

February 24, 2016
Mariano Floresta Record Comment

Mr. Chair, Members of the Board, good afternoon. My name is Mariano Floresta and I am here representing myself. I am 52 years old and have been a Bristol Bay commercial fisherman all my life. Being the youngest of six, I was born in Dillingham and raised in Clark's Point. We grew up living a subsistence lifestyle and commercial fishing has always been a big part of our life.

I am in support of proposal 22 and 23. According to the Boatright study of 2014 and 2015, Outer Port Heiden stock composition consists of 80 to 90% Bristol Bay stock. Therefore I believe Area T, should manage Area T fish. I support proposal 155 to close the Outer Port Heiden section, as this is a fairly new fishery and it is clear to see that this is an interception fishery for fish bound for Bristol Bay.

I oppose proposal 149 in creating a directed sockeye salmon fishery in Cinder River. This area is currently fished by Pilot Point and Ugashik fisherman. I am in support of proposal 184 because I believe it will reduce interception of AYK Chum and Bristol Bay salmon.

I oppose proposal 182 and 183 because these fishing times will offer too much time of high harvest for fish bound for the Northern Districts.

I would like to thank you, the Board of Fish for giving me your time to listen to my testimony. You guys are doing a great job.