

## **Reindeer Herding**

Reindeer herding was introduced to the Seward Peninsula in northwest Alaska in the 1890s. Seen as a promising industry, Laplanders were brought from Norway to teach Alaska Natives the skill of reindeer herding. Today, the industry is struggling to stay viable. Migrating caribou have extended their range further west onto the Seward Peninsula inter-mingling with reindeer and leading them away from their traditional ranges. The Division of Mining, Land and Water, Northern Region Office works jointly with the Bureau of Land Management and the National Park Service to manage the public lands used for reindeer herding. As herders struggle to protect their herds and maintain their livelihood, biologists and land managers work on strategies to support reindeer herding.