DNR program started to schedule regular visits to villages

A Department of Natural Resources program to bring

DNR officials and programs to rural Alaska will hold its first daylong "rural offices" meeting in Barrow on Aug. 17.

The rural offices program is described as an "overall program that DNR has for visiting communities statewide on a regular basis."

Representatives from DNR

will travel to the villages — Barrow, Bethel, Dillingham, Kotzebue, McGrath and Nome — will be made to accept business for all divisions of the department and to serve as liaison for the department within the community:

Departments to be conducting business and administration and management, agriculture, forestry, geological and geophysical surveys, land and water management, minerals and energy management parks, research and development, and technical services.

The DNR rural representatives will accept permit requests and other paperwork, answer questions and assist local resident with natural resource issues.

DNR selected the communities to be visited on the basis of state land ownership patterns or intense resource development in the areas of the communities.

According to a DNR press release, the rural communities program is the first step in a program to visit villages on a regular basis.

Lennie Boston will be the representative in Barrow from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 17. She will be in the state Legislative Affairs Office in the Christian Education Building next to the Borough office building. The phone number is 852-7111.

A representative will visit McGrath from 7 to 10 p.m. on Aug. 25. The representative will be in the assembly room of the Captain Snow Center. th.

Dillingham will be visited on Sept. 25