

# Clark's Point man guilty of wasting nine walrus

In the first case of its kind ever to go to a jury, Richard L. Clark, 38, of Clark's Point, was convicted last month of wasting walrus near Cape Pierce last summer.

Clark, a fisherman and Alaska Native, was found guilty of unlawfully taking approximately nine walrus in a wasteful manner on July 27, 1988.

According to witnesses and evidence provided by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Clark, along with his brother Sam, 26, and his father, Joe, 63, came ashore from their fishing vessel on the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge.

The three men approached the walrus on a large beach area that serves as a "haul-out," or resting area, and killed nine of them taking the walrus' heads, ossiks, and flippers.

The other two men charged in the case both pleaded guilty earlier this spring.

The Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 allows only Alaska Natives to hunt walrus, but the hunting must be done in a "non-wasteful" manner.