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Intern Profile: *Joanne Bennett cont'd*

the recruiter ad's promise, she got to see at least some of the world living in Texas and Massachusetts. She mainly did office work at Air Force recreation and fitness centers during her 3 years in the service.

After leaving the Air Force, Joanne became interested in accounting. In May 1998 she graduated from AVTEC's Business and Office Technology Program where she studied accounting. Joanne then heard about CVRF's Internship program from a friend who recommended it.

Now that she is in it, she also recommends it to others.



Davis Bill, Sr. and Mary Oslin



CVRF Staff group photo

Clips from the January 1999 Staff meeting held at the BNC Complex Conference Room

Neqsurtet Nepiit



Volume 2, Issue 1

The Sound of the Fishermen

January 1999

Special points of interest:

- Conservation concerns
- David Bill recognition
- Scholarship Awards
- Employment opportunities and application

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About this Newsletter...

Neqsurtet Nepiit, The Sound of the Fishermen, is published and distributed four times a year by Coastal Villages Region Fund. The 1999 publication schedule is January, April, July, and October. The newsletter is aimed at households in CVRF's 17 member villages. Its main purpose is to share information about scholarship, internship, training, employment, and economic development opportunities offered or coordinated by CVRF. Your comments and questions about the programs and newsletter are welcome! If written, please fax or mail them to Janet Kaiser, Newsletter Coordinator, fax number 543-3814, or C/O CVRF, P.O. Box 1166, Bethel, AK 99559. Or, call Desiree Moses toll free at (888) 795-5151. With your permission, we will include them in the next newsletter.



Conservation of Bering Sea Resources



A great deal has been said recently about the conservation of marine resources in the Bering Sea. The sea lion controversy-the subject of a lawsuit, a determination of threatened status under the Endangered Species Act, and regulatory action by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council-has been brewing for at least the past three years. And, the issue of king salmon has once again come to the forefront with proposal to reduce the bycatch by the trawl fisheries of this important commercial and subsistence species.

For decades, western Alaska fishermen have been at the forefront of these conservation and equity issues. Residents of the Yukon and Kuskokwim region have spent countless hours petitioning the Board of Fisheries, the North Pacific Council, and other regulatory agencies to do something about these problems. In 1979, a lawsuit was filed to shut down the offshore herring fishery, which has remain in place to this day. In 1980, a lawsuit was filed to reduce the bycatch of salmon, which resulted in the first limits being placed on the offshore fleets. Even the U.S. Congress has been petitioned to take action to address these issues.

Then, in 1992, the CDQ program was established to provide the means for western Alaska residents to participate in these offshore fisheries. Partnerships were created with factory trawlers and catcher trawlers to harvest the pollock CDQ and pay royalties to the six regional CDQ organizations. The results have been employment programs, training programs, educational and vocational scholarships, fisheries

(Continued on page 6)

CVRF Board of Directors

Tommy Kusaiak
Chefnak
(907) 867-8936

Peter Boy Scout
Chevak
(907) 858-7026

Steven White
Eek
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Charlie Chingliak
Goodnews Bay
(907) 967-8116

Edgar Hoelscher
Hooper Bay
(907) 758-4015

Carl Dock
Kipnuk
(907) 896-5532 / 5515

John Phillip, Sr.
Kongiganak
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Fred Phillip
Kwigillingok
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Abraham David
Mekoryuk
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Peter John
Newtok
(907) 237-2513

Joseph Post
Nightmute
(907) 647-6413

Henry Williams
Platinum
(907) 979-8114

Wassillie Bavilla
Quinhagak
(907) 556-8133

George Smith
Scammon Bay
(907) 558-5526

Simeon John
Toksook Bay
(907) 427-7212

Peter Joseph
Tuntutuliak
(907) 256-2841

Andy Charlie
Tununak
(907) 652-6613

Dedication: David Bill, Sr.

David Bill, Sr.'s long involvement with community development quota's has afforded him a completely unique experience. At home today in Toksook Bay, he has the satisfaction of knowing he was part of a far-out and up-hill effort that succeeded in creating a new and exciting economic program in western Alaska.

Sixteen years have gone by since he first heard about CDQ's and became a supporter. He lobbied with others for 8 years until the North Pacific Fishery Management Council finally, in 1991, agreed to adopt the program. He then served as a CVRF board member deciding specifics of each program and overseeing their start up. CVRF now has

opportunities for employment, training, internship, and scholarship awards in place; and other projects are being considered.

For David, the success of creating economic benefits is mixed with a deep sense of loss. He regrets that CDQ colleagues Harold Sparck, Joe Paniyak, and Louis Bunyan did not live to see how things turned out. "Since they left me, I feel like I'm alone. We were a team. Harold Sparck and Joe Paniyak, everywhere I go, they're always in my heart, they're always with me. I haven't backed off from my CDQ work." Then, as if prompted by thoughts of them, David added, "I haven't done enough for the area, I have to do more."

He declined to name his proudest accomplishment, saying "nothing yet." But "putting young people to work so they can accomplish something for themselves" makes him proud. "It's got to be the right thing, so that young people can make something of themselves in the economy."

As of the fall elections, he is no longer on the CVRF Board. However, he continues to work for the company's goals in his position as a Public Relations Manager.

Some CVRF Board members shared thoughts on why David's work should

be recognized.

Fred Phillip (Kwigillingok) Board Chairman: "David was one of the instrumental people that worked... without real recognition...to establish some form of economic opportunities for the coastal region, or SW Alaska for that matter, in sharing the wealth of the Bering Sea..." He is a role model in the

way "he is not afraid to speak out, using a straight-forward, lay it on the line style, especially in getting jobs for young people, or on any issue that affects the CDQ program." He also made personal changes in order to better represent CVRF.

George Smith

(Scammon Bay): "David was a driving force in getting the CDQ program out,

along with Harold, Joe, and others; he hasn't quit working on the politics of the program, even as we speak; his dedication to the people of the region; and his active involvement in the board process. There wasn't a month I didn't get a call from him.

Steven White (Eek): "David was one of the first who started the CDQ program in western Alaska. He was with Harold Sparck, Joe Paniyak, and Wassillie Bavilla to get things going, to improve the use of resources, which we don't have many of. He has been active through-out. I cannot do much without him.

Wassillie Bavilla (Quinhagak): "David pushed the CDQ since it started, and he did a good job for this region. He wanted to get more jobs for natives on the coast, that's why he did it. I've been working with him for 15 years, he's like an older brother to me. He's worked really hard and he's done a really good job...I guess I'm the only one left on the board who was there from way back when."

David Bill's dedication over many years is why this issue of *Neqsurtet Nepiit* is dedicated to him. Thank you, David.



"I may look older now, but my mind is still young." David Bill, Sr.

CDQ and Village Projects Up-Date

By Robert Sundown, CVLI Business Manager

Quinhagak Salmon Project

Coastal Villages Region Fund has hired Pat Kelly (formally of Norton Sound Seafood) to implement the Quinhagak Salmon Project. Pat's is responsible for exploring other avenues of salmon production for the lower Kuskokwim salmon fisheries. He is also responsible for implementing the current plan with the use of the M/V Crusader.

The Crusader is owned and operated by Norquest Seafoods out of Seattle, WA. Coastal Villages is hiring the Crusader to process salmon for the 1999 season pending state and board approval. If approved the Crusader will make into Kuskokwim Bay about the last week of May 1999.



Village Projects



There are various village projects the full Board of Directors will be considering during the February board meeting in Bethel. The following villages based projects will be presented for board approval. A project based in Kwigillingok will be pending final approval by the board. This project seeks to improve the small boat harbor in the village. A project based in Quinhagak to build a salmon weir will be pending final approval by the board.

This project seeks funds for a weir to be placed on the Kanektok River for salmon enumeration.



Alaska Junior Achievement (AJA) Update: CVRF Participates in AJA Fundraiser



On Saturday, November 14th CVRF's all female bowling team, the "Coastal Rollers", exhibited superior bowling (and rolling) skills during the annual AJA bowl-a-thon. CVRF's sponsorship of the Coastal Rollers contributed over \$750 to the AJA fundraising effort.

CVRF is committed to offering the AJA curriculum to member village schools. If you are interested in finding out more about AJA and how to implement it in your village school, please contact Mary Oslin at 1-888-795-5151.

Coastal Rollers Mary McBurney, Mary Oslin, Desiree Moses, Selma Davis, and Mary Charlie did a great job of raising funds for Alaska Junior Achievement..



Winter/Spring 1999 Scholarship Awards

The Louis Bunyan Memorial Scholarship Fund Committee voted to sponsor the following awards for winter/spring 1999:

<u>Award Recipient/Village</u>	<u>Course</u>
Howard Amos/Mekoryuk	PC Technician
Alfred Ulroan/Chevak	Education
Jimmie Larsen, Jr./Chefornak	Aviation
Brian Amik/Kwigillingok	Aviation
Abraham David	Aviation
Mary Charlie/Mekoryuk	Rural Development

<u>Grant Recipient/Village</u>	<u>Course</u>
Scammon Bay	OMSI (Science)
Toksook Bay	ABE/GED Tutoring

CVRF currently accepting scholarship applications for Summer/Fall 1999. **The Board will be also be considering applicants for the Joseph V. Paniyak Award for Community Service. This award is given to a scholarship applicant who exemplifies commitment to developing and serving the CVRF communities.** The application deadline is February 28th. All awards will be announced in mid-March. For more information please call Selma Davis at 1-888-795-5151.

Board Member Profile: *Meet George Smith of Scammon Bay*



George Smith represents Scammon Bay on Coastal Villages Region Funds' 17-member Board of Directors.

George has been a part of CVRF since early on. Soon after the Board was formed he was appointed to fill a vacancy that occurred in late 1993, and has been serving on it ever since.

He said what he most enjoys about being on the board is "the fact that we are doing something to help our people, providing opportunities like jobs, training, scholarships that are otherwise unavailable."

George is most proud of the jobs that have opened up since CVRF started. "More people are working in the fishing industry than ever before, and I don't just mean in processing jobs, but technical positions, too." As for future accomplishments, George focused on one: that CVRF be a key player in the Bering Sea fishery. It is also a goal the company identified in a recent visioning process, he noted. In addition, he said "I just hope more people become aware of CVRF and the opportunities that are out there."

George said the newsletter is a good way to get information out. He also has a special way to promote CVRF opportunities. As a Bilingual Instructor, George works with Scammon Bay students from kindergarten to 12th grade. They can learn from him first hand about employment, training and education opportunities available after high school graduation.

George has lived in Scammon Bay all of his life. He is married and the father of 5 children in age from 4 to 17 years old.

He was elected secretary of the full Board in February 1998 and currently serves on the Finance and Executive Committees.

CVRF Staff and location(s)

Juneau Office

Toll free: 800-959-2360

Norman Cohen
Executive Director

Bethel Office

Toll free: 800-959-3813

Robert Sundown
CVLI Business Manager

Lena Mathlaw
Employment Manager

Darlene Mathew
Administrative Assistant

Anchorage Office

Toll free: 888-795-5151

Mary L. Oslin
Director of
Organizational Development

Selma Davis
HR Management Specialist

Byron Ulak
CDQ/Fisheries
Development Specialist

Morgen Crow
Finance Director

Bobby Dock
Accountant/Bookkeeper

Desiree M. Moses
Administrative Assistant

Chevak Office

Toll free: 800-560-7250

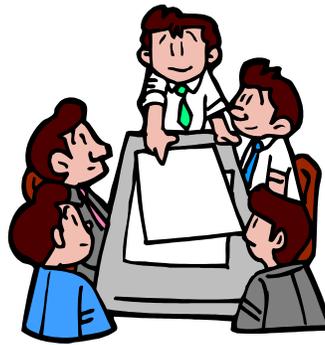
Moses Tulim
Halibut CDQ Admin.

CVRF member villages

- Chefornak
- Chevak
- Eek
- Goodnews Bay
- Hooper Bay
- Kipnuk
- Kongiganak
- Kwigillingok
- Mekoryuk
- Newtok
- Nightmute
- Platinum
- Quinhagak
- Scammon Bay
- Toksook Bay
- Tuntutuliak
- Tununak

4-SITE Program Update

CVRF 4-SITE Staff continues to focus their efforts on promoting opportunities via community outreach activities. In November, a Leadership Team Meeting was conducted to gather input from the Team members on the newly created “Orientation for Success” which will be conducted for groups of outgoing crew referred by CVRF to fishing companies. In December, staff participated in a DOL job fair to place region residents in employment opportunities for the Pollock “A” Season and the opilio crab season. In January, CVRF facilitated a meeting to re-institute the Y-K Delta Employers Council. This meeting focused on defining the purpose of the Council, the roles of membership and planning the next steps to address topics of interest. If you would like more information about the 4-SITE Program or CVRF’s outreach initiatives, please contact Mary Oslin at 1-888-795-5151.



Intern Profile : *Meet Joanne Bennett*

Joanne Bennett already had a variety of travel and work experience when she realized she had a special interest in the field of accounting.

Joanne is currently in Seattle working in Westward Seafood’s Accounting Department, after being selected for CVRF’s Internship Program. She started the Internship in August, moving from Chevak with her three children, Nathaniel, 7; Quincy, 6; and Jovani, 2; and husband, Timothy Brown.



Joanne Bennett of Chevak, AK

Joanne said her family has adjusted, partly helped by the fact that Timothy is from Seattle, and partly because she is very pleased with her internship experience.

The best part of her experience, she says, is the people she works with. They have been “helpful, open, and welcoming.” Joanne also likes the “well-organized” Accounting Department. So far, she has

completed fishing vessel accounting and purchasing and moves to accounts payable next. She will spend at least six weeks in each area

of Westward’s Accounting Department.

Joanne says the support she gets from weekly meetings with a CVRF human resources person is very important to her. Two times a month that meeting includes fellow intern Steven Whitman of Mekoryuk, who is doing an Operations Management internship at Westward. She likes having someone from “home” to compare notes with.

An internship can last up to two years, and Joanne said she expects to stay that long. She hopes it will lead to a job with CVRF in the future.

Born and raised in Chevak she graduated from high school there and then joined the U.S. Air Force. As

(Continued on page 12)

CVRF EMPLOYMENT FACILITATION SERVICE - A 4-SITE PROGRAM



4-SITE

LAST NAME FIRST INITIAL DATE OF APPLICATION	STREET ADDRESS CITY STATE ZIP CODE	RESIDENCE PHONE Area Code () ALTERNATE PHONE Area Code () SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER DATE AVAILABLE	PERMANENT MAILING ADDRESS CHECK BOXES NEXT TO AREA OF INTEREST <input type="checkbox"/> AT SEA PROCESSING <input type="checkbox"/> SHORESIDE PROCESSING <input type="checkbox"/> LONGLINE FISHING <input type="checkbox"/> SPECIALIZED TRAINING (BAADER) HAVE YOU EVER BEEN PLACED IN EMPLOYMENT BY CVRF? <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES Where? _____ When? _____
WHO REFERRED YOU TO COASTAL VILLAGES REGION FUND (CVRF)? Name: _____ Newspaper: _____ Other: _____	ARE YOU LEGALLY ELIGIBLE FOR EMPLOYMENT IN THE UNITED STATES? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO ARE YOU 18 YEARS OF AGE OR OVER? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	IN CASE OF EMERGENCY NOTIFY Name _____ Relationship _____ Phone No. _____ Address _____	YEARS COMPLETED/ATTENDED DEGREE/DIPLOMA _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____
EDUCATION: NAME AND LOCATION OF SCHOOL College _____ High School _____ Other _____			
QUALIFICATIONS: Please list any licenses, certificates, training or specialized experience you feel relates to the position(s) applied for that would help you perform the work, such as schools, vocational or technical programs military training, hobbies, work experience, etc. Please indicate your fish handling skills and experience. _____ _____ _____ _____ _____			
CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS: (Conviction of a crime is not an automatic bar to employment. Factors such as the age of the offense, the seriousness and nature of the violation and rehabilitation will be considered) Have you been convicted of a crime (other than traffic violations) or completed a prison sentence within the last seven years? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO If yes, please explain: _____ _____ _____			
ABILITY TO PERFORM ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS OF THE JOB: Do you speak English? <input type="checkbox"/> NOT AT ALL <input type="checkbox"/> LITTLE <input type="checkbox"/> GOOD <input type="checkbox"/> PROFICIENT Do you read English? <input type="checkbox"/> NOT AT ALL <input type="checkbox"/> LITTLE <input type="checkbox"/> GOOD <input type="checkbox"/> PROFICIENT This job may require you to stay on a vessel for up to 60 days. Are you able to work at sea for that amount of time? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO Are you able to work 16 to 18 hours a day, with only a few breaks? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO Are you able to work 16 to 18 hours a day, seven days a week for 2-3 months? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO			

Personnel Changes

As a growing organization, CVRF naturally has on-going personnel changes. Over the past few months we have experienced sad “good-byes” to departing staff, happy “hellos” to new staff, and some assignment changes for on-going staff.

Goodbyes

- Mary Charlie, 4-SITE Administrator
- Clifford Paniyak, Chevak/Scammon Bay Coach Facilitator
- Albert John, Kipnuk/Chefornak Coach Facilitator
- Catherine Tom, Newtok Coach Facilitator
- Bonnie Kowchee, Vocational Counselor



Byron Ulak and Selma Davis in the CVRF Staff meeting in January.

Hellos

- Darlene Mathew, Administrative Assistant (Bethel)
- Byron Ulak, CDQ/Fisheries Development Specialist (Anchorage)
- Emil Amik, Kipnuk/Chefornak Coach Facilitator
- Katherine Charles, Newtok Coach Facilitator

Assignment Changes

- Selma Davis, Human Resources Management Specialist, has taken over the administration of the scholarship and internship programs.
- Desiree Moses, Anchorage Administrative Assistant, has the added responsibilities for newsletter layout and production, and coordinating the village potlatches.
- Jack Stewart, Coach Facilitator, has expanded his areas of responsibility to include Quinhagak and Eek as well as his hometown of Goodnews Bay. Jack is also now responsible for special projects and will be lead recruiter on summer 1999 salmon jobs.

Happy New Year

Staff Profile: Meet Bobby Dock



One of Coastal Villages Region Fund's office positions in Anchorage is staffed by a person who said, “I just love numbers” when asked to describe his favorite part of the job.

Bobby Dock has been employed as a bookkeeper in the accounting department since 1996. When he started, he alone was the accounting department, keeping books for two companies. Bobby said the recent growth has been a challenge for him to keep up with. Now he keeps books for all the entities that make up CVRF. Bobby said he was glad when another finance position was added to the staff and filled by Morgen Crow, who is the finance director.

Any day of the week will find Bobby posting daily transactions, and posting and paying bills. Every month he processes financial statements for each company, and he takes care of payroll for all the staff. He said he likes the work, does the best he can and especially likes the hands-on learning offered in the job because it fits the traditional Yup'ik style of teaching by watching.

Bobby was born and raised in Kipnuk, and is the son of Quila and Katherine Dock. Living in Anchorage doesn't bother him because he says he has been there for over a year now. He graduated from Dimond High School and Alaska Business College in Anchorage, and has attended UAF.

Employment

We are currently recruiting for the following positions. If you would like more information about these positions please contact your local CVRF Coach or the CVRF office in Bethel at 1-800-959-3813 or (907)543-3813.

<u>Company</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Length of Contract</u>	<u>Pay Rate</u>	<u>Application Deadline</u>
Icicle Seafoods	Opilio Crab	2 to 4 months	\$5.65/OT	Continuous

Coastal Villages is currently recruiting for the following positions. Please contact Lena at the CVRF office in Bethel at 1-800-959-3813 for more information and an application.

<u>Job/Title</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Pay Rate</u>
Employment Coach Facilitator	Napakiak, Napaskiak, or Oscarville	\$11.00/DOE
Employment Coach Facilitator	Chevak or Scammon Bay	\$11.00/DOE

Honor Roll Recognition

Coastal Villages Region Fund would like to recognize and congratulate the following individuals for completing their “B” Season contract with Westward Seafoods, Incorporated:

Albert Active	Francis Flynn
Elias Inakak	Peter Evan
Michael Tufuor	



Congratulations also to those individuals who completed a contract with Icicle Seafoods, Incorporated during the king crab season:

Elizabeth Evans	Chris Berezkin
Wilfred Hoelscher	



Great job! We hope to see more contract completions for the upcoming “A”

CVRF Coach Facilitator

Fritz David
Coach Facilitator
Mekoryuk
(907) 827-8141

Emil Amik
Coach Facilitator
Kipnuk
(includes Cheformak)
(907) 896-5055

Jack Stewart
Coach Facilitator
Goodnews Bay
(includes Quinagak and Eek)
(907) 967-8222

Bernard Murran
Senior Lead Coach
Hooper Bay
(907) 758-4330
Toll free: 800-969-4330

Joanne Nevak
Coach Facilitator
Toksook Bay
(includes and Nightmute & Tununak)
(907) 427-7050

<<Open Until Filled>>
Coach Facilitator
Chevak
(includes Scammon Bay)
(907) 858-7250
Toll free: 800-560-7250

Michael Lake
Coach Facilitator
Kwigillingok
(includes Tuntutuliak and Kongiganak)
(907) 588-8114

Katherine Charles
Coach Facilitator
Newtok

Happy Birthday!!!

Catherine Charles - January 6
Selma Davis, Anchorage - January 31st
Jack Stewart, Goodnews Bay - February 1st
Emil Amik - February 4th
Byron Ulak - February 6th
Mary Charlie, Mekoryuk - February 7th
Michael Lake, Kwigillingok - February 7th
Norman Cohen, Juneau - February 25th
Janet Kaiser, Bethel - March 3rd
Robert Sundown, Bethel - March 27th
Lena Mathlaw, Bethel - March 31st



FISHERIES UPDATE

By Robert Sundown, CVLI Business Manager

Pollock

The Bering Sea walleye pollock fishery began the last week of January. The "A" season continues to be the most lucrative aspect of the fishery. The "A" season or the roe bearing season has brought employment for 24 residents of Coastal Villages region on Tyson Seafood vessels. Westward Seafoods has committed 33 positions for the shore based processing in Dutch Harbor.

Employees who elect at-sea processing are flown to Seattle, Washington where they board the factory trawler. There are typically over a hundred people helping to operate the factory trawler. After various orientations the crew leave port for Alaskan fishing waters. Once in Alaskan fishing waters the vessels fish mid-water



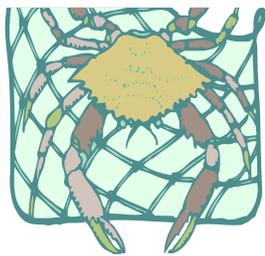
trawl gear. Nearly a hundred metric tons of pollock are caught at a time and processed in typically 16 hour shifts.

The roe is sold separately from the flesh which makes this a more lucrative season for processors. Given that processors are paid by "cases" of fillets or surimi processed, the additional roe revenue means more money in processors' pockets.

Employees who elect shore based processing are flown to Dutch Harbor. There they are employed by Coastal Villages pollock partner Westward Seafoods. They are employee working an hourly wage and are not paid by revenue generated by roe or cases sold. Processor live in dormitories provided by Westward. Catcher vessels deliver pollock to Westward's plant in Dutch Harbor.

Crab

The opilio crab season has begun. Employment for the catcher vessel crew and processor are being processed.



The F/V Silver Spray is the catcher vessel for Coastal Villages Crab, Inc. and Bill Jacobson of Kodiak, Alaska. This will be the first full year of operation for the partners fishing the open access and the CDQ crab in the Gulf of Alaska and Bering Sea.

There have been 10 applicants for the Icicle Seafoods processor position. Icicle will be letting the applicants know soon of their applicant status. Two employees are on the F/V Silver Spray this season. Glenn Charlie is the new employee on the vessel from Scammon Bay.

Halibut & Sablefish

The halibut season will be starting shortly. Not before the International Pacific Halibut Commission meets in Prince Rupert, B.C. on the week of January 25, 1999. The staff of IPHC have recommended a slight increase in the halibut quotas. While this is not necessarily bad, the current halibut market is still soft. A price drop will certainly follow a large quota increase.

The F/V Ocean Harvester is gearing up for the 1999 season at its home port of Seattle. The season begins the second week of March. The Ocean Harvester is an 87 foot longline vessel owned jointly by Karl Vedo and Coastal Villages Longline, Inc. The season begins the second week in March and ends the last week of November. There is a one week break about the 1st week of July. The Ocean Harvester is a small vessel that fishes the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands with longline gear. There are six crewmembers plus Karl Vedo, the captain of the vessel. There is an opening for one crew member to fish the halibut & sablefish season. If you would like to make longlining a career please contact Bernard Murrin, Lead Employment Coach or Robert Sundown, Business & Operations Manager for CVLI, Inc.



Area 4e Fisheries

By Moses Tulin, CVRF Halibut CDQ Administrator

A recent article described by the State of Alaska looking into other fisheries to develop in Alaska. In 1997, separate from the State project, CVRF did a survey of the 17-member villages about the possibility of commercializing underutilized fish species found in this region. The other fish species were considered based on the following reason:

1. Despite numerous attempts by villages along the Bering Sea coast, commercial salmon fisheries are still not allowed in this area.
2. Other fish species found in this region do not migrate elsewhere (we own the fish).
3. Based on the village survey results, we believe other fish species can be safely harvested without affecting the subsistence supply and stock of fish.

Survey results: Out of the 17-member villages, 10 returned the survey forms to CVRF.

Nine villages were in favor of further exploring commercial fisheries with the underutilized species. One village opposed.

Underutilized fish species include: safaron cods, whitefish, and a few other miscellaneous saltwater and freshwater species.

Based on the survey results CVRF will continue to work with the villages in the development of underutilized species in this region.



1999 Opilio Update

By Matt Holmstrom, Silver Spray

The season started on January 18 at noon, and the Silver Spray is fishing. Glen Charlie from Scammon Bay is on board as a deckhand. The entire quota is 196 million pounds. Of this, 186.2 million pounds are for the open access. 9.8 million pounds are set aside for the CDQ fishery. The posted prices are \$.85 per pound delivered on the fishing grounds, and \$.90 per pound delivered in Dutch Harbor. We expect the open access fishery will last through the first week of March. This is dependent on actual fishing. We plan on moving directly into the CDQ portion of the fishery at the conclusion of the open access fishery.

(Continued from page 1)

Conservation of Bering Sea Resources, (cont'd)



development projects, and other benefits to the communities surrounding the Bering Sea. And, the opportunities from continuation of the CDQ program are virtually unlimited.

Does this mean that the CDQ organizations and their harvesting partners are turning away from the commitment for the conservation of the marine resources, including those that are so important to western Alaska? The answer is no. The CDQ program has become the testing ground for several conservation-oriented measures that has led to changes in the way that industry harvests its target catches. One such rule, requiring two trained observers on factory trawlers to monitor catches, started in the pollock CDQ program at the request of the CDQ organizations, and has now been expanded to the entire offshore pollock fishery. Beginning in 1999, the CDQ harvests are subject to strict bycatch limits on salmon, crab, and halibut, which apply to each individual CDQ organization rather than to the fleet at-large. This means that the incentives for fishing clean in the CDQ program has increased dramatically.

Does this mean that all that needs to be done has to be done? Here again, the answer is no. According to the current proposal, having a king salmon bycatch limit that just applies to the period before April 15 does not make sense, when as in 1998, the bulk of the king salmon bycatch took place in the fall. CVRF will be participating at the February North Pacific Council meeting when this issue comes up. We look forward to working with other western Alaska fishermen and fishing organizations to make sure that the rules are effective in protecting resources that are important to commercial and subsistence fishermen throughout western Alaska.