

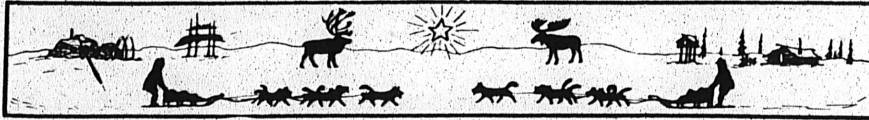
# Tundra Times

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Inupiat Paitot People's Heritage

Den Nena Henash Our Land Speaks

Unanguq Tunuktauq The Aleuts Speak



Tlingit  
Ut kah neek Informing and Reporting

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## Interim caribou regulations

### Game Supervisor says regulations to go into effect in near future

By BETSY BRENNEMAN  
Staff Writer

Although emergency regulations for management of the dwindling Western Caribou herd will probably not be adopted by the Board of Game until late September, interim regulations could go into effect in a week or two, according to Regional Game Supervisor Bob Hinman.

Reporting on the completion of public hearings on the caribou issue, Hinman, who is based in Fairbanks, says that those interim regulations might mean "a closure or some other means of holding down the kill" during the months of August and September.

Hinman and Director of Game Robert Rausch, will be drafting the proposals for emergency regulations in the next week to be published for 30 days for public comment and then adopted or rejected at the Game Board's next meeting around Sept. 20. The proposals will give a "rough intent" of the board's position and time will again be given at the meeting for public comment. Hinman says he will know in a week whether interim regulations will go into effect in the meantime.

Public hearings in Kotzebue, Fairbanks, and Barrow were completed last Thursday to take public comment on possible emergency actions to save the Western Arctic herd which roams an area west of the pipeline corridor and north of the Yukon River.

In 1970 a count of 242,000 caribou was logged by aerial photo survey. Last year the count, including calves, was approximately 100,000. Another census for this year is now underway and latest estimates are that the herd now numbers at maximum 52,000 with the productive part of herd numbering only 38,000.

The "softest" part of the data is the wolf take of caribou, says Hinman. Last year it was estimated that wolves were taking about 15,000 caribou a year and humans were harvesting 25,000. About the same number has been taken by humans for quite some time, although it is "undeniably true," says Hinman, "that harvesting by humans has been excessive and wastage, as one factor in that, is also excessive."

Last year was the first time an attempt to document wastage was made. It was difficult to do other than saying "yeah, some was wasted here, some here, and so on." Hinman also admits that the rapid decline in the population also could have been due to other factors such as weather and range conditions.

Of the three public hearings, Kotzebue's was the most pleasing to Hinman because 150 people turned out, representation from all the NANA villages was good and the gathering was "exceptionally productive and objective in attitude." Although they "certainly questioned the validity of the information" because the herd has been migrating through the coastal villages in recent years, Hinman says that a lot of old timers were in the audience who had detected the changes. Most people accepted the fact that something had to be done.

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### High violent death rate in Alaska

Unlike other Americans, Alaskans usually die violent deaths which are behaviorally based.

These are the findings of a study by Dr. R. F. Kraus of the Psychology and Behavioral Science Department of the WAMI program (Washington, Alaska, Montana, Idaho medical school program), and Dr. Patricia Buefler, formerly with AMU's Health Sciences Center.

Their 25-year sample results were presented by Kraus on Friday, Aug. 6, at a final session of the 27th Annual Alaska Science Conference focusing on Socio-Cultural Impacts: Cultural Resources, Health and Communications.

Stating that he has been interested in cross-cultural behavioral research specifically in the area of deviant behavior and violent death where rapid change is occurring, Kraus also said his findings surprised him by showing that of the four major native populations in the state, the Athabascans rank above all others in number of violent deaths.

Using statistics provided by the State Bureau of Vital Statistics from 1950 to 1974, Kraus and Buefler define violent deaths as those due to suicide, homicide, accidents and alcohol and say that they define alcohol deaths conservatively. Their figures do not reflect deaths that are "alcohol-related," but those that are directly attributed.

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THE GAJAA HEEN (Old Sitka) Dancers performed at the American Folklore Festival in Washington, D.C. Coordinated by Margy Johnson of Alaska Federation of Natives and the Smithsonian Institution, the festival itself is jointly sponsored by the American Airlines and General Foods. During the five-day performance it is estimated that over 50,000 visitors per day watched the performances. Alaska native craftsmen, carvers, skin sewers and bead workers from the Visual Arts Center in Anchorage and the Carving Shop in Juneau displayed their crafts and talents.

## 27th Annual Science Conference

By BETSY BRENNEMAN  
Staff Writer

Calling scientific arctic knowledge "second hand" because it is unconnected with the arctic knowledge of the indigenous Inupiat people, North Slope Borough Mayor Eben Hopson supplied a strong native voice during the opening speeches at the 27th Annual Science Conference held Aug. 4-7 at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks.

Hopson's remarks were read by North Slope Borough tax collector George Ahmogak and contained in a paper which Hopson was unable to deliver due to a throat ailment.

The conference, with the theme "Resource Development: Processes and Problems," focused on the broad areas of pipelines, offshore development, biology, land use policy and resources, resource development, and socio-cultural impacts. Over 100 researchers and scientists presented papers on subjects ranging from water use problems on the North Slope to decompositions in a black spruce ecosystem. Over 400 registrants attended the conference.

Hopson's paper followed a series of presentations of resource development in the Soviet Union, Scandinavia, Canada and Alaska with native land claims being a major factor in both Canadian development, presented by Don Bissett

of the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, and in Alaska, presented by Guy Martin, commissioner of Natural Resources.

But George Ahmogak stated Hopson's concern in terms of more general and complex value differences, saying that a

regional rather than a national approach to scientific inquiry is now needed. Because arctic knowledge has become an industry only for "specialized knowledge to meet international needs," it is not community based, not wholistic, and there-

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In an attempt to overcome the lack of cooperation which has characterized the relationship between the scientific community and native Alaskans, the Interagency Arctic Research Coordinating Committee will meet with native leaders in Anchorage on Aug. 11 at 2 p.m. at the Westward Hotel.

The purpose of the conference is "unique," according to Dr. James A. McAlear who is the scientific and technical advisor to the North Slope Borough. It is a gathering of scientists from various agencies and native people "on whose turf scientists happen to be treading."

The meeting was organized with hopes of creating better feelings and a more cooperative spirit between the two groups, and avoiding what McAlear said happened to the North Slope Borough's Eben Hopson when "all kinds

of plans were made for his Beaufort Sea, and no one in the government told him."

Sam Kito, AFN president, is organizing the conference from the Alaskan end. McAlear did not yet know which native leaders were planning to attend.

The Interagency Arctic Research Coordinating Committee was founded in 1972 by the National Science Foundation and is now directed by the head of NSF, S. Guyford Stevors who also acts as a Presidential advisor. The committee publishes "Arctic Bulletin," a report of federal programs in the arctic.

The committee will be in Fairbanks Aug. 12-13 attending the Cold Regions Engineering Conference, and in Barrow on Aug. 14 meeting with the mayor's staff at North Slope Borough headquarters.