

Many Native allotments approved

The Alaska Lands Act approved many of the Alaska Native allotment applications which were filed before the enactment of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. Title to these allotments was legally transferred in June to those allotments which qualified under this section, but it will still be many years before they are surveyed and the paperwork is completed.

Valid Native allotments applications that were filed with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) on or before December 19, 1971, and which describe land that was either unreserved on December 13, 1968 or part of the National Petroleum Reserve were approved - with several exceptions. Allotments within areas reserved for powersite purposes also were approved in June unless the land was part of a licensed project or is presently being used for generating or transmitting electrical power.

The Secretary of Interior is authorized to alter boundaries to eliminate conflicts between overlapping allotments.

There are four exceptions to immediate allotment ap-

proval. They are:

- If the Secretary determined that the allotment is valuable for minerals (other than oil, gas, coal, sand or gravel). Or,

- If the allotment is on National Park System land which was not withdrawn by the Native Claims Act. Or,

- If the allotment is on lands selected, tentatively approved, or patented to the State. Or,

- If a protest of an allotment application was filed during the first half of 1981.

If your allotment falls into one of these four exceptions, it may still be approved. It just means that your application must continue to go through the BLM's normal administrative process. If you want to know the status of your allotment application, phone or write the BLM at:

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Land and Minerals Operations
Bureau of Land Management
701 C St., Box 13
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