

Tanana Valley Timber Resource To Be Surveyed

An Anchorage firm, Air Photo Techniques Inc., was low bidder on the Tanana Forest Resource Inventory Project at bid openings held June 14 in the Juneau offices of the U.S. Forest Service, according to W. Howard Johnson, Regional Forester.

Air Photo's bid of \$11.90 per lineal mile was lower than that of American Aerial Survey Company of San Antonio, Texas, and Mark Hurd Aerial of Minneapolis.

Total cost for the photographic survey will be \$163,482.20. The contract was awarded to obtain aerial photographic coverage of approximately 9,750,000 acres in the Tanana River Valley.

The project was prepared by the Forest Products Task Force of the Federal Field Committee for Development Planning in Alaska and developed through the cooperative efforts of the Alaska Department of Economic Development, Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Bureau of Land Management, the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the U.S. Forest Service. A major part of the funding will be provided by the Economic Development Administration.

Purpose of the aerial land resource survey, the largest to be contracted for in Alaska in the field of aerial photography, is to provide an inventory of the natural resources within the Tanana Valley area.

The survey will employ the use of two aircraft equipped with special infrared camera equipment.

The photo contract covers the extensive Tanana River basin stretching from the confluence of the Yukon River eastward to the Canadian border.

There are approximately 4.3 million acres of commercial forest land supporting an estimated volume of more than 7 billion board feet of saw-timber.