Sheldon Jackson Receives 2 Year Fisheries Grant

(Special to the Tundra Times) Sheldon Jackson College has received a two-year grant of \$137,584 from the Louis W. and Maud Hill Family Foundation to develop an applied fisheries science program for native Alaskans.

According to John D. Taylor, the foundation's executive director, the grant will be used 1) to promote native Alaskan education by providing an educational career ladder for Indians, Aleuts and Eskimos; 2) to improve salmon fishing by moving SJC into an established place in fisheries science and to demonstrate the feasibility of salmon ranching as a source of self-sustaining funds for the program; 3) to promote interagency cooperation and 4) to provide technical assistance and advice to various Indian, Aleut and Eskimo and other private groups.

Utilizing this grant, Sheldon Jackson College will become Alaska's first non-governmental agency involved in private fishery development.

Derek Poon, SJC fisheries instructor, developed the program submitted to the Hill Familv Foundation. (Continued on Page 6)

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"The money will enable SJC to set up an academic program in Aquaculture Technology and to construct a gravel incubation facility on Sitka's Indian River," Poon said. "This facility will be similar to that at Little Port Walter, but on a smaller scale; and will incubate coho, pink and chum salmon."

Poon estimated that the first year of the grant will center around constructing the facility, hiring staff members, organizing the academic program and recruiting students. The program will be in full operation during the 1975-76 academic year.

SJC will coordinate the program in cooperation with native organizations including the Alaska Native Brotherhood, Tlingit-Haida Central Council, Southeastern Alaska Community Action Program, Sealaska Corporation and Angoon Village Corporation.