

# ***Exceptions For Natives***

U. S. Department of Commerce  
National Oceanic and  
Atmospheric Administration  
National Marine Fisheries  
Service  
P. O. Box 1668  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

August 15, 1974

Mr. Howard Rock, Editor  
Tundra Times  
Box 1287  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Dear Mr. Rock:

An article regarding taking of marine mammals which appeared in the June 5 issue of the TUNDRA TIMES may be misleading to your readers since it did not mention the exceptions

granted "Alaskan Natives."

The article was based on a news release prepared by our parent organization the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in Washington, D.C. Because the release was for national distribution, it made no mention of the specific exceptions provided solely for "Alaskan Natives."

Briefly stated, "Alaskan Natives" are excepted from the permit and registration requirements of the regulations if the taking of the animals or the salvaging for their skins or other parts is:

(1) By Alaskan Natives who reside in Alaska for subsistence, or

(2) For purposes of creating and selling authentic native articles of handicraft and clothing, and

(3) In each case, not accomplished in a wasteful manner.

Under the regulations, "Alaskan Native" means a person defined in the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act and anyone enrolled pursuant to section 5 of the Act is considered an "Alaskan Native."

Enclosed for your information is a copy of the Department of Commerce marine mammal regulations. If you or any of your readers desire further information, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

Harry L. Rietze

Director, Alaska Region