

Subsistence boundry workshop set

A public workshop on boundary lines for subsistence resource regions will be held Sept. 24, at the Sheraton Hotel in Anchorage.

The Alaska Lands Act, passed by Congress in December, 1980, mandated the establishment of a minimum of six subsistence resource regions in Alaska. The exact number of regions, and their boundaries, have yet to be determined, but must assure that regional differences in subsistence uses are adequately accommodated. According to the Lands Act, the regions, along with regional advisory councils in each region, must be established by December 2, 1981.

The work shop will begin at 9 a.m. in the Sheraton Ballroom, with presentations covering the relevant sections of the Lands Act, the purposes of the boundary designation project, background information on existing regional boundaries of various types, and a general discussion of the criteria which will be used to define the boundaries for

subsistence resource regions. Following the presentation period, the audience will participate in workshop-group discussions aimed at resolving conflicts and preparing recommendations as to the number and boundaries of the subsistence resource regions eventually to be established.

According to Dennis Kelso, Director of the Division of Subsistence in the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, discussion during the course of the workshop will be held strictly to the subject of possible regional boundaries. Kelso said, "Our job at the moment is to discuss the regional boundaries required by the Lands Act. We're not going to debate subsistence issues -- there are other forums available for that."

All members of the public are invited to participate. For more information, contact the Department of Fish and Game, Division of Subsistence, Support Building, Juneau, Alaska 99801; or call (907) 465-4147.