

**LDIR#043**

**FISHERY**

**PROBLEM**

**1953-1958**

**LEGISLATIVE**

**COUNCIL STUDY**

ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Washington

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

to the

THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

by the

LEGISLATIVE INTERIM FISHERIES COMMITTEE

for 1953-55

Senator Corwin Philip Shank, Chairman

Representative Dwight S. Hawley, Secretary

Senator Francis Pearson

Senator Paul N. Luvera

Representative Chet King

Representative Hal G. Arnason, Jr.

Representative Morris S. Swan

FILE COPY

BERING SEA FISHERMEN'S UNION  
Dillingham, Bristol Bay, Alaska

Affiliated with Seafarer International Union of North America --  
American Federation of Labor

November 1st, 1957

Henry J. Camarot,  
Executive Director,  
Alaska Legislative Council,  
Box 2199, Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Camarot:

Your letter of October 22nd arrived here in time for our regular meeting of October 29th. We had quite a discussion on what was necessary to improve the economic status of Bristol Bay area residents. As you no doubt are aware this area was declared an Emergency Disaster Area by Presidential Proclamation for three years in a row.

It appears necessary that something should be done again this winter as we have approximately 100 families who made nothing (after expenses) on the fishing this year. The Welfare Dept. man Mr. DeKay was over here visiting all the villages and listed many of the destitute families for aid.

There is one solution, advocated by all the residents of this river - Nushagak, (having more population than the other Bristol Bay rivers combined, over 1650 at the last census count) and that is facilities to handle fisheries products separate and apart from the red salmon season. We mean cold storage facilities which would make many family men self supporting and not be objects of charity.

There are good king salmon runs here in the spring, and late red and silver and humpy runs in the fall which could be processed locally for Anchorage markets, when the canneries are all closed up and back to Seattle with the red salmon packs.

Experimentation by a \$40,000.00 charter from Libby's to Harry Guffey with his M/S "Chirakof" disclosed plentiful king crab grounds some 50 miles from Dillingham, also halibut grounds and razor and butter clam beaches.

Besides those there are ample runs of codfish, herring and smelt but no facilities to hold same for air shipment.

The Army at Elmendorf has evidenced interest in packaged filleted fish, which would employ some of our experienced cannery workers, and take a considerable number of relief cases off the list and have them gainfully employed. A 5 ton capacity cold storage would help considerably and would pay for itself in one year, through savings from the Welfare Dept., if nothing else.

Seine License Plate No. [ ]

(Required in S.E. Alaska only)

Department of Taxation  
TERRITORY OF ALASKA  
Juneau, Alaska

Collector will insert license number in this space. [ ]

Application for: GILNETS—STAKE NETS—SEINES

License Year

(Calendar Year)  
Alaska

Name .....  
Address .....

Do hereby make application for license to use the following Gear:

Fishing with Gill Nets or Stake Nets..... Fathoms in length: Fee \$.....  
(Fee should be calculated at the rate of \$2.00 per hundred fathoms or fraction thereof)

Fishing with Seine..... Fathoms in length: Fee \$.....

Operating with Boat (Name or Number)..... (If unregistered so state)

SEINES

Calculated at the Rate of:

50 Fathoms	\$10.00
75 Fathoms	10.00
100 Fathoms	10.00
125 Fathoms	10.00
150 Fathoms	10.00
175 Fathoms	15.00
200 Fathoms	20.00
225 Fathoms	25.00
250 Fathoms	30.00
275 Fathoms	35.00
300 Fathoms	40.00

GILNETS and STAKE NETS

Calculated at the Rate of:

25 Fathoms	\$2.00
50 Fathoms	2.00
75 Fathoms	2.00
100 Fathoms	2.00
125 Fathoms	4.00
150 Fathoms	4.00
175 Fathoms	4.00
200 Fathoms	4.00
225 Fathoms	6.00
250 Fathoms	6.00

SIGN HERE \_\_\_\_\_

**A FAILURE TO FILL OUT AND RETURN THIS APPLICATION FOR THE PROPER LICENSE LAYS THE PERSON, FIRM OR CORPORATION SO FAILING LIABLE TO PENALTIES PRESCRIBED BY LAW.**

Department of Taxation

TERRITORY OF ALASKA

Juneau, Alaska

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P.O.Box 379  
Ketchikan, Alaska  
March 5, 1958

Recommendation No. 1, presented to the ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL in Ketchikan, January 18, 1958 by Fishermen & Allied Workers Div. Local 30, ILWU.

Re: An Emergency program for destitute fishermen, which should be started immediately.

A start should be made on a large scale public works program including construction of roads, parks, harbors, power development in non producing salmon streams and major conservation projects.

For instance; The Alaska Department of Fish and Game could use a number of men for stream clearing, during the off season.

A number of projects could get started which will be of direct benefit to the Alaska people.

A report in recent weeks from the Territorial Employment Office in Ketchikan. Over 800 claims were on file. Out of those claims less than 5% were fishermen. (estimated) The few fishermen eligible for unemployment are the ones who had been fishing on boats from state of Washington. (refer to third paragraph from bottom letter of February 28, 1958)

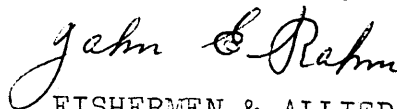
It is our understanding that emergency appropriations can be granted in the amount of \$25,000.00 to communities or towns for one project. However it does not limit the town to only one project. Application can be made for several for the same town.

Understand from discussion during the meeting here in Ketchikan that the power of the Alaska Legislative Council is to investigate, which is very much appreciated.

It is therefore this is being brought to your attention so that if possible some of these problems can be ironed out.

Thanking you again for the good work you are doing for the Alaska people I am

Yours very truly



FISHERMEN & ALLIED WORKERS  
DIVISION LOCAL 30, ILWU

John E. Rahm, Secretary

