



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE INTERNATIONAL PACIFIC HALIBUT COMMISSION
AND
THE NORTH PACIFIC MARINE SCIENCE ORGANIZATION**

The International Pacific Halibut Commission, hereinafter called “the IPHC”, and the North Pacific Marine Science Organization, hereinafter called “PICES”;

RECOGNIZING that the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) was established by a Convention between Canada and the United States of America to:

- a) conduct research on the biology of Pacific halibut;
- b) assess the stock structure, abundance, and biomass in the North Pacific Ocean and the Bering Sea;
- c) regulate commercial and recreational fisheries for Pacific halibut within 200 mile limits of Canada and the United States of America;
- d) publish or otherwise disseminate the results of this work; and
- e) provide scientific information and advice to the Governments for the purpose of developing the stocks of Pacific halibut to levels which will permit optimum yield from that fishery, and of maintaining stocks at those levels;

NOTING that in order to carry out these tasks appropriately and efficiently, the IPHC seeks, *inter alia*, to establish and maintain mutually agreed working arrangements with other international organizations which have related objectives;

RECOGNIZING that the North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES), exists to:

- a) promote and coordinate marine scientific research in order to advance scientific knowledge of the area concerned and of its living resources including, but not necessarily limited to, research with respect to the ocean environment and its interaction with land and atmosphere, its role in and response to global weather and climate change, its flora, fauna, and ecosystems, its uses and resources, and impacts upon it from human activities; and
- b) promote the collection and exchange of information and data related to marine scientific research in the area concerned;

NOTING that in order to further enhance its institutional capabilities, the Organization seeks, *inter alia*, to establish and maintain mutually agreed working arrangements with other international organization that have related objectives;

RECOGNISING that the achievement of the objectives of the IPHC and PICES will benefit from cooperation, with a view to strengthening the science-based decision-making processes of both Parties;

DESIRING to put into place arrangements and procedures to promote cooperation in order to enhance North Pacific Ocean science of mutual interest;



NOW THEREFORE the IPHC and PICES, hereinafter call “the Parties”, have therefore agreed to the following:

I. OBJECTIVE OF THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

1. The objective of this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is to facilitate cooperation between the IPHC and PICES (the Parties) with a view to supporting efforts to enhance North Pacific Ocean science of mutual interest.

II. AREAS OF COOPERATION

2. Both Parties may establish and maintain consultation, cooperation and collaboration in respect of matters of common interest in the field of marine scientific research and related activities for the;
 - a) exchange of expertise, techniques and knowledge relevant to the management of Pacific halibut and/or relevant marine ecosystems;
 - b) exchange of information, documents, and publications relating to programs and project plans and to the results of activities agreed to be of mutual interest, joint or otherwise;
 - c) reciprocal participation with observer status at the relevant meetings of each organization;
 - d) investigation and exchange of information regarding science-based management approaches relevant to the Pacific halibut;
 - e) promotion of international scientific activities at the highest scientific level relevant to Pacific halibut biology and management in the North Pacific Ocean;
 - f) establishment of international consortia to address challenges facing the Pacific halibut and related species through trans-national cooperation;

III. MODIFICATION

3. This MoU may be modified at any time by the mutual written consent of both sides.

IV. LEGAL STATUS

4. Both Parties acknowledge that this MoU is not legally binding between them.

V. HOLD HARMLESS CLAUSE

5. Each party agrees that it will be responsible for its own acts and the results thereof and shall not be responsible for the acts of the other party thereof.



VI. COMING INTO EFFECT AND TERMINATION

- 6. This MoU will continue to operate for 5 years from the date of signing. At that stage the Parties will review the operation of the MoU and decide whether it will be renewed or modified.
 - a) Either Party may terminate this MoU by giving six (6) months prior written notice to the other Party.
 - b) This MoU will come into effect on the day of signature.

VII. SIGNATURES

David T. Wilson

14-02-2024

Signature

Date

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07/06/2024

Signature

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