

STUDY TITLE: Monitoring Social and Cultural Effects, Phase I: Beaufort Region (TR-117).

REPORT TITLE: Monitoring Methodology and Analysis of North Slope Institutional Response and Change, 1979-1983.

CONTRACT NUMBER(S): MMS: 14-12-0001-30138; Technical Report No. 117.

SPONSORING OCS REGION: Alaska.

APPLICABLE PLANNING AREA(S): Beaufort Sea.

FISCAL YEAR(S) OF PROJECT FUNDING: 1984.

COMPLETION DATE OF REPORT: September 1985.

COST(S): FY 1984: \$159,763; CUMULATIVE PROJECT COST: \$159,763.

PROJECT MANAGER(S): R. Worl.

AFFILIATION: Chilkat Institute.

ADDRESS: P.O. Box 220230, Anchorage, Alaska 99522-0230.

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR(S)*: T. Brelsford, S. Langdon, T. Lonner, C. Smythe, R. Worl.

KEY WORDS: Beaufort Sea; North Slope Borough; cultural impacts; socioeconomics; social indicators; sociocultural change; literature review; historical review; monitoring; institutional change; community; development; subsistence; Kaktovik; Wainwright; Barrow.

BACKGROUND: The Inupiat (northern Eskimo) is the indigenous population of eight permanent communities in the North Slope region. During the last 15 years, the Inupiat have experienced extensive sociocultural changes. The changes have been stimulated in part by petroleum development both onshore and offshore and by revenues which such development provides to the North Slope Borough. The purpose of this project was to analyze institutional development and change within the North Slope region from 1979 to 1983 and to design a methodology for monitoring sociocultural change on the North Slope. Implicit in both components was examination of recent cultural change and institutional development in response to effects of Federal oil and gas leasing on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS). The objective of the methodology was to develop a standardized approach to track OCS effects for use by the leasing agency, the Minerals Management Service (MMS).

OBJECTIVES: (1) To analyze institutional development and change within the North Slope region from 1979 to 1983; and (2) To design a methodology for monitoring sociocultural change on the North Slope.

DESCRIPTION: The institutional study was carried out in three communities within the North Slope region--Wainwright, Kaktovik, and Barrow. The communities were selected because of their social and economic diversity, variances in developmental activities associated with North Slope Borough capital improvement projects, and proximity to industrial development. Three data collection methods were employed: (1) traditional anthropological approaches involving participant observation and informal discussion with individuals and groups; (2) focused, topical discussions with key institutional actors; and (3) use of institutional archival and reference material.

The sociocultural monitoring methodology is holistic in its approach and identifies seven cultural domains which are significant in development and change of social, cultural, and political institutions within the North Slope region. These domains are: (1) whaling-complex; (2) extended families; (3) leadership and political formation; (4) other cultural institutions; (5) land and sea; (6) economic development; and (7) social differentiation. The monitoring methodology provides a framework for the systematic collection of data comprised of key indicators of formal and informal institutions. The methodology is also designed

to assess interrelationships of the seven domains within the institutions, and to monitor cumulative changes in the institutions, communities, and region.

SIGNIFICANT CONCLUSIONS: Data analysis from the three communities indicates that institutional change and development ranged from a high degree of centralized control at Kaktovik to specialized and diversified control among many institutions at Barrow. Five issues emerged as significant in monitoring institutional development and change: (1) population (ethnicity); (2) political control; (3) land (within and beyond village boundaries); (4) business development/wage employment; and (5) housing. These issues centered around the ability of communities to control development within and beyond their village boundaries.

STUDY RESULTS: The three communities studied had a distinct range of directions for institutional change and development. Kaktovik is a community that reflects centralized control through a high degree of communication and cooperation between two major institutions, the city council and the village corporation. The local population maintained community control through action initiated in three areas: land, housing, and employment.

Wainwright represents the middle or transition between Kaktovik and Barrow. In Wainwright, institutional socialization is occurring, resulting in occasional conflicts between institutions. Individuals are beginning to promote the objectives and purposes of institutions which they represent.

Barrow represents a community in which institutions are diversified and specialized (i.e., a proliferation of institutions has occurred). The result is that community control and functions are dispersed through many formal and informal institutions. Institutional conflict is readily apparent in Barrow. The ethnic composition of the local population has diversified significantly.

Analysis of the range of institutions found at these communities indicated that five issues emerged as significant in monitoring institutional development and change: (1) population; (2) political control; (3) land; (4) business development/wage employment; and (5) housing. Significant population growth within the communities will lead to social differentiation and ethnic formations.

Alterations in the Native/non-Native ratio are apparently stimulating further institutional change. The Native populations have initiated efforts to maintain control over development activities both within and outside their communities with a major concern being protection of cultural lifestyles and maintenance of subsistence economy. Two different land concepts are apparently as important: (1) core township sites; and (2) subsistence and wildlife environment. Increased governmental revenues within communities have stimulated rapid business expansion; however, most new businesses are controlled by non-Natives. In addition, professional and highly skilled positions were largely dominated by non-Natives. The Native population was concentrated in higher paying jobs associated with the North Slope Borough capital improvement projects, which are anticipated to decline, and clerical and management jobs within the governments. Housing emerged as an issue not due to potential impact on extended families, but as a means to control community development.

STUDY PRODUCT(S): Smythe, C. W., R. Worl, S. Langdon, T. Lonner, and T. Brelsford. 1985. Monitoring Methodology and Analysis of North Slope Institutional Response and Change, 1979-1983. A final report by the Chilkat Institute for the U.S. Department of the Interior, Minerals Management Service Alaska OCS Region, Anchorage, AK. Social and Economic Studies Program Technical Report No. 117. Contract No. 14-12-0001-30138. 569 pp.

ACCESS NUMBER: **TR-117**

*P.I.'s affiliation may be different than that listed for Project Manager(s).