

U.S. to N.P.Rd.Co.

The United States of America to all to whom these Presents shall come: Greeting:

Whereas by act of Congress Approved July 2nd 1864 entitled an act Granting Land to aid in the construction of a railroad and telegraph line from Lake Superior to Puget Sound on the Pacific Coast by the northern route and the joint resolution of May 31st 1870 there was granted to the Northern Pacific Railroad Company its successors and assigns for the purpose of aiding in the construction of said railroad and telegraph line and branch to the Pacific coast, every alternate section of Public Lands not mineral designated by odd numbers to the amount of twenty alternate sections per mile on each side of said Railroad line as said company may adopt through the territories of the United States and ten alternate sections of land per mile on each side of said railroad whenever it passes through any state and wherever on the line thereof, The United States have full title and not reserved sold granted or otherwise appropriated and free from pre-emption or other claims or rights at the time the line of said road is definitely fixed and a plat thereof filed in the office of the Commissioner of Public Lands and

Whereas it is further provided that whenever prior to said time any of said sections or tract of sections shall have been granted sold reserved occupied by homestead settlers or pre-empted or otherwise disposed of, other lands shall be selected by said Railroad Company in lieu thereof under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior in alternate sections and designated by odd numbers not more than ten miles beyond the limits of said alternate sections and

Whereas official statements from the Secretary of the Interior have been filed in the General Land Office showing that the Commissioner appointed by the President under the provision of the fourth section of the first named act have reported to him that the said Northern Pacific Railroad Company and telegraph line and branch excepting that portion between Wallula Washington and Portland Oregon declared forfeited by the act of September 29th 1890 have been constructed and fully completed and equipped in the manner prescribed by the act relative thereto and the same accepted by the President and

Whereas there has been filed in the office of the Secretary of the Interior evidence showing that the Northern Pacific Railway Company is the lawful successors in interest of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company as to all lands within the limits of the grant made to the said Northern Pacific Railroad Company by the Act of July 2 1864 and all subsequent legislation and

Whereas by the act of Congress approved July 1st 1898 -30 Stat 597-620 authority is given the Northern Pacific Railroad Company or its successors and assigns in interest under certain conditions expressed therein to relinquish to the United States certain lands within either the granted or indemnity limit of its grant and to select in lieu thereof and equal quantity of public lands not mineral or reserved and not valuable for stone iron or coal and free from valid adverse claims or not occupied by actual settlers at the time of such selection situate within any state or territory into which such railroad grant extends and it is provided that patents shall issue for the land so selected as though it had been originally granted and

Whereas by act of Congress approved May 17th 1906 --34 Stat 197 the provisions of act of July 1st 1898 aforesaid were extended to include any bona fide settlement or entry made subsequent to January 1st 1898 and prior to May 31st 1905 in accordance with the erroneous decisions of the land department respecting the withdrawal on general route of the Northern Pacific Railroad between Wallula Washington and Portland Oregon where the same has not since been abandoned but restricted lieu selections to the state where the private holdings are situated and

Whereas the following described lands have been selected by the duly authorized agent of the Northern Pacific Railway Company under the provision of the act of July 1st 1898 as extended by the act of May 17th 1906 aforesaid, and the lands given as bases therefore are within the limits of the grant lie opposite the constructed line of the company's road and have been duly