

Sec'y Gerard tours state

Assistant Secretary of the Interior Forrest Gerard arrived in Alaska for a 10 day visit last Sunday, accompanied by Alaska Special Assistant Irene Rowan.

He flew to the Russian River area Monday afternoon after inspecting Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) offices in Anchorage that morning.

Tuesday he left for Barrow, where he will take part in ceremonies honoring North Slope Borough Mayor Eben Hopson. After stopping over in Kotzebue, he returns to Anchorage late Thursday.

Friday he will meet with Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) and also will be a guest at a reception hosted by AFN that evening.

During his visit he is looking into such issues as subsistence, land exchanges, ANCSA amendments, NPR-A, OCS, BIA restructuring, education, and the proposed gas line.