

# Cooperative Extension Service publishes d2 summary

**FAIRBANKS**—A summary of the various proposals in Congress for disposition of "d-2 lands" in Alaska—utilizing text and maps—has just been published by the University of Alaska's Cooperative Extension Service.

Alan C. Epps, natural resource and land use planning specialist with the Cooperative Extension Service, is the author of the new publication, "Alaska's National Interest Lands (d-2)," which attempts to provide the basic information relative to current proposals, land status and known resource information so that Alaskans and others can form their opinions on the d-2 land issue.

The "d-2 lands" derive their name from Section 17 (d)(2) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971 which directs the Secretary of Interior to withdraw up to 80 million acres of public lands in the state which he deems suitable for addition to or creation as units of the National Park, Forest, Wildlife Refuge, and Wild and Scenic Rivers systems.

The Secretary of Interior has made this withdrawal of so-called national interest lands and Congress has until Dec. 18, 1978 to approve it or develop another plan. An administration bill to implement the secretary's recommendation has been introduced in the U. S. House of Representatives. But there are a number of other proposals.

Rep. John Dingell of Michigan has introduced two bills, the Alaska Refuge Act and Refuge Organic Act which, respectively, would prescribe the use of 68 and 77.9 million acres. Two Democratic presidential candidates, Rep. Morris Udall and Sen. Henry Jackson, have introduced in their respective chambers a proposed National

Interest Land Reservation Act, which would apply to 106.1 million acres of land in Alaska.

Separate Alaska Parks and Rivers bills have been introduced by Udall and Rep. Roy Taylor of North Carolina involving 61.3 and 33.1 million acres. Rep. Don Young and Sen. Ted Stevens of Alaska have drafted the Alaska National Public Lands Conservation Act covering 67 million acres. And there are the State of Alaska's proposal for disposition of 98.6 million acres and the Federal-State Joint Use Planning Commission proposal involving 98 million acres.

The purpose of these various proposals, when one has been cited, and how they would affect mining, sport hunting, subsistence use, access to land, and implementation of the

native claims settlement act are included in the new Cooperative Extension Service publication.

Epps points out the state to date has selected 69.1 million of its 104.5 million-acre entitlement under the Alaska Statehood Act but has gained title to only 10 million acres. Conveyance of the remaining lands must await resolution of the d-2 land issue by Congress, he says.

"Until this occurs, the state will not know if in fact she will be allowed to select the full entitlement, and further, with the exception of the 10 million acres patented, the state will not know where her remaining lands will be located until native lands are conveyed and the d-2 lands are acted upon."

In addition to the maps illustrating the various proposals before Congress, there are others in the new Cooperative Extension Service publication showing the extent of federal land withdrawals before passage of the native claims settlement act, state land selections as of Dec. 31, 1974, and partial village and regional native corporation selections, as well as maps indicating the distribution of natural resources.

Copies of the publication can be obtained from Cooperative Extension Service offices at Juneau, Soldotna, Anchorage, Palmer, Fairbanks, Bethel and Nome or from the agency's headquarters at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks.