

# Land Conveyed

Venetie Indian Corporation (Venetie) and Neets'ai Corporation (Arctic village), two Interior villages, have received title to both surface and subsurface of 1.8 million acres of land, the largest land conveyance to a Native corporation to date. Both villages elected to take title to both surface and subsurface estate of their former reserve in lieu of cash and other benefits under the Alaska Natives Claims Settlement Act of 1971, as provided in Section 19 (b). The huge conveyance, all patented land, makes the two villages among the largest land owners in the state. It is also the largest contiguous tract ever conveyed by the federal government to private owners. The land will be transferred to the IRA Council in order to keep it in trust in Indian hands and to preserve their traditional way of life.