TESTIMONY FOR MARK KOSBRUK RC 83

Thank you Mr. Chairman and members of the Board.

My name is Mark Kosbruk – I am originally from Perryville but moved to Port Heiden to raise a family with my wife, Gerda. I am a Bristol Bay fisherman in the Ugashik district each summer and in the fall I subsistence fish in Port Heiden.

Since the opening of the outer Port Heiden section, there has been less and less salmon in our streams and rivers for our village to subsist off of. It's gotten to a point where we have been getting our subsistence fish from the Chigniks and flying those over to Port Heiden to smoke, dry and freeze for our winter supply. Now this is not a cheap way for us to live.

Village life is much different than life in lower 48, people who come up and goes fishing reap what they want and go back to the lower 48. Where the cost of living is cheaper than where we live. The average price for a gallon of regular gas in the US is \$3.60, our gas is \$6.01 per gallon.

What I am getting at is when it is all said and done, most of the North Peninsula drifters leave the state. We live here year round this our home we thrive off the land and the sea. And they are in our back yard where I can't catch our resources because someone else's is in there taking what's left and leaving us very little salmon for my family and our villagers.

We cannot hunt our caribou herd because it has been shut down for 9 villages since 2004. And now we are up against the fisherman in the outer district of Port Heiden depleting our rivers and streams. Bristol Bay area T permit holders fish in closed off districts while Area M fishermen districts go from Stepovack clear round to outer Port Heiden. We are left with very little subsistence resources in our area.

I am in support of proposal 201 closing the outer Port Heiden section to Area M gillnet permit holders.