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## Reindeer get reprieve

The Hagemister reindeer is not ending with a 'shoot out at the O.K. corral' as the 30 day stay granted to Togiak villagers by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (U. S. F. & W.) planned.

Walt Steiglitz, U. S. F. & W. region director told the *Tundra Times* his agency is giving the Togiak Village Council an indefinite time period so they can study proposals. Steiglitz says the agency will not resume the slaughter of the remaining 200 animals, but is still offering the Togiak residents 60 reindeer to be relocated. Steiglitz does not

foresee any problems with the request by the council to clean up the island.

Niles Cesar, the Bureau of Indian Affairs Area Director, told the *Tundra Times* he spoke with Steiglitz and Dave Allen, U. S. F. & W. deputy director and asked to be informed of any U. S. F. & W. activities and plans for the herd. A B.I.A. resource specialist is researching the herd and assisting the Togiak council with a preliminary management plan. Future communications and meetings between all involved should improve, Cesar commented.

## Native rights upheld in appeals court

A recent decision by the Federal Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals upheld an earlier court ruling reaffirming the rights of Alaska Natives to make and sell authentic sea otter handicrafts. This right, recognized in the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (MMPA) was the subject of a lawsuit brought by the Alaska Sea Otter Commission (ASOC) and others challenging a U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (U. S. F. & W. S.) regulation prohibiting the sale of handicrafts made from sea otters. Federal District Court Judge Russell Holland ruled in favor of

Alaska Natives, July 1991 stating U. S. F. & W. S. actions were inconsistent with the MMPA and threw out the requirement an item be made on or before Dec. 1972 in order to be considered authentic.

The Appellate Court's decision recognizes cultural traditions can coexist with responsible resource management and opens the door for federal agencies and tribal governments to work together to ensure healthy sea otter populations, according to Mara Kimmel Hoyt, ASOC's executive director.

## State selects lands

The State of Alaska filed its final selections for lands promised to it in the 1959 Statehood Act. The selection of 23 million acres, to fill out an entitlement of 193 million acres, was filed with the Bureau of Land Management.

Lands selected will go through a long process to achieve tentative approval and then patent.

The selected lands break down into four basic categories:

- About five million acres were selected for surface values, including agriculture, community expansion, energy sites, forestry, grazing, recreation, settlement and wildlife habitat;

- Approximately four mil-

lion acres were selected for their oil and gas potential;

- About 18 million acres were selected because they hold moderate to high mineral potential; and

- About 3.5 million acres were selected as transportation and utility corridors.

These numbers represent some overlap, as selected lands often have more than one resource value.

"Twenty-three million acres would never have been sufficient. It may have sounded like a lot back then — it's more land than many whole states — but experience since then has clearly shown us it wasn't enough," notes Gov. Walter Hickel (I-AK).



(Wien/Tundra Times file photo)

**Grande dame of tourism:**

## Helen Seveck passes on

Helen Seveck passed away Dec. 31 at Fairbanks Memorial Hospital. Helen was born to Sam and Emma Rock in Point Hope, Alaska on Dec. 26, 1905. She married Bob Tuzroyluk in 1923 and together they lived a subsistence lifestyle and had nine children. During that time, Helen became the first Health-aide for Point Hope.

After Bob Tuzroyluk passed away, Helen married Chester A. Seveck, Sr. in 1958. In 1959 they appeared in the motion picture "Ice Palace" along with Richard Burton. In 1960 both Helen and Chester began working for Wien Airlines, promoting Alaska from coast to coast, as well as Hawaii and

Japan. After Chester's death in 1980, Helen continued her love for tourism until 1985. The Alaska Visitors Association honored Helen for her contributions and dedication to the tourist industry in Sept. 1989.

In her spare time, Helen made mukluks and parkas. These crafts were learned from her mother and she passed them down to her children and grandchildren. She received many awards for her craftsmanship in making her families' traditional Eskimo garments.

While promoting Alaska, Helen performed traditional Eskimo dances in front of thousands of tourists and well known people such as

Walt Disney, Chuck Connors, Walter Cronkite, Ronald Reagan and had appeared on the Art Linkletter, Steven Allen and Groucho Marx shows. She also performed in the early years of the World Eskimo/Indian Olympics, which her brother, the late Howard Rock helped found.

Helen is survived by her son, the Rev. Seymour Tuzroyluk of Point Hope; her daughters Dorothy Mazzola of Germantown, Maryland; Kathleen Attungowruk of Barrow; Irene Tooyak of Point Hope; Mary T. Dirks of Fairbanks. She is also survived by her in-laws Claudia Tuzroyluk,

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