

Subsistence foe will shun summit

By **LINDA LORD-JENKINS**

Tundra Times Editor

The leader of a drive to eliminate subsistence usage of fish and game resources in Alaska is reportedly not going to attend a "Subsistence Summit" called for Saturday to discuss the highly volatile issue.

Sam McDowell, of the Alaskans for Equal Hunting and Fishing Rights organization which is behind a movement to place an initiative vote on the ballot to stop subsistence, will not attend the summit which is being sponsored by the Alaska Federation of Natives, according

to AFN president Frank Ferguson.

McDowell said that he will attend any meeting that is public but said he had notified Ferguson that he would not attend any *pro* meeting that is not open to the public.

According to an aide to Al Adams, the meeting is open to the public but participation in discussion will be limited to those persons who have been invited.

The subsistence summit is being held Saturday (Sept. 26) in the Board Room of the Cook

(Continued on Page Sixteen)

Subsistence summit

(Continued from Page One)

Inlet Region, Inc., starting at 9 a.m.

Invited to attend the summit are the members of the AFN subsistence committee, Rep. Eric G. Sutcliff (R-Unalaska); Ken Fanning (L-Fairbanks); Al Adams, (D-Kotzebue); Ramona Barnes (R-Anchorage); Sen. Betty Fahrenkamp (D-Fairbanks); Sen. Vic Fischer (D-Anchorage); Sen. John Sackett (R-Ruby); representatives of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, three members of the AFN board; McDowell, and Tom Scarborough, executive director of the Alaska Sportsman Council.

Invited but not attending are Alaska Gov. Jay Hammond, the Alaska U.S. Congressional delegation, and Bill Horn, undersecretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior.

Ferguson said that AFN has stepped into the forefront on the subsistence issue because "we are best equipped to handle the discussions." AFN has acted as the powerful political arm of the united Native regional corporations since the Alaska Native Claims Settle-

ment fight.

Ferguson said that if any sort of agreement is reached on a proposal on Saturday or in subsequent talks, it will be presented to the regional profit, non-profit and village corporations for consideration.

"If the AFN board and the other groups find the (proposed compromise) acceptable, we will notify the legislators and try to get a bill through."

State Rep. Al Adams, whose political presence in the Alaska Legislature helped forge the coalition which resulted in this summit, said he will wait and see who attends the meeting before making any predictions on its success.

Adams said the people who attend the summit will be very posal is one which would protect traditional Native subsistence villages.

That proposal would allow traditional Native subsistence villages to continue their way of life but would establish another class of subsistence users -- those allowed subsistence hunting and fishing privileges on a lottery basis, according to Ferguson.

(Continued on Page Six)

Subsistence summit

(Continued from Page Sixteen)
important to the final results.

One reason for the summit is the threat of an initiative which is being sought by the McDowell's Alaskans for Equal Fishing and Hunting Rights. That initiative, is passed on a statewide vote, would open up all fish and wildlife reserves for the common use of all people. Distinctions would not be made "for reasons of economic status, land ownership, local residency, past use or past dependence on the resource, or lack of alternative resources."

Although AFN poll showed that the initiative would fail by a margin, leaders decided to talk.

One main compromise pro-

The lottery would be similar to the annual bison and moose hunting lotteries. A person would submit his or her name for a subsistence permit and if the name was drawn, they would be able to hunt or fish according to the subsistence quotas placed on current users. Sports and commercial quotas would not be affected.

No other proposals have been presented to AFN by anyone, said Ferguson.

McDowell's group reportedly has more than 11,000 signatures on a petition to place the initiative on the ballot. The group needs 16,265 signatures by June 1, 1982, to place the matter on a ballot.