



OUTCOMES OF THE 101ST SESSION OF THE IPHC ANNUAL MEETING (AM101)

PREPARED BY: IPHC SECRETARIAT (D. WILSON, 8 OCTOBER 2025)

PURPOSE

To provide the RAB with the outcomes of the 101st Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM101), relevant to the mandate of the RAB.

BACKGROUND

The agenda of the Commission's Annual Meeting (AM101) included several agenda items relevant to the RAB:

3. IPHC PROCESS

- 3.1 Update on actions arising from the 100th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM100), 2024 Special Sessions, intersessional decisions, and the 100th Session of the IPHC Interim Meeting (IM100) (D. Wilson)
 - **IPHC-2025-AM101-03** *Update on actions arising from the 100th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM100), 2024 Special Sessions, intersessional decisions, and the 100th Session of the IPHC Interim Meeting (IM100) (D. Wilson)*
- 3.2 Report of the IPHC Secretariat (2024) (D. Wilson & B. Hutniczak)
 - **IPHC-2025-AM101-04** *Report of the IPHC Secretariat (2024) (D. Wilson & B. Hutniczak)*
- 3.3 2nd IPHC Performance Review (PRIPHC02): Implementation of recommendations (D. Wilson)
 - **IPHC-2025-AM101-05** *Implementation of the Recommendations from the 2nd IPHC Performance Review (PRIPHC02) (D. Wilson)*
- 3.4 Reports of the IPHC Management Strategy Advisory Board (MSAB Co-Chairpersons)
 - **IPHC-2024-MSAB019-R** *Report of the 19th Session of the IPHC Management Strategy Advisory Board (MSAB019)*
 - **IPHC-2024-MSAB020-R** *Report of the 20th Session of the IPHC Management Strategy Advisory Board (MSAB020)*
- 3.5 Reports of the IPHC Scientific Review Board (SRB Chairperson)
 - **IPHC-2024-SRB022-R** *Report of the 24th Session of the IPHC Scientific Review Board (SRB024)*
 - **IPHC-2024-SRB023-R** *Report of the 25th Session of the IPHC Scientific Review Board (SRB025)*
- 3.6 Report of the 25th Session of the IPHC Research Advisory Board (RAB025) (RAB Chairperson)
 - **IPHC-2024-RAB025-R** *Report of the 25th Session of the IPHC Research Advisory Board (RAB025)*
- 3.7 International Pacific Halibut Commission 5-year program of Integrated Research and Monitoring (2022-26) (D. Wilson, J. Planas, I. Stewart, A. Hicks, B. Hutniczak, & R. Webster)

- **IPHC-2025-AM101-06** *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 (2024)

4.1.1 Port operations

- **IPHC-2025-AM101-07 Rev_1** *Fisheries data collection design and implementation in 2024 - Port Operations (M. Thom, I. Stewart, R. Webster)*

4.1.2 Fisheries data

- **IPHC-2025-AM101-08 Rev_1** *Fisheries data overview (2024) (B. Hutniczak, H. Tran, T. Kong, K. Sawyer van Vleck. & K. Magrane)*

4.2 Fishery-independent data overview (2024)

4.2.1 PHC Fishery-Independent Setline Survey (FISS) design and implementation in 2024 (T. Jack)

- **IPHC-2025-AM101-09** *IPHC Fishery-independent setline survey (FISS) design and implementation in 2024 (K. Ualesi, T. Jack, R. Rillera & K. Coll)*

5. STOCK STATUS OF PACIFIC HALIBUT (2024)

5.1 Space-time modelling of survey data (R. Webster)

- **IPHC-2025-AM101-10** *Space-time modelling of survey data (R. Webster)*

5.2 Stock Assessment: Data overview and stock assessment (2024)

- **IPHC-2025-AM101-11** *Data overview and stock assessment for Pacific halibut (*Hippoglossus stenolepis*) at the end of 2024 (I. Stewart, A. Hicks, R. Webster, D. Wilson)*

6. MANAGEMENT STRATEGY EVALUATION

6.1 IPHC Management Strategy Evaluation: update (A. Hicks)

- **IPHC-2025-AM101-12** *IPHC Management Strategy Evaluation and Harvest Strategy Policy (A. Hicks, I. Stewart, & D. Wilson)*
- **IPHC-2025-AM101-17** *IPHC Interim Harvest Strategy Policy (A. Hicks, I. Stewart, & D. Wilson)*

7. HARVEST DECISION TABLE 2025

7.1 Stock projections and harvest decision table 2025-2027 (I. Stewart & A. Hicks)

- **IPHC-2025-AM101-13** *Stock projections and harvest decision table for 2025-2027 (I. Stewart & A. Hicks)*

8. FISS DESIGN EVALUATIONS 2025-2029

8.1 2025-29 FISS design evaluation (R. Webster)

- **IPHC-2025-AM101-14** *2025 and 2026-29 FISS designs (R. Webster, I. Stewart, K. Ualesi, T. Jack, & D. Wilson)*

9. BIOLOGICAL AND ECOSYSTEM SCIENCES – PROJECT UPDATES

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

- **IPHC-2025-AM101-15** *Report on Current and Future Biological and Ecosystem Science Research Activities (J. Planas)*

10. IPHC FISHERY REGULATIONS: PROPOSALS FOR THE 2024-25 PROCESS

- **IPHC-2025-AM101-16 Rev_1** *IPHC Fishery Regulations: Proposals for the 2024-25 process (B. Hutniczak)*

10.1 IPHC Secretariat fishery regulation proposals (B. Hutniczak)

- **IPHC-2025-AM101-PropA1** *IPHC Fishery Regulations: Mortality and Fishery Limits (Sect. 5)*
- **IPHC-2025-AM101-PropA2** *IPHC Fishery Regulations: Commercial Fishing Periods (Sect. 9)*
- **IPHC-2025-AM101-PropA3** *IPHC Fishery Regulations: Minor amendments*
- 10.2 Contracting Party fishery regulation proposals (Contracting Parties)
 - **IPHC-2025-AM101-PropB1** *IPHC Fishery Regulations: Recreational (Sport) Fishing for Pacific Halibut – IPHC Regulatory Areas 2C, 3A, 3B, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E (Sect. 29) (Charter Management Measures in IPHC Regulatory Areas 2C and 3A (USA))*
- 10.3 Stakeholder fishery regulation proposals (Stakeholders)
 - **IPHC-2025-AM101-PropC1** *IPHC Fishery Regulations: Commercial Fishing Periods (Sect. 9) – year-round commercial Pacific halibut fishery in IPHC Regulatory Area 2B (R. Hauknes)*
 - **IPHC-2025-AM101-PropC2** *IPHC Fishery Regulations: Application of Commercial Fishery Limits (Sect. 12) – addressing concerns regarding localized depletion around St. Matthew Island (S. McManus)*
 - **IPHC-2025-AM101-PropC3** *IPHC Fishery Regulations: Mortality and Fishery Limits (Sect. 5) - TCEY in Regulatory Area 2A (T. Greene)*
 - **IPHC-2025-AM101-PropC4** *Other proposal (Non-IPHC Fishery Regulations): Rebuilding Plan for Pacific halibut (M. Laukitis)*
 - **IPHC-2025-AM101-PropC5** *IPHC Fishery Regulations: Mortality and Fishery Limits (Sect. 5) – definition of reaction to overfishing (M. Milne)*
- 10.4 Stakeholder statements (B. Hutniczak)
 - **IPHC-2025-AM101-INF01 Rev_1** *Stakeholder Statements on IPHC Fishery Regulations or published regulatory proposals (B. Hutniczak)*

DISCUSSION

During the course of the 101st Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM101) the Commission made a number of specific recommendations and requests for action regarding the stock assessment, MSE process, and 5-year research program. Relevant sections from the report of the meeting are provided in [Appendix A](#) for the RAB's consideration.

RECOMMENDATION

That the RAB:

- 1) **NOTE** paper IPHC-2025-RAB026-04 which details the outcomes of the 101st Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM101), relevant to the mandate of the RAB.

APPENDICES

[Appendix A](#): Excerpts from the 101st Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM101) Report ([IPHC-2025-AM101-R](#)).

APPENDIX A
Excerpts from the 101st Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM101) Report
([IPHC-2025-AM101-R](#))

RECOMMENDATIONS

Nil

REQUESTS

Report of the 25th Session of the IPHC Research Advisory Board (RAB025)

AM101–Req.01 ([para. 21](#)) The Commission **REQUESTED** that additional Canadian membership beyond the two (2) current RAB members would be desirable and encouraged the Canadian delegation to explore recruiting new members from Canada.

Port Operations

AM101–Req.02 ([para. 30](#)) The Commission **REQUESTED** an annual compilation of reports of comments received by the IPHC's Fisheries Data Specialists (Field) on current harvesting conditions.

Fisheries Data

AM101–Req.03 ([para. 32](#)) The Commission **REQUESTED** that the description of data on non-directed discard mortality for IPHC Regulatory Areas 3A and 3B be updated to align with the information provided in [IPHC-2025-AM101-NR02 Rev 1](#). (Note: A Rev_2 of this paper was published on 30 January 2025 to accommodate this request in-session: [IPHC-2025-AM101-08 Rev 2](#)).

IPHC Fishery Regulations: Commercial Fishing Periods (Sect. 9) (Regulatory Area 2B)

AM101–Req.05 ([para. 88](#)) The Commission **REQUESTED** that the IPHC Secretariat prepare an analysis detailing the biological, logistical and socioeconomic effects of year-round fishing in Canada, including challenges related to data compilation and marketing implications, for presentation at AM102.

OTHER

Port Operations

Para. 29. **NOTING** that the stock assessment is currently relying heavily on fishery dependent data in light of the limited footprint of the FISS in recent years, the Commission **AGREED** with the Secretariat's recommendation not to further reduce sampling in the ports selected for sampling or the periods sampled in each port at this time.

2025-29 FISS design evaluation

Para. 61. The Commission **AGREED** to updated priorities for the FISS as outlined in [Table 4](#).

Table 4. Prioritization of FISS objectives and corresponding design layers.

Priority	Objective	Design Layer
Primary	Sample Pacific halibut for stock assessment and	Minimum sampling requirements in terms of: • Station distribution;

	<i>stock distribution estimation.</i>	• <i>Station count;</i> • <i>Skates per station.</i>
<i>Secondary</i>	<i>Cost effectiveness without compromising the scientific integrity of the FISS design.</i>	<i>Logistics, cost, scientific integrity: operational feasibility and cost/revenue, and scientific needs. With an aspirational target reserve of US\$2,000,000</i>
<i>Tertiary</i>	<i>Minimize removals, and assist others where feasible on a cost-recovery basis.</i>	<i>Removals: minimize impact on the stock while meeting primary priority; Assist: assist others to collect data on a cost-recovery basis; IPHC policies: ad-hoc decisions of the Commission regarding the FISS design.</i>