

Help for Bristol Bay

Mike Harper, executive director of RurAL CAP and Mr. Nick Gregory, chairman of the Board of Directors for the Bristol Bay Area Development Corporation recently acknowledged the Governor's declaration that the Bristol Bay Region would be considered an economic disaster area and immediately sent word that the RurAL CAP Organization would stand ready to assist the Governor's Administration in establishing village work projects to compensate for the lack of economic development as derived through the fishing industry.

It is widely recognized that not only the residents of Bristol Bay have been adversely affected by the lack of job opportunities but people from the Interior and Kuskokwim areas have often made the trek to the Bay Region

for these same job opportunities.

A representative for the Governor was already in the Bristol Bay Region the week of May 6 and the RurAL CAP office at Bristol Bay was working hand-in-hand with the representative to survey the exact extent of the job situation and to pose solutions, said Harper.

He also added that, "Alaska has finally recognized the disaster that the depletion of the salmon industry has caused for wage-earners in the Bay. It is our hope now, that the United States Government will also reciprocate and focus their immense powers and assist us in coming up with solutions and alternate job opportunities for the people."