



Update on actions arising from the 94th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM094) & 94th Session of the IPHC Interim Meeting (IM094)

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PURPOSE

To provide the Commission with an opportunity to consider the progress made during the inter-sessional period, in relation to the direct requests for action by the Commission during the 94th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM094: January 2018), and the 94th Session of the IPHC Interim Meeting (IM094: November 2018).

BACKGROUND

At the 94th Sessions of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM094) and Interim Meeting (IM094), Contracting Parties agreed on a series of actions to be taken by Commissioners, Subsidiary Bodies, and IPHC Secretariat on a range of issues as detailed in [Appendix A](#).

DISCUSSION

Noting that best practice governance requires the prompt delivery of core tasks assigned to the IPHC Secretariat by the Commission, at each subsequent session of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies, attempts will be made to ensure that any recommendations for action are carefully constructed so that each contains the following elements:

- 1) a specific action to be undertaken (deliverable);
- 2) clear responsibility for the action to be undertaken (i.e. a specific Contracting Party, the IPHC Secretariat, a subsidiary body of the Commission, or the Commission itself);
- 3) a desired time frame for delivery of the action (i.e. by the next session of a subsidiary body, or other date).

This involves numbering and tracking all action items (see [Appendix A](#)) from the Commission, as well as including clear progress updates and document reference numbers.

In addition to the action items detailed in Appendix A, at the 94th Annual Meeting the Commission also tasked the IPHC Secretariat as follows:

Stakeholder regulatory proposals

Para. 61. *The Commission **NOTED** that that a number of these proposals touched on issues raised by stakeholders in previous years and **DEFERRED** action on the following proposals to an IPHC Secretariat led working group, to include appropriate Contracting Party agencies, for further study with a view to investigating possible new solutions. For IPHC-2018-AM094-PropC2, in particular, the working group could consider annual limits and new technologies among possible solutions.*

- *IPHC-2018-AM094-PropC2 Preserving catch on private live-aboard vessels (A. Cooper)*

- *IPHC-2018-AM094-PropC4 Sport Fishing for Halibut - Cleaning Regulations (S. Riehemann)*
- *IPHC-2018-AM094-PropC6 Live-aboard processing exemption (D. Robertson)*
- *IPHC-2018-AM094-PropC Processing halibut greater than four filets (M. Cowart)*
- *IPHC-2018-AM094-PropC11 Long term storage aboard pleasure vessels (L. Thompson)*
- *IPHC-2018-AM094-PropC12 Long term storage on cruising vessels (W. Cornell)*

Progress: Completed - A working group met on 25 September 2018. Paper IPHC-2019-AM095-04 contains an appendix that documents the history of existing regulations and provides comments from the working group on the deferred regulatory proposals.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the Commission:

- 1) **NOTE** paper IPHC-2019-AM095-03 which provided the Commission with an opportunity to consider the progress made during the inter-sessional period, in relation to the direct requests for action by the Commission during its 94th Sessions of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM094: January 2018) and Interim Meeting (IM094: November 2018).

APPENDICES

Appendix A: [Update on actions arising from the 94th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting \(AM094\) & 94th Session of the IPHC Interim Meeting \(IM094\)](#)

APPENDIX A

Update on actions arising from the 94th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM094) & 94th Session of the IPHC Interim Meeting (IM094)

94 th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM094)		
Action No.	Description	Update
RECOMMENDATIONS		
AM094– Rec.01 (para. 36)	Review of fishery goals and objectives: Commission directive The Commission RECOMMENDED that the draft goals, objectives, and performance metrics, as detailed in Appendix IV, IPHC-2017-MSAB10-R be used for ongoing evaluation in the MSE process, and that they may be refined in the future. The objectives should be evaluated in a hierarchal manner, with conservation as the first priority.	Completed: The MSAB is reviewed the goal and objectives for clarity and completeness, and reported revised goals and objectives at IM094. Those revisions will be presented again by the MSAB Co-Chairpersons at AM095.
AM094– Rec.02 (para. 39)	The Commission RECOMMENDED that the IPHC Secretariat consider the setline survey WPUE grid across the fishery as well as other biological factors (e.g. habitat configuration, size distribution in the region etc.) and provide alternatives to the current management areas (e.g. biological regions), and that the MSAB consider additional ways to incorporate biological information into TCEY distribution procedures.	Completed: The SRB has reviewed the Biological Regions defined by the Secretariat and finds these Regions to be the best option for implementing a precautionary approach to the management of Pacific halibut (see paragraph 31 of IPHC-2018-SRB012-R)
AM094– Rec.03 (para. 44)	The Commission RECOMMENDED that long- and mid-term performance metrics for conservation objectives be considered in the MSE process for conservation objectives, and that short-term metrics be included for fishery-related objectives in the MSE process, via the MSAB.	Completed: The MSAB has incorporated these elements into its Program of Work.
AM094– Rec.04 (para. 89)	Evaluation of the IPHC's 32" minimum size limit The Commission NOTED report IPHC-2018-AM094-14, which indicated that the performance of the management procedure is dominated by management decisions other than the size limit, (e.g. removal of the size limit is likely to result in minimal changes in yield) and RECOMMENDED that the size limit remain unchanged.	Completed: No further action required.
REQUESTS		
AM094– Req.01 (para. 31)	Reports of the 10th Session of the IPHC Management Strategy Advisory Board (MSAB10) The Commission REQUESTED that the MSAB look at SPR values consistent with recent estimated SPR values from the assessment model and lower. This would mean expanding the lower range of SPR values to below 40%.	Completed: The MSAB has incorporated these elements into its Program of Work.

94 th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM094)		
Action No.	Description	Update
AM094– Req.02 (para. 37)	Review of fishery goals and objectives: Commission directive The Commission REQUESTED that the objectives related to distributing the TCEY, as detailed in Circular IPHC-2017-CR022, be presented at MSAB11 for further stakeholder feedback.	Completed: The MSAB has incorporated these elements into its Program of Work.
AM094– Req.03 (para. 38)	The Commission REQUESTED that the proposed TCEY distribution methodology of the Harvest Strategy Policy reflect an understanding of both stock distribution and fishery management distribution procedures.	Completed: The MSAB has incorporated these elements into its Program of Work.
AM094– Req.04 (para. 54)	Discussion paper: Frozen-at-sea exemption for head-on requirement (Sect. 13) The Commission REQUESTED that the IPHC Secretariat continue to monitor the volume of catch being landed as frozen head-off product. The IPHC Secretariat shall keep the Commission informed of the annual landings from this sector of the fishery.	Completed: This has been incorporated in the IPHC annual Program of Work.
AM094– Req.05 (para. 62)	Stakeholder regulatory proposals The Commission NOTED that the following proposals were more appropriate for action by the U.S.A. North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC), and REQUESTED the IPHC notify the proponents that they should communicate their proposals to the NPFMC for its consideration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IPHC-2018-AM094-PropC3 For unguided sport fishing (P. Phillips) • IPHC-2018-AM094-PropC7 Eliminate the requirement for a CHP (S. Riehemann) • IPHC-2018-AM094-PropC16 Reduce daily bag limit for all anglers in Area 2C and 3A in times of low abundance (M. Grove) • IPHC-2018-AM094-PropC17 Recreational sport fishing only allocation (J. Kearns) 	Completed: Notifications sent to each proponent soon after AM094.
AM094– Req.06 (para. 64)	The Commission REQUESTED that an IPHC Secretariat led working group, to include appropriate Contracting Party agencies, review IPHC-2018-AM094-PropC8 over the coming year to determine how best to implement it effectively.	Completed: The IPHC Secretariat has determined that no changes are required to IPHC Fishery Regulations to accommodate the intent of this proposal, and thus it does not need to be re-submitted. There may be domestic regulatory issues with the use of pot gear contemplated in the proposal, which the IPHC Secretariat has referred to the appropriate Contracting Party agencies for comment.

94 th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM094)		
Action No.	Description	Update
AM094– Req.07 (para. 117)	IPHC Financial Regulations (2018) The Commission ADOPTED the revised IPHC Financial Regulations (2018) by consensus, and REQUESTED that the IPHC Secretariat finalise and publish them accordingly.	Completed : Published on 4 May 2018
AM094– Req.08 (para. 118)	The Commission REQUESTED the IPHC Secretariat review the IPHC Financial Regulations and develop suitable text for consideration at the IM094, which would permit the transfer of funds between the General and Supplemental Funds.	Completed : See paper IPHC-2019-AM095-19.
AM094– Req.09 (para. 141)	Review of the draft and adoption of the report of the 94th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM094) The Commission REQUESTED that the IPHC Secretariat finalise and publish the IPHC <i>Pacific Halibut Fishery Regulations (2018)</i> no later than 28 February 2018, NOTING that only minor editorial and formatting changes are permitted beyond the decisions made by the Commission at the AM094.	Completed : Published on 15 Feb 2018.

94 th Session of the IPHC Interim Meeting (IM094)		
	Description	Update
	RECOMMENDATIONS	
IM094– Rec.01 (para. 89)	IPHC meetings calendar (2019-21) The Commission RECOMMENDED that: a) the 96 th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM096) be held in Anchorage or Juneau, USA, and that the IPHC Secretariat would communicate meeting specifics in due course; b) a meeting of an IPHC subsidiary body (e.g. the MSAB), to be determined by the IPHC Secretariat, should be held in Sitka, Alaska in 2019.	Completed : Subsequent to IM094, the Commission selected Anchorage as the site for AM096, and the IPHC Secretariat has begun planning accordingly. The Commission also approved Sitka as the site for MSAB013 in May 2019, and the IPHC Secretariat has begun planning accordingly.
	REQUESTS	
IM094– Req.01 (para. 9)	Report of the IPHC Secretariat (2018) The Commission NOTED the new functionality added to the IPHC website in 2018, and REQUESTED that these initiatives continue to be enhanced: a) Fishery-Independent Setline Survey (FISS) data interactive b) Regulations portal , including the online regulatory proposal submission form	Completed & Ongoing : Updates will be provide in paper IPHC-2019-AM095-04

94 th Session of the IPHC Interim Meeting (IM094)		
	Description	Update
	c) Landings Report d) Mortality projection tool	
IM094– Req.02 (para. 15)	<p>Space-time modelling of survey data (WPUE; FISS expansion results, etc.)</p> <p>NOTING that the 2018 FISS expansion stations had an effect on overall weight-per-unit-effort (WPUE) and number-per-unit-effort (NPUE) in Regulatory Area 2B, the Commission REQUESTED model estimates for the WPUE/NPUE time series, and a 2018 estimate in the absence of Regulatory Area 2B FISS expansion data, be incorporated in papers to be presented at the AM095.</p>	Completed: see paper IPHC-2019-AM095-08
IM094– Req.03 (para. 53)	<p>Contracting Party (Agency) updates: North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC)</p> <p>The Commission REQUESTED a detailed report of the NMFS observer program in the Bering Sea and Gulf of Alaska, including coverage rates, to be submitted and presented to the 95th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM095), NOTING the offer from the NPFMC to facilitate this report and presentation.</p>	Completed: see paper IPHC-2019-AM095-AR12 (expected)
IM094– Req.04 (para. 54)	<p>The Commission REQUESTED a detailed paper and associated presentation on the deck sorting EFP be presented at the AM095, including its effectiveness and resultant reductions in Pacific halibut mortality, NOTING the offer from the NPFMC to facilitate this report and presentation.</p>	Completed: see paper IPHC-2019-AM095-AR12 (expected)
IM094– Req.05 (para. 66)	<p>Stakeholder regulatory proposals: Minimum TCEY in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A</p> <p>The Commission REQUESTED that the IPHC Secretariat summarise the impact of stakeholder Regulatory Proposal IPHC-2018-IM094-PropC1, including example mortality projection tables, for consideration at the AM095. This will allow the Commission to view the impact on other Regulatory Areas and sectors, as well as the overall conservation risk at a coastwide level.</p>	Completed: see paper IPHC-2019-AM095-13
IM094– Req.06 (para. 74)	<p>Financial Statement for FY2018</p> <p>The Commission REQUESTED that a breakdown of budget and expenses for the FISS expansions undertaken in 2018 be reported at the AM095, taking into consideration that some of those calculations would be proxies given the changes to the FISS charter regions during expansions.</p>	Completed: see paper IPHC-2019-AM095-15

94 th Session of the IPHC Interim Meeting (IM094)		
	Description	Update
IM094– Req.07 (para. 84)	<i>IPHC Memorandum of Understanding, and Agreements</i> The Commission REQUESTED that current practice, whereby the Executive Director is the sole signatory of MoUs and Agreements with other organisations, continue, as long as those arrangements are based on the sharing of information for scientific purposes (e.g. with PICES, academic institutions etc.).	Completed : process implemented.