

POINT HOPE MARINE SCIENCE

Unusual Prog. Is Sponsored By N.S. Borough

A federally funded program has recently been initiated at Point Hope. Its purpose is to coordinate teaching and research activities of marine sciences in the area.

This program is the only one of its kind currently existing in Alaska, although similar ones have been successfully introduced to a number of schools in the Lower 48.

The Point Hope Marine Science Program (PHMSP) is sponsored by North Slope Borough School District and has been inspired by efforts of Gaylen Searles, the principal of Point School.

Dr. Tim T. Kan, a marine fisheries biologist from Oregon State University, now directs the program. He will be combining the roles of educator and research scientist.

Two summer sessions will be offered by PHMSP to students from all schools in North Slope Borough. The first session starts July 7 while the second one Aug. 4, each consisting of a period of three weeks.

Participating students will have the opportunity to learn various aspects of the basic aquatic and environmental sciences. Among the subjects to be taught are oceanography, limnology, ecology, conservation, and seamanship and navigation.

Two specially designed boats are being introduced to PHMSP for its multiple functions: a 50-foot long marine research

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vessel, currently on her way north from Seattle; the other a riverboat which is being built at Point Hope for exclusively limnological studies of the Kukpuk River.

✓ An essential part of the program will be Dr. Kan's investigation of Point Hope waters for the potential as a commercial fishing area.