

DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

news release

For Release April 9, 1976

McGarvey 202/343-5634

MANAGEMENT OF MARINE MAMMALS BY STATE OF ALASKA TO BE DECIDED

The question of whether State or Federal agencies will manage polar bears, sea otters, walrus, and six other marine mammal species in the State of Alaska will be submitted to an administrative law judge, the Interior Department's U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced today. A prehearing conference will be held on May 18, 1976. Hearings will also be held in both Alaska and Washington, D.C. The dates have not yet been set, but adequate public notice will be given.

A copy of laws and management regulations for all nine animal species is available for inspection by interested members of the public at the Docket Section of the Office of Hearings and Appeals.

The administrative law judge presiding at the May 18th, 1:30 p.m. prehearing conference will be Malcolm P. Littlefield, Office of Hearings and Appeals, Department of the Interior, 4015 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, Virginia 22203 (telephone 703/557-9200). All correspondence relating to this matter must be entitled as follows:

In the matter of the request of
the State of Alaska to waive the
Moratorium on nine species of
marine mammals and allow the State
to resume management

DOCKET NO: WASH 76-1

Persons wishing to participate must state what issues of fact and law they deem necessary to be determined.

X X X

INT: 4475-76