

# Nenana nutrition plan to use area's resources

Reprinted from the  
Senior Voice,  
December 1980

Mooseburger stew and salmon filet may soon be regular lunchtime fare for senior citizens in the Ne-

nana-Tortello Senior Citizens nutrition program.

The group has submitted a proposal to the State Office on Aging for a pilot project which would

put to use several natural resources of the Nenana area — abundant fish and wild game, wind power and water power.

Presently, the Nenana nutrition program, like all other senior nutrition programs in the state, uses purchased meat for meals.

But using wild game, including fish from the Nenana River and moose, bear and other game meat, makes sense to those running the Nenana program.

Using wild game, in fact, might solve two problems for the Interior community, Located on the Richardson

Highway near prime hunting areas, the town often has an abundance of meat from kills on the highway and from confiscated illegal kills. The senior citizens could enjoy cheaper, more meaty meals, while taking the meat off the hands of local officials.

Marjorie Anderson, who heads the Nenana senior program, says problems with inspection and certification of the meat are now being worked out.

Another problem — that of storing the meat until needed for meals — would be solved by converting the

area's ever-present wind and the swift flowing current of the Nenana River to electrical power. Using a combination of wind and water, with backup from standard electricity, the Nenana-Tortello seniors will have an inexpensive way to run the center's freezer motor.

"We are one of the only villages that has a steady source of power," says Anderson.

The proposal was submitted to the Office on Aging after the office issued a call for "new and innovative" programs for senior citizens earlier this year.