

FILM ON BRISTOL BAY FISHERMEN OK'D

Project To Promote Better Understanding

Trefon Angasan Jr., RurAL CAP Regional Director in the Bristol Bay Region, recently announced the awarding of a \$9,300 grant from the Alaska Humanities Forum.

The purpose of the grant is to fund a project entitled, "The Bristol Bay Fisheries Dialogue Project."

The heart of the proposal is a ½ hour documentary film, currently in production by film maker Phil Cook, which gives free play to the views and concerns of resident Bristol Bay area fishermen.

Subjects that the film will touch upon include such things as the economics of the fisheries, the recently enacted Limited Entry legislation, and Alaska Department of Fish and Game regulations concerning the fisheries.

Following completion of the film in mid-September, a series of meetings will be held in the Bristol Bay Region. Present at the meetings will be two "academic humanists", a requirement from the National Foundation for the Humanities in order to obtain funding for humanities projects.

The meetings will consist of the showing of the film, followed by a discussion led by Project Director Donald Neilson from South Naknek, and involving the humanists, Mr. Frank Flavin, Director of Alaska Legal Services, and Dr. Eugene Eaton, an economist from the University of Alaska in Anchorage.

Village meetings in the Bristol Bay area will be held in Naknek, South Naknek, Levelock, Koliganke, Dillingham, and Nondalton.

Following the village visits, a meeting will be held with the RurAL CAP Board of Directors in late November at which time the film will be presented and the information that was obtained from the meetings will be discussed.

The film is being prepared to fit the standard ½ hour commercial TV format, and attempts will be made to have it aired in Anchorage and Fairbanks as well as on the Bethel television outlet.

In this way, the experiences of rural Alaskans can be shared by residents of the more urban communities within the State.

Angasan sums up the project by quoting from the proposal's objective: "Awareness of each other, of each person's place in history, and of each person's place relative to his resource, will form a strong sense of community; and this community sense will spread, making it's benefits felt far outside the region."