



BELIZE

**NATIONAL LANDS ACT
CHAPTER 191**

REVISED EDITION 2020

SHOWING THE SUBSIDIARY LAWS AS AT
31ST DECEMBER, 2020

This is a revised edition of the Subsidiary Laws, prepared by the Law Revision Commissioner under the authority of the Law Revision Act, Chapter 3 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2020.

This edition contains a consolidation of the following laws—

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CHAPTER 191

NATIONAL LANDS ACT (COMMENCEMENT) ORDER

ARRANGEMENT OF PARAGRAPHS

1. Citation.
 2. Commencement.
-

CHAPTER 191

NATIONAL LANDS ACT (COMMENCEMENT) ORDER

S.I. 83 of 1992.
Act 6 of 1992.

[13th June, 1992]

1. This Order may be cited as the

Citation.

**NATIONAL LANDS ACT (COMMENCEMENT)
ORDER.**

2. In exercise of the powers conferred upon me by section 42 of the National Lands Act and all other powers thereunto me enabling **I, FLORENCIO MARIN**, Minister of Natural Resources, do hereby appoint the 13th day of June, 1992 as the day on which the said Act shall come into force.

Commencement.

DATED this 1st day of June, 1992.

(FLORENCIO MARIN)
Minister of Natural Resources

CHAPTER 191**NATIONAL LANDS (DELEGATION OF POWERS)
ORDER****ARRANGEMENT OF PARAGRAPHS**

1. Citation.
 2. Delegation of powers.
-

CHAPTER 191

S.I. 98 of 2001.
Ch. 191.

BELMOPAN (REMOVAL OF REFUSE) BY-LAWS

(section 3)

[7th July, 2001]

WHEREAS, it is provided by section 3 of the National Lands Act that the Minister may, by directions in writing delegate any of his functions in connection with the National Lands Act to the Commissioner of Lands and Survey or any other Senior Officer of the Ministry responsible for Lands;

AND WHEREAS, the Minister considers it expedient to delegate his power to sign Lease Fiats and to grant permission to mortgage leasehold interests in residential lots to the Principal Lands Officer and the National Estate Officer.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is ordered as follows:-

Citation.

1. This Order may be cited as the

**NATIONAL LANDS (DELEGATION OF
POWERS) ORDER.**

2. The power to sign Lease Fiats and to grant permission to mortgage leasehold interest in residential lots may be signed by the Principal Lands Officer and the National Estate Section.

Delegation of powers.

MADE by the Minister responsible for Lands the 1st day of June, 2000.

(JOHN BRICENO)

Minister Responsible for Lands

CHAPTER 191**NATIONAL LANDS (LEASES) (TRANSFER FEE)
ORDER****ARRANGEMENT OF PARAGRAPHS**

1. Citation.
2. Transfer fee on leases.

CHAPTER 191

S.I. 137 of 1992.
Act 6 of 1992.

**NATIONAL LANDS (LEASES) (TRANSFER FEE)
ORDER**

[24th October, 1992]

Citation.

1. This Order may be cited as the

**NATIONAL LANDS (LEASES) (TRANSFER FEE)
ORDER.**

Transfer fee on
leases.

- 2.-(1) There shall be paid by every lessee of national land a transfer fee at the following rates on the value of the development or improvement done on the leasehold or of the amount of the consideration whichever is greater, in respect of every transfer of subletting of lease outside the compulsory registration areas declared as such under the Registered Land Act—

CAP. 194.

- (a) Where the value or consideration exceeds two thousand dollars but does not exceed fifteen thousand dollars - three per centum of the value or the consideration;

(b) Where the value or consideration exceeds fifteen thousand dollars - five per centum of the value or the consideration.

(2) Where lease is transferred or sublet to a person who is an alien within the meaning of the Aliens Landholding Act, there shall be paid in addition to the fee specified in subparagraph (1) an additional fee at the rate of three per centum of the value or the amount of the consideration, as the case may be.

CAP. 144.
Revised Edition
1980-1990.

(3) Paragraph (2) above shall apply to transactions that occurred before the commencement of the Aliens Landholding (Repeal) Act.

CAP. 179.
Revised Edition
2003.

MADE by the Minister of Natural Resources this 15th day of October, 1992.

(FLORENCIO MARIN)
Minister of Natural Resources

CHAPTER 191

NATIONAL LANDS RULES

ARRANGEMENT OF RULES

1. Citation.

PART I

NATIONAL LANDS OTHER THAN TOWN OR
VILLAGE LOTS

2. Disposal by grant.
3. Application.
4. Disqualification.
5. Forms.
6. Meaning of “settler”.
7. Minerals, oil, timber.
8. Land for public purposes.
9. Conditions.
10. Land unfit for cultivation.
11. Price.
12. Assigning, etc.
13. Maintenance of land.
14. Payment of land value.
15. Land Tax.
16. Arrears of payment.
17. Title before five years.
18. Drains.
19. Latrine.
20. Boundaries.
21. Power to enter.
22. Breach of condition.
23. Grant.

PART II

TOWN AND VILLAGE LOTS

24. Disposal by auction.
25. Application for lease.
26. Forms.
27. Lot with improvements.
28. Renewal of lease.
29. Publication of applications.
30. Cancellations.
31. Land for public purposes.

PART III

RULES FOR SURVEYS

Towns

32. Street reservations.

Rural Lands

33. Rules for rural lands.
34. Shape and frontage of land.

CHAPTER 191**NATIONAL LANDS RULES***

Ch. 110.
Ch. 147.
S.I. 68 of 2003.
S.I. 72 of 2003.

(sections 37 and 39(2))

Citation.

- 1.** These Rules may be cited as the
NATIONAL LANDS RULES.

PART I**NATIONAL LANDS OTHER THAN TOWN OR
VILLAGE LOTS**

Disposal by
grant.

- 2.** Except in special cases approved by the Minister,
national lands will be disposed of only by way of grants.

Application.
CAP. 191.

- 3.** Every application to purchase land shall be made in the
form shown in Schedule II to the National Lands Act and shall
be accompanied by—

- (a) the appropriate fee;
- (b) a rough plan, if possible, of the land applied
for.

Disqualification.

- 4.** A grant will not be granted to any person who has
previously held a lease of national land and has had the same
cancelled for failure to pay any instalment unless at least one
instalment is paid in advance at the time of making the
application.

* These Rules were made under the Crown Lands Act, Chapter 147,
Revised Edition 1980-1990, and were previously cited as the “Crown
Lands Rules”.

- 5.** Forms of application may be obtained from the Commissioner of Lands and Surveys. Forms.
- 6.** In the Minister's fiat set out in Schedule IV to the National Lands Act the word grantee shall be deemed to include and be applicable to the grantee as well as the executors, administrators and allowed assigns of such grantee as fully to all intents and purposes as if they had in every instance been specially mentioned. Meaning of "settler", Schedule IV.
- 7.** All mines of gold and silver and other precious metals and minerals, all precious metals existing in the form of alluvial deposits, and coal and mineral oil, and any gems and precious stones and all ancient monuments, mounds or relics as defined in the National Institute of Culture and History Act, within the meaning of section 12 of the National Lands Act and all forest produce are strictly reserved and do not pass under the grant nor lease, Minerals, oil, timber.
CAP. 330.
CAP. 191.
- provided that timber required for the domestic purposes of the lessee or grantee may be used without restriction and timber may be felled in clearing land for cultivation but may not be sold except under licence by the Forest Department.
- The right of entry on the premises to search for, dig, cut, fell or cut (as the case may be) and remove any of the above is reserved to the Government of Belize.
- 8.** All land required for public purposes shall be reserved and declared as such by the Minister. Land for public purposes.
- 9.** The lessee will be required to undertake to perform and observe the following conditions, that is to say, that he will agree at all times during a period of five years from the date of the lease— Conditions.
- (a) to develop and cultivate the land demised by the planting of permanent crops which shall be taken to mean and include the planting of

coconuts, cacao, coffee, mangoes, citrus and other fruit trees and rotational crops according to a programme approved by the Chief Agricultural Officer;

- (b) to clear not less than one fifth of the total area demised and plant with permanent crops not less than one half of such cleared area each year;
- (c) to follow the orders given to him by the officers of the Ministry of Agriculture and the Belize Agricultural Health Authority for the control or prevention of disease;
- (d) to comply in all respects with the conditions contained in the lease.

Land unfit for cultivation.

10. The lessee will not be required to cultivate any land certified by the Chief Agricultural Officer to be unfit for cultivation. Such land shall be excluded from the conditions of the lease and the area, to which the conditions shall apply, will be the total area of the land demised less the area of such uncultivable land.

Price.

11. The price of land shall depend on its locality and shall not be less than \$1.50 per acre, including cost of survey.

Assigning, etc.

12. The lessee will be required to agree not to assign or transfer or set over or by any act or deed in any manner whatsoever deal with any right or interest under the lease without the consent in writing of the Minister or some person delegated by the Minister.

Maintenance of land.

13. The lessee will be required to agree to maintain the land demised together with all buildings, fixtures and erections thereon in a clean and sanitary condition to the satisfaction of the Chief Agricultural Officer or the Commissioner of Lands and Surveys.

- 14.** The lessee will be required to pay to the Government Treasury in the district in which the land is situated a sum of money semi-annually equal to one tenth of the capital value of the land demised, the first of such payments to be made within six months of the date of the lease. Payment of land value.
- 15.** The lessee will be required to pay land tax to the Government Treasury in the district in which the land demised is situated on the 2nd day of January of each year. Land Tax.
- 16.** Should the lessee fall into arrears in respect of his instalments or in respect of land tax, he shall, at the discretion of the Commissioner of Lands and Surveys, be deemed to have committed a breach of the conditions. Arrears of payment.
- 17.** Should the lessee desire to obtain title to his land before the expiration of five years he will be allowed to do so provided he pays the full amount of the capital value of the land demised and has cultivated it to the satisfaction of the Chief Agricultural Officer. Title before five years.
- 18.** The lessee will be required, at his own expense and in accordance with instructions given him to construct any drains that may, in the opinion of the Chief Agricultural Officer, be necessary for the proper draining of the land demised. Drains.
- 19.** The lessee will be required to provide and maintain, at his own expense, a latrine to the satisfaction of the Medical Officer of the district in which the land demised is situated. Latrine.
- 20.** The lessee will be required to preserve all boundaries which shall be maintained clearly visible at all times to the satisfaction of the Commissioner of Lands and Surveys. Boundaries.
- 21.** The Commissioner of Lands and Surveys or the Chief Agricultural Officer or any authorised agent, servant or workman thereof shall at all reasonable times be allowed to enter upon the land demised and do and perform all acts, matters Power to enter.

or things necessary for the purpose of constructing or repairing water pipes, drains or roads therein.

Breach of condition.

22. Any breach of any of the conditions contained in the lease shall authorise the Minister on the recommendation of the Commissioner of Lands and Surveys to cancel the permission granted by the lease to occupy the land demised and thereupon the same shall cease and become null and void to all intents and purposes and the land may be entered upon by or on behalf of the Government of Belize by any person duly authorised so to do and possession thereof may be resumed by the Government of Belize and in such case the lessee shall have no claim as of right to compensation for any improvements or outlay nor shall he be considered eligible for any other land except by special permission of the Minister.

Grant.

23. At the expiration of five years from the date of the lease, provided that all sums of money due from the lessee to the Government shall have been paid and all the conditions contained therein shall have been fully observed and performed, or at any earlier date when such sums shall have been paid and such conditions observed and performed, the Government will undertake to issue to the settler a grant to the land in accordance with the provisions of the National Lands Act or any statutory modification or replacement of the same.

PART II

TOWN AND VILLAGE LOTS

Disposal by auction.

24. Town lots and the leases thereof will be disposed of at public auction by the Commissioner of Lands and Surveys or by any officer acting under his direction at an upset price to be fixed by the Minister in each case, after advertisement of full particulars in three consecutive issues of the *Gazette*. No lease of any town lot will be granted for a period exceeding seventy-five years.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>25. Every application for the lease of National land within a town or village shall be made in the Form specified in Schedule I to the National Lands and shall be accompanied by the appropriate fee which shall be paid in the form of stamps to be affixed to the application.</p> | <p>Application for lease. Schedule I.</p> |
| <p>26. Forms of application may be obtained from the Commissioner of Lands and Surveys.</p> | <p>Forms.</p> |
| <p>27. Where the applicant for a lease has arranged to take over any improvements on the lot which are the property of the previous lessee, such lease shall not be disposed of at public auction, but on such terms as the Minister may fix.</p> | <p>Lot with improvements.</p> |
| <p>28. Where the lessee applies for a renewal of his lease it shall not be disposed of at public auction but the terms of any such renewal of lease shall be as the Minister may fix.</p> | <p>Renewal of lease.</p> |
| <p>29. All such applications shall be published in three consecutive issues of the <i>Gazette</i>.</p> | <p>Publication of applications.</p> |
| <p>30. Leases will not be cancelled without the sanction of the Minister.</p> | <p>Cancellations.</p> |
| <p>31. All land required for public purposes shall be reserved and declared as such by the Minister.</p> | <p>Land for public purposes.</p> |

PART III

RULES FOR SURVEYS

Towns

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| <p>32. In the case of new townships, or extensions of existing townships, reservations for streets and roads not exceeding 66 feet in width shall be made in all places where such are considered necessary.</p> | <p>Street reservations.</p> |
|---|-----------------------------|

Rural Lands

Rules for rural
lands.

33. In the case of rural lands, the following rules shall be observed.

(1) Reservations for roads not exceeding sixty-six feet in width shall be made wherever required.

(2) Reservations not exceeding twelve feet for rights of way shall be made wherever required.

(3) Reservations not exceeding sixty-six feet in width measured from high water mark along all water frontages shall be reserved for Government or public purposes.

(4) Access shall be provided from all surveyed lands to any public road, navigable river, creek, lake or sea shore contiguous thereto.

(5) All intersections of boundaries shall be marked by wooden or concrete posts or by mounds of stones.

(6) All boundary lines shall be cleared to a width of not less than six feet, and shall be marked on both sides at frequent intervals by trees blazed with three horizontal notches.

(7) All artificial boundaries shall be laid out along geographical meridians and parallels.

(8) The main survey lines from the starting point shall be linked to one another by traversing and shall be brought to a closure at the starting point or at some other point, the coordinates of which are known with reference to the starting point. Whenever practicable surveys should be connected by traverse or triangulation with the trigonometrical framework of Belize.

- (9) (a) The surveys of the boundaries of all adjacent parcels shall be joined to others previously established and defined when within reasonable distance.
- (b) No application for the sale, lease, alienation or disposal in any manner whatsoever, of all the national lands described in paragraph (c) below shall be accepted by the Ministry of Natural Resources, the Environment, Commerce and Industry from the date of commencement of these Rules, and from that date, such lands shall not be sold, alienated, leased or disposed of in any manner whatsoever,
- provided that the Ministry of Natural Resources, the Environment, Commerce and Industry may sell, lease, alienate or dispose in any manner the lands described in paragraph (c) below after the commencement of these Rules if application for that land is made by a villager within a particular village and that application is supported by the elected representative of that village.
- (c) The lands referred to in paragraph (b) above consist and are made up of all that strip of land, four miles in parallel and perpendicular width, two miles on each side of the center line of the road leading from Dump to Jalacte and to the border with Guatemala.
- (d) No application for the sale, lease, alienation, or disposal in any manner whatsoever, of any of the national lands described in paragraph (e) below shall be accepted by the Ministry of Natural Resources from the date of commencement of these Rules, and from that

date such lands shall not be sold, alienated, leased or disposed of in any manner whatsoever,

provided that the Ministry of Natural Resources may sell, lease, alienate or dispose in any manner the lands described in paragraph (e) below after the commencement of these Rules if application for that land is made by a villager within a particular village and that application is supported by the elected village leader of that village.

S.I. 72 of 2003.

- (e) The lands referred to in paragraph (d) above consist and are made up of all that strip of land, four miles in parallel and perpendicular width, two miles on each side of the center line of the road leading from Dump to Jalacte and to the border with Guatemala.

Shape and frontage of land.

34. Except when specially ordered by the Minister land will only be sold or leased in parcels of rectangular shape, the lines running according to the cardinal points of the compass or as near thereto as natural boundaries will permit. The frontage on any road, river, stream, lake, sea coast or public reserve shall not exceed one fourth of the total length of the external boundaries of any parcel, except in special cases where natural or other boundaries intervene to prevent such frontage being accurately observed.

CHAPTER 191

DIGGING OF SAND RULES

ARRANGEMENT OF RULES

PART I

PRELIMINARY

1. Citation.
2. Grant of permit.
3. Forms.

CHAPTER 191

DIGGING OF SAND RULES

Ch. 110.
Ch. 147.

(sections 37 and 39(2))

1. These Rules may be cited as the

Citation.

DIGGING OF SAND RULES.

2. The Commissioner of Lands and Surveys may, on application made to him in writing and on payment of a fee of one dollar, grant to any person a permit to dig sand on national lands.

Grant of permit.

- 3.-(1) Applications for permits to dig sand shall be made to the Commissioner of Lands and Surveys in the form set out in Form 1 of the Schedule hereto.

Forms.
Form 1.
Schedule.

Form 2. (2) All such permits shall be in the form as set out in Form
2 of the Schedule hereto and shall—

Schedule.

- (a) state the name and address of the person to whom granted;
 - (b) be for a specific period;
 - (c) state the place or places where sand may be dug in respect of the permit; and
 - (d) be subject to the conditions stated therein.
-

SCHEDULE

FORM 1

APPLICATION FOR PERMIT TO DIG SAND

To: Commissioner of Lands and Surveys

(name of district)

I, _____ of

hereby apply for a permit to dig sand on National Lands at for
the period beginning the

day of _____, 2____, and ending the

day of _____, 2____.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2____.

Signature of Applicant.

FORM 2

PERMIT TO DIG SAND ON NATIONAL LANDS

Mr./Mrs./Ms. _____ Of _____ is

hereby authorised to dig sand on National Lands at

_____ for the period beginning the

_____ day of _____ 2 _____, and ending the

_____ day of _____, 2 _____.

The conditions stated herein must be observed.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2 _____.

Commissioner of Lands and Surveys.

Conditions

(Here state conditions)

CHAPTER 191

**LAND RESERVES (OTHER THAN INDIAN AND
CARIB RESERVES) REGULATIONS**

ARRANGEMENT OF REGULATIONS

1. Citation.
2. Declaration of Reserves.
3. Application of Regulations.
4. Occupation of Reserve.
5. Occupancy fees.
6. Year's end.
7. Demarcation of land.
8. Permit to be produced.
9. Unlawful occupancy.
10. Boundary disputes.
11. Boundaries to be marked.
12. Boundary lines.
13. Disposal of land.
14. Withdrawal of permit.

CHAPTER 191

Ch. 110.
Ch. 147.
S.I. 13 of 1966.

**LAND RESERVES (OTHER THAN INDIAN AND
CARIB RESERVES) REGULATIONS**

(sections 23 and 39(2))

- Citation.
- 1.** These Regulations may be cited as the
**LAND RESERVES (OTHER THAN INDIAN AND
CARIB RESERVES) REGULATIONS.**
- Declaration of Reserves. Schedule.
- 2.** All the lands set out in the first column of the Schedule hereto are hereby declared to be Reserves for the use and occupation of any person resident in Belize, for farming and residential purposes. Such Reserves shall be shown coloured red on plans kept in the office of the Commissioner of Lands and Surveys, Belmopan. Copies of such plans shall be open to inspection free of charge at any time during office hours.
- Application of Regulations. Schedule.
- 3.** These Regulations shall apply to all Reserves enumerated in the Schedule hereto and to any Reserve added thereto by virtue of an Order made by the Minister.
- Occupation of Reserve. Schedule.
- 4.** So long as sufficient land is available any person who wishes to occupy land in any Reserve contained in the Schedule hereto, for the purpose of growing annual crops may do so and may build a house thereon, subject to the issue of a written permit by the Commissioner of Lands and Surveys or the person designated by him,

provided that no person shall occupy more land for cultivation under one permit than the maximum area set forth in the Schedule hereto,

provided also that, subject to the issue of a permit as aforesaid, any person, whether he is already in occupation of land for cultivation or not, may on payment of the occupancy
- Schedule.

- fee, the amount of which is set forth in the Schedule hereto, occupy in any of the Reserves set forth in the Schedule hereto, except Consejo, Naranjal and Mullins River, a lot for habitation not exceeding one-quarter acre in extent. Schedule.
Schedule.
- 5.** Occupancy fees the amount of which shall be as set forth in the Schedule hereto shall be payable on or before the 2nd January of each year to the Commissioner of Lands and Surveys or to the person designated by him and shall be recoverable in accordance with the provisions of any law in force governing the collection of Crown rents. Any occupier who fails to pay his fee on or before the appointed day may be dealt with in accordance with regulation 9 of these Regulations. Occupancy fees.
Schedule.
- 6.** Each year shall be deemed to end on the 31st December thereof. Year's end.
- 7.** Any person having a permit shall clearly demarcate the land he wishes to occupy by running a line round it and marking the four corners with stakes within one week of the date of the permit. Demarcation of land.
- 8.** The permit shall be produced by the occupier on demand for the inspection of any officer of the Lands and Surveys Department or the Forestry Department or of any police officer. Permit to be produced.
- 9.** The Commissioner of Lands and Surveys or the person designated by him shall have power to refuse a permit to any person to occupy land in any Reserve, and may, subject to the provisions of regulation 14 of these Regulations, withdraw any permission which may have been given. If any person, after such refusal or withdrawal, persists in occupying land, he may be prosecuted for unlawful occupancy in accordance with section 31 of the National Lands Act, Unlawful occupancy.

CAP. 191.

provided, however, that any person who may have erected any house, building or fixture on any part of the Reserve, shall upon revocation of his permit be allowed a period of thirty days within which to remove the same.

- Boundary disputes. **10.** Any dispute between occupiers as to the boundaries of their holdings shall be decided by the Commissioner of Lands and Surveys or the person designated by him or by an officer appointed by either for the purpose whose decision shall be final and binding on the disputants.
- Boundaries to be marked. **11.** The boundaries of each Reserve shall be marked on the ground by the Lands and Surveys Department and shall be kept open at all times by the occupiers of that Reserve as a whole.
- Boundary lines. **12.** When clearing land which is adjacent to a boundary line, occupiers shall leave uncleared a strip of land six feet in width between the clearing and the boundary line.
- Disposal of land. **13.** The Government reserves the right to sell, lease, grant licences over, or in any other way deal with any Crown land within any Reserve which is not occupied at the time when such right is exercised. No compensation shall be payable to any person in respect of the exercise of this right.
- Withdrawal of permit. **14.-(1)** The Commissioner of Lands and Surveys may, without being liable for any compensation whatsoever, withdraw any permission that may have been granted to any person to occupy land within any Reserve if such person—
- (a) fails properly to demarcate his holding within one week of the date of the permit;
 - (b) fails in any year to pay the prescribed occupancy fee on or before the second day of January;
 - (c) fails to enter into possession of the land allotted to him within three months of the issue of the permit, or to clear or cultivate a reasonable area of the land;
 - (d) fails to keep the land allotted to him in a reasonable state of cultivation;

-
- (e) cultivates or interferes in any manner with any land within any Reserve other than the land allotted to him, or refuses to accept any decision made in accordance with regulation 10 above;
 - (f) fails or neglects when required so to do, to comply with any law for the control of insect pests or plant disease;
 - (g) is convicted in a court of law of any offence involving fraud or dishonesty, and whose conduct is, in the opinion of the magistrate by whom he was convicted detrimental to the peace, good order or welfare of any Reserve;
 - (h) fails to comply with such instructions or rules as may be issued from time to time for the good management of any Reserve;
 - (i) fails, on demand, to produce his permit;
 - (j) without the written permission of the Commissioner of Lands and Surveys assigns, transfers or otherwise deals with any right or interest under his permit.

(2) Any person aggrieved by the withdrawal of his permit under this regulation may appeal to the Minister charged with the responsibility for land matters.

SCHEDULE

| <i>Name of Reserve -where situated</i> | <i>Maximum area for cultivation permitted to any one person on one permit</i> | <i>Occupancy fee per year or part of year for land for cultivation</i> | <i>Occupancy fee for lot for habitation</i> |
|--|---|--|---|
| Consejo-Corozal District | 5 acres | 2.00 | - |
| Santa Rosa-Corozal District | 5 acres | 5.00 | 2.00 |
| Corozal-Corozal District | 5 acres | 5.00 | 2.00 |
| Pembroke Hall-Corozal District | 5 acres | 5.00 | 2.00 |
| Sarteneja-Corozal District | 5 acres | 5.00 | 2.00 |
| Strathbogue-Corozal District | 5 acres | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| Naranjal-Orange Walk District | 5 acres | 5.00 | - |
| Santa Anna-Belize District | 5 acres | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| Black Creek-Belize District | 5 acres | 5.00 | 2.00 |
| Mullins River-Stann Creek District | 5 acres | 2.00 | - |
| Chunox-Corozal District | 5 acres | 5.00 | 2.00 |
| Santa Clara-Corozal District | 5 acres | 5.00 | 2.00 |

| | | | |
|--|---------|------|------|
| Jacinto Creek-Toledo District | 5 acres | 5.00 | 2.00 |
| Amado Creek-Toledo District | 5 acres | 5.00 | 2.00 |
| Cayo-Benque Viejo, Cayo District | 5 acres | 5.00 | 2.00 |
| Hope Greek-Toledo District | 5 acres | 5.00 | 2.00 |
| Legugu Creek Agricultural Reserve-Toledo District | 5 acres | 5.00 | 2.00 |
| Mafredi Agricultural Reserve Toledo district | 5 acres | 5.00 | 2.00 |
| “Chan Quebrada” Agricultural Reserve-Toledo District | 5 acres | 5.00 | 2.00 |
| “Cow Pen” Agricultural Reserve-Toledo District | 5 acres | 5.00 | 2.00 |

* S.I. 13 of 1966.

* This Statutory Instrument came into effect on 26th March 1966.

S.I. 13 of 1966.*

EXPLANATORY NOTE

By this Order the Minister of Natural Resources has fixed the occupancy fees for five acre plots of land in the areas of Chan, Quebrada and Cow Pen in the Toledo District which are required by the people of that District for growing bananas.

The fee of \$5.00 is the annual fee for land cultivation, while the fee of \$2.00 is for a lot for habitation.

This note forms no part of the Statutory Instrument.

* This Statutory Instrument came into effect on 26th March 1966.

CHAPTER 191

**POMONA VILLAGE LAND RESERVATION
REGULATIONS**

ARRANGEMENT OF REGULATIONS

1. Citation.
2. Plan of reserved land.
3. Occupation of land in reserve.
4. Payment of fees.
5. Refusal and withdrawal of permission.
6. Disputes.
7. Boundaries.
8. One plot only.
9. Government reserved powers.
10. Withdrawal of permission.
11. Preservation of rights.
12. Completing agreements, etc.

CHAPTER 191Ch. 110.
Ch. 147.**POMONA VILLAGE LAND RESERVATION
REGULATIONS***(sections 23 and 39(2))*

- Citation. **1.** These Regulations may be cited as the

**POMONA VILLAGE LAND RESERVATION
REGULATIONS.**
- Plan of reserved land. **2.** The land reserved for occupation shall be shown coloured red on a plan in the office of the Commissioner of Lands and Surveys; and a copy of such plan shall be kept in the Court House or other suitable place at Dangriga and shall be open to inspection at any time during ordinary business hours.
- Occupation of land in reserve. **3.** So long as sufficient land is available any person who is cultivating land in the vicinity and who wishes to occupy a plot of land in the Reserve may do so and may build his house thereon, by the written permission of the Commissioner of Lands and Surveys, and on payment of an occupancy fee of \$1.00 for every year or part of a year of his occupation. Each year shall be deemed to end on the 31st December thereof. The written permit shall be produced by the occupier, on demand, for the inspection of any officer of the Lands and Surveys Department or the Agricultural Department or of any police officer.
- Payment of fees. **4.** Occupancy fees shall be payable on the 2nd January of each year to the Commissioner of Lands and Surveys and shall be recoverable in accordance with the provisions of any law in force governing the collection of Crown rents. Any occupier who fails to pay his fee on or before the appointed day may be dealt with in accordance with rule 5 of these Rules. On dates which will be notified an officer will attend at some place within the Reserve for the purpose of collecting the fees for which

receipts on official forms will be given. Occupancy fees may, however, be paid to the Commissioner of Lands and Surveys at any time of the year before the visit of the collecting officer.

5. The Commissioner of Lands and Surveys shall have power to refuse to permit any person to occupy a plot of land in the Reserve, and may, subject to the provisions of rule 10 of these Rules, withdraw any permission which may be given. If any person, after such refusal or withdrawal, persists in occupying a plot of land, he may be prosecuted for unlawful occupation in accordance with sections 31 of the National Lands Act,

Refusal and withdrawal of permission.

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provided, however, that any person who may have erected any house, building or fixture on any plot of land in the Reserve shall, upon revocation of his licence, be allowed a period of thirty days within which to remove the same.

6. Any dispute between occupiers as to the boundaries of their holdings shall be decided by the Commissioner of Lands and Surveys or by an officer appointed by him for the purpose, whose decision shall be final and binding on the disputants.

Disputes.

7. The boundaries of the Reserve and of the house plots shall be marked on the ground by the Lands and Surveys Department. The Reserve boundaries shall be kept open at all times by the occupiers of the Reserve as a whole, and the boundaries of each plot shall be kept open by the occupiers thereof.

Boundaries.

8. No person shall be allowed to occupy more than one plot of land and that only for the purpose of building a house and making a garden.

One plot only.

9. The Government reserves the right to sell, lease, grant licences over or in any other way deal with any national land within the Reserve which is not occupied at the time when such right is exercised. No compensation shall be payable to any person in respect of the exercise of this right.

Government reserved powers.

Withdrawal of
permission.

10. The Commissioner of Lands and Surveys may without being liable for any compensation whatsoever withdraw any permission that may have been granted to any person to occupy a plot of land within the Reserve if such person—

- (a) fails to pay the prescribed occupancy fee on or before the 2nd January;
- (b) fails to enter into possession of the plot of land allotted to him and to build his house thereon within three months of the issue of the prescribed permit;
- (c) fails to keep the plot of land allotted to him in a clean and sanitary condition to the satisfaction of the Medical Officer;
- (d) fails to build and maintain an approved type of pit latrine to the satisfaction of the Medical Officer;
- (e) interferes in any manner with any national land within or without the Reserve other than land allotted to him, or refuses to accept any decision made in accordance with rule 6 or these Rules;
- (f) is convicted in a court of law of any offence involving fraud or dishonesty, or whose conduct is, in the opinion of the Commissioner of Lands and Surveys, detrimental to the peace, good order or welfare of the Reserve;
- (g) fails to comply with such instructions or rules as may be issued from time to time for the good management of the Reserve;
- (h) fails, on demand, to produce his written permit;

- (i) without the written permission of the Commissioner of Lands and Surveys, assigns, transfers or otherwise deals with any right or interest under this permit.

11. Any grantee, lessee or licensee of the Government of Belize who may be entitled to occupy any national land in the Reserve at the date when these Rules shall come into force shall, subject to the observance of the conditions herein stipulated, be permitted to continue in occupation of such land.

Preservation of rights.

12. The Government reserves the right to complete, by the issue of a fiat or otherwise, any purchase, lease or licence made or agreed to be made before the coming into force of these Rules in respect of any national land comprised in the Reserve, and may at any time thereafter renew or extend the period of any such lease or licence on the same terms as the old lease or licence, or on new terms. No compensation shall be payable to any person in respect of the exercise of this right.

Completing agreements, etc.

CHAPTER 191**RAMONAL-ZAPOTE RESERVE REGULATIONS****ARRANGEMENT OF REGULATIONS**

1. Citation.
 2. Plan of Reserve.
 3. Occupation of land.
- SCHEDULE**

CHAPTER 191**RAMONAL-ZAPOTE RESERVE REGULATIONS**

Ch. 110.
Ch. 147.

(sections 23 and 39(2))

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| Citation. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. These Regulations may be cited as the RAMONAL-ZAPOTE RESERVE REGULATIONS. |
| Plan of Reserve. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. The land reserved for occupation shall be shown coloured red on a plan kept in the office of the Commissioner of Lands and Surveys. Copies of such plan shall be kept in the Court House or other suitable place at Corozal and shall be open to inspection at any time during ordinary business hours. |
| Occupation of land. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. So long as sufficient land is available, any person who wishes to occupy not more than twenty acres of land in the Ramonal-Zapote Reserve, for the purpose of growing annual crops, may do so and may build a house thereon, subject to the conditions specified in the Schedule hereto. |
| Schedule. | |

SCHEDULE

[regulation 3]

1. Every application to occupy land in the Reserve shall be made either to the Commissioner of Lands and Surveys, who may issue a written permit for each five acres or part thereof of the land applied for, on payment of an occupancy fee of five dollars for each permit for every year or part thereof of occupation,

Application to occupy land.

provided that any person desirous of occupying only a house plot, not exceeding one-quarter acre in extent, may be granted a written permit for the same on payment of a fee of two dollars for every year or part thereof of occupation,

provided further that, if any person shall desire to occupy more than one house plot in the Reserve, he may, on showing good cause, be granted a written permit for each additional plot on payment of a fee of two dollars for every year or part thereof of occupation.

2. The Commissioner of Lands and Surveys shall give to each person occupying land in the Reserve a permit stating the name of the occupier and the extent of land in his possession. Such permit shall be produced by the occupier, on demand, for the inspection of any officer of the Lands and Surveys Department, the Forest Department, or of any police officer.

3. Lands cultivated with sugar-cane at the date of the coming into operation of these Regulations may be leased at the rate of fifty cents per acre per annum on the basis of a five-year term with the option of renewal of the term on the termination of the lease depending on the standard of cultivation then possible.

Lease of sugarcane land.

4. Lands cultivated with permanent crops other than sugar-cane at the coming into operation of these Regulations may be

Sale of permanent crop land.

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| | purchased (not exceeding twenty acres) under the existing rules governing location ticket tenure. |
| Lease of permanent crop land. | 5. Land which is required for permanent crops may be leased, under the conditions herein stipulated, on the basis of a ten-year term at 4 yearly rental of fifty cents per acre subject to the option of renewal on the termination of the lease. |
| Pasture land. | 6. Existing pasture lands and lands required for the establishment of new pastures may be leased under the existing rules regarding pasturage, at the yearly rent of ten cents per acre. |
| Year. | 7. Each year shall be deemed to end on the 31st December in each year. |
| Payment of fees. | 8. Occupancy fees shall be paid to the Commissioner of Lands and Surveys, on the 2nd January in each year, and shall be recoverable in accordance with the provisions of any law in force governing the collection of Crown rents. Any occupier who fails to pay his fee on or before the appointed day may be dealt with as stated in paragraph 14 of this Schedule. |
| Schedule. | |
| Power to refuse or withdraw permit. | 9. The Commissioner of Lands and Surveys shall have power to refuse to permit any person to occupy land in the Reserve, and may, subject to the provisions of paragraph 14 of this Schedule, withdraw any permission which may be given. Any person who, after such refusal or withdrawal, persists in occupying the land, commits an offence and may be prosecuted in accordance with section 31 of the National Lands Act, |
| Schedule. | |
| CAP. 191. | |
| | provided that any person who may have erected any house, building, or fixture in any part of the Reserve shall upon revocation of his licence be allowed a period of thirty days for removal of the same. |
| Settlement of disputes. | 10. Any dispute arising between occupiers as to the boundaries of their holdings shall be decided by the Commissioner of Lands and Surveys or any person authorised |

by him in writing. The decision shall be final and binding on the disputants.

11.-(1) Every person having a permit to occupy land in the Reserve shall, within fourteen days of his occupation, clearly demarcate the boundaries of his portion of land by running a line around same and marking it at convenient spots with stakes. Failure to do this will render the permit liable to cancellation.

Demarcation of land.

(2) Failure to enter into possession of the land within three months of the issue of a permit or to clear and cultivate a reasonable area of the land will render the permit liable to cancellation.

12. When clearing land which is adjacent to a boundary line, occupiers shall leave uncleared a strip of land approximately six feet in width between the clearing and the boundary line.

Uncleared strip.

13. The Government reserves the right to sell, lease, grant licences over, or in any other way deal with any national land within the Reserve which is not occupied at the time when such right is exercised. No compensation shall be payable to any person in respect of the exercise of this right.

Reserved powers.

14. The Commissioner of Lands and Surveys may without being liable for any compensation whatsoever withdraw any permission that may have been granted to any person to occupy land within the Reserve if such person does any of the following things—

Withdrawal of permit.

- (a) fails to pay the prescribed occupancy fee on or before the 2nd January in each year;
- (b) cultivates or interferes in any manner with any land within the Reserve other than the land allotted to him, or refuses to accept any decision made in accordance with paragraph 10 of this Schedule;

Schedule.

- (c) fails or neglects when required so to do, to comply with any law for the control of insect pests or plant disease;
- (d) is convicted in a court of law of any offence involving fraud or dishonesty, or whose conduct is, in the opinion of the Commissioner of Lands and Surveys, detrimental to the peace, good order or welfare of the Reserve;
- (e) fails to comply with such instructions or rules as may be issued from time to time for the good management of the Reserve;
- (f) fails, on demand, to produce his written permit; or
- (g) without the written permission of the Commissioner of Lands and Surveys, assigns, transfers or otherwise deals with any right or interest under his permit.

Existing rights.

15. Any grantee, lessee or licensee of the Government of Belize who may be entitled to occupy any national land in the Reserve at the date when these Regulations shall come into force shall subject to the observance of the conditions herein stipulated be permitted to continue in occupation of such land.

Completion and renewal of agreements.

16. The Government reserves the right to complete, by the issue of a fiat or otherwise, any purchase, lease or licence made or agreed to be made before the coming into force of these Regulations in respect of any national land comprised in the Reserve, and may at any time thereafter renew or extend the period of any such lease or licence on the same terms as the old lease or licence, or on new terms. No compensation shall be payable to any person in respect of the exercise of this right.

17. The boundaries of the Reserve shall be marked on the ground by the Lands and Surveys Department and shall be kept open at all times by the occupiers of the Reserve as a whole.

Boundaries of Reserve.

CHAPTER 191**TOLEDO INDIAN RESERVE RULES****ARRANGEMENT OF RULES**

1. Citation.
2. Reserves to be shown on plan.
3. Occupation by Indians.
4. Collection of fees.
5. Refusal or withdrawal of permit.
6. Disputes.
7. Boundaries.
8. Boundary line.
9. Occupation without permission.
10. Reserved government rights.
11. Continuing occupation.
12. Completion of purchase, etc.

CHAPTER 191**TOLEDO INDIAN RESERVE RULES**Ch. 110.
Ch. 147.*(sections 23 and 39(2))*

1. These Rules may be cited as the

Citation.

TOLEDO INDIAN RESERVE RULES.

2. The land reserved for occupation by Indians shall be shown coloured red on a plan in the office of the Commissioner of Lands and Surveys; and a copy of such plan shall be kept in the Court House or other suitable place at each of the principal villages.

Reserves to be
shown on plan.

- 3.-(1) Any Indian who wishes to occupy land in the Reserve may do so and may build his house thereon, by the written permission of the Commissioner of Lands and Surveys, and on payment of an occupancy fee of \$5.00 for every year or part of a year of his occupation,

Occupation by
Indians.

provided that any Indian who may be incapacitated for cultivation may, at the discretion of the Commissioner of Lands and Surveys, be permitted to occupy land in the Reserve, for purposes of habitation only, on payment of an occupancy fee of \$1.00 for every year or part of a year of his occupation,

provided further that any Indian certified by the Forest Officer Toledo District as being employed to his satisfaction and under the control of the Forest Trust in shifting cultivation combined with the planting or sowing of forest crops on any national land of forest reserve shall be permitted to occupy land in the Reserve for purposes of habitation on payment of an occupancy fee of \$1.00 for every year or part of a year instead of \$5.00 as aforesaid.

(2) Each year shall be deemed to end on the 31st December thereof.

(3) The written permit shall be produced by the occupier, on demand, for the inspection of any officer of the Lands and Surveys Department or of any police officer.

Collection of fees.

4.-(1) Occupancy fees shall be payable on the 1st April of each year and shall be recoverable in accordance with the provisions of any law in force governing the collection of Crown rents.

(2) On dates of which the alcaldes will be notified, an officer will attend at the villages for the purpose of collecting the fees, for which receipts on official forms will be given. Occupancy fees may, however, be paid to the Commissioner of Lands and Surveys at any time of the year before the visit of the collector. Alcaldes shall be responsible that all persons who occupy land in the Reserve, and who have not paid their fees, are present on the appointed days to make payment.

(3) Any occupier who fails to pay his fee on or before the appointed day may be dealt with in accordance with rule 5 of these Rules.

Refusal or withdrawal of permit.

5. The Commissioner of Lands and Surveys shall have power to refuse to permit any Indian to occupy land in the Reserve, and may withdraw any permission which may be given. If any Indian, after such refusal or withdrawal, persists in occupying land, he may be prosecuted for unlawful occupation in accordance with section 31 of the National Lands Act.

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Disputes.

6. Any dispute between occupiers as to the boundaries of their holdings shall be decided by the alcaldes, whose decision shall be final and binding on the disputants.

Boundaries.

7. The boundaries of the Reserve shall be marked on the ground by the Lands and Surveys Department, and shall be kept open at all times by the occupiers of the Reserve as a whole. The alcaldes shall be responsible for the enforcement of this rule.

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- 8.** When clearing land which is adjacent to a boundary line, occupiers shall leave uncleared a strip of land six feet in width between the clearing and the boundary line. Boundary line.
- 9.** Any person who occupies national land without permission inside or outside the Reserve will be prosecuted. Occupation without permission.
- 10.** The Government reserves the right to sell, lease, grant licences over, or in any other way deal with any national land within the Reserve which is not occupied at the time when such right is exercised. No compensation shall be payable to any Indian in respect of the exercise of this right. Reserved government rights.
- 11.** Any grantee, lessee or licensee of the Government of Belize who may be entitled to occupy any national land in the Reserve at the date when these Rules shall come into force shall be permitted to occupy such land without molestation by any person so long as his occupation remains lawful. Continuing occupation.
- 12.** The Government reserves the right to complete, by the issue of a fiat or otherwise, any purchase, lease or licence made or agreed to be made before the coming into force of these Rules in respect of any national land comprised in the Reserve, and may at any time thereafter renew or extend the period of any such lease or licence on the same terms as the old lease or licence, or on new terms. No compensation shall be payable to any Indian in respect of the exercise of this right. Completion of purchase, etc.
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CHAPTER 191**NATIONAL LANDS (DELEGATION) ORDER****ARRANGEMENT OF PARAGRAPHS**

1. Citation.
 2. Delegation of functions.
 3. Other similar delegation not precluded.
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CHAPTER 191

S.I. 14 of 2017.

NATIONAL LANDS (DELEGATION) ORDER*(section 3)**[18th February, 2017]*

Citation.

1. This Order may be cited as the

NATIONAL LANDS (DELEGATION) ORDER.

Delegation of functions.

2. The Minister hereby delegates to the Minister of State, appointed to assist him, the exercise of powers and performance of functions conferred upon the Minister under the Act, other than the functions under sections 5(2), 23 and 44 of the Act (which provisions relate to the Advisory Committee, reserves and enforcement notices).

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Other similar delegation not precluded.
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3. The delegation under this Order shall not preclude the making of a similar delegation in relation to the Commissioner or any senior officer pursuant to section 3 of the Act.

MADE by the Minister responsible for lands this 14th day of February, 2017.

(Rt. Hon. Dean O. Barrow)
(Minister responsible for Lands)
Prime Minister and Minister of
Finance and Natural Resources

CHAPTER 191**NATIONAL LANDS (MODE OF PAYMENT)
REGULATIONS****ARRANGEMENT OF REGULATIONS**

1. Citation.
2. Mode of payment.
3. Commencement.

CHAPTER 191

S.I. 171 of 2020.

**NATIONAL LANDS (MODE OF PAYMENT)
REGULATIONS***(section 44)**[4th December, 2020]*

Citation.

1. These Regulations may be cited as the

**NATIONAL LANDS (MODE OF PAYMENT)
REGULATIONS.**Mode of
payment.

2.-(1) Any payment towards the purchase of national land or payment of rent for a lease of national land shall be made to the cashier in the ministry responsible for lands.

(2) A payment made in any manner contrary to sub-regulation (1) shall not be honoured as payment towards purchase of national land or payment of rent for a lease of national land, as the case may be.

3. These Regulations shall come into force on the 4th day of December, 2020. Commencement

MADE by the Minister responsible for lands this 4th day of December, 2020.

(HON. CORDEL HYDE)
Deputy Prime Minister
Minister of Natural Resources, Petroleum
and Mining
(Minister responsible for lands)
