

***For Food Insurance—***

# **NANA Reindeer Herd**

**By MARGIE BAUMAN**

**KOTZEBUE** — Plans for a food insurance policy in the form of a herd of reindeer have received the final go-ahead from the last of four Eskimo corporations needed in the venture.

Stockholders of the Kikiktugruk Inupiat Corp. at Kotzebue voted Feb. 11 to participate in formation of NANA Reindeer Enterprises, with the Kivalina Sinuakmeut Corporation, Kivalina; Noatak Napaaktukmeut Corporation, Noatak; and NANA Regional Corporation, Inc.

A grazing permit has been requested from the Bureau of Land Management, which has jurisdiction over certain lands needed for the herd of 800 reindeer, which are to be brought north from Nome before fawning season.

Plans for such a corporation were first discussed at a meeting of the four corporations and others in Kotzebue on Jan. 21. All but the Kikiktugruk Corporation board had agreed quickly to the idea, but the Kotzebue board asked for time to take the matter before the stockholders.

Reindeer involved are part of a

model herd which has been nurtured near Nome for the past decade by the Bureau of Indian

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Affairs. The four corporations were picked to participate in the new venture based on the availability of grazing lands in their area.

There has been concern in Northwest Alaska, as in other parts of Alaska on the possible

effects of increased intrusion of man and development on wildlife.

Since the Arctic caribou herd represents an important source of food, the Eskimos are seeking a backup supply in advance, should the caribou leave the area.