



12 June 2017

IPHC CIRCULAR 2017-009

Dear Commissioners,

SUBJECT: ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE 2017 SESSION OF THE IPHC WORK MEETING (WM2017)

In accordance with Rules 6.5 and 8.1 of the International Pacific Halibut Commission's (IPHC) Rules of Procedure (2017), I am pleased to invite you to attend the 2017 Session of the IPHC Work Meeting (WM2017), which will be held at the Hotel Bellwether in Bellingham, WA, U.S.A., from the 20-21 September 2017.

The provisional draft agenda and list of documents are attached for your information. If you wish for any additional items to be incorporated, please provide them no later than 45 days prior to the Session (06 August 2017), in accordance with Rule 8.2 of the IPHC Rules of Procedure (2017).

Other information concerning the meeting, including electronic versions of documents to be considered, will be published on the IPHC sharepoint site as they become available, but no later than 30 days prior to the commencement of the Session (21 August 2017), in accordance with Rule 8.4 of the IPHC Rules of Procedure (2017).

Yours sincerely

David T. Wilson, Ph.D.

Executive Director, IPHC

Attachments:

Attachment I: Preliminary draft: Agenda for the 2017 Session of the IPHC Work Meeting (WM2017)

Attachment II: Draft: List of documents for the 2017 Session of the IPHC Work Meeting (WM2017)



**PRELIMINARY DRAFT: AGENDA FOR THE 2017 SESSION OF THE IPHC
WORK MEETING (WM2017)**

Date: 20–21 September 2017

Location: Bellingham, WA, U.S.A.

Venue: Hotel Bellwether

Time: 20th: 10:00-17:00; 21st: 09:00-17:00

Chairperson: Dr. James Balsiger (United States of America)

Vice-Chairperson: Mr. Paul Ryall (Canada)

1. **OPENING OF THE SESSION**
2. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION**
 - Diligent and Sharepoint tutorial
3. **UPDATE ON THE ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE 93rd ANNUAL MEETING**
4. **REPORT OF THE IPHC SECRETARIAT (2017): Preliminary**
 - 4.1 Staffing changes
 - 4.2 Meetings of the Commission's subsidiary bodies
 - 4.3 Interactions with Canadian agencies
 - 4.4 Interactions with U.S.A. agencial and the Councils
 - NPFMC
 - Joint meetings
 - Abundance Based Management of Pacific halibut bycatch
 - Discard Mortality Rates of Pacific halibut bycatch
 - PFMC
 - Regulatory Area 2A Catch Shairing Plans / IPHC data
 - Commercial and Recreational Derby fisheries
 - 4.5 IPHC Communications and Outreach
 - Annual Report
 - Website
5. **STATE OF THE FISHERY (2017): Preliminary statistics**
6. **STOCK ASSESSMENT INPUTS AND COMMUNICATION OF OUTPUTS**
 - 6.1 IPHC Fishery-indepenent setline survey
 - Preliminary survey results (2017).
 - Likely implications of periodic survey expansion on stock assessment and stock distribution estimates.
 - Ad-hoc expansion (densification) of the IPHC fishery-independent setline survey for 2017 in Regulatory Area 2A.

- Update on DFO/IPHC coordination on Area 2B survey expansion for 2018 and minimising impacts on species and areas of concern.

6.2 Size limit analysis

6.3 Discussion on ways to communicate Stock assessment results, including the Harvest decision table

- Decision making using TCEY

7. MANAGEMENT STRATEGY EVALUATION

7.1 IPHC Management Strategy Evaluation update

- Communicating MSE results and evaluating against objectives
- Investigations of F_{SPR}
- Improvements to distributing catch

7.2 IPHC Management Strategy Advisory Board (MSAB): Updates

7.3 Discussion on the implications of an SPR-based Harvest Strategy Policy

8. IPHC RESEARCH AND SCIENCE ADVISORY BOARDS

8.1 IPHC Biological & Ecosystem Science research program: Updates

- Progress on IPHC internal research projects
- Outcome of external grant applications
- IPHC research laboratory remodelling

8.2 IPHC Scientific Review Board: Updates

9. REGULATORY PROPOSAL AND ADOPTION PROCESS FOR 2017/18

- Revised timeline for proposal submission
- Presentation of agency proposals (CSPs, charter management measures)
- Post AM094 Commission approval process.

10. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

10.1 Finance/Budget

- Revised timeline for budget development and approval
- National contributions
- Public posting of IPHC financials

10.2 Discussion of potential amendments to the IPHC Rules of Procedure (2017)

10.3 IPHC Performance Review: Progress of the 2nd IPHC Performance Review

11. OTHER BUSINESS

11.1 Planning for upcoming IPHC meetings

- Draft agenda and schedule for IM093
- Proposed changes to Annual Meeting format and technical support for AM094

**DRAFT: LIST OF DOCUMENTS FOR THE 2017 SESSION OF THE IPHC
WORK MEETING (WM2017)**

Document	Title	Availability
IPHC-2017-WM2017-01	DRAFT: Agenda for the 2017 Session of the IPHC Work Meeting (WM2017)	✓ 12 June 2017
IPHC-2017-WM2017-02	List of Documents for the 2017 Session of the IPHC Work Meeting (WM2017)	✓ 12 June 2017
IPHC-2017-WM2017-03	Update on actions arising from the 93 rd Annual Meeting (D. Wilson)	
IPHC-2017-WM2017-04	Report of the IPHC Secretariat (2017): Preliminary (D. Wilson)	
IPHC-2017-WM2017-05	State of the Fishery (2017): Preliminary statistics (J. Goen)	
IPHC-2017-WM2017-06	IPHC Fishery-independent setline survey: Preliminary results, periodic survey expansion, and ad-hoc expansions (R. Webster)	
IPHC-2017-WM2017-07	Evaluation of the IPHC's 32" minimum size limit (I. Stewart & A. Hicks)	
IPHC-2017-WM2017-08	Communicating Stock assessment results, and the Harvest Decision table (I. Stewart & D. Wilson)	
IPHC-2017-WM2017-09	IPHC Management Strategy Evaluation update (A. Hicks)	
IPHC-2017-WM2017-10	IPHC 5-year Biological and Ecosystem Science research program: Update (J. Planas)	
IPHC-2017-WM2017-11	Regulatory proposal and adoption process for 2017/18 (D. Wilson)	
IPHC-2017-WM2017-12	IPHC Regulatory proposals for 2017 (J. Goen & D. Wilson)	
IPHC-2017-WM2017-13	Financial update for FY2017 and FY2018 (M. Larsen)	
IPHC-2017-WM2017-14	Amendments to the IPHC Rules of Procedure (2017) (D. Wilson)	
IPHC-2017-WM2017-15	Progress of the 2 nd IPHC Performance Review (D. Wilson & S. Keith)	
IPHC-2017-WM2017-16	Preparation for the 93 rd Session of the IPHC Interim Meeting (IM093) (S. Keith)	
IPHC-2017-WM2017-17	Proposed changes to Annual Meeting format and technical support for AM094 (D. Wilson)	

<i>Reports from IPHC subsidiary bodies</i>		
IPHC-2017-MSAB09-R	Report of the 9 th Session of the IPHC Management Strategy Advisory Board (MSAB09)	
IPHC-2017-SRB10-R	Report of the 10 th Session of the IPHC Scientific Review Board (SRB10)	
<i>Information papers</i>		
IPHC-2017-WM2017-INF01	Understanding the IPHC harvest decision table	