

PROPOSAL 156 – 5 AAC 09.310. Fishing seasons; and 5 AAC 09.350. Closed waters. Close the Outer Port Heiden Section of the Northern District to commercial salmon fishing, as follows:

Close the Outer Port Heiden Section.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? 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.

The WASSIP study shows that almost all of the fish caught in the Outer Port Heiden Section are bound for Bristol Bay and as much as 80% of those are bound for the Ugashik River. Ugashik is having trouble meeting its escapement goals in a time where the total Bristol Bay run is increasing.

PROPOSED BY: Kurt Johnson

(EF-C15-111)
