

Transportation needs studied

JUNEAU--A study is underway to evaluate transportation facilities and needs in Western and Arctic Alaska, Commissioner Robert Ward said.

The study covers the area of Alaska from Barter Island in the northeast corner of the State to St. Michael south of Nome and

includes the North Slope and the Seward Peninsula. Additionally the study will collect information concerning sea transportation along the west coast from St. Michael to Cape Newenham. The area covered is roughly the size of California.

The study will consider access to about 90 villages in the area plus the potential for resource development, and also will include environmental studies and a public involvement program designed to solicit input from the study area residents and to keep them informed of progress.

The work is being done under a \$857,000 contract by Louis Berger and Associates, Inc., a world-wide company with headquarters in New Jersey, and Philleo Engineering and Archi-

tectural Service, Inc., a Fairbanks company which has worked throughout Alaska the past 33 years.

The study is in three phases of six months each and is being coordinated by Interior Regional Planning Manager Bob Thomas, assisted by Larry Soden of Fairbanks and William Snell of Nome.

Letters concerning the study can be sent to Ginger Johnson at University Plaza East, Suite 1, 600 University, Fairbanks, AK 99701 or P.O. Box 1048, Nome, AK 99762.

The study is financed by State bond monies and federal grants from the Departments of Transportation and Commerce.