

Fishermen Aid Asked For B. Bay

John Shively, Executive Director of Rural Alaska Community Action Program, sent telegrams to both President Richard M. Nixon and Alaska's Governor William A. Egan, urging that immediate action be taken to aid fishermen in the Bristol Bay area.

The director told President Nixon of the repeated violations of international treaties by the Japanese and asked that he discuss this matter with Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka in the meeting scheduled for August 31 and September 1 in Hawaii.

It is particularly relevant at this time, Mr. Shively stated, because of the disastrous fishing season being experienced in the Bristol Bay region.

Thus far, our government has done little but slap the hands of those who have violated the treaties, he said.

When the director returned from that area in July, he described conditions to the governor and asked that a serious look be given to the Fish and Game department program.

He said that fishermen are bitter and frustrated that they must sit on the beach in order that escapement take place and then see no return in later years from the fisheries management program.

Mr. Shively suggested hearings be held in the Bristol Bay region as soon as possible to receive proposals from local fishermen for the betterment of their fishing resources.

He commented that these people face a bleak winter unless immediate action is taken and said that RurAL CAP would be glad to cooperate in any effort the state might undertake.