

**ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES
FEBRUARY 26 – MARCH 3, 2013
ALASKA PENINSULA / ALEUTIAN ISLANDS FINFISH**

PROPOSAL 15 - 5 AAC 06.331. Gillnet specifications and operations. Allow set gillnet anchors and running lines at registered sites to remain in the water during closed periods as follows:

The new regulation will state:

Setnet anchor tackle or gear placed at registered sites only can be left in the water during fishing period closures. At any unregistered location all gear will be removed from the water at each fishing period closure.

ISSUE: The problem is setnet fisherpeople are setting anchor tackle at non-registered sites, sometimes more than 0.5 miles from the beach, in an effort to reserve a fishing location. This setting takes place before and during the season. The anchor tackle consists of an end buoy separated by up to 100 fathoms of floating line from another end buoy. This 100 fathoms of floating line is a navigational hazard to all vessels transiting the area where this unattended gear is located. In most cases, this gear is left in the water for the entire season.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Vessels traveling along shorelines unfamiliar with the placement of this unattended gear will either run over it (the surface line) or if they observe it will alter course around it. At night due to lack of visibility, chances are the vessel will encounter the floating line. In either case, the interaction of the moving vessel and the surface line has the probability of fouling its propeller thus creating a stranded vessel.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? N/A.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Any vessel unfamiliar with the placement of this unattended gear.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Only those who currently do this.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? N/A.

PROPOSED BY: Dale Petersen & Duane Kapp (HQ-F12-130)

PROPOSAL 162 - 5 AAC 28.650. Closed waters in Bering Sea-Aleutian Islands Area. Close all waters of Unalaska Bay to groundfish fishing with pelagic trawl gear as follows:

5 AAC 28.650. Closed waters in Bering Sea-Aleutian Islands Area (a) All waters of Alaska surrounding St. Matthew, Hall, and Pinnacle Islands are closed to commercial groundfish fishing.

(b) The waters of Unalaska Bay are closed to groundfish fishing with pelagic trawl gear, {as follows:} **south of a line from Cape Kalekta at 54ø 00.50' N. lat., 166ø 22.50' W. long. to Cape Cheerful at 54ø 01' N. lat., 166ø 40' W. long.**

[(1) FROM JUNE 10 THROUGH JULY 31, SOUTH OF A LINE FROM CAPE KALEKTA AT 54ø 00.50' N. LAT., 166ø 22.50' W. LONG. TO CAPE CHEERFUL AT 54ø 01' N. LAT., 166ø 40' W. LONG.;]

[(2) BEGINNING AUGUST 1 UNTIL THE CLOSURE OF THE PARALLEL BERING SEA WALLEYE POLLOCK 'B' SEASON, SOUTH OF A LINE FROM CAPE KALEKTA AT 54ø 00.50' N. LAT., 166ø 22.50' W. LONG. TO A POINT NEAR HOG ISLAND AT 53ø 55.42' N. LAT., 166ø 34.25' W. LONG. TO A POINT IN BROAD BAY AT 53ø 55.42' N. LAT., 166ø 38.80' W. LONG.; FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS PARAGRAPH, "PARALLEL BERING SEA WALLEYE POLLOCK 'B' SEASON" MEANS THE PARALLEL SEASON CONDUCTED FROM JUNE 10 THROUGH NOVEMBER 1].

ISSUE: Since 2002, large-scale trawling in Unalaska Bay has unacceptably impacted an area traditionally used by subsistence, sport, and non-trawl commercial fishers and hunters. Reacting to rising fuel costs and a lack of pollock where they historically fish, conditions not likely to change in the near future, trawlers have harvested an average of 4.2 million pounds of pollock from Unalaska Bay each of the last ten years. The State of Alaska opens these waters to trawling from Aug. 1 to Nov. 1 as a parallel fishery to the eastern Bering Sea catcher vessel pollock fishery that is managed by the National Marine Fishery Service. There is no cap on what percentage of the B season catcher vessel trawl quota can come out of Unalaska Bay. Just under 12 million pounds of pollock were harvested inside the bay in 2004. No research has been done to understand the local pollock biomass. It is not known how many pollock typically inhabit these waters, or what level of harvest, if any, the ecosystem can sustain. The huge trawl nets that are used to prosecute the fishery are putting excessive pressure on a sensitive area already fully utilized by local fishers and hunters. Based on observations made by local people it appears fish and game are being scattered and/or driven out of the bay, coincidentally as this trawl season is occurring. It has become difficult for local subsistence fishermen and hunters to feed their families and small commercial vessels are increasingly required to leave the safety of Unalaska Bay in order to be successful. The subsistence salmon fishery in Unalaska Bay has been poor in the last few years. Commercial herring and halibut catches have been poor in recent years and the local commercial tanner crab fishery has remained closed since 2010. Most of the trawling occurs when other user groups are using the bay to harvest salmon and halibut. Fishermen are often unable to fish their traditional spots because doing so would result in almost certain gear loss/conflicts. Getting in the path of trawlers and tangled with a trawl is possible in the fall months that are typically foggy. Trawlers are large vessels that are built to handle the stormy weather of the Bering Sea. They did not historically fish in Unalaska Bay and restricting them from these waters would alleviate many problems.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Trawlers will continue to displace the traditional users of Unalaska Bay and negatively impacting the marine resources upon which

they rely, moving smaller boats out into the Bering Sea potentially endangering lives. Habitat destruction will occur where trawl gear touches the bottom.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? This proposal will allow fish and game to recover and return to areas closer to our community thereby enabling local small boat fleet to harvest and process their catch timely increasing quality. More community members will be able to participate in harvesting and producing more and better products.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Those who subsistence fish and hunt, sportsmen, and non-trawl commercial fishing in Unalaska Bay. Wildlife will benefit with less vessel and gear traffic.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? A few commercial trawl vessels that fish pollock inside of Unalaska Bay, but the Bering Sea just outside the bay offers a lot of area for these larger vessels equipped to go there.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? We considered limiting all commercial fishing vessels under 35 feet and 60 feet lengths, but so few of these type vessels fish in the bay and their impact is not nearly that of the trawl vessels.

PROPOSED BY: Unalaska Native Fishermen's Association (HQ-F12-090)

PROPOSAL 163 - 5 AAC 28.640. Aleutian Islands District and Western District of the South Alaska Peninsula Area Sablefish Management Plan. Modify state-waters sablefish season to coincide with federal sablefish season as follows:

Black cod season in State water will begin and end on the same dates as the federal season, unless the quota gets caught.

ISSUE: The State water Black cod season currently opens May 15. We would like to see the opening date returned to run concurrently with the Federal season. The way it was originally.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? We'll continue to have to wait two months after the IFQ season opens to fish in State water for Black cod.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The people who live and fish out of Dutch Harbor and Akutan as well as others who come out early to begin their fishing.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? N/A.

PROPOSED BY: Unalaska Native Fisherman Association

(HQ-F12-205)

PROPOSAL 164 – 5 AAC 28.560. Fishing seasons for South Alaska Peninsula Area; and 5 AAC 28.610. Fishing seasons for Bering Sea-Aleutian Islands Area. Specify regulatory fishing seasons for black rockfish as follows:

5 AAC 28.560. Fishing Seasons for South Alaska Peninsula Area.

(d) In the Eastern District, black rockfish may be taken from January 1 through December 31, unless closed by emergency order.

(e) In the Western District, black rockfish may be taken from January 1 through December 31, unless closed by emergency order.

5 AAC 28.610. Fishing Seasons for Bering Sea-Aleutian Islands Area.

(d) In the Aleutian Islands District, black rockfish may be taken from January 1 through December 31, unless closed by emergency order.

ISSUE: Open season dates for black rockfish in the South Alaska Peninsula Area and the Aleutian Islands District are not specified in regulation. In practice, black rockfish may be taken from January 1 to December 31, unless the season is closed by emergency order when guideline harvest levels are achieved.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Uncertainty regarding open season dates for black rockfish in the South Alaska Peninsula and Aleutian Islands.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The public and agencies will benefit from clear and consistent regulatory language.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Unknown.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

(HQ-F12-237)

PROPOSAL 173 - 5 AAC 09.360. Southeastern District Mainland Salmon Management Plan. Allow for concurrent fishing times between Chignik and Southeastern District Mainland (SEDM) and increase SEDM allocation to 20% as follows:

We would like to see the elimination of "the harvest of 300,000 by Chignik fishermen" and instead be allowed to fish concurrently with Chignik fishermen, if we are to be managed under

their fishery. Also, we would like the allocation to be increased from 7.6% to 20%, if we are treating 20% of the fish as local.

ISSUE: The Southeastern District Mainland (SEDM) Salmon Management plan is based on the assumption that 20% of the fish caught in the SEDM are local stocks, while the other 80% are Chignik bound. Yet we are only allowed 7.6% of what Chignik harvests, notwithstanding they reach minimum harvest levels of 300,000 fish before we can begin harvesting our local stocks. We think the 7.6% is rather meager allowance for a historical fishery dating before statehood. We are managed on the Chignik fishery, yet we are not Chignik fishermen.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Fishers will not be able to harvest local stocks which are indisputably present.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Area M fishermen.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? In 2011, Chignik fishers saw record returns resulting in the SEDM being opened for an extended period, of which Area M fishers could barely reach the 7.6% allocation, strongly indicating that SEDM fishers were not catching salmon returning to Area L.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Total abolition of the SEDM management plan. Further research will give insight into the validity of the SEDM management plan as a whole.

PROPOSED BY: Patrick Brown (HQ-F12-198)

PROPOSAL 174 - 5 AAC 09.360. Southeastern District Mainland Salmon Management Plan. Modify the Southeastern District Mainland (SEDM) management plan to establish weekly fishing periods from June 10 thru July 10 to gillnet gear, and from July 11 thru July 25, establish 48-hour periods followed by 48-hour closures to both setnet and seine gear as follows:

From June 10 thru July 10 the SEDM Fishery will be open 5 days followed by 2 day closures for the set gillnet fleet. From July 11-July 25 the SEDM Fishery will be open for set gillnet and seine gear for 48 hour followed by 48 hour closures.

ISSUE: SE District mainland fishing opportunities.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Area M fishermen will continue to lose fishing time & opportunity.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Area M set gillnetters, seiners, processors & communities.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Dwain A. Foster Sr. & John A. Foster (HQ-F12-207)

PROPOSAL 175 - 5 AAC 09.360. Southeastern District Mainland Salmon Management Plan. Modify the Southeastern District Mainland (SEDM) management plan to establish fishing periods for set gillnet gear from June 6 through July 25 as follows:

Reestablish the SEDM setnet fishery to be 88 hours fishing and 32 hours off continuously starting June 6th at 6:00 am until June 9th at 10:00 p.m. for 88 hours open and 32 hours closed then opened again June 11th for 88 hours and closed 32 hours continuously until July 25th managed under its own system, for the setnetters, which shall more closely mirror the Shumagin Island June fishery, allowing the setnetters to again realize and obtain the fishery they bought into because recent 2011 Chignik record runs didn't appear to cycle through the SEDM.

ISSUE: Establish a schedule in SEDM area, which would open of June 6th through July 25th with 88 hour fishing periods for the setnet fleet. Form a new plan for the SEDM similar to the historic and traditional one, which was in place when the permit system was implemented. Open the salmon season on June 6th at 6:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. June 9th for 88 hours open and 32 hours closed then opened again on June 11th for 88 hours and closed 32 hours continuously until July 25th.

While Chignik fishermen realized historic returns in 2011 despite continuous fishing in the SEDM by the setnet fleet only we realized moderate returns with no obvious effect on Chignik. Due to political pressures from outside the area the setnet fleet has been squeezed off the mainland onto less productive sites on the islands overcrowding and reducing catches to a point where viability is uncertain at best. The need to take in to consideration the fact that many setnetters pay the State of Alaska for the right to fish on the shore leased sites. Permit value has dropped 30% since throwing out Arnie Shauls management plan. We need out area manager having the best interests of this area maximizing returns and production who remains in the area during the entire season.

This board should address the science or lack thereof in their deliberation rather than the political pressures by outside influences. The Board needs to address the blatant catch 22 that was devised by past boards which forces the fishermen who take the time and effort to submit a proposal to the board into joint meetings with other areas and compromises their proposal by dealing down in order to come to the consensus, in essence getting other stakeholders equal time on our proposals.

Because of the recent bonanza catch at Chignik during 2011 and the less than impressive SEDM catches you now have some new information that should be calculated into SEDM management

plan and considering that this proposal only asks for what has been in place before in this area, fishing time this area originally had, it should not be too hard to simplify the plan into its own, minus the political distractions. This would be very similar to the reinstatement of the June Shumagin Island fishery.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The local setnetters will continue to be denied access to historical fishery areas, which is affecting the viability of setnetting in the region and continues to overcrowd in the islands. The value of the permits will continue to drop along with the viability of the setnet fishery as the islands have a few good producing sites to be shared by too many.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? It will increase the quality of the fish, stabilizing the fishery so the fish processors can logistically plan when tenders will be needed in the area. Under the current plan unless Chignik attains a large return, fishermen never know anymore if we will even fish on the mainland until the area is under the local management plan late in July.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The SEDM setnetter will again benefit from the traditional and historic fishery we invested in and realize some return for the money we pay the state to lease these setnet sites in order to fish there.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one. After the 2011 season which the Chignik area realized massive returns, the SEDM didn't see any spectacular fish runs in the area proving beyond a doubt the management plan for SEDM is seriously compromised and needs an overhaul in order for the once profitable historic fishery to be returned to the setnet fishermen.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? I considered asking the board to put an L on my permit card right alongside the M, if you are going to manage me under the area L regulations then maybe you should let me fish over in area L. I rejected the idea because I wanted the board to give my proposal more than cursory examination and to take serious the fact that the SEDM setnetters have had undo hardships put upon them, from previous boards and have in effect been squeezed out of a historic and traditional fishery, which has resulted in the de valuation of the permits and sites that have been fished for over 60 years.

PROPOSED BY: Jack Foster Jr. & Amy M. Foster (HQ-F12-076)

PROPOSAL 176 - 5 AAC 09.366. Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula. Open and close the Northwest Stepovak Section, including Orzinski Bay, by emergency order (EO), between July 1 and July 25 as follows:

Between July 1 through July 25, Northwest Stepovak (including Orzinski Bay) will be regulated by emergency order. ADF&G will be allowed to exercise the option of opening all waters within Northwest Stepovak if weekly escapement levels are met or are exceeded within Orzinski Lake. ADF&G will be allowed to use discretion with unrestrictive fishing within NW Stepovak as long as weekly escapement levels are satisfied. (Abolish the 48 hour maximum restrictive limits (about 16 Set Netters) who fish outside Orzinski Bay but still fish within NW Stepovak. Manage Orzinski Bay and NW Stepovak under the same guidelines.)

ISSUE: NW Stepovak July Management Plan. From July 1 until July 26 ADF&G can only exclusively keep Orzinski Bay open if daily escapement levels are met. If escapement exceed weekly goals, ADF&G opens the river to the mouth which exclusively favors only 1 or 2 setnetters and a couple of beach seiners. The rest NW Stepovak is regulated with no more than 48 hours of continual fishing and the ADF&G can't or won't open the rest of NW Stepovak until at least 48 hours later.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Harvest imbalances will continue for about 15 setnetters who have sites outside of Orzinski Bay, but still within Northwest Stepovak. ADF&G will be forced to over-regulate the harvest, relying on three or four boats of managing escapement levels. While the rest of the fleet is unable to fish their sites. (What if the Chignik Fleet were restricted to harvest Salmon for no more than 48 hours outside of the Lagoon if escapement levels are met, and had to wait for 48 hours before they could fish again outside of the Lagoon? I would call that over-regulation.)

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Salmon quality will continue to be very good under this proposed plan.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Setnetters who fish within NW Stepovak from July 1 through July 26, that have been under 48 hour restriction.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Nobody suffers, ADF&G assured the Fleet they can manage Fisheries, under set Board guidelines.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Open my one site (Clarke Bay) closest to Orzinski Bay and manage it under Orzinski rules. I showed three Chignik seiners how my net is angled for fish going into Orzinski, they O.K.'d that idea. That's a selfish solution, not helping the other 15 or so NW Stepovak setnetters.

PROPOSED BY: David M. Adams

(HQ-F12-192)

PROPOSAL 177 - 5 AAC 09.3XX. Southeastern District Post-July Salmon Management Plan. Create a *Southeastern District Post-July Salmon Management Plan* in regulation as follows:

Under a new plan which could be called "Southeastern District Post-July Salmon Management Plan", setnetters would be allowed to fish Monday through Friday, from 9 am Monday morning until 9 pm Friday evening.

ISSUE: Establishment of a setnet schedule post-July in the Southeastern District.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Setnet fishermen are not allowed sufficient time to fish in August, September, and October. Department presence becomes limited at this time and openings are often limited by lack of Department involvement in the area. The establishment of a post-July schedule for setnet fishers would guarantee that sufficient time is available for harvest in historical fishing sites where fishing has been all but eliminated. Setnet fishing is characterized during this time by lack of effort, inclement weather, and much smaller catches than seining.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, because under the current plan, fishing not generally allowed until a full escapement is reached, which means that when fishing is allowed, most fish stocks are terminal and quality of fish is degrading.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Setnet fishermen. Catches can be used to indicate presence of local stocks, allowing the Department to make openers for seiners if possible.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Seiners will still be able to harvest under the current management plan according to Department discretion.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Increasing Department presence at this time of the year in order to gain insight into the local fishery would be a good idea. As it stands, openings are extremely limited by lack of Department involvement.

PROPOSED BY: Patrick Brown (HQ-F12-174)

PROPOSAL 178 - 5 AAC 09.360. Southeastern District Mainland Salmon Management Plan. Modify the Southeastern District Mainland (SEDM) management plan to open weekly fishing periods in the Southeastern District to set gillnet gear in September and October as follows:

In the months of September and October the SEDM will be open Monday thru Friday with weekend closures.

ISSUE: Lack of fishing time in the SEDM September and October fisheries.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Set gillnetters will continue to lose fishing opportunities.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Area M set gillnetters, processors & communities.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Dwain A. Foster Sr. & John A. Foster (HQ-F12-208)

PROPOSAL 179 - 5 AAC 09.365. South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan. Reinstate the chum salmon cap and limit fishing time in the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands salmon fisheries as follows:

(d.) Beginning June 7, the commissioner may open, by emergency order, commercial fishing periods for purse seine, drift gillnet, and set gillnet gear in the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands fisheries as follows:

- (1) Commercial fishing periods will begin at 6:00 am and run 70 hours until 10:00 pm three days later, commercial fishing will be closed for 74 hours and reopen 6:00 am three days later.
- (1a.) At no time during the June fishery shall the sockeye catch exceed 8.3% of the Bristol Bay pre-season sockeye forecast and/or 400,000 total chums.
- (2) Notwithstanding (1) of this subsection, the final commercial fishing period will end at 10:00 pm on June 29th.

ISSUE: The South Unimak and Shumagin June Salmon Management Plan currently operates without biological constraints or best science practices. The South Unimak and Shumagin June Salmon Management Plan is not consistent with State of Alaska Policy for Management of Sustainable Salmon Fisheries (5ACC 39.222) and Policy for the Management of Mixed Stock Salmon Fisheries (5 ACC 39.220).

There is no management tools in-place in the plan to protect “stocks of concern” for Western Alaska sockeye, Chinook, coho or chum salmon stocks.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Stocks of origin will continue to be exposed to potential over exploited in the South Unimak and Shumagin June mixed stock salmon fishery. Current “stocks of concern” are most of the North Peninsula sockeye rivers, Ugashik Chinook and coho, Egegik Chinook and coho, Naknek/Kvichak Chinook and coho, Nushagak

Chinook, pink and coho, Togiak Chinook and coho, Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim Chinook and coho.

Minimum escapement levels for the sustainability of these above mentioned stocks are not being met on a consistent year-to-year basis.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? 4,000 commercial fishermen and all local subsistence users of Chinook and coho that reside in Western Alaska.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Approximately 200 predominately Seattle based fishermen.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Lower Bristol Bay Advisory Committee (HQ-F12-117)

PROPOSAL 180 - 5 AAC 09.365(x). South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan. Incorporate a chum salmon catch cap of 350,000 salmon in the South Alaska Peninsula Area (Area M) salmon fisheries as follows:

There is a chum cap of 350,000 in the Area M, June fishery to allow for escapement of chum bound for AYK.

ISSUE: I would like the Board of Fisheries to reinstate a chum cap at Area M/AK Peninsula to 350,000 chum cap.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Norton Sound Area will continue to have reduced subsistence fishing opportunity and there are three rivers here in Norton Sound that have “stocks of concern for chum” which not be resolved unless more chum are allowed to escape in the June Area M Fishery.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, all users would benefit by having the chum resource spawn in increased numbers. Subsistence fishers would catch more fish and maybe have a commercial fishery for chum.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The State of Alaska because there would be an increased number of chum reaching the spawning areas in AYK.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one since all users of the same resource will be sharing the burden of conservation of chum.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Maybe a higher chum cap of 400,000 to 450,000.

PROPOSAL 181 - 5 AAC 09.365. South Unimak & Shumagin Island June Management Plan. Modify the *South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan* to base management on the Bristol Bay forecast, reduce time and area, and implement a harvest cap of 400,000 chum salmon as follows:

The solution may be a suite of regulations to include but not limited to: 1. Reduce the length of openings in June to 70 hours beginning 6:00 AM to 10:00 PM three days later then closed 74 hours; 2. Restore the 8.3% allocation of the forecasted Bristol Bay red salmon catch to the South Unimak, Shumagin Island June Fishery; 3. Restore the S. Unimak June fishery to pre 2004 boundaries; 4. Restore a total cap of 400,000 chum salmon caught in this fishery; 5. Reduce the depth of drift gillnets to 70 meshes; 5. Use newest WASSIP genetic data to adjust regulations while stocks of concern or known weak stocks are transiting this fishery.

ISSUE: The South Unimak & Shumagin Island June Salmon Management Plan does not clearly state the tools to be used and in what manner to protect “stocks of concern” and does not appear to comply with 5 AAC 39.220 Management of Mixed Stock Salmon Fisheries or with 5 AAC 39.222 SOA Policy for Management. of Sustainable Salmon Fisheries. No tools or methods, beyond the regular fishing schedule, are stated in this plan to afford protection to Western Alaskan stocks of concern including Kvichak sockeye, some Norton Sound Chinook, Yukon Chinook. Excessive interceptions may be occurring on Western Alaska chum stocks, Nushagak, Egegik and Ugashik Chinook stocks, Nushagak coho stocks that are recently showing poor returns and which have required extensive fishery restrictions at terminal harvest areas.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Stocks of concern named above as well as poor returns of Chinook, coho, & chum salmon in some areas of Western Alaska and Bristol Bay may be exposed to excessive intercept harvest in the June mixed stock fisheries of South Unimak and Shumagin Island. Additional restrictions may be imposed on terminal fisheries resulting in an uneven burden of conservation, disruption of associated terminal fisheries on healthy stocks, & insufficient escapements.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? This is designed to benefit the spawning escapements of stocks of concern in Western Alaska and Bristol Bay. It will benefit terminal subsistence, commercial and sport fisheries in these areas by spreading the burden of conservation more widely among all commercial harvesters. All commercial fishers of all areas will benefit from having a plan that clearly lays out the conservation measures to take for the recovery of stocks of concern and/or expected weak returns of Western Alaska/Bristol Bay salmon stocks.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Fishers in the June South Unimak and Shumagin Island mixed stock intercept fishery may share more of the burden of conservation by reduced fishing time or areas when returns are low or stocks of concern need protection in Western Alaska.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? We recognized that no single regulation adjustment is likely to effectively protect stocks of concern while allowing some fishing in the June intercept fishery.

PROPOSED BY: Nushagak Advisory Committee (HQ-F12-132)

PROPOSAL 182 - 5 AAC 09.365. South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan; 5 AAC 09.369. Northern District Salmon Fisheries Management Plan.

Modify the *South Unimak and Shumagin Islands Management Plan* and the *Northern District Salmon Management Plan* to include a cap of allowable sockeye salmon harvest based on the Bristol Bay forecast and create terminal harvest areas around the mouth of each river system in the Northern District as follows:

The combined sockeye salmon catch in the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June fishery and the Northern Peninsula District salmon fishery before July 15th is not to exceed 8.3 percent of the total predicted Bristol Bay harvest. Create terminal areas around the mouth of each North Peninsula river to manage escapement.

ISSUE: Limit the intercept of Bristol Bay Sockeye Salmon and the expansion of the Northern Peninsula District mixed stock intercept fishery by reinstating the 8.3 percent allocation of Bristol Bay sockeye guideline in the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan and the Northern District Salmon Fisheries Management Plan.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Over harvesting of Bristol Bay Sockeye Salmon Stocks resulting in escapement goals not being met.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED?

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Bristol Bay specific stocks that may be over harvested.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER?

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Kurt Johnson (HQ-F12-143)

PROPOSAL 183 - 5 AAC 09.310. Fishing seasons. Change the season opening date from June 1 to June 15 in the Northwestern, Unimak, Southwestern, Southcentral, and Southeastern Districts as follows:

(b) In the Northwestern District, salmon may be taken only from June 15 [1] through September 30, except that in the Dublin Bay Section, salmon may be taken only from July 10 through September 30.

(c) In the Unimak District, salmon may be taken only from June 15 [1] through October 31.

(d) In the Southwestern District, salmon may be taken only from June 15 [1] through October 31.

(e) In the South Central District, salmon may be taken only from June 15 [1] through October 31.

(f) In the Southeastern District, salmon may be taken only from June 15 [1] through October 31.

ISSUE: Start date of Area M June commercial fishing. The Delay in the start date until June 15 will reduce incidental take of chum salmon destined for the AYK. This proposal will reduce incidental take of chum salmon.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Intercept of Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim chum salmon will continue in Area M June fishery which will make reaching A-Y-K escapement goals difficult and further burden commercial, subsistence and sport users.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The chum salmon stocks in the AYK will benefit, as well as the residents in the AYK that target chum for commercial, sport and subsistence uses.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one. Area M fishermen will continue to take the targeted take of sockeye at a later date.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Southern Norton Sound Advisory Committee (HQ-F12-153)

PROPOSAL 184 – 5 AAC 09.366(g)(1) and (2). Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula. Amend the *Post June Salmon Management Plan* for the South Peninsula and clarify regulation language conflicting with the regulatory language within the *Southeastern District Mainland (SEDM) Salmon Management Plan* (5 AAC 09.360(1)) as follows:

(1) **repealed** [THE NORTHWEST STEPOVAK SECTION OF THE SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT MAINLAND (NEAR SUZY CREEK), AFTER JULY 25, THE WATERS EAST OF 160° 19.00' W. LONG. (IN DORENOI BAY), WEST OF THE CAPE SEPARATING CHICHAGOF BAY AND WEST COVE (160° 14.57' W. LONG.) AND NORTH OF 55° 37.33' N. LAT.; FISHING PERIODS SHALL BE ESTABLISHED BASED ON THE ABUNDANCE OF LOCAL PINK SALMON STOCKS];

(2) **repealed** [THE STEPOVAK FLATS SECTION OF THE SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT MAINLAND, FROM JULY 26 THROUGH JULY 28; FISHING PERIODS SHALL BE ESTABLISHED BASED ON THE ABUNDANCE OF LOCAL CHUM SALMON STOCKS];

ISSUE: In 2007, the board extended the *Southeastern District Mainland Salmon Management Plan* from July 26 through September 30 and again in 2010 from July 26 through October 31 (5 AAC 09.360(1)). Prior to the 2007 board meeting, the Northwest Stepovak Section of the Southeastern District Mainland (near Suzy Creek) and the Stepovak Flats Section of the Southeastern District Mainland were managed under the *Post-June Salmon Management Plan* (5 AAC 09.366(g)(1) and (2)). Modifying the *Post-June Salmon Management Plan* will clarify conflicting management plans so that the Northwest Stepovak Section of the Southeastern District Mainland (near Suzy Creek) and the Stepovak Flats Section of the Southeastern District Mainland are appropriately managed under the *Southeastern District Mainland Salmon Management Plan* instead of under the *Post-June Salmon Management Plan*.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Management plans will continue to conflict.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Unknown.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Unknown.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game. (HQ-F12-231)

PROPOSAL 185 - 5 AAC 09.366. Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula. Provide the department more flexibility when conducting the Shumagin Islands Section test fisheries as follows:

5 AAC 09.366(i) the department **may** [SHALL] conduct a seine test fishery in the Shumagin Islands Section to assess the presence of immature salmon. If 100 or more immature salmon, per set, are present, the commissioner **may** [SHALL] close, by emergency order, the seine fishery in an area to be determined by the department. If the seine fishery is closed in an area under this subsection, the set gillnet fishery shall remain open in that area. **The commissioner may allow for additional fishing time to offset any closures due to immature salmon.**

ISSUE: Closures of the Shumagin Island seine fishery due to small amounts of immature salmon in test fisheries tend to exclude seiners even during times of salmon abundance. By regulation, if 100 small fish are observed to be gilled during a set no matter the catch size, the seine fishery automatically closes. Lost fishing time cannot be recovered but could be avoided with a more refined regulation.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Fishing time could be lost to Shumagin Island section seine fishermen during peak harvest periods.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes. This proposal allows the commissioner and department the ability to exercise common sense in seasons of abundance when a relatively small amount of small salmon are observed, and threaten to close down a highly productive harvest of targeted fully grown salmon.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The Shumagin Island section seiners, the local processors and community will benefit from an ability to reasonable prosecute the fishery.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one is likely to suffer.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? The status quo is unacceptable. During peak salmon fishing times, a few immature salmon could close the fishery.

PROPOSED BY: Melvin Larsen (HQ-F12-071)

PROPOSAL 186 - 5 AAC 09.366(g)(1). Post-June Salmon Management Plan for South Alaska Peninsula. Allow a pink salmon fishery within waters of Ramsey Bay in the Stepovak Flats Section as follows:

The new regulation would say, “a line extending from a point at 55 48.200 N Lat., 159 50.839 W long., to a point at “Louies Corner” 55 51.034 N lat., 159 47.050 W long., would be used to allow for the harvest of pink salmon in Ramsey Bay at any point north and west of this line.

ISSUE: Presently the entire “Stepovak Flats” is managed by the local biologist with only one strategy in mind and that is to secure chum salmon escapement. In reality what the “Stepovak Flats” section encompasses are both pink salmon streams and chum salmon streams. The majority of the chum runs go into salmon streams numbered as streams “04”, “05” and “06”. These three streams are along the six mile beach that starts in the west, at what is charted as “Louies Corner” and runs for six miles to the east. To the west of “Louies Corner” is the bay charted as “Ramsey Bay” which includes three streams numbered as “01”, “02” and “03”. During the last seven years large numbers of pink salmon, more than the amount needed for escapement, have gone unharvested due to the fact that there was no boundary established that would allow local biologists to separate the management of the “Stepovak Flats” section for the purpose of harvesting the available pink salmon and still protect the chum salmon going into streams “04”, “05” and “06”.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? If this problem is not solved the “Stepovak Flats” section will not be managed in such a way as to allow for the harvest of pink salmon when the opportunity presents itself. The biologists are not given the tool they need, which is a boundary line that allows for a directed harvest of available pink salmon while

preventing a direct harvest on chum salmon. Fishermen and others depending on their production will not benefit from a pink salmon harvest from “Ramsey Bay” salmon streams.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, since the Ramsey Bay pink salmon run is not harvested to its potential due to the need to protect “Stepovak Flat” chum salmon runs may of the pink salmon have turned black and are not saleable to processors by the time the chum salmon escapement needs have been realized. If and when an opening is allowed the pink salmon can be sold.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Processors, fishermen, local commercial retailers and City and Borough tax collectors.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: John Mitchell (HQ-F12-105)

PROPOSAL 187- 5 AAC 09.365. South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan. Amend fishing periods in the *Post-June South Peninsula Management Plan*, consolidating fishing periods as follows:

- Open for 33/hrs July 6 @6:00 am through 3:00 pm July 7 (close for 63 hrs)
- Open for 36/hrs July 10 @6:00 am through 6:00 pm July 11 (close for 60 hrs)
- Open for 36/hrs July 14 @6:00 am through 6:00 pm July 15 (close for 60 hrs)
- Open for 36/hrs July 18 @6:00 am through 6:00 pm July 19 (close for 60 hrs)
- Open for 36/hrs July 22 @6:00 am through 6:00 pm July 23 (close for 60 hrs)
- Open for 36/hrs July 26 @6:00 am through 6:00 pm July 27 (close for 66 hrs)
- Open for 36/hrs July 30 @12:00 noon through 12 midnight July 31

ISSUE: July management plan in the Post June Fishery in the Unimak and Shumagin Islands short openings and the frequency of traveling to our sites combined with the rising cost of fuel and expenses.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Rising fuel and expenses combined with very short opening will continue to create economic hardships to the fleet and their crew.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Salmon quality will continue to be very good under this planned proposal.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Benefits the Fleet because by lowering fuel and expenses, in particular it will benefit the Setnet fleet that historically catch less volume, stay in set location

and don't have the same capacity of resetting gear in multiple places and multiple times in a day. (compared to drifters and seiners)

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Nobody suffers, ADF&G assured the fleet they manage fisheries under set Board guidelines.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Consolidate 249/hrs with 3-72/h and 1-39/hr starting July 6 at 12:00 noon with 72 hour openings followed by 72 hour closures. Install 39/hr opener on July 24 at noon through July 25 at 9:00 pm after July 25 open by emergency order.

PROPOSED BY: Ben Mobeck Sr. and David M. Adams (HQ-F12-193)

PROPOSAL 188 - 5 AAC 09.365. South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan. Amend fishing periods in the *Post-June South Peninsula Management Plan*, consolidating fishing periods as follows:

Open for 48/hrs July 6 @ 12:00 noon through 12:00 noon July 8, close for 48 hrs
Open for 48/hrs July 10 @ 12:00 noon through 12:00 noon July 12, close for 48 hrs
Open for 48/hrs July 14 @ 12:00 noon through 12:00 noon July 16, close for 48 hrs
Open for 48/hrs July 18 @ 12:00 noon through 12:00 noon July 20, close for 48 hrs
Open for 57/hrs July 22 @ 12:00 noon through 9:00 pm July 24, after July 24 manage fishery for pink salmon under emergency order.

ISSUE: July management plan in the Post June Fishery in the Unimak and Shumagin Islands short openings combined with the rising cost of fuel and expenses is economically becoming unfeasible.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Rising Fuel and expenses combined with very short opening will continue to create economic hardships to the fleet and their crew.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Salmon quality will continue to be very good under this proposed plan.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Benefits the fleet fuel cost, in particular it will benefit the Setnet fleet that historically catch less volume, stay in set locations and don't have the same capacity of resetting gear multiple times in a day.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Nobody suffers, ADF&G assured the Fleet they manage Fisheries under set Board guidelines.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Consolidate 249/hrs with 3-72/h and 1-39/hr starting July 6 at 12:00 noon with 72 hr openings and 72 hr closures. Install 39/hr opener on July 24 at noon through July 25 at 9:00 pm (after July 25 open by emergency order).

PROPOSED BY: Marcus Adams

(HQ-F12-194)

PROPOSAL 189 - 5 AAC 09.366(d). Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula. Amend fishing periods in the *Post-June South Peninsula Management Plan* to increase fishing time as follows:

(d) The commissioner may establish, by emergency order, nine 48-hour fishing periods interspersed by 24-hour closures from July 6 through July 31.

ISSUE: The Post-June South Peninsula Management plan allows for 10 days of fishing for the month of July. Considering weather days, timing of tides, and daylight hours, this often is less than adequate time to allow the harvest opportunity of salmon that have been a part of the fishery in the past.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? There will continue to be lost opportunity to harvest salmon in July.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, salmon harvested outside the terminal areas are typically higher quality.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All Area M fishermen.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? There are migrating and local stocks in the South Peninsula during July. The harvest of mixed stocks is allowed throughout the state. Area M has historically harvested mixed stocks in July. Measurable impacts to a particular stock is unlikely.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Different times for openings and closures.

PROPOSED BY: King Cove Advisory Committee

(HQ-F12-016)

PROPOSAL 190 - 5 AAC 09.366. Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula Area. Amend fishing periods in the *Post-June South Peninsula Management Plan* as follows:

The Post-June season should start at noon of July 6, and openers should be 48 hours interspersed by 48-hour closures. There would be four 48-hour openers, and one 60-hour opener for a total of 252 hours. The final opener would end at 11:59 PM of July 24. Afterward, the Department would manage the season of the abundance of local stocks.

ISSUE: "The Post-June salmon management plan currently consists of six 24-hour fishing periods interspersed by 48-hour closures from July 6 through July 21, and three 36-hour fishing periods interspersed by 48-hour closures from July 22 through July 31."

Under this plan, the relatively small openers are not economical for vessel operators. Additionally, the first opener begins at 12:01 am on July 6. The time between 12:01 am and daylight goes relatively wasted. Set gillnetters can set nets at this time, but practice can result in unsafe circumstances. A total of 252 hours should be allowed, but because of a time discrepancy requiring an opener to start as early as possible on July 6, and ending at 9 pm of that day to balance the start and finish at 9 pm thereafter, those three hours go wasted. Therefore, actually 249 hours are allowed.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Fishing openers which start at midnight are neither practical nor safe. Fuel is wasted by making boats go in and out of town every day, instead of at least two days for an opener. Boats do not have time to search other grounds, so if a day is unsuccessful, the whole opener is wasted. If weather is bad, and boats cannot leave port, the whole opener is wasted all together.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? I don't think so.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All fishermen would benefit from reduced fuel bills and opportunity to explore different fishing grounds if the need arose.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? If the Post-June plan contained 48-hour openers interspersed by 48-hour closures from July 6 until July 31, that would be optimal, but in the past, the Board refused to allow any more fishing time than the allotted 252 hours.

At the last BOF meeting, no groups were able to reach a consensus about what exactly would be the best alternative for the current management plan. However, all groups were in consensus that the current management plan was not an optimal plan. I think this plan would be better for all fishers, and would allow the Department to manage the fishery more locally based on available stocks.

PROPOSED BY: Patrick Brown (HQ-F12-160)

PROPOSAL 191 - 5 AAC 09.320(b)(2). Fishing periods in the Northwestern District. Limit fishing periods in Bechevin Bay Section to four days in seven as follows:

Bechevin Bay Section, only during fishing periods established by emergency order **not to exceed four days in a seven day period.**

ISSUE: Bechevin Bay management plan.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Over-fishing and lack of escapement will decimate fall and coho chum runs as in the 2011 salmon season when there was unlimited fishing time.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Commercial and subsistence fishermen.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? None.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: False Pass Fish & Game Advisory Committee (SC-F12-001)

PROPOSAL 192 – 5 AAC 09.350(18)(A). Closed waters. Amend the closed water definition at Christianson Lagoon to better define closed waters as determined by the current lagoon exit channel as follows:

(18)(A) **Christianson** [CHRISTIANSON’S] Lagoon: waters **within 500 yards of the Christianson Lagoon** [OF THE LAGOON AND ITS EXIT CHANNEL UPSTREAM FROM A POINT LOCATED ABOVE THE] exit channel terminus at the ocean shoreline.

ISSUE: This proposal addresses the Christianson Lagoon closed waters definition and corrects the spelling in regulation. In 2008, the Christianson Lagoon exit channel was diverted, blocking off the channel referenced in regulation (5 AAC 09.350(18)(A)). The current closed water definition no longer provides protection to the resource as originally intended.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? If the definition is not addressed, the protection that the closed waters regulation is intended to provide will no longer be afforded to salmon returning to Christianson Lagoon. Adjusting the closed waters will codify actions taken by the department annually since 2008 and provide a definition of closed waters for Christianson Lagoon that is consistent with other closed water regulations on the Alaska Peninsula.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Unknown.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Unknown.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Unknown.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Since the exit channel was redefined in 2008, a 500 yard closure around the Christianson Lagoon exit channel terminus with the ocean shoreline has been established annually by emergency order.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game. (HQ-F12-232)

PROPOSAL 193 - 5 AAC 09.350(35). Closed waters. Reduce the closed water area in Grub Gulch as follows:

If the Board were to adopt this proposal the new regulation would say, "All waters in Grub Gulch would be closed to fishing north and east of a line from 55 degrees 46'18" N lat., 159 degrees 56'06" W. long. to 55 degrees 49'00" N lat., 159 degrees 58'12" W. long.

ISSUE: I would like the Board to change the closed waters fishing boundary in Grub Gulch. I would proposal the Board use the original and traditional latitude and longitude marks as described in the 1992-1994 Alaska Peninsula Salmon Regulation Book (5 AAC 09.350(22)) on page 39.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Commercial harvest of pink salmon from Grub Gulch would be severely limited.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, the quality of the pink salmon harvested in Grub Gulch would improve. With the present boundary so far out the bay large schools of fish, more than what is needed for adequate escapement into the Grub Gulch stream turn black and are not saleable to the companies buying pink salmon.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Those that would benefit are salmon processing plants, fishermen, commercial retail and city/borough tax collection.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one will suffer.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: John Mitchell (HQ-F12-137)

PROPOSAL 194 - 5 AAC 09.335. Minimum distance between units of gear. Change the distance between set gillnets from 900 to 1,800 feet in the Southeastern District Mainland (SEDM) of Area M set gillnet fishery as follows:

In the South Eastern District Mainland of Area M, no setnetter can set a net within 1800 feet of another setnetter. The only exception would be grandfathering existing setnet leases and Orzinski Bay. The 900 feet regulation in the Orzinski Bay should be kept to prevent over escapement to the Orzinski sockeye system. The 900 feet distance required between a setnetter's own two nets would not change.

ISSUE: The minimum distance a setnetter can set their net to another setnetter in the South Eastern District Mainland of Area M. The current regulation requires a distance of 900 feet between nets. In the past, most fishermen wouldn't set a net within 1800 feet of a fellow fisherman. Today, the traditional way of fishing out of a skiff is changing to bow and stern pickers that can easily pick up gear and move nets to 900 feet in front of another fisherman. As

you can imagine, this has a major impact on their catch. I'm asking the Board to change the distance from 900 feet to 1800 feet in the South Eastern District Mainland of Area M to prevent further conflicts.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Increase conflict between setnetters.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The majority of Sand Point setnetters who fish in the South Eastern District Mainland.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? The fishermen who set their nets 900 feet in front of another setnetter.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? This is the only solution that I felt adequately addresses the problem. I've spoken with fishermen from Nelson Lagoon who have 1800 feet between nets requirement. They believe it has helped the fishermen to avoid gear conflicts while allowing everyone to make a living.

PROPOSED BY: Mark Wagner (HQ-F12-013)

PROPOSAL 195 - 5 AAC 09.330(d)(1)(B). Gear. Allow drift gillnet gear to operate in the Southwestern District of Area M from June 1-August 31 as follows:

In the Southwestern District of Area M salmon may be taken with drift gillnets (B) from June 1 through August 31, in the waters allowed in the June fishery in 5 AAC 09.330(d)(1)(B)(i) and (ii).

ISSUE: Salmon regulation allows drift gillnets in certain waters of the Southwestern District of Area M during June, but not for July and August. This area is closer to King Cove and Sand Point which would save running time/fuel coast to participate in the short openings of the Post-June South Peninsula Management plan.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The drift gillnet fishermen will continue to fish the Unimak District and Ikatán Bay Section which are the western most Districts of the South Peninsula.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? There are times when tender service is not offered by the processors in the Unimak District causing fishermen to hold their fish and run them to the processor.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Drift gillnet fishermen that choose to fish the new area.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? There is the possibility of gear conflicts with seiners and set gillnets, but has not been a problem when drift gillnets are allowed in the same area during June.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: King Cove Advisory Committee (HQ-F12-017)

PROPOSAL 196 - 5 AAC 09.331. Gillnet specifications and operations and 5 AAC 39.250. Gillnet specifications and operations. Allow for the use of monofilament gillnet gear in the Alaska Peninsula Area as follows:

5 AAC 39.250 (c) (2) the requirements contained in (1) (A) and (B) of this subsection apply in the Kodiak, Chignik, (remove Alaska Peninsula), Aleutian Islands, Bristol Bay, Kuskokwim, Yukon-Northern, Norton Sound-Port Clarence, and Kotzebue Areas.

Remove Alaska Peninsula from current regulations.

ISSUE: Section (c), the use of web with multiple filament. We would like to be able to use monofilament gillnets.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Algae blooms in recent years have affected fish catches because algae sticks to meshes rendering nets unfishable. The fishermen of Area M think that having monofilament nets will cut down on algae that gets stuck on the meshes. Many gillnet fisheries in the state have already been excluded from the filament requirements pertaining to this section.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? I don't think so.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Gillnet fishermen who choose to adopt the new gear type will benefit not only from cleaner nets, but lower gear costs associated with the price of monofilament web.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Pressure washers are often used to scrub/ wash nets which accumulate large amounts of growth in just a day's time. This has been the only solution, and takes up a lot of off time in between openers.

PROPOSED BY: Patrick Brown (HQ-F12-157)

PROPOSAL 197 - 5 AAC 09.331(a)(4) and (b)(4). Gillnet specifications and operations. Modify the allowable set gillnet and drift gillnet gear depth from 70 meshes to 45 meshes in the Northern District of the Alaska Peninsula Area salmon fishery as follows:

Change the gear depth from 70 mesh depth to 45 mesh depth in the Northern District of the Alaska Peninsula Area salmon fishery.

ISSUE: The Advisory Committee would like the Board to address the declining return of salmon to the Bear River and Nelson Lagoon, due to over-harvest.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Inaction could result in failure of the Nelson Lagoon salmon fishery.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes. Around 1990 the depth size went to 70 mesh depth. There was really no depth size because everyone was using shallow gear. At the time, the Department would open the Three Hills area on or around July 4th, and then alternating between Three Hills and Bear River. In 1998, the fleet started fishing further north. This is when we started to see significant changes in the Nelson Lagoon fishery. In 2006, when the north line opened above Pt. Heiden, our fishery began to rapidly decline.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Bear River and Nelson Lagoon systems will benefit. This action will improve the quality of the resource. The salmon size has dropped because of the pressure on the harvest.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Doing nothing may result in collapse of the Nelson Lagoon and Bear River salmon fisheries.

PROPOSED BY: Nelson Lagoon Advisory Committee (HQ-F12-067)

PROPOSAL 198 - 5 AAC 09.310(8). Fishing Seasons. Close the north side of Cape Seniavin and Nelson Lagoon on August 15 instead of September 30 as follows:

5 ACC 09.310 North side of Cape Seniavin will close on August 15th.

ISSUE: The Nelson Lagoon Silver salmon resource is being depleted due to over-harvest and over-fishing on the north line.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Inaction could result in complete depletion of this renewable resource and collapse of the Nelson Lagoon local economy.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes. The resource is depleted and we have no silver salmon

season anymore. Closing on August 15th would allow the silver salmon migration to their home streams.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? This would benefit Nelson Lagoon, a terminal fishery

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Doing nothing could result in collapse of the Nelson Lagoon Sliver salmon fishery.

PROPOSED BY: Nelson Lagoon Advisory Committee (HQ-F12-062)

PROPOSAL 199 - 5 AAC 09.369(e). Northern District Salmon Fisheries Management Plan. Close the north side of Cape Seniavin until July 15th as follows:

Close the north side of Cape Seniavin until July 15th – open it on July 15th.

ISSUE: The Nelson Lagoon Sockeye salmon resource is being depleted due to over-harvest and over-fishing on the north line.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Could result in complete depletion of this renewable resource; collapse of the Nelson Lagoon local economy.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes. The resource is depleted and we have few sockeye salmon anymore. Staying closed on the north side of Seniavin until July 15th would allow the Sockeye salmon migration to their home streams.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? This would benefit Nelson Lagoon, a terminal fishery.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Doing nothing will result in collapse of the Nelson Lagoon sockeye salmon fishery.

PROPOSED BY: Nelson Lagoon Committee (HQ-F12-065)

PROPOSAL 200 - 5 AAC 09.310. Fishing seasons; 5 AAC 09.320. Fishing Periods; 5 AAC 09.330. Fishing Gear; 5 AAC 09.369. Northern District Salmon Fisheries Management Plan; 5 AAC 39.120. Registration of commercial fishing vessels. Establish a sockeye salmon fishery from June 20 through September 30 in the Cinder River Section as follows:

Reference Chapter 9

5AAC 09.310 Fishing seasons:

(a) Northern District

(1) Cinder River Section

(A) Inside Cinder River Lagoon- May 1-September 30

(B) Remainder of the Cinder River Section June 20-September 30.

5 AAC 09.320 Fishing Periods:

(a) (3) in the Cinder River Section, salmon may be taken from 6:00 a.m. Monday to 6:00 p.m. Tuesday from June 20 to July 31, and from 6:00 a.m. Thursday until 6:00 p.m. Saturday after July 31

5 AAC 09.330 Fishing Gear:

(a) Northern District

(1) Cinder River Section

(x) June 20- July 31 Outside of Cinder River Lagoon into which Cinder River drains: drift gillnets only

5 AAC 09.369 (m) In the Cinder River Section, from June 20 to July 31 if the commissioner closes that portion of the Egegik District specified in 5 AAC 06.359(c) for conservation of Ugashik River sockeye salmon stocks, the commissioner may, by emergency order, close the outer portion of the Cinder River Section and immediately reopen the Cinder River Section, with additional fishing restrictions that the commissioner determines necessary.

5 ACC 39.120 Registration of Commercial Fishing Vessels (d) Salmon net gear registration areas are as follows:

T Bristol Bay Area (5 AAC 06.100) and January 1 through June 19, the Cinder River,

ISSUE: The foregone harvest opportunity of Cinder River sockeye by the Area M drift gillnet fleet. Cinder River sockeye salmon have been above the escapement goal 10 of the last 11 years.

See “Success in Achieving Salmon Escapement Goals in Monitored Systems-Prepared at the request of the House Fisheries Committee” RIR 5J08-01 (edited by Geron Bruce), and North Alaska Peninsula Fishery Management Report No. 11-07.

From RIR 5J08-01 figure 5 p. 12 The Westward Region has the highest percentage of escapements above goals in the State of Alaska.....and from Appendix D.2.

“Cinder River surplus escapements were primarily due to lack of industry interest and minimal fishing effort (*inside*) rather than any specific management action.”

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continued foregone harvest of Cinder River sockeye salmon.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Area M drift gillnet fleet.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? There could be minor impacts to Ugashik River sockeye salmon but with the language available and already in regulation for other areas of the Northern District the department will have the means to protect Ugashik River stocks.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

1) Allow Area T boats to fish inside of Cinder River from June 20-30.

2) Making Outer Cinder River an exclusive Area T registration area June 20- June 30.

Why we rejected them: We rejected because Area T permit holders have never fished for sockeye salmon in the Cinder River Section and it was not the intent of the Area M and T overlap area when it was established in the 1970's.

PROPOSED BY: Concerned Area M Fishermen (CAMF) (HQ-F12-102)

PROPOSAL 201 - 5 AAC 09.310. Fishing Seasons. Close the Outer Port Heiden Section to commercial salmon fishing for Area M drift gillnet permit holders as follows:

5 AAC 09.310. Fishing Seasons:

(2) Port Heiden:

(B) Outer Port Heiden Section from June 20-July 31

Should Read:

5 AAC 09.310. Fishing Seasons:

(2) Port Heiden:

(B) Outer Port Heiden Section Closed June 1 to July 31

ISSUE: Close Outer Port Heiden Section to commercial salmon fishing for Area M drift permit holders. No reason to need additional biological control mechanisms for the very small sockeye runs in the Meshik and Cinder Rivers. Local Port Heiden residents have experienced very low availability of Chinook, sockeye, and coho salmon for subsistence usage in the Inner Port Heiden Section since the Outer Port Heiden Section was re-opened.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Sockeye, Chinook and coho runs in the Inner Port Heiden and Inner Cinder River will be over-harvested and the only reason for this additional area is to improve the efficiency of the fleet to caught Bristol Bay bound salmon.

Subsistence users from the community of Port Heiden will continue to encounter historically low salmon runs.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Residents of Port Heiden, Ugashik and Pilot Point.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? A few Area M drift fishermen.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Lower Bristol Bay Advisory Committee (HQ-F12-115)

PROPOSAL 202 - 5 AAC 09.310(a)(2)(B). Fishing seasons. Close the Outer Port Heiden Section to commercial fishing from June 1 to July 31 as follows:

Close the Outer Port Heiden Section to commercial fishing from June 1 to July 31. Use WASSIP data to determine impacts of Outer Port Heiden fishery on Meshik, Cinder and other river stocks.

ISSUE: Subsistence and commercial salmon users in the community of Port Heiden are encountering historically low Chinook, sockeye and coho salmon availability since the Outer Port Heiden Section was opened to area M fishers in 2007. Fishers especially subsistence, using the Inner Port Heiden fisheries are concerned about overharvest on the small stocks in Meshik and Cinder Rivers by the Outer Port Heiden fleet. The current Outer Port Heiden was a new fishery in 2007, effort and catch has grown to 112 permits, ~790,000 sockeye harvested- far in excess of the fishing power needed to harvest the small runs returning to the Meshik and Cinder Rivers.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Inner Port Heiden subsistence and commercial fishers will continue to struggle with low salmon runs.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Local Port Heiden subsistence users, possibly a few commercial fishers who use Inner Port Heiden section, & the local salmon stocks that are less likely to be overharvested.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? The area M drift fleet using this area.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Nushagak Advisory Committee (HQ-F12-133)

PROPOSAL 203 - 5 AAC 09.369. Northern District Salmon Fisheries Management Plan.

Close the Outer Port Heiden Section, amend the Inner Port Heiden Section boundary, and create a new superexclusive fishery in Area T as follows:

Close the Outer Port Heiden Section:

Amend the Inner Port Heiden Section to include the area of the Inner Port Heiden Section plus the area using the Strogonof Point line as the southern boundary to a point one mile offshore and extending northeast eight miles to a point one mile off the beach near the mouth of Reindeer Creek with a northern boundary line that intersects the beach at 90 degrees. This section will be open to both area T and area M permit holders from January 1 to December 31.

Area T registration to be super exclusive similar to Togiak.

ISSUE: The Northern Peninsula District is a mixed stock fishery that intercepts Bristol Bay salmon. At the 2007 Alaska Peninsula Board of Fish Meeting the Northern Peninsula District’s opportunity to intercept Bristol Bay fish was increased by opening the outer Port Heiden Section. State Fisheries policy is to not allow the expansion of mixed stock fisheries.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Bristol Bay Bound Salmon will be intercepted.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED?

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Port Heiden’s watershed residents. The conservation of Bristol Bay Sockeye Salmon during years where minimum escapement goals cannot be met, specifically the Ugashik and Kvichak runs.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER?

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Kurt Johnson (HQ-F12-142)

PROPOSAL 204 - 5 AAC 09.369. Northern District Salmon Fisheries Management Plan.

Allow Area T CFEC permit holders to fish both the Inner and Outer Port Heiden Sections as follows:

1. The department may open the Outer Port Heiden Section from June 20 through July 31 based on the Meshik River sockeye salmon stocks if harvest levels or effort is not sufficient in the Inner Port Heiden Sections.
2. Amend the Inner Port Heiden Section to include the area of the Inner Port Heiden Section plus the area using the Strogonof Point line as the southern boundary to a point one mile offshore

and extending northeast eight Miles to a point one mile off the beach near the mouth of Reindeer Creek with a northern boundary line that intersects the beach at 90 degrees. This section will be open to both area T and area M permit holders from January 1 to December 31.

3. Registration:

- a. Notwithstanding 5AAC 06.370(b) an Area T CFEC permit holder registered before 9:00 a.m. June 25 to fish in the Inner Port Heiden Section may not take salmon in the Togiak, Nushagak, Naknek-Kvichak, Egegik, or Ugashik District from 9:00 a.m. June 25 to 9 a.m. July 31;*
- b. Togiak, Nushagak, Naknek-Kvichak, Egegik, or Ugashik District may not take salmon in the Inner Port Heiden:Section from 9:00 a.m. June 25 to 9 a.m. July 31.

4. Existing Northern Peninsula gear and vessel regulations will apply to the Inner Port Heiden Section.

ISSUE: This Proposal is intended to create an economic opportunity for the residents of Port Heiden. There has been a long history of locals harvesting and processing inside Port Heiden. The Village of Port Heiden, known traditionally as Meshik, has been in existence for more than 10,000 years, during which time our people have made their living on the fisheries resources of the coastline from the Ilnik River to Ugashik. With the coming of limited entry, we were provided Area T permits, and for many years we fished both Port Heiden and Ugashik Bays. By its actions the Board of Fisheries in 2006 created an Outer Port Heiden Section, from which we are excluded from fishing. This new area has impacted our subsistence and commercial king and coho catches. And the fact that we are excluded from fishing the new area at all prevents us from making a living in our traditional fishing areas.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Our community will not have a meaningful opportunity to develop a small local processing plant that could serve as an important addition to the local economy that would help stabilize and develop our community. Additionally, traditional opportunities to harvest local salmon stocks (including subsistence) will continue to be reduced and negatively impacted.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, locally processed salmon will allow significant improvement in quality.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Port Heiden residents will benefit.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? There will be a small to modest reduction in fishing opportunity for Area M fishermen.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Jaclyn Christensen (HQ-F12-176)

PROPOSAL 205 - 5 AAC 09.200. Fishing districts and sections. Create terminal harvest areas in the Sandy, Ilnik, and Bear rivers for the drift gillnet fishery in Area M as follows:

Like in Bristol Bay all fishing areas in and around Sandy, Ilnik and Bear Rivers will have a terminal fishing area in which to harvest excessive returning stocks. The established Stroganoff (north line) line will extend two miles off-shore and the terminal area will extend south to two miles off shore to a perpendicular line located south of “Frank’s Lagoon” (56°02’ 19.28” N and 160° 32’ 00.42” W).

ISSUE: Prevent excessive interception of Bristol Bay and Port Moller bound salmon stocks on the North Peninsula salmon fishery. There is no need to fish further north and south of their rivers of origin mouth in order to control escapement in these rivers. It is a shame that every Fish Board cycle regarding this intercept salmon fishery that this expanding intercept fishery has been given more time and area to these permit holders.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Bristol Bay and Port Moller salmon stocks of concern will continue to be exposed to excessive interception without any biological consideration to their sustainability.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All salmon stocks of concern in the Bristol Bay and Port Moller watersheds.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Most North Peninsula drift fishermen will see a dramatic decline in the amount of Bristol Bay and Port Moller salmon they are harvesting.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Lower Bristol Bay Advisory Committee (HQ-F12-116)

PROPOSAL 206 - 5 AAC 09.369. Northern District Salmon Fisheries Management Plan. Modify *Northern District Salmon Fisheries Management Plan* time and area management as follows:

The purpose of this management plan is to provide guidelines to the department for the management of the interception of Nelson Lagoon and Bear River sockeye salmon caught in the North Peninsula fishery conducted in Outer Port Heiden, Outer Ilnik and Three Hill Sections.

(a) There shall be at least one concurrent closure of 96-hr within a seven-day period in the Outer Port Heiden, Outer Ilnik and Three Hills sections combined.

(b) If the Port Heiden Local run is in abundance and it is determined that additional harvest is needed and cannot be done by harvesting in inter Port Heiden and there is a build-up of fish in

inter Port Heiden the department may open an area to target specifically the Port Heiden run using time and area restrictions. The Seaward boundary of the area shall not extend past one mile for shore during these targeted openings.

(c) If Ilnik Local run is in abundance and it is determined that additional harvest is needed and cannot be done by harvesting in inter Ilnik and there is a build-up of fish in inter Ilnik the department may open an area to target specifically the Ilnik run using time and area restrictions. The Seaward boundary of the area shall not extend past one mile for shore during these targeted openings.

(d) If Nelson Lagoon or Bear River is behind the expected escapement curve then the Outer Port Heiden, Outer Ilnik and Threes Hills Sections shall be closed.

ISSUE: Escapement in Nelson Lagoon and Bear River, female to male ratio from 1970 to 2012. Where the fish are being harvest, Miles away from home rivers. The way the fisheries has change in the past thirty years, lack of escapement in Nelson Lagoon and Bear River when harvesting those terminal stocks hundreds of miles away from the home river. The economic impact it has on Nelson Lagoon, it's culture and the way of life.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Right now in the Nelson Lagoon section it is not a sustainable fishery and is getting worse? Too much time fishing in the Outer Port Heiden, Ilnik Three Hills sections. We will not have a fishery on the north side if something is not done.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, tendered fish transported from these remote areas suffer greater abuse in physical quality and appearance.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The state of Alaska will have the biggest benefit. Insurance that the state salmon stocks are sustainable, under sustainable salmon fisheries.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Concern Area M Fisherman will suffer the most. They are the ones that changed the fisheries on the north side of the peninsula to further and further north, early opening, unlimited mess size, deeper nets, etc. to make this problem possible.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? An another alternative is to make the Northside Area M a terminal fishery like Bristol Bay.

PROPOSED BY: Brian Harman (HQ-F12-197)

PROPOSAL 207 - 5 AAC 09.369. Northern District Salmon Fisheries Management Plan. Modify *Northern District Salmon Fisheries Management Plan* time and area management as follows:

The purpose of this management plan is to provide guidelines to the department for the management of the interception of Nelson Lagoon Coho Salmon caught in the North Peninsula fishery conducted in Outer Port Heiden, Outer Ilnik and Three Hill Sections.

(a) There shall be at least one concurrent closed of 96-hr within a seven-day period in the Outer Port Heiden, Outer Ilnik and Three Hills sections.

(b) If the Port Heiden Local run is in abundance and it is determined that additional harvest is needed and cannot be done by harvesting in inter Port Heiden and there is a build up of fish in inter Port Heiden the department may open an area to target specifically the Port Heiden run using time and area restrictions. The Seaward boundary of the area shall not extend past one mile for shore during these targeted openings.

(c) If Ilnik Local run is in abundance and it is determined that additional harvest is needed and cannot be done by harvesting in inter Ilnik and there is a build up of fish in inter Ilnik the department may open an area to target specifically the Ilnik run using time and area restrictions. The Seaward boundary of the area shall not extend past one mile for shore during these targeted openings.

(d) If Nelson Lagoon is behind the expected escapement curve then the Outer Port Heiden, Outer Ilnik and Threes Hills Sections shall be closed.

(e) Close all fishing in the Outer Port Heiden, Outer Ilnik and Three Hills sections after Aug 10th.

ISSUE: Historical Coho Salmon escapement in Nelson Lagoon, where the fish are being harvest, Miles away from home rivers. The way the fisheries has change in the past thirty years, lack of escapement in Nelson Lagoon when harvesting hundreds of miles away from the home river. The economic impact it has on Nelson Lagoon, it's culture and the way of life.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Right now in the Nelson Lagoon section it is not a sustainable fishery and it getting worse? Too much time fishing in the Outer Port Heiden, Ilnik Three Hills? We will not have a Coho Salmon fishery in Nelson Lagoon if nothing is done.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes it does, when you are fishing in Outer Port Heiden, Ilnik, Three Hills it takes longer to get fish to Peter Pan, Port Moller. When you're fishing from Seniavin south you well get a better quality fish, it's a short run for the tenders to get to Port Moller.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The state of Alaska will have the biggest benefit. To insure the state stocks are sustainable, under sustainable salmon fisheries.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Concern Area M Fisherman will suffer the most. They are the ones that changed the fisheries on the north side of the peninsula to farther and farther north, early opening, unlimited mess size, etc. making this problem possible.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Make the Northside Area M a terminal fishery like Bristol Bay.

PROPOSED BY: Brian Hartman (HQ-F12-200)

PROPOSAL 208 - 5 AAC 09.200. Fishing districts and sections. Modify boundary description of the Northern District and create terminal fisheries as follows:

Reduce the boundaries of Northern District fishing sections to more closely surround the productive Northern Peninsula salmon streams and provide more focused terminal fisheries while minimizing the potential for intercepting Bristol Bay stocks. Adjust opening & closing dates to reduce interception. Use WASSIP data if possible to design terminal fishing sections while minimizing interceptions of non-local salmon.

ISSUE: The Area M Northern District drift fishery fishing areas northeast of Port Moller are too big and allow the interception of substantial numbers of nonlocal, Bristol Bay salmon. This interception may be hampering the recovery of the Kvichak Sockeye stock of concern. The Outer Port Heiden section became a new fishery in 2007, effort and catch grew to 112 permits, ~790,000 sockeye harvested in 2010 and it out of proportion to the production likely from the small local stocks. The Ilnik section provides sockeye catches some seasons far above what is likely from the drainages flowing into it. Recent sockeye catches in the Three Hills section are biologically unlikely from the local escapements of 0-2000 sockeye.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The Kvichak sockeye run may remain in stock of concern status much longer. In years of low sockeye returns to Bristol Bay, interception may confound proper terminal management of harvest and escapement.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Bristol Bay fishermen depending on Bristol Bay stocks of concern, and other Bristol Bay stocks that may be returning in low numbers.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? The area M drift fleet fishing the current section.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Nushagak Advisory Committee (HQ-F12-134)

PROPOSAL 209 - 5 AAC 09.200. Fishing districts and sections. Using genetic data, create terminal harvest areas in Area M as follows:

Use regulation change for a peer review process to be included for Bristol Bay Biologists from the five major districts for conservation concerns. Use WASSIP data if possible to design terminal fishing sections while minimizing interceptions of non-local salmon.

ISSUE: Sockeye harvested in Area M is out of proportion to the production from the small local stocks. This interception may be hampering the recovery of the Kvichak Sockeye stock of concern. The Area M drift fishery is too big to allow interception of substantial numbers of Bristol Bay salmon.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? In years of low sockeye returns to Bristol Bay, interception may confound proper terminal management of harvest and escapement.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Area M biologists that will get support for helping stocks of concern. Bristol Bay Biologist that have to manage for low returns in Bristol Bay, Board of Fish for using section 16.251 of the board policy and the fishermen depending on Bristol Bay stocks of concern, and other Bristol Bay stocks that may be returning in low numbers.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? The Area M drift fleet fishing the current sections.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Franks Woods (HQ-F12-188)

PROPOSAL 210 - 5 AAC 09.365. South Unimak and Shumagin Island June Salmon Management Plan; 5 AAC 09.366. Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula. Placeholder for possible regulatory changes based on results from Western Alaska Salmon Stock Identification Project (WASSIP) as follows:

This proposal is a placeholder. We cannot make informed recommendations until the full results from the Western Alaska Salmon Stock Identification Program (WASSIP) become available, later in 2012. Previous management measures to address conservation or allocative issues have included chum caps and sockeye allocations (8.3%), closure windows, south Peninsula June fishery start date, time and area restrictions and many others.

ISSUE: Harvest of chum and sockeye salmon bound for western Alaska in the fisheries of the Alaska Peninsula (Area M).

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Conservation and allocative problems will persist.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Unknown.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? To whatever extend regulatory changes may reallocate fish, western Alaska fishermen may benefit.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Area M fishermen may suffer.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Not applicable.

PROPOSED BY: Bering Sea Fishermen's Association (HQ-F12-163)

PROPOSAL 211 – 5 AAC 09.XXX. Area M fishery regulatory changes and/or management plans pertaining to chum and sockeye salmon. Placeholder for possible regulatory changes based on results from Western Alaska Salmon Stock Identification Project (WASSIP) as follows:

ISSUE: This is a placeholder proposal to allow fishery stakeholders, the board, and the department an opportunity to discuss proposed regulatory changes in Area M based upon results of the Western Alaska Salmon Stock Identification Project, which will not be available until late summer 2012.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Potentially important information regarding fisheries management will not be utilized until the next Alaska Board of Fisheries cycle for Area M in 2015/2016.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Unknown.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Unknown.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Unknown.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game. (HQ-F12-230)

PROPOSAL 212 - 5 AAC 65.022. Special provisions for methods and means in the Alaska Peninsula and Aleutian Islands Area. Restrict the Sapsuk River king salmon fishery to flyfishing only, single-hook, artificial fly, no retention as follows:

5 ACC 65.022 (d) **Only in the Sapsuk River, King salmon fishing is open only for catch and release, fly fishing using single hook artificial lures or artificial flies only.**

ISSUE: We would like the Board to address recent low escapement of Chinook salmon in Nelson Lagoon. Escapement goals were not achieved last year.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Inaction could result in complete depletion of this renewable resource and collapse of the Nelson Lagoon local economy.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes. This will give the Chinook salmon a chance to rebuild the population.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Giving the Chinook salmon a chance to rebuild is a benefit to all stakeholders.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Doing nothing will result in collapse of the Nelson Lagoon Chinook salmon fishery.

PROPOSED BY: Nelson Lagoon Advisory Committee (HQ-F12-052)

PROPOSAL 213 - 5 AAC 65.020. Bag limits, possession limits, and size limits for Alaska Peninsula and Aleutian Islands Area; 5 AAC 67.022. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means in the Bristol Bay Area. Decrease coho salmon bag limit to one in the Ugashik, Dog Salmon, and King Salmon rivers as follows: (*This proposal will be addressed in both the Bristol Bay and AK Pen/Aleutian Island meetings.*)

On page 7 of the Bristol Bay Waters Sport Fishing Regulations an added note would read:

On the Ugashik, Dog Salmon, King Salmon and Cinder River drainages the daily and possession limit for coho salmon is 1.

ISSUE: The recent decline in coho salmon populations on the Ugashik, Dog Salmon, King Salmon and Cinder River drainages. This decline is substantiated by 2011 Bristol Bay wide coho run being 1/3 of historical average and the total lack of commercial harvest on the proposed drainages other than incidental catches from the sockeye run. This problem is also magnified by the increased sport fishing pressure on the spawning grounds of these drainages.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Without restrictions on the resource both the sport and commercial users will be exposed to long term declines.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All sport, commercial, and subsistence fishermen in the mentioned watersheds.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Short term effects may impact the commercial sport fishing enterprises who do not practice catch and release.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Considered catch and release but no provision for a damaged fish.

PROPOSED BY: Lower Bristol Bay Advisory Committee (HQ-F12-114a)

PROPOSAL 214 - 5 AAC 01.425. Waters closed to subsistence fishing; 5 AAC 65.051(4). Waters closed to sport fishing in the Alaska Peninsula and Aleutian Islands Area; 5 AAC 77.3XX. Waters closed to personal use fishing in the Alaska Peninsula Area. Close the Iliuliuk River upstream of the Church Hole to subsistence, sport, and personal use fishing for coho salmon as follows:

The entire Iliuliuk River upstream of the Church Hole is closed to sport, subsistence and personal use coho salmon fishing all year.

ISSUE: Currently sport fishing for salmon is allowed in Iliuliuk River upstream of the Iliuliuk (automobile) Bridge to the outlet of Iliuliuk Lake year round. This stretch of water is part of the Iliuliuk River and contains absolutely critical coho spawning habitat. Coho salmon are actively spawning in the Iliuliuk River and are found in their greatest numbers between the Iliuliuk Bridge and the outlet of Iliuliuk Lake during this time until December. Habitat damage and increasing annual catch of coho salmon in Iliuliuk River has made this area necessary to the maximum production of returning fish and should be off limits to sport, subsistence and personal use fishing.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Spawning coho salmon will be removed from spawning grounds critical to the good health of the Iliuliuk River coho salmon population. A few individuals will remove viable spawning salmon at the expense of many returning ocean to spawning phase salmon. The current health of the Iliuliuk River population of coho salmon could be compromised.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes. The salmon harvested in this part of the river are in their spawning phase and their meat is not as good as found in those harvested in non-spawning habitat downstream or in saltwater. By protecting spawning salmon, their numbers would be more likely remain at their current levels or improve if necessary.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Sport and subsistence fishermen who fish downstream in non-spawning habitat and in saltwater.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Sport and subsistence fishermen who take spawning salmon from the outlet of Iliuliuk Lake to the Iliuliuk Bridge.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Steven J. Gregory

(HQ-F12-081)
