

Corporation plans to invest \$575,000 to expand plant

BETHEL — The Bethel Native Corp. Board of Directors recently decided to invest \$575,000 for expanding the capacity of the BNC fish plant, according to the December issue of the *BNC Shareholder Newsletter*.



The BNC fish plant, which is leased to Kemp-Paulucci Seafoods Inc., processed about 10 million pounds of fish in the 1988 fishing season. That is nearly 4 million pounds more than had ever been processed before in the plant

and far exceeds its designed capacity, according to the newsletter.

Corporation officials attributed the large return of salmon to the efforts of a number of people to stop the offshore interception of Western Alaskan salmon.

"If it is possible to minimize the False Pass interception and to eliminate the Japanese offshore interception the fisheries biologists and the fish processors feel that the 1988 season was just an indication of better seasons to come as the stocks of certain species of salmon grow," according to the newsletter.

The planned expansion came out of a proposal by Kemp-Paulucci to increase the capacity of the plant to 12 million pounds. Plans call for a new building to house the fish roe processing and for storage and crew quarters.

Kemp-Paulucci agreed to provide, at their own expense, additional freezing capacity and a new packaging line.

Completion date is June 1, in time for the 1989 fishing season.