

Hammond comments on limited entry and Judge Boldt's decision

Because of uncertainty in the minds of many fishermen caused by Friday's decision of the Alaska Supreme Court striking down a subsection of the state's limited entry law, the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission emphasized that the Supreme Court upheld the requirement for entry permits in all of the state's commercial salmon fisheries under entry limitation in

1976.

As in the past, in all other fisheries including the hand troll fishery, a fisherman must have an interim-use permit in order to operate a unit of gear.

The actual long-term effect of the court's decision is unknown at this time, and will not be known until some clarification of the court's opinion is made.

Clarification will be sought in a petition for re-hearing to be filed soon by the commission.

The subsection of the law struck down by the court provided that the commission could not accept applications from fishermen who did not participate as gear license holders prior to 1973.

In striking down this provision, the court did not specify who should be allowed to apply for a permit.

Only after the group of people who may not apply for a permit has been defined, can additional applications be accepted. Once that information is available, the commission will move to see that the newly eligible applicants are treated promptly and fairly under the law and commission regulations.

As the commission interprets the court decision, its regulations are still in effect, which means that the new group of

applicants will be judged solely on their fishing history prior to January 1, 1973.

In other words, being eligible to apply does not guarantee that a person will receive an entry permit.

In addition, continued application of the limited entry law and the commission's regulations means that the state's major salmon fisheries will continue to be protected from a major influx of gear from the state of Washington, prompted

by the Judge Boldt decision there, and effort levels in these fisheries will remain stable.

Dept. of Labor to visit communities

The Alaska Department of Labor has made plans to visit the northern communities of Barrow, Nome and Kotzebue on May 31 to June 3 in an effort to improve their services to the bush areas.

To review the effectiveness of our bush operations, Bill Spear, deputy commissioner of labor, and Roger Harman, assistant director for unemployment insurance, will be interviewing local citizens about special labor needs that have not been addressed by the department.

Citizens will be invited to write down specific questions about Gov. Hammond's policy

as it affects their local area which will be directed to the governor for his review. This is an excellent opportunity for citizens to meet key administration officials in their hometown and can be most productive with citizen participation.

Their travel schedule is as follows: May 31-June 1, Kotzebue, Employment Office; June 2, Nome, Employment Office; and June 3, Barrow, Employment Office.

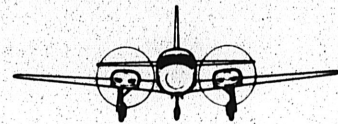
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1:40 p.m.	2:30 p.m.	6:55 p.m.	TO: Seattle/Tacoma, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Dallas/Ft. Worth*
5:15 p.m.	6:05 p.m.	6:55 p.m.	TO: Seattle/Tacoma, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Dallas/Ft. Worth*
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