

Chugach buys fish plant

Chugach Natives Inc. has purchased the New England Fish Company cannery at Orca near Cordova, according to Bob Anderson, president of the Native corporation.

No purchase price was named but rumor has it that approximately \$1.7 million was paid for the facility. The new company will be called Chugach Alaska Fisheries Inc.

Jim Forsell has been hired as superintendent, and Al O'Leary as plant manager. Both are long-time cannery men well-known in the Cordova area. The company will establish an

office near Fishermen's Terminal in Seattle.

Anderson said the company will operate this summer on salmon, and will also buy herring and crabs as capacity allows. He outlined the improvements contemplated for the plant: installation of blast-freezing equipment to replace the present plate freezer, and increasing the capacity. The cannery hopes to operate eleven months of the year when fully renovated, beginning with herring in the spring and working clear through the crab season into the winter.