

# ***Polar Bear Hide For Zuni Religious Rites***

ZUNI, New Mexico      The Alaska Department of Fish and Game has presented a polar bear hide to the Zuni Indians of New Mexico for use in the tribe's religious ceremonies.

Vern Roberts, director of the department's administration division, participated in the presentation at the tribe's pueblo house in Zuni.

The hide was donated in cooperation with the New Mexico Department of Fish and Game and the U.S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife.

The polar bear hide replaces another white bear skin which had been worn down to a small piece through more than 150 years of use by the tribe.