## CONFLICT-RESOLUTION PROCESS: A TOOL FOR MITIGATION

Dale A. Kohlmoos, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Anchorage, Alaska 99518

A decade of escalating conflict between wolf resource user groups and Alaska Department of Fish & Game, Division of Wildlife, has necessitated a means for mitigation. The Division initiated conflict-resolution technique, drawing participants from representative public ideologies, to identify areas of consensus on wolf management. The twelve member team, chosen by the Division Director, include preservationist, wolf enthusiast, scientist, fur buyer, hunter/trapper, aerial hunter/guide, and native Alaskan ideologies. A professional facilitator was employed to mediate the six meeting process and resultant document of recommendations for wolf management which will be presented to the Board of Game, Fall 1991. Public participation in the process was facilitated by two public forums and an open invitation to written comment during the processing period. A significant degree of consensus on wolf management will greatly assist the Department in conserving wolves to benefit the public.

## SIXTH NORTHERN FURBEARER CONFERENCE

