

# ***Counseling available to commercial fishermen***

Alaska Business Development Center, who has been assisting the Alaska commercial fishing industry since 1978, is under contract with the State of Alaska, Department of Commerce and Economic Development to provide free or low cost business counseling and assistance to commercial fishermen and small businesses in the Alaska fishing industry. Projects that promote value-added fish processing and enhanced product quality are of special interest.

The Alaska Business Development Center's staff and consultants are experienced in providing counseling and assistance in many areas, including the new State of Alaska Tax Obligation Loan Program, initial three year program provides funds to satisfy past due federal tax obligations that may result in the loss of a limited entry permit to the IRS. The program provides individual loans up to \$30,000 to pay back taxes so that fishers will not lose their limited entry permit.

You can contact the Alaska Business Development Center in Anchorage at 1-800-478-FISH (3474) or (907) 562-0335.