

Tribe wants answer from AFN on subsistence issue

To the Editor:

On Thursday, March 28, Governor Sheffield addressed the Alaska Federation of Native Convention, and congratulated those assembled for their efforts and fine work toward resolving the 1991 issues of ANCSA. He then launched into an unabashed plea for support of his 'rural subsistence only' bills. Since this was a Special Convention, called to order for 1991 Resolutions only, and Mr. Sheffield a guest, no one could respond to his remarks.

The Kenaitze lost their tradi-

tional and cultural fishing rights under the former Board of Fish and Game ruling; we also believe that everyone in the State has a right to subsistence fish. Further, how long will it be before the "rural" label is removed from those villages and they, to, become "urban"?

The Alaska Federation of Natives purports to speak for all the Natives of Alaska. In supporting subsistence fishing for rural Alaskans only, what are they trying to say?

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