

Native Articles Hearings Set

The National Marine Fisheries of the Department of Commerce will be holding Public Hearings in Nome, Fairbanks and Anchorage on proposed limitations of "authentic Native articles of handicraft and clothing."

Dates are set for:

Sept. 24 - District Court Chambers, Nome

Sept. 26 - Alaska State Bank Building, Fairbanks

Sept. 27 - City Council Chambers (Loussac Library), Anchorage

All hearings will begin at 9 a.m.

Under current law, Alaska Natives are exempted from the moratorium on the taking of marine mammals, providing it is for subsistence living or for creating and selling authentic Native goods.

The new proposals, if implemented, will narrowly define and restrict just which items can be produced and sold as "authentic" handicrafts.