

# **BBNA protests FCC ruling**

Special to the Tundra Times

In a sharply worded resolution, the executive committee of the Bristol Bay Native Association today took issue with the federal communications commission. At issue is a requirement due to become law on January 1, that all marine radio communications be conducted with single-side band high frequency equipment.

The resolution contends that the regulations fails to meet the needs of Bay Area residents because it requires the purchase of expensive and inefficient equipment. Local fishermen criticize the new equipment, saying that the quality of transmission is reduced rather than enhanced.

As well, fisherman are looking at another bleak fishing season, and purchase of the new equipment (at an estimated \$1,500 per set) will create an economic hardship, according to BBNA.

(Continued on Page 2)

# **BBNA protests**

(Continued from Page 1)

"The FCC, by virtue of its rule-making authority, clearly has the authority to waive the regulations," said BBNA president Marlene Johnson. "We are contacting Gov. Hammond, the congressional delegation and the Chairman of the FCC. If that doesn't work, we'll send a telegram to President-elect Jimmy Carter.