

# Feds offer alternative Chugach lands proposal

By LOUISE DONHAUSER

Tundra Times Staff

A federal alternate proposal for Chugach Native Inc., land selections was presented to CNI for consideration at the last meeting of the Chugach Lands Study Group.

The alternate proposal was submitted by study group chairman Mike Barton, who represents the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The proposal called for CNI to receive 207,811 to 237,811 acres of land, some of it timber and coal lands.

The alternative was received with some enthusiasm by CNI personnel. CNI Land manager Carl Propes called the proposal

a "major happening. It gave us something to work with. We've never had an alternative proposal to work with before."

CNI President Lionel Drage said "We're moving in the right direction."

The alternate proposal contains U.S. Forest Service land, Bureau of Land Management land and state of Alaska land.

The land is drawn from the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge, a transportation and utility corridor between Glennallen and Valdez, the National Petroleum reserve, and from the Denali National Park.

Before the alternate proposal was submitted, CNI had submit-

ted five different packages of land the corporation would like to select to satisfy the right to land guaranteed under the Alaska Native Settlement Claims Act.

The five CNI options include combinations of in-region, out-of-region, in-state and out-of-state land. Included in the selection were forest service timberland and coal fields in Washington and Oregon States.

CNI representatives were told at a meeting two weeks ago that the Department of Agriculture was opposing the forest service land selections because it was felt that granting them would set a dangerous precedent with

other Native American groups wanting such land.

Opposition to granting CNI lands outside of Alaska was voiced on the grounds that other Native American groups want land outside their traditional borders.

The Chugach traditional region has been mostly swallowed up by the Chugach National Forest and development, a private ownership on the Prince William Sound areas.

At the same hearing, most of the CNI land selections were opposed by one group or another. The alternate proposal is seen as a step forward because land is being offered.

CNI has long held the position that land is preferable to monetary compensation. Under ANCSA, CNI is entitled to 378,000 acres of land.

The Chugach Region study will go to the Alaska Lands Use Council which will review and comment on it but it will not have the authority to approve or disapprove the selections.

After the report comes back from the Lands Use Council it will be publicized and a public hearing will be held. The report will then go back to the Lands Use Council.

After the Lands Use Council makes a final review the report  
(Continued on Page Sixteen)

# Chugach alternate lands listed

(Continued from Page One)

will be sent to President Ronald Reagan. Reagan will submit the report and his comments and recommendations to Congress.

The Federal Alternative Settlement proposal contained the following land:

Yakataga timber lands, 70,000-100,000 acres;

Bering River Coal Field, 48,657 acres;

Icy Bay, 47,750 acres;

Carbon Mountain, 25,757 acres;

Cape Yakataga, 1,078 acres;

Copper River, 9,212 acres;

Nelson Townsite, 2,000 acres;

Snow River, 960 acres;

Miles Lake, 685 acres;

Horseshoe Bay, 575 acres;

Jack Bay, 500 acres;

Whittier, 333 acres;

Eagle Bay Glacier Island, 200 acres;

Shotgun Cove, 100 acres;

Cordova-Lutheran Homesite, 2.50 acres;

Cordova-Federal Reserve, 1.258 acres;

Seward Townsite, .46 acres.