



18 December 2017

IPHC CIRCULAR 2017-022

Dear Commissioners,

SUBJECT: MANAGEMENT STRATEGY EVALUATION (MSE) GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Recalling that during its consideration of the IPHC Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) at the 93rd Interim Meeting of the IPHC (IM093), the Commission took the following actions regarding fishery goals and objectives, including approaches to distribution:

IM093-R, para 37. *NOTING* the current fishery goals, objectives, and performance metrics identified by the [Management Strategy Advisory Board] MSAB for the MSE process, as detailed in the MSAB10 report ([IPHC-2017-MSAB10-R](#)), the Commission **AGREED** to provide guidance to the IPHC Secretariat and the MSAB on goals and objectives at the 94th Annual Meeting in January 2018.

IM093-R, para 38. *NOTING* the goals and objectives related to distributing the TCEY presented during the meeting by the U.S.A. ([Table 3](#)), the Commission **RECOMMENDED** that they be considered at the 94th Annual Meeting in January 2018 after soliciting input from stakeholders.

IM093-R, para 39. The Commission **REQUESTED** the IPHC Secretariat to consolidate the objectives related to TCEY distribution ([Table 3](#)) with the current goals, objectives and performance metrics provided as Appendix IV of the MSAB10 Report, for presentation at the 94th Annual Meeting in January 2018.

IM093-R, para 40. The Commission **NOTED** that providing guidance on the MSE process to the IPHC Secretariat and the MSAB at the Interim and Annual meetings would be an efficient and effective method to ensure the guidance is incorporated into the annual MSAB work plan.

IM093-R, para 41. The Commission **CONSIDERED** the IPHC Secretariat's presentations related to documents [IPHC-2017-IM093-08](#) and [IPHC-2017-IM093-10](#) of an approach for distributing the TCEY to biologically-based Regional Areas (Region 2, Region 3, Region 4, and Region 4B) composed of multiple IPHC Regulatory Areas.

IM093-R, para 42. The Commission **NOTED** that TCEY distribution among Regions could be modified through management procedures, and that the distribution from coastwide mortality to Regulatory Areas may occur at any step in the process.

IM093-R, para 43. The Commission **NOTED** that other distribution methods could be considered in addition to, or instead of, the Region approach, such as distribution to Regulatory Areas based on differences in production between areas, fishery WPUE, or defined allocations.

IM093-R, para 44. The Commission **AGREED** that the principles related to distributing the TCEY in the future will be further considered at the 94th Annual Meeting of the Commission in January 2018.

Table 3. Pacific halibut TCEY distribution goals and objectives.

Goal	Objective
Biological sustainability: Preserving bio-complexity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Maintaining diversity in the population across IPHC Regulatory Areas. 2. Prevent local depletion at IPHC Regulatory Area scale.
Fisheries Sustainability: Maintain access and serve consumer needs.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Maintain commercial, recreational and subsistence fishing opportunities in each IPHC Regulatory Area. 2. Maintain processing opportunities in each IPHC Regulatory Area.
Fisheries Sustainability: Maximize yield by regulatory area	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Distribution is responsive to IPHC Regulatory Area abundance trends and stock characteristics (ex. Fishery WPUE, age structure, size at age etc.). 2. Distribution is responsive to management precision in each IPHC Regulatory Area. 3. Minimize impact on downstream migration areas. 4. Minimize discard mortality and bycatch.
Fisheries Sustainability: Minimize variability,	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Limit annual TCEY variability due to stock distribution in both time and scale. 2. Avoid zero sum distribution policy.

This circular is being forwarded to the Commission and the MSAB in order to solicit input from stakeholders prior to the 94th Annual Meeting, as described specifically in paragraph 38 and more generally in the other paragraphs quoted above. MSAB members will collate the stakeholder input for the MSAB Co-chairpersons to present at the 94th Annual Meeting. Additionally, in accordance with paragraph 39, the goals and objectives detailed in Table 3 will be merged with the current goals and objectives defined by the MSAB, and this expanded table along with stakeholder input and outcomes of the 94th Annual Meeting will be discussed at MSAB11.

Yours sincerely

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Attachments: None