



6 June 2025

**IPHC CIRCULAR 2025-013**

**SUBJECT: INVITATION TO THE 2025 SESSION OF THE IPHC WORK MEETING (WM2025)**

Dear Commissioners,

In accordance with Rules 6.5 and 8.1 of the International Pacific Halibut Commission's (IPHC) Rules of Procedure (2024), I am pleased to invite you to attend the 2025 Session of the IPHC Work Meeting (WM2025). The meeting will be held in-person at the [Hotel Bellwether](#), Bellingham, WA, U.S.A., from 4 to 5 September 2025.

**A reminder that the Work Meeting is a closed meeting of the Commission, limited to Commissioners, and their invited advisors and experts.**

The provisional agenda is attached for your information. If you wish for any additional items to be incorporated into the agenda, please provide them no later than 45 days prior to the Session (21 July 2025), in accordance with Rule 8.2 of the IPHC Rules of Procedure (2024).

Other information concerning the meeting, including electronic versions of documents to be considered, will be published in the IPHC website (Commissioner only portal) as they become available, but no later than 30 days prior to the commencement of the Session (5 August 2025), in accordance with Rule 8.4 of the IPHC Rules of Procedure (2024).

Yours sincerely

David T. Wilson, Ph.D.

Executive Director, IPHC

**Attachments:**

**Attachment I:** Provisional: Agenda for the 2025 Session of the IPHC Work Meeting (WM2025)



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**PROVISIONAL: AGENDA & SCHEDULE FOR THE 2025 SESSION  
OF THE IPHC WORK MEETING (WM2025)**

**Date:** 4-5 September 2025

**Location:** Bellingham, WA, USA

**Venue:** Hotel Bellwether

**Time:** 09:00-17:00 (PST) daily

**Chairperson:** Mr Jon Kurland (USA)

**Vice-Chairperson:** Mr Mark Waddell (Canada)

**Notes:**

- **Document deadline:** 5 August 2025 (30 days prior to the opening of the Session)
- *This is a closed meeting of the Commission*

**AGENDA FOR THE 2025 SESSION  
OF THE IPHC WORK MEETING (WM2025)**

- 1. OPENING OF THE SESSION** (Chairperson)
- 2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION**  
(Chairperson & Executive Director)
- 3. IPHC PROCESS** (D. Wilson)
  - 3.1 Update on actions arising from the 101<sup>st</sup> Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM101), 2025 Special Sessions, and intersessional decisions (D. Wilson)
  - 3.2 Report of the IPHC Secretariat (2025): Draft (D. Wilson & B. Hutniczak)
  - 3.3 2<sup>nd</sup> IPHC Performance Review (PRIPHC02): Implementation of recommendations (D. Wilson)
  - 3.4 Report of the 21<sup>st</sup> Session of the IPHC Management Strategy Advisory Board (MSAB021) (Co-Chairpersons)
  - 3.5 Report of the 26<sup>th</sup> Session of the IPHC Scientific Review Board (SRB026) (D. Wilson)
  - 3.6 International Pacific Halibut Commission 5-year program of Integrated Research and Monitoring (2022-26): Updates (D. Wilson, J. Planas, I. Stewart, A. Hicks, B. Hutniczak, & R. Webster)
- 4. FISHERY MONITORING**
  - 4.1 Fishery-dependent data overview (2025)
    - 4.1.1 Port Operations (M. Thom)
    - 4.1.2 Fisheries data (B. Hutniczak)
  - 4.2 Fishery-independent data overview (2025)
    - 4.2.1 IPHC Fishery-Independent Setline Survey (FISS) design and implementation in 2025 (K. Ualesi)

**5. STOCK STATUS OF PACIFIC HALIBUT (2025)**

- 5.1 Space-time modelling of survey data (R. Webster)
- 5.2 Stock Assessment: Data overview and stock assessment (2025)

**6. MANAGEMENT STRATEGY EVALUATION**

- 6.1 IPHC Management Strategy Evaluation & Harvest Strategy Policy (A. Hicks)

**7. HARVEST DECISION TABLE 2026**

- 7.1 Stock projections and harvest decision table 2026-2028 (I. Stewart & A. Hicks)

**8. FISS DESIGN EVALUATIONS 2026-2030**

- 8.1 2026-30 FISS design evaluation (R. Webster)

**9. BIOLOGICAL AND ECOSYSTEM SCIENCES – PROJECT UPDATES**

- 9.1 Report on Current and Future Biological and Ecosystem Science Research Activities (J. Planas)

**10. IPHC FISHERY REGULATIONS: PROPOSALS FOR THE 2025-26 PROCESS**

- 10.1 IPHC Secretariat fishery regulation proposals (B. Hutniczak)
- 10.2 Contracting Party fishery regulation proposals (Contracting Parties)
- 10.3 Stakeholder fishery regulation proposals (Stakeholders)
- 10.4 Stakeholder statements (B. Hutniczak)

**11. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**

- 11.1 FY2025 Budget: update (D. Wilson)

**12. OTHER BUSINESS****13. ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE 2025 SESSION OF THE IPHC WORK MEETING (WM2025) (Chairperson & Executive Director)**

**SCHEDULE FOR THE 2025 SESSION  
OF THE IPHC WORK MEETING (WM2025)**

<b>Thursday, 4 September 2025</b>		
<b>Time</b>	<b>Agenda item</b>	<b>Lead</b>
09:00-09:10	1. Opening of the Session	Chairperson
09:10-09:20	2. Adoption of the agenda and arrangements for the Session	Chairperson
09:20-10:15	3. IPHC Process 3.1 Update on actions arising from the 101 <sup>st</sup> Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM101), 2025 Special Sessions, and intersessional decisions (D. Wilson) 3.2 Report of the IPHC Secretariat (2025): Draft (D. Wilson & B. Hutniczak) 3.3 2 <sup>nd</sup> IPHC Performance Review (PRIPHC02): Implementation of recommendations (D. Wilson) 3.4 Report of the 21 <sup>st</sup> Session of the IPHC Management Strategy Advisory Board (MSAB021) (Co-Chairpersons) 3.5 Report of the 26 <sup>th</sup> Session of the IPHC Scientific Review Board (SRB026) (D. Wilson) 3.6 International Pacific Halibut Commission 5-year program of Integrated Research and Monitoring (2022-26): Updates (D. Wilson, J. Planas, I. Stewart, A. Hicks, B. Hutniczak, & R. Webster)	D. Wilson D. Wilson D. Wilson MSAB Co-Chairpersons D. Wilson D. Wilson
10:15-10:30	4. Fishery Monitoring 4.1 Fishery-dependent data overview (2025) 4.1.1 Port Operations (M. Thom) 4.1.2 Fisheries data (B. Hutniczak)	M. Thom B. Hutniczak
10:30-10:45	Break	
10:45-11:15	4.2 Fishery-independent data overview (2025) 4.2.1 IPHC Fishery-Independent Setline Survey (FISS) design and implementation in 2025	K. Ualesi
11:15-12:30	5. Stock status of Pacific halibut (2025) 5.1 Space-time modelling of survey data	R. Webster
12:30-13:30	Lunch	
13:30-14:45	5.2 Stock Assessment: Data overview and stock assessment (2025)	I. Stewart
14:45-15:30	6. Management strategy evaluation 6.1 IPHC Management Strategy Evaluation & Harvest Strategy Policy	A. Hicks
15:30-15:45	Break	

15:45-16:15	7. Harvest decision table 2026 - process	I. Stewart
16:15-17:00	8. FISS design evaluations 2026-2030 8.1 2026-30 FISS design evaluation	R. Webster
<b>Friday, 5 September 2025</b>		
09:00-10:00	9. Biological and ecosystem sciences – project updates	J. Planas
10:00-10:30	10. IPHC Fishery Regulations: Proposals for the 2025-26 process 10.1 IPHC Secretariat fishery regulation proposals 10.2 Contracting Party fishery regulation proposals) 10.3 Stakeholder fishery regulation proposals 10.4 Stakeholder statements	B. Hutniczak Contracting Parties
10:30-10:45	Break	
10:45-11:00	11. Finance and Administration 11.1 FY2025 Budget: update	D. Wilson
11:00-11:15	12. Other business	Chairperson
11:15-12:30	13. Actions arising from the 2025 Session of the IPHC Work Meeting (WM2025)	Chairperson & Executive Director
12:30-13:30	Lunch	