Abstracts

## A PROJECT TO PROMOTE MORE EFFICIENT AND HUMANE TRAPPING PRACTICES AND PUBLIC ACCEPTANCE OF ALASKAN FUR PRODUCTS AND WILD FUR HARVESTING

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Abstract: In 1994 the 18th Alaska Legislature approved a \$200,000 5-year project for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to protect Alaskan fur markets and encourage more efficient and humane trapping practices. This appropriation was made in response to a fur import ban regulation adopted by the European Economic Community now scheduled to go into effect on 1 January 1996. Income from trapping and cottage industry manufacturing of fur garments is of great importance to thousands of Alaskans who have few or no alternatives for earning cash income during winter months. With direction from a committee of regional and area biologists and public communication specialists. work has begun on a half hour video intended to educate national, state, and student publics about the historical, economic, and traditional importance of Alaska's fur industry. Future projects may include trapper education videos on the use and benefits of killing traps for some furbearer species and improved fur handling techniques to increase the market value of raw pelts. A grant of \$2,000 was made to the National Trappers Association to help defray travel expenses for a January 1995 trip to Europe for the purpose of lobbying for the repeal or amendment of the European fur import ban regulation. C\$ FUR SALES

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## **8TH NORTHERN FURBEARER CONFERENCE**

## In Conjunction With

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"Tradition and Transition -- Moving into the 21st Century"



CONFERENCE PROGRAM MAY 3-5, 1995 ANCHORAGE, ALASKA