

Regulations spelled out by state DNR

On May 12th the Alaska Department of Natural Resources issued the following regulations. These replace the original seasonal drilling restrictions that prohibited drilling and down-hole activities between May and November, the time when the Beaufort Sea comes to life.

A. On and inside the barrier islands

1. Exploratory drilling and other downhole activities above a predetermined threshold depth* will be allowed year-round.
2. Exploratory drilling and other downhole activities below a predetermined threshold depth will be allowed from Nov. 1, to May 15, except at the mouths of major rivers, where exploratory drilling and other downhole activities below a predetermined threshold depth must cease by April 30 unless the Commissioner of Natural Resources, in consultation with the Commissioners of Fish and Game and Environmental Conservation, determines that ice conditions justify an extension to May 15. Exploratory drilling and other downhole activities below a predetermined threshold depth will be allowed during the open water period except during the fall

bowhead whale migration.

3. Testing will be allowed year-round provided that casing has been set through the zones to be tested and DNR and DEC find compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

* The threshold depth as used in this stipulation is a point above which major accumulations of hydrocarbons are not likely. This depth will be determined on a case-by-case basis by the Division of Minerals and Energy Management after consultation with the Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission, and when appropriate with applicable laws and regulations.

B. Outside the barrier islands

1. Exploratory drilling and other downhole activities above a predetermined threshold depth will be allowed year-round except during the fall bowhead whale migration.
2. Exploratory drilling and other downhole activities below a predetermined threshold depth will be allowed from Nov. 1, to May 15.
3. Testing will be allowed year-round except during the fall bowhead whale migration, provided that casing has been set through the zones to be tested and DNR and DEC find appropriate, the Minerals Management Service.

NORTH
SLOPE
BOROUGH

CALENDAR

Borough Assembly Meeting
June 1, 1982
Borough Assembly Chambers
Barrow, Alaska



As construction begins on the Kaktovik Fire station (above), one of the new fire trucks for the villages sits in front of the Claire Okpeaha Building in Browerville waiting to be inspected (left). The villages' corporations are coordinating construction labor for the fire stations and by fall most of the villages on the Slope will have new fire stations.