



RurAL-CAP

ACTION REPORTS



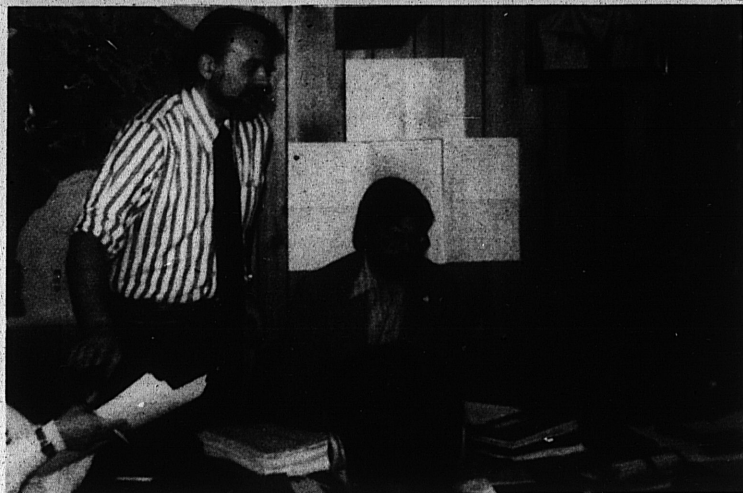
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YES on Limited Entry, Rural Bonds

RuralCAP Board Takes Stand



Left to Right, George Irvin, new Deputy Director, Rural CAP Director Phil Smith and Board President Gordon Jackson.

In a meeting which covered a variety of topics, the Board of Directors of the Rural Alaska Community Action Program met in Dillingham this week and strongly endorsed voter approval for the Rural Schools Construction Bond Issue and the continuation of the Limited Entry program for the state's commercial fisheries.

"Both of these issues are very important to all Alaskans," stated Board President, Gordon Jackson. "Even though the Bond Issue looks expensive, it is the type of investment in the future of Alaska that we heartily agree with. It would be unfair to future generations of Alaskans to have to pick up the tab on the social and human costs if these facilities are not built now."

In full realization of the hardships being faced by the people in Northwest Alaska due to the compound problems of the decline of the caribou, a poor commercial fishing season and a cut back in pipeline employment, the Board members decided to concentrate RURAL CAP's Community Food and Nutrition Program in the NANA and Arctic Slope Regions during 1977.

Executive Director, Phil Smith, in commenting on the Limited Entry Program, said, "Even though the program may need changes, it is nevertheless a good management tool to protect our dwindling stocks." Added Jackson, "Sound management of our renewable resources is a real necessity if we are to provide some security for our children. Everyone knows the oil won't last forever, and I support any effort to protect and enhance our fisheries."

In other action, the Board proposed that a harvest of caribou be permitted in other regions of the State to meet the nutritional needs of Alaskans who are dependent upon the Northwest Caribou Herd. In a telegram to the State Game Board, meeting at the same time in Fairbanks, Jackson stated: "Such a harvest, within sound biological constraints, could be permitted with the issuance of an emergency order prohibiting non-subsistence hunting of the caribou and by fostering inter-regional cooperation." Controversy has surrounded the issue since last December when biologists first publicly stated the need for reducing the human harvest of the herd.

The Board also took action on the agency's 1977 work program, placing a high priority on the establishment of a technical assistance program to aid the regional non-profit corporation in building a strong administrative capability. The board also discussed rural electrification with Deputy Commissioner of Revenue, Jim Edenzo; and addressed itself to a variety of rural problems and priorities.

Jackson Re-elected RurAL-CAP President

At the annual meeting of the Rural Alaska Community Action Program Board of Directors, in Dillingham, Board President, Gordon Jackson, was re-elected to serve for another year. Jackson is the first person ever to hold the post for more than 2 years.

Commenting on his selection, Jackson stated, "I'm pleased that such a distinguished group of people would choose to continue placing their confidence in me."

Jackson is a life-long Alaskan, presently serving as Executive Vice-President for the Alaska Federation of Natives. He also holds posts with the Anchorage Economic Development Commission, the Post-Secondary Education Commission and a variety of other policy-making boards throughout the State.

Others re-elected to serve on the RurAL CAP Board were Vice-President, Jonathan Solomon of Ft Yukon and Secretary-Treasurer, Z. William Barr of Shishmareff.

New Deputy Director Picked

One important action taken at the Dillingham Board Meeting was the unanimous selection of George Irvin as RurAL CAP's new Deputy Director.

Irvin has been associated with RurAL CAP for several years. He first served as a trainer for the staffs and boards of the regional non-profit corporations. He has also served as Alaska's representative for the Office of Economic Opportunity and the HEW Child Development Council.

Recently, Irvin has been working as a consultant for RurAL CAP's Child Development Program directing the establishment of a program for the diagnosis and treatment of rural

Alaskan children who are suffering with an all too common ear disease known as Otitis Media.

Irvin said he is very pleased to be selected as the Deputy Director and will be involved with the establishment of a Training and Technical Assistance Program during the coming year.

George Allen, a former VISTA with the Southeastern Alaska Community Action Program has been hired to direct RurAL CAP's Community Food and Nutrition Program.

Allen was involved last year with the program in Southeastern. He said he will be

working with a field assistant who will be stationed in Kotzebue. Together they will not only be attempting to provide some emergency relief to the people of the northwest, but will also be coordinating the efforts of our agency with those of the native corporations, State and Federal agencies to see that the type of help these people receive is timely and relevant to their own desires.

Previous to his work with SEACAP, Allen's education and work centered in California in the fields of Regional Development Policy and Urban Planning.

Great Pink Salmon Run: ADF&G

HOMER—An adult return of nearly six percent of the pink salmon fry released at the Halibut Cove Lagoon rearing station have returned this fall. This survival is the highest adult return on pink salmon recorded in Alaska and probably in the world. The Halibut Cove Lagoon station, located on Kachamak Bay, is operated by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, F.R.E.D. Division (Fisheries Rehabilitation, Enhancement and Development.)

A special seine fishery was opened in August to harvest pink salmon from the lagoon which is normally not open to commercial fishing because there is no natural run in the lagoon. The approximately 2,800 salmon harvested by the seine fishery, had already passed through other commercial fisheries outside the lagoon. Salmon bound for the lagoon could have also been captured by these fisheries indicating that ocean survival rates of the fish released was more than six percent.

This phenomenal return was from 50,000 pink fry released August 1975. Eggs from Kenai River stock were incubated at

F.R.E.D.'s Kaslof facility near Soldotna, and the fry reared in saltwater rearing pens at Halibut Cove Lagoon.

"Since the adult salmon returned to Halibut Cove Lagoon, we consider this a step forward in understanding the process of imprinting or having salmon return to a different stream than where the eggs were taken," Dr. Bill Arvey, project leader for Halibut Cove Lagoon facility reports.

Coho salmon are also reared at this saltwater rearing facility which is in the center of a developing sport fishery. One hundred adult coho returned to the lagoon in 1975 from a 1973 release of 7,900 smolts reared and released there. Eggs were taken from these returning coho, incubated at Fire Lake Hatchery near Anchorage and returned to Halibut Cove Lagoon for rearing. These eggs will aid in establishing a brood stock for this area and facility.

Coho fingerlings from Halibut Cove Lagoon saltwater rearing facility have been stocked in suitable natural rearing areas in lower Kachamak Bay lakes. One-hundred forty-two thousand

and were placed in lakes in 1975 and 160,000 in the summer of 1976. An additional 280,000 will be planted late this fall. These lake stocked coho fingerlings feed upon the natural food in the lake until they migrate to sea. Growth progress is continually evaluated and monitored by Dr. Arvey and his staff.



HALIBUT COVE Lagoon saltwater rearing facility at

Kachamak Bay. (A.D.F. G. photo by Russ Dixon)