

# Gov. Wm. Egan Asks Branch Of Recreation

JUNEAU—Governor William A. Egan has urged Interior Secretary Rogers Morton to establish in Alaska a branch of the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation's northwest regional office.

In a letter, Egan told Morton the bureau's program in Alaska has tripled over the past two years and has "made it imperative that we maintain an even closer working relationship" with the regional office in Seattle.

The bureau's work with Alaska includes administration of the Land and Water Conservation Fund program, preparation and maintenance of a comprehensive outdoor recreation plan, and special studies such as those for scenic rivers and trails.

"The emphasis on outdoor recreation and the environment has increased tremendously," the governor told Morton, and added that additional planning work is necessary now under provisions of the Native Claims Settlement Act.

"We feel there is now more than ample justification for establishment of a branch office . . . in Alaska," he said.