

What others say...

Regulation 'arbitrary'

To the editor:

An Alaskan State Power Troll Permit states that it is STATEWIDE. That means the holder of this permit can fish any place in Alaskan waters right? No, wrong.

A regulation arbitrarily states that it is a violation for any trolling boat to fish any farther west than Cape Suckling.

The decision that was made by the fish board is strictly political. Brought on by the extreme political pressure from the sport fishing groups in the Anchorage-Mat-Su area. It is generally conceded that the Chinook and Silver Salmon feeding in this huge area are of mixed stocks and many originate as far away as Siberia or California. Yet this discriminatory outrage has been in effect for several years.

The lifting of this unjust regulation would have no serious effect on the overall Salmon population because the trolling boats would be scattered out over a wide area, and only the largest

and toughest boats could survive where there are no harbors.

This concentration of nearly 3,000 trolling boats in Southeast Alaska is self-defeating because there are only so many hungry salmon to get; and salmon will leave an area that is overfished.

This miserly quota allocated to Alaskan trollers by the U.S. and Canadian Salmon treaty is weighted heavily against Alaskan trollers. Especially with this strangling regulation that forbids them to travel westward. Then the final payoff is the stupidity of the state department in allowing all those foreign fishing vessels to congregate in the 200-mile conservation zone.

I applaud the Green Peace people in declaring war on the foreign gill-net fleets that destroy 10 times more individual salmon than the entire trolling fleet, besides the birds and sea mammals strangled in the transparent monofilament.

Al Brookman Sr.
Sitka

Volunteers provide service

To the editor:

Once again the holiday season fills our hearts with warmth and goodwill. For those of us who spend the holidays with loved ones, it is a blessed and joyful time of year.

But not everyone enjoys such good fortune. That is why, now perhaps more than during any time of the year, America's volunteers are needed and appreciated throughout the United States.

As the director of ACTION, the federal domestic volunteer agency, I know how much the touch of love and joy means to each person who comes in contact with our volunteers. Men and women over 60 in our Older American Volunteer Programs have a lifetime of experience to share.

The 5,320 Senior Companions who offer daily attention to the frail elderly, the 19,000 Foster Grandparents who give guidance and affection to children with special needs, the 365,000 Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) volunteers who fulfill every conceivable need through community organizations and agencies — these older Americans know that during the holiday season, the extra hug, the attentive ear — every tender gesture — gives comfort and hope to those in need.

In addition to our older American volunteers, 2,413 VISTA volunteers battle problems of alcohol and drug abuse, illiteracy, unemployment, hunger and homelessness.

However, ACTION volunteers are not alone in their commitment. The example of neighbor-helping-neighbor is contagious. Last year, 87 million Americans were involved in charity and social services and \$79 billion of personal income was donated to

charities. The value of time volunteered is estimated at \$100 billion.

As we address the complex social issues of this decade and the next, we cannot rely on government alone. We must build teamwork among federal, state and local governments, the private sector and individual citizens. Only then will we, as a nation, gain the volunteer strength needed to make a substantial difference — a difference felt by every person in need throughout America.

In honoring this year's recipients of the President's Volunteer Action Awards, President Reagan said, "The spirit of volunteerism is deeply ingrained in us as a nation. Indeed, when asked by pollsters, most Americans state their belief that no matter how big government gets and no matter how many services it provides, it can never take the place of volunteers. In other words, the American people understand that there are no substitutes for gifts of service given from the heart."

Indeed, 1987 will be a year of major, national volunteer initiatives. United Way of America will celebrate a century of service with a drive to generate greater numbers of community volunteers. Similarly, Independent Sector, a national coalition of non profit organizations, is launching a program called "Measureable Growth," an effort to double charitable contributions by 1991 and increase volunteer work by 50 percent. VOLUNTEER, the National Center, also is making intense efforts to strengthen involvement of citizens as volunteers to solve local problems. By backing these campaigns

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Letters to the editor are gladly accepted and will be printed on a space-available basis. Letters must be specifically addressed to the Tundra Times and signed by the author. Letters must be accompanied by address and/or telephone number for verification purposes. We reserve the right to edit all letters for length, and for profane or libelous content. Send letters to: Tundra Times Editor, P.O. Box 104480, Anchorage, AK 99510-4480.

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Volunteers

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in their neighborhoods, citizens truly can extend the holiday spirit throughout the year.

In your community — at hospitals, schools, nursing homes, museums, juvenile detention centers — wherever there are volunteers, we see the vitality of the American spirit in action: the spirit that has been our national trademark throughout our history. I ask all Americans to extend their holiday giving by supporting volunteers in their communities throughout the new year.

Donna M. Alvarado
Director of ACTION

Washington,

D.C.