



IPHC Fishery-Independent Setline Survey (FISS) Implementation in 2023

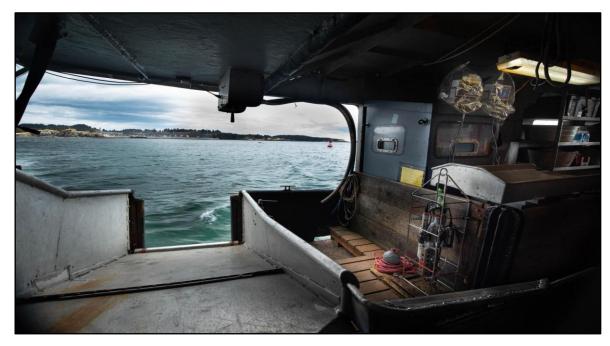
Agenda item: 4.2.1
IPHC-2024-AM100-08 Rev_1
Kayla Ualesi



Primary Objective

- Standardised, fishery-independent data collection for the Pacific halibut stock (*Hippoglossus stenolepis*) assessment and stock distribution estimation
 - Pacific halibut distribution and abundance trends
 - Collection of biological data (sex, maturity, and age)







Standardisation BAIT

GEAR

- Fixed & Snap Gear
- Each skate meets the following specifications:
 - 1800 ft (548.6 metres) with 100 hooks spaced 18 ft (5.5 metres) apart
 - No. 3 (16/0) circle hooks threaded through the front on 24-48 inch (61-122 cm) gangions
 - 7-10 lb (3-5 kg) weights on each non-anchored skate end







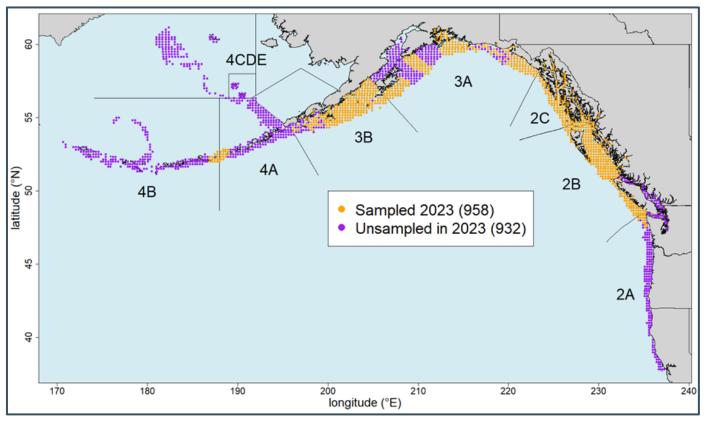
- Frozen chum salmon (*Oncorhynchus keta*)
- #2 semi-brite or better
- Cut 1/4 to 1/3 lb (1/10 to 1/6 kg)
- Captains sign off on bait quality







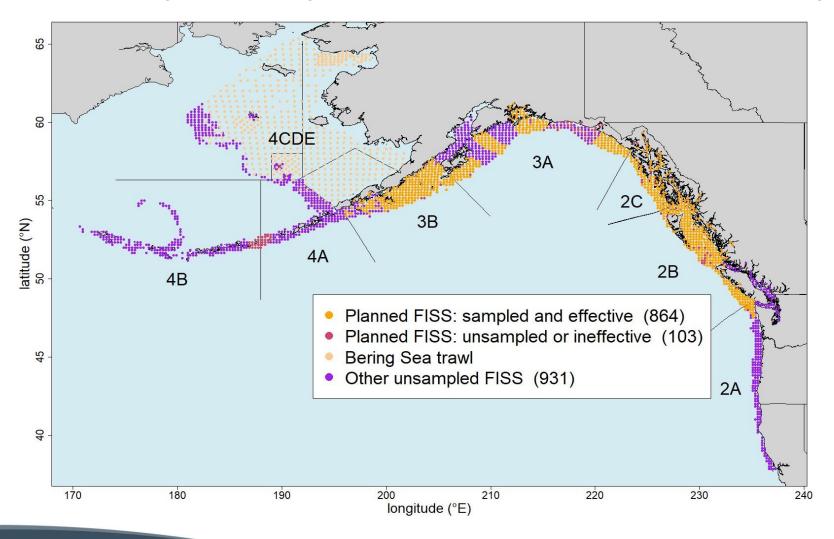
2023 Fishery-Independent Setline Survey (FISS)



26 May- 1 September (27 May- 15 September 2022, 28 May-14 September 2021) **8 vessels** (8 in 2022, 13 in 2021) **958 stations planned** (1,188 in 2022, 1,346 in 2021)

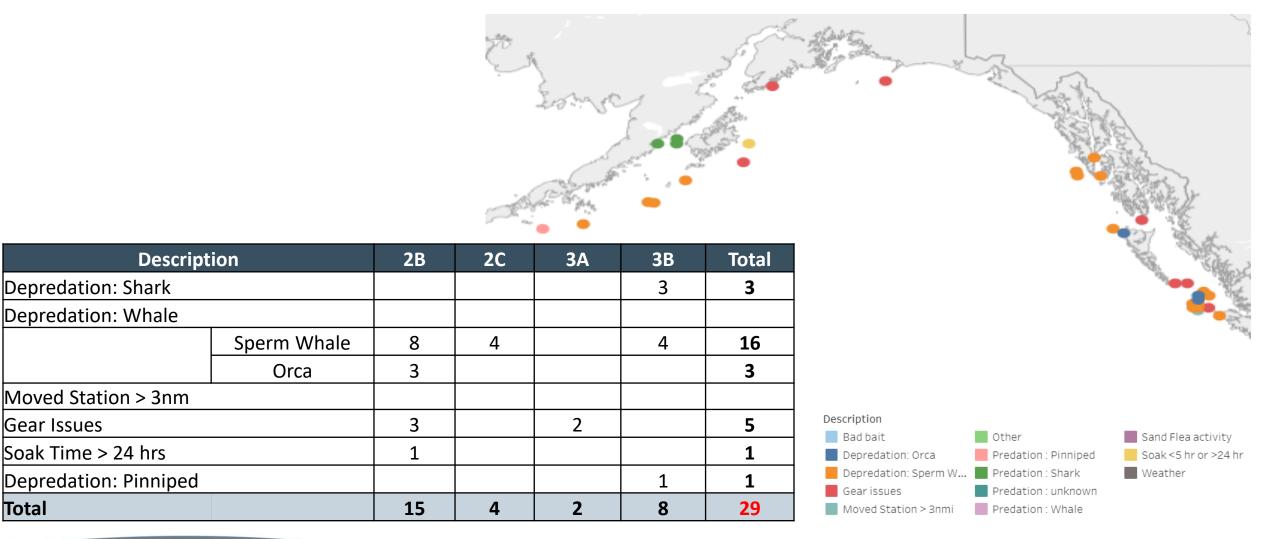


2023 Fishery-Independent Setline Survey (FISS)





Ineffective Stations in 2023



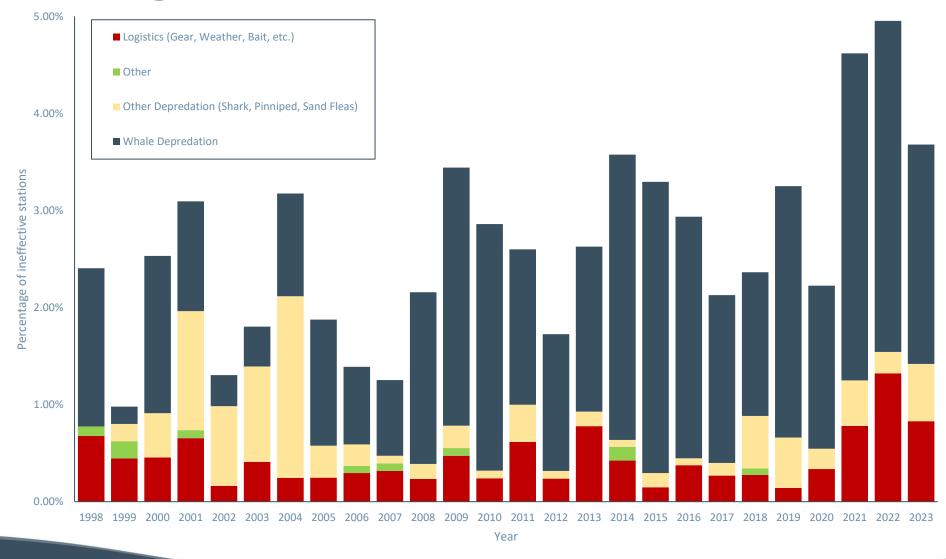


Gear Issues

Total

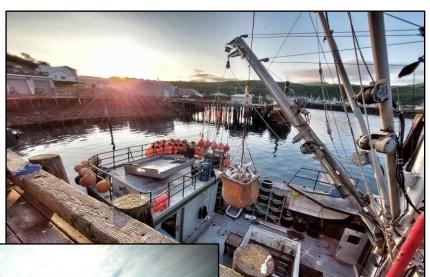
Percentage of Ineffective Stations

- Changes in the FISS design from year to year will influence the number of ineffective stations
- Reg. Area 4A has the highest percentage of ineffective stations and significantly impacts the whale depredation percentages in the years that this area is included in the FISS (not in 2020 or 2023).





Secondary Objective



- Long Term Revenue Neutrality
 - Fish Sale Process
 - RFT for each sale
 - Rated against specified criteria provided to all interested buyers on sales notice
 - Established controls for review and approval for each sale
 - New in 2023: Opened bids to multiple ports to increase options
 - Charter Agreements
 - RFTs
 - All submissions rated against specified criteria published in tender specifications



Secondary Objective

- Sale of *sampled* U32 Pacific halibut
- Price is slightly less (22% less than O32 Pacific halibut average price)









Tertiary Objective

Collaboration

- ALASKA: Pacific Cod & Spiny dogfish sampling (NOAA Fisheries)
- 2B: Dockside Rockfish sampling (DFO, Archipelago, PHMA)
- WDFW: 8 Rockfish Index Stations & Dockside Rockfish Sampling



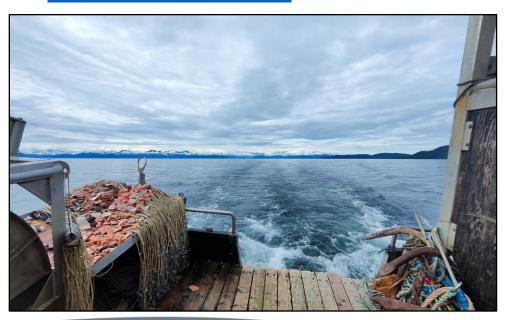


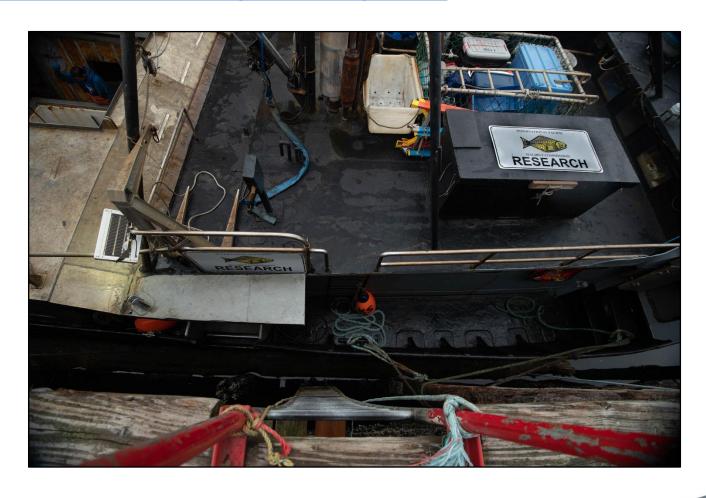




2023 FISS Results

- FISS Catch-Per-Unit-Effort (CPUE) data maps and plots
- FISS Performance
- FISS Biologicals
- Raw FISS data







Average Price/lb (USD) by IPHC Reg Area

IPHC Regulatory Area	FISS 2023 Average price/lb (USD)	FISS 2022 Average price/lb (USD)*
2A	\$4.81	\$5.85
2B	\$7.83	\$9.40
2C	\$6.07	\$7.66
3A	\$5.49	\$7.76
3B	\$4.82	\$7.58
4A	ı	\$7.10
4B	ı	\$7.20
4C		\$7.13
4D	-	\$7.11
Coastwide	\$6.04	\$8.05

*2022 prices adjusted for inflation



Average Price/lb (USD) Over Time (2000-2023)

Inflation adjusted for better comparison over the years





Pacific halibut sales (USD) by IPHC Reg. Area

IPHC Regulatory Area	FISS 2023 Pacific halibut sales value (USD)	FISS 2022 Pacific halibut sales value (USD)*
2A	\$56,102.01	\$71,650.40
2B	\$1,000,758.77	\$1,016,366.83
2C	\$924,459.23	\$947,215.06
3A	\$406,328.95	\$883,761.11
3B	\$706,360.55	\$240,292.75**
4A	-	\$59,640.31
4B	-	\$35,382.73
4C	-	\$28,194.54
4D	-	\$49,750.64
TOTAL	\$3,094,009.51	\$3,332,254.37

^{*2022} prices adjusted for inflation



^{**}Note that only two regions were completed in Reg Area 3B in 2022

2023 FISS Challenges

- Poor catch rates, lower fish prices
- Minimal vessel bids
 - Vessel availability
 - Sablefish quota
 - Vessel size (deck/bunk space)
 - Vessel maintenance







Recommendation

That the Commission:

NOTE paper IPHC-2024-AM100-08 Rev_1 that provides a summary of the IPHC Fishery-Independent Setline Survey (FISS) design and implementation in 2023.



INTERNATIONAL PACIFIC HALIBUT COMMISSION

