

BLM makes ANCSA land transfers

Port Heiden

The village of Port Heiden has received 65,158 acres of land from the Bureau of Land Management, selected under Section 12(a) of the Act.

Located on the Alaska Peninsula in Bristol Bay, Port Heiden is one of 29 villages in the Bristol Bay Region that are receiving the surface estate to land under the claims act. The region received the subsurface estate.

With this conveyance, villages within the region have received a total of 493,997 acres.

Kodiak, Inc.

The Bureau of Land Management has approved conveyance of 21,734 acres of land to Kodiak, Inc., the village corporation for Natives enrolled within the city of Kodiak.

Unless an appeal is filed by May 22, that selection under

Section 14(h)(3) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) will be conveyed shortly, the BLM said.

ANCSA directs that Natives residing in the cities of Kodiak, Kenai, Sitka and Juneau are to receive lands under that legislation because their communities were originally Native villages but now have a predominantly non-Native population.

Old Harbor

A decision to convey 93,295 acres of land to the village of Old Harbor was published in the March 22 Federal Register by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

The deadline for filing an appeal is April 21, 1978. If the decision stands, the acreage will be conveyed to Old Harbor under Section 12(a) of the 1971 Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

Old Harbor, located on the southeastern side of Kodiak Island, is one of nine certified villages in the Koniag Region. The land to be conveyed includes 34,960 acres in the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. Under the provisions of the Claims Act, Old Harbor could select up to 69,120 acres of refuge lands. Old Harbor will receive title to the surface estate and the Koniag Region will receive title to an equal amount of estate outside of the refuge.

Cook Inlet Region

Decisions to convey nearly 94,000 acres of land to three villages in the Cook Inlet Region were published in the April 6 Federal Register by the Bureau of Land Management.

The deadline for filing an appeal is May 8, 1978. If the decisions stand, two portions of land, one for 22,296.05 and one for 1,715.24 acres will be conveyed to Seldovia, and 70,659.22 will be conveyed to Ninilchik. All three were selected under section 12(a) of the 1971 Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

The villages on the Kenai Peninsula, south of Anchorage, will receive title to the surface estate, and the Cook Inlet Re-

gion will receive title to the subsurface estate. The region includes most of the Kenai Peninsula, Anchorage, the Matanuska Valley, and northward to Mt. McKinley.

Kaktovik

The village of Kaktovik, located on the Beaufort Sea in Northeast Alaska, has received an additional 22,812 acres of land from the Bureau of Land Management. The land was conveyed under section 12(a) of the 1971 Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

The parcel is located just outside the western edge of the Arctic National Wildlife Range. This brings the amount of land Kaktovik has received to 88,585.7 acres. The village will eventually receive title to about 92,000 acres.

Kaktovik is one of eight villages within the Arctic Slope Region, encompassing the northern portion of Alaska from Point Hope on the Chukchi Sea to the Canadian border.

With this conveyance, villages within the region have received a total of 819,787.5 acres.

Doyon, Ltd.

Doyon, Ltd. has received title to another 22,919 acres of land in the Kandik Basin in west central Alaska. The interim conveyance by the Bureau of Land Management is authorized by section 12(c) of the 1971 Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA).

This conveyance brings the total surface and subsurface estate transferred to the Doyon Region to 97,455 acres. Decisions to convey nearly another 200,000 acres to Doyon have been issued, but are being appealed by the corporation.

Doyon will receive title to about 8.5 million acres of surface and subsurface estate under ANCSA. In addition, the corporation will receive the subsurface estate to lands conveyed to 34 villages in the Doyon Region, stretching from Mt. McKinley National Park north to the Arctic Wildlife Range and east to the Canadian border.