

Governor declares disaster in two areas

An intense storm packing high winds, torrential rains and heavy seas that caused extensive damage in Wrangell and Craig has spurred Governor Jay Hammond to issue a disaster declaration for those communities.

In an Executive Proclamation issued by the Governor, he said, "I have determined that the damage in the cities of Craig and Wrangell resulting from the storm of November 1, 1978, is of sufficient severity and mag-

nitude to warrant a disaster declaration under Alaska Statutes, and I hereby declare that such a Disaster Emergency exists in Craig and Wrangell in order to provide State assistance."

Officials of the Alaska Office of Emergency Services estimate

damage to public and private property at about \$1 million. The Governor has directed the office to allocate the funds necessary to assist the Southeastern communities.

The Governor issued his declaration after both cities requested

State assistance. City councils in each community passed an ordinance stating that their resources were inadequate to recover from the disaster.

The Office of Emergency Services reports that two docks and the barge ramp in Wrangell suffered substantial damage. The

barge ramp in Craig was completely destroyed. The newly installed sewer disposal plant and Shoreline Road in Craig suffered major damage. Heavy damage was also reported to the electric power distribution systems and many businesses and homes in both communities.