

Bristol Bay Fish Devastation Topic

A meeting was held in Juneau on May 22 in regard to the present situation in the Bristol Bay Area, brought about by the fishery devastation and its affect of the people and the economy.

In attendance were members of the Federal Regional Council from Seattle, State Department Commissions, Bristol Bay Native Corporation Officers (Harold Samuelsen and Ted Angasan) and Rural CAP Representative, Jacqueline Dailey.

The main purpose of the conference was to exchange information on the availability of federal and state funds and/or manpower to expand on implement programs/projects, which would replace the loss of income.

Also discussed, reported Jackie Dailey, was the need for the President to declare Bristol Bay a Federal disaster area in order to open up and expedite avenues of federal assistance.

Mr. Samuelsen outlined the position of Bristol Bay Native Corporation on behalf of the Bristol Bay people. Besides giv-

ing the general background and present situation of that area, he emphasized the need for assistance in the form of community-related projects rather than strictly welfare assistance programs.

Mr. Samuelsen urged the Governor to declare, by executive order, to the state departments that Bristol Bay become priority number one.

Three resolutions adopted by the Rural CAP Board of Directors at their meeting in Fort Yukon on May 15 and 16 in support of: the President declaring Bristol Bay a disaster area, Bristol Bay being rehabilitated by the state, and Bristol Bay salmon depletion being addressed at the International Law of the Sea Conference.

The Department of Community and Regional Affairs was designated to be the coordinator between state departments and other organizations.

The Federal Regional Council also intends to respond within the near future on what assist-

ance it can provide.

It was implied that Bristol Bay would receive top priority by the state and future meetings are anticipated to be held, hopefully in the Bristol Bay Region.