

Fish & Wildlife subcommittee to hold hearing

ANCHORAGE — Congressman Don Young announced recently that the House subcommittee on Fisheries and Wildlife will hold hearings on Alaska lands legislation on Saturday, March 10, in Fairbanks. The hearings will take place in Schaible Hall on the University of Alaska campus, beginning at 9 a.m.

Both Congressman Young and Rep. John Breaux (D-LA), the chairman of the subcommittee expressed regrets that schedule problems will permit only one day of testimony at a single sight in Alaska. "Unfortunately, the speaker has

given the committee only 60 days to complete action on this legislation," said Chairman Breaux. "This leaves no time for extended hearings in the state this year. We will be using testimony delivered when the subcommittee held hearing in Alaska during the last session of Congress."

"Time limitations will not permit us to hear everyone who wants to testify, but every effort will be made to do so. We want to hear as wide a range of views as possible, but witnesses will be scheduled on a first come first served basis in the order in which they sign up."

Those wishing to testify

should provide their name, address, phone number, organization they represent and their position of legislation to either (in person), the Fairbanks Office of Congressman Don Young, Room 212, Federal Building, 101 12th Avenue (no phone requests will be accepted); or by mail or phone, Subcommittee on Fisheries and Wildlife, 3574 House Office Building Annex 11, Washington, D.C. 20515, phone 202-225-7307.

Witnesses must be prepared to present an oral summary of their testimony lasting a maximum of five minutes and must bring with them a minimum of 10 copies of a written state-

ment, which may be of any length. All those not scheduled to testify at the hearings may submit their views in writing to the subcommittee's Washington office for consideration by the subcommittee and inclusion in the record.

The subcommittee has jurisdiction over the National Wildlife Refuge system and all matter which impact on fisheries and wildlife conservation.

"Many of our members have been to Alaska and some participated in the subcommittee's 1977 hearings in Fairbanks, Anchorage and Juneau," Congressman Breaux and Young pointed out, "but we believe it is vital that those who have not,

particularly new members, be given an opportunity, however brief, to hear the views of Alaskans and to see first-hand the lands under consideration."

In addition to the hearings, the subcommittee members and staff are expected to visit the north slope and some of the areas proposed for inclusion in the Refuge system.

"I am pleased that Congressman Breaux has chosen to show his concern for the needs of Alaskans by taking this trip, in spite of the limited time available," Congressman Young said. "I hope all Alaskans welcome the subcommittee and will express their feelings in a dignified and constructive manner."