

No Conflict Seen in Selections—

Natural Resources Office Would Aid in Native Selections

(Special from Anchorage Daily News).

JUNEAU—A state natural resources expert said Friday there is "no conflict" between state and Native land selections.

Dale Wallington, deputy commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources, told the Rural Affairs Commission that his office would gladly assist Native regional organizations in making their land selections.

Wallington said most of the land available for selection by Natives already is defined by the settlement act, but selection of about four million acres of "in lieu" lands will be quite important.

He recommended that the Natives form a single statewide land use management group since they will be required by law to distribute royalties produced on their land to all regions.

"You have first choice and we have second choice," Wallington told the mostly Native Rural Affairs Commission. "There is no conflict."

He said perhaps a million acres of state selected lands around the villages would be lost

as Natives select their 40 million acres.

Wallington also referred to the 80 million acre withdrawal that the Secretary of Interior is empowered to make. "If we can still find 103 million acres (provided by the Statehood Act) that are worthwhile, then we might select it."

He also said the state spends about 12.5 cents per acre to administer lands already selected.

Commission chairman Sen. Willie Hensley, D-Kotzebue, said he might offer legislation, if needed, to facilitate close working between the state and Natives.

But Wallington said few additional staff and perhaps only some additional travel monies would be needed by his department to establish a land management liaison with Native organizations.



UNALAKLEET COUNCIL—Soon after the new year, Unalakleet voters elected the following council members. Left to right: Allen Soosuk, councilman; Janet Koutchak, secretary; Paul Ivanoff, Vice President; Fred Katchag, President; and Isabelle Millet, treasurer. The picture was submitted to the Tundra Times by William A. Grubbs, principal of the Bureau of Indian Affairs school at Unalakleet.

Unalakleetan Honored— Soxie Shines in Police Training

A Unalakleet man earned top honors in the Department of Public Safety Village Police Training School held recently on the campus of Sheldon Jackson Junior College in Sitka, Alaska.

Francis Soxie, 31, was presented with a certificate by Representative Chuck Degnan of

Nome, who was the chief speaker at the graduation ceremonies.

Through earning top honors in this course, Soxie added to a list of laurels he has already compiled. The Unalakleet Eskimo has been a member of the Eskimo Scouts for 12 years.

After completing Officers Candidate School at Fort Benning, Georgia, he won a successive number of promotions to attain his current rank of Captain.

He graduated from Covenant High School in Unalakleet in 1958, and completed a course at W. E. Beltz Vocational School in Nome in 1965.

He has worked for the Employment Security Division of the Department of Labor, and has been a commercial fisherman.

Soxie, and his wife, Ethel, live with their four children in Unalakleet.

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