

**CHAPTER 50:04**

**CREEKS ACT**

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

SECTION

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1929 Ed.  
c. 134  
1953 Ed.  
c. 274

**An Act to provide for keeping the Creeks of Guyana clear and free from Obstructions.**

5 of 1888

[31ST OCTOBER, 1888]

1. This Act may be cited as the Creeks Act.

Short title.

2. In this Act—

Interpretation.

“creek” means any creek to which this Act applies or is hereafter made applicable;

“plantation” includes any plantation, or estate, or any piece of land abutting on or near a creek, or the bank of a creek, or the sea coast;

“the proper authority” means the authority appointed under this Act to act hereunder.

**LAWS OF GUYANA**

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*Creeks*

Creeks to which Act applies.

**3.** This Act applies to the following creeks, that is to say—the Canje, the Abary, the Mahaicony, the Mahaica, the Madewini, the Hobaboe, the Boerasirie, the Ituribisci, and the Œna Creeks, and to every other creek to which the Minister by order declares this Act to be applicable.

Execution of works for keeping creek clear.

**4.** The proper authorities shall cause the creeks to be kept clear and free from obstructions, and are hereby authorised to execute all works that may be necessary for that purpose.

Remedy against proper authority.

**5.** No action shall lie against the proper authority for any act or default, but the party aggrieved by any act or default of that authority may apply by petition to the Minister.

The proper authority.

**6.** The proper authority shall be the authority appointed from time to time for the purpose by order of the Minister:

Provided that, in the absence of appointment, the proper authority shall be as follows, that is to say—

(a) for the Boerasirie creek, the Boerasirie Commissioners; and

(b) for all the other creeks, the Chief Works and Hydraulics Officer or anyone performing the duties of that officer or deputed by him in writing to superintend any work.

Notice to execute work affecting creek.

**7. (1)** The proper authority may by notice require the proprietor of a plantation to clear away all obstructions and bush on the banks of any creek along the facade or portion of that plantation abutting on or near the creek.

(2) The notice shall be in writing, and may be served by being affixed to some building or in some conspicuous place on the plantation.

(3) Where the proprietor fails to comply with any notice under this Act within the time limited by the notice, the proper authority may execute the work required by the notice to be executed, and recover all moneys expended in the execution of that work.

(4) Save as hereinafter provided, those moneys may be recovered by the proper authority by parate execution against the proprietor of the plantation, without naming him; and a certificate, purporting to be signed by the proper authority or any member thereof, that any specified amount is due under this Act shall be received, without proof of the signature, in all courts of justice as proof of the fact until the contrary is proved.

(5) This section does not apply to the Boerasirie creek while the Boerasirie Commissioners are the proper authority for that creek.

**8.** While the Boerasirie Commissioners are the proper authority for the Boerasirie creek, they may assess and recover from the proprietors of the plantations included in any schedule to any Act relating to those Commissioners all expenses incurred by them in keeping the Boerasirie creek clear and free from obstruction, and the assessment may be sued for and recovered in the manner provided by that Act and subject to the provisions thereof.

Power to the Boerasirie Commissioners to defray cost of works by assessment.

**9.** (1) Everyone aggrieved by any act or omission of the proper authority, or of any officer acting under this Act, or who considers that the time limited in any notice for the commencement or completion of any work is too short, may appeal to the Minister.

Right of appeal to Minister.

(2) The appeal shall be by way of petition.

(3) The order of the Minister on the petition shall be final and shall bind all persons interested.