

BLM Survey Crews Gearing Up for Work

Survey crews from the Bureau of Land Management will be setting up camps in several areas of the state this month in preparation for a rectangular land survey program to accommodate native allotments and State of Alaska land selections.

The survey program will take about five months to complete.

Survey crews will be working in four major areas around the state including Dillingham, Kiana, Bethel, and Kodiak, said Hobart Hyatt, supervisor for the 22-man Dillingham team.

In addition, there will be survey crews in the Cordova area, Tangle Lakes region, Tongass National Forest, in Southeast Alaska, and along various highways throughout the state.

All allotments and other land selections must be surveyed before title can be transferred from the federal government to the party or individual who claims the land.

Approximately 200 parcels of land in the Dillingham area alone will be surveyed in a 50 square mile area from the village to Lake Aleknagik.

In the Kodiak area the surveying will take place around Sitkanak, and the Kiana-based crew will survey along the Kobuk River.

The crews have been flying in supplies and equipment both last week and this week.

Native allotments to be surveyed are those that are already on file with the BLM's Land Office.