

# Fishing is on Everybody's Mind this Summer

By ROBERT KOWELUK

## AVCP DISCUSSES OCS AND D-2

The two issues of most immediate importance and impact which affects Western Alaskans; D-2 and Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) oil and gas exploration were the discussion topics at a two day AVCP meeting held in Bethel, June 26-27. AFN lobbyist Don Mitchell presented an up-date on the status of D-2 in congress. These included the urgency of clarifying subsistence and wilderness withdrawals.

AVCP's Harold Napoleon summed up the goals for the D-2 session. "This meeting will pretty much determine the position that this region will take on S9 when that bill comes up for discussion."

The second day OCS discussions attempted to formulate an appropriate response to the Final Five Year Oil and Gas Leasing Schedule published by the Secretary of the Interior, Cecil Andrus.

## KUSKOKWIM FISHERY

Bethel city police stood by while Police Chief Lorne Campbell, City Manager Lyman Hoffman and AVCP Chief Eddie Hoffman tried to calm angry fishermen who were preventing the unloading of two tenders at the Palgon Dock on June 27. Polagon was the last of Bethel's processors to stop buying fish, and consequently bore the brunt of the fishermen's anger. With the temperature of the uniced fish rising to a critical level, the situation was getting serious. Campbell told the crowd that the ADF&G had issued an emergency decision allowing the fishermen to dry the salmon for dog food or sell during the winter or to donate their fish to local social service agencies rather than throw the fish carcasses back into the river. By 3:00 p.m. the Yut Biat processing barge opened to buy fish from the fishermen.

## TO SELL ALASKA...

A sophisticated computer program, direct mailings and splashy ads with reply card inserts will be high-

lights of a \$2.6 million advertising campaign to sell the state of Alaska to potential tourists in 1981. The campaign, a joint venture of state and private sectors, is now in its final planning stages.

## METLAKATLA TRAP FISHERY

The only trap fishery in the state located at Metlakatla, Alaska is open on alternate days beginning on July 1 and ending August 30. Metlakatla is the only Indian reservation in the state and has it's own Metlakatla Indian Community fishing seasons set by the BIA, with consultants with state agencies.

Daily trap catch reports are used to determine whether to shorten or extend the trap season. And has been as the practice in recent years, the strength of the trap run could result in changes of the fishing times.

Metlakatla also has gill-net and purse sein seasons which follow the same schedules as the state of Alaska fishing seasons.

## WHALING CAPTAINS FESTIVAL

The Whaling Captain's Festival was held during

June 28 and 29 at Gambell. The weather which had turned cool and foggy pushed the festival activities originally planned to be held outdoors to the high school gym there. The festival was not highly organized according to an article in the July 4 edition of the Bering Straights newspaper, 'Half the charm of the weekend was indeed the casual feeling about the festival. Events were often late in beginning, but once everyone made it down to the gym, spirits were high and everyone was in the mood for fun.' Festival activities included: Eskimo dancing, egg races, mukluk feasts, a marathon race and ivory a showing of ivory carvings.

## CAPE FOX CORPORATION INVESTMENTS

The 104 room Juneau Hilton Hotel was purchased for a price of \$4.2 million by the Cape Fox Corporation on June 26, 1980. The hotel is currently a profitable operation according to Cape Fox general manager Frank Seymour and was sold by Junhill Corp., a subsidiary of Mellon Bank, Pittsburg, Penn. because the

length of time it could run the hotel was limited by law. The six year old hotel is reported to be in excellent condition, and Cape Fox officials are already planning changes in the hotel's restaurant operations, planning major hotel improvements and expansion.

## FISHING...

The annual salmon migrations from feeding grounds to their spawning streams is running in earnest by now and subsistence, commercial and sport fishermen are joining the bears in the harvest. President Jimmy Carter will be joining our Governor Jay Hammond for a one day sport fishing trip this week on his return trip from Japan. It is reported that they will fish for grayling and trout at a secluded stream somewhere in the Susitna Valley. It seems they didn't want to set their hopes up to high for the kings.

I hope the weather is right, the streams at an okay depth, the fish biting, the mosquitoes tolerable, the fishing tackle the right for their fishing and the fishing skills of our leaders to match or surpass the skills of old timers.