying upon the sound, with a water front of one mile, if the description given be correct.

The Swinomish reservation is a peninsula at the southeastern end of Perry's Island. The quantity of land is not named in the treaty, but there is a constant misunderstanding between the white settlers upon the island and the Indians, arising from ignorance, on both sides, of the boundary between the reservation and the main island. It is my opinion that the best interests of the Indians upon this reservation would be promoted by selling the reservation, and appropriating the avails to improvements upon the Lummi reservation, to which the Indians upon the island should be removed. The Lummis are under the supervision of an excellent white employé; they have plenty of good agricultural land and all the Indians of both reservations would be better off upon that reservation. Whether the Indians upon the island be removed or not, the boundary line between the reservation and the main island should be defined. Probably the line here to be run would not exceed three miles.

The South Bay reservation contains but two sections of land. This, too, should be surveyed and offered for sale for the benefit of the Puyallup agency, to which the very few Indians there remaining should be removed. The same course should be pursued in respect to the Squaxon reservation, (an island.) The few Indians there remaining have no employé among them, and are very much demoralized where they are. They should, therefore, be removed to the Puyallup reservation, where they will be further from the corrupting influence of town, and be under a thorough corps of employés, with plenty of the best of arable land to work, and no less advantages for fishing and hunting.

It is impossible, from the description of the Makah reservation, as given in the treaty, to state the length of line to be run in surveying it. It is known that more than one-half of its outlines have a natural boundary, but there are probably from six to ten miles of boundary line to be run through a dense forest, which is a very slow and difficult line to survey.

I have submitted the question of cost of these surveys to the surveyor general's office for advice, from which I learn that no surveyor would undertake the work at the usual rates, and that the most equitable way would be to employ a surveyor by the day and furnish him the necessary help. The expense of travel from one reservation to another, the difficulty of finding proper starting points, and consequent delays, make it difficult to estimate the cost in advance of the work. But it is the opinion of the chief clerk, in the absence of the surveyor general, that the work above referred to can be done for \$1,500.

The amount expressed in my last estimate was set down in accordance with the judgment of agents and outside surveyors without inquiry

of the surveyor general. If it be the pleasure of the department to order the work done, I shall endeavor to have it executed in the most economical way.

If done in a proper manner, it will save great difficulty arising from disputed rights between settlers and Indians.

I therefore recommend that the sum of \$1,500 be placed to the credit of this office, or, if more proper, to the credit of the surveyor general for the purpose of making these surveys, and I respectfully urge a consideration of the recommendation to sell the Squaxon, South Bay, and Swinomish reservation for the benefit of the agencies to which they respectively belong.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. J. MCKENNY,  
Superintendent Indian Affairs, W. T.

Hon. N. G. TAYLOR,  
Comm'r Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

*Estimate of appropriation required for surveying Indian reserves for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1871, and for the present fiscal year.*

For surveying Indian reserves under treaty stipulations.... \$480,286

*Explanation of the foregoing estimate.*

For surveying lands occupied by the Choctaw and Chickasaw nations, east of the ninety-eighth degree of west longitude, under the 11th article of the treaty with said nations, concluded at the city of Washington, April 28, 1866. (Stat. at Large, vol. 14, p. 769.)

Estimated out-boundaries, 470 miles, at \$15 per mile .....	\$7,050
Estimated standard and township lines, 5,744 miles, at \$10 per mile .....	57,440
Estimated subdivision into sections and part of sections, 29,220 miles, at \$7 per mile .....	204,540

\$269,030

For surveys of the reservation for the Tabeguache, Muache, Capote, Weeminuche, Yampa, Grand River, and Uintah bands of Ute Indians, under provisions of article 7 of the treaty with said Indians, concluded March 2, 1868, (Stat. at Large, vol. 15, pp. 620, 621,) or so much thereof as may be necessary..... 20,000

For the survey of the part of the reservation for the Northern Cheyenne and Northern Arapahoe tribes of Indians, Dakota Territory, under provisions of article 3 of the treaty with said Indians, concluded May 10, 1868, (Stat. at Large, vol. 15, p. 655,) or as much thereof as may be necessary..... 20,000

For the survey and defining of boundaries of reservations provided for in treaties concluded with various tribes and bands of Indians in Washington Territory, January 26, 1855, July 22, 1855, and January 31, 1855, (see Stat. at Large, vol. 12, pp. 927, 933, 939,) and as estimated for in letter

to Office of Indian Affairs from Superintendent McKinney, dated March 16, 1868, (copy herewith,) or so much thereof as may be required for that purpose . . . . .	\$1, 500
For selecting and locating a reservation in the Indian Territory for the Pottawatomie Indians of Kansas, under the provisions of the 1st article of the treaty with said Indians, concluded on the 27th February, 1867, and as amended by the Senate of the United States; (see Stat. at Large, vol. 15, p. 531:)	
Estimate exterior boundaries of said reservation, 120 miles, at \$15 per mile . . . . .	\$1, 800
Estimate township lines of said reservation, 240 miles, at \$12 per mile . . . . .	2, 880
Estimate subdivision lines of said reservation, 1,500 miles, at \$10 per mile . . . . .	15, 000
	19, 680
For selecting and surveying the exterior boundaries of a reservation in the Indian Territory for the Sac and Fox of the Mississippi tribe of Indians, under the provisions of the 6th article of the treaty with said Indians, concluded February, 1867, and as amended by the Senate of the United States, (see Stat. at Large, vol. 15, p. 496,) or so much thereof as may be necessary . . . . .	3, 000
For the survey of certain lines of the Seneca and the Seneca and Shawnee reservation, as provided for under articles 1, 2, 3, and 16, of the treaty concluded with the Senecas, Mixed Senecas and Shawnees, Quapaws, confederated Peorias, Piankeshaws, Kaskaskias and Weas, Ottowas of Blanchard's Fork and Roche de Bœuf, and certain Wyandotts, on the 23d February, 1867, as amended by the Senate of the United States, (Stat. at Large, vol. 15, p. 513,) or so much thereof as may be necessary . . . . .	3, 000
For the survey of reservation for Kiowa and Comanche Indians, under articles 3 and 6 of the treaty with said Indians, concluded October 21, 1867, (Stat. at Large, vol. 15, p. 581,) or so much thereof as may be necessary . . . . .	20, 000
For the survey of a reservation for the Cheyenne and Arapaho Indians, under articles 3 and 6 of the treaty with said Indians, concluded October 28, 1867, (Stat. at Large, vol. 15, p. 593,) or so much thereof as may be necessary . .	20, 000
For surveying a reservation for the Boise Fort band of Chippewa Indians, under the first clause of the 3d article of the treaty with said Indians of April 7, 1866, (Stat. at Large, vol. 14, p. 765,) or so much thereof as way be necessary for such service . . . . .	5, 000
For surveying the Umatilla reservation, Oregon, under the 1st article of the treaty between the United States and the Walla-Walla, Cayuse and Umatilla bands of Indians, of June 9, 1855. (Stat. at Large, vol. 12, p. 945:)	
Estimated boundary of said reservation 90 miles, at \$15 per mile . . . . .	\$1, 350
Estimated standard and township lines of four townships of said reservation under the 6th article of said treaty, 78 miles at \$12 per mile . . .	936

Estimated subdivision of said four townships into forty-acre tracts under said 6th article, 528 miles at \$10 per mile.....	\$5, 280	
		\$7, 566
For additional surveys of Omaha and Winnebago Indian reservations in Nebraska, subdividing a portion of the same into lots, so that each allottee may have, as near as may be, an equitable share of timber land with his allotment, as provided for under the 4th article of the treaty with the Omaha tribe of Indians, concluded March 6, 1865, (Stat. at Large, vol. 14, p. 667,) estimated amount required....		5, 000
For surveying the line of the ninety-sixth degree through the Cherokee country, under the 15th and 16th articles of the treaty with the Cherokee nation, concluded at the city of Washington, July 19, 1866, (Stat. at Large, vol. 14, p. 799,) estimated amount required.....		3, 000
For surveying boundary line between the Cherokee country and the States of Arkansas, Missouri and Kansas, as far west as the Arkansas River, under the 21st article of the treaty with the Cherokee nation, concluded at the city of Washington, July 19, 1866, (Stat. at Large, vol. 14, p. 799,) estimated amount required.....	\$3, 510	
For pay of two commissioners to run the above line and mark the same by permanent and conspicuous monuments under same authority, as above estimate.....	5, 000	
		8, 510
For additional amount required for surveying the Nez Percé Indian reservation in Idaho Territory, under the provisions of the 2d and 3d articles of the treaty with said Indians, concluded June 9, 1863, and proclaimed April 20, 1867, (Stat. at Large, vol. 14, p. 647).....		1, 000
For survey of selections of land to be patented in fee simple to half-breeds of the Cheyenne and Arapahoe Indians, under the provisions of the 5th article of the treaty with the Cheyenne and Arapahoe Indians, concluded October 14, 1865, (Stat. at Large, vol. 14, p. 703,) as follows:		
Estimated exterior boundaries of thirty-one selections of one section each, 124 miles, at \$15 per mile.....	\$1, 860	
Estimated amount required for the payment of necessary parties to accompany surveyor, and to provide for marking the boundaries of the selections with conspicuous and enduring monuments, or so much thereof as may be necessary,	2, 140	
		4, 000
For surveying the exterior boundaries of the reservations for the Mission Indians in Southern California, and subdividing as much thereof as may be necessary; estimated amount required.....		10, 000
For the survey of the Crow Indian reservation, Dakota Territory, under provisions of article 6 of the treaty with said Indians, concluded May 7, 1868, (Stat. at Large, vol. 15, p. 649,) or so much thereof as may be necessary.....		20, 000

For the survey of a reservation for the Shoshonees and Ban-	
nacks, under article 2 of the treaty with said Indians, con-	
cluded July 3, 1868, (Stat. at Large, vol. 15, p. 674,) or so	
much thereof as may be necessary.....	\$20,000
For the survey of reservation for the Sioux Indians, under	
article 2 of the treaty with said Indians, concluded April	
29, 1868, (Stat. at Large, vol. 15, p. 635,) or so much thereof	
as may be necessary.....	20,000
Total.....	<u>480,286</u>

NOTE.—The computations for the foregoing estimates have been made at the rates paid by the General Land Office for surveys in the same localities.