POLICY STATEMENT #90-18-JB

JOINT BOARDS OF FISHERIES AND GAME

The Joint Boards of Fisheries and Game recognize that the original intent of the state subsistence law was that not all Alaskans should qualify for a subsistence priority. Indeed, Judge Cutler instructs and clarifies to the boards that all Alaskans will not automatically become subsistence users.

Logically, the boards have not been able to rationalize a subsistence priority or preference if in fact all Alaskans are subsistence users. Judge Cutler further indicates that the boards will set criteria for declaring which individuals are bonafide subsistence users.

The Joint Boards of Fisheries and Game have met for three days in an effort to accomplish this, but have failed in the light of requirements mandated by law (Supreme and Superior Court decisions in McDowell v. State, 785 P.2dl (Alaska 1989). It is the Joint Boards of Fisheries and Game's contention that the courts have required action to identify subsistence users which is impossible to comply with at this time under these legal constraints.

At the present time the Joint Boards of Fisheries and Game have no other option than to apply the standard that all Alaskans are now eligible subsistence users under Tier I during the upcoming regulatory cycle.

This will result in a major reallocation among users.

Bud Hodson, Chair Board of Fisheries

Samantha Castle, Chair

Board of Game

ADOPTED: October 28, 1990

Fairbanks, Alaska

VOTE: 13/0/1 absent