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## Outcomes of the 102<sup>nd</sup> Session Of The IPHC Annual Meeting (AM102)

PREPARED BY: IPHC SECRETARIAT (19 MARCH 2026)

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### PURPOSE

To provide the MSAB with the outcomes of the 102<sup>nd</sup> Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM102) relevant to the mandate of the MSAB.

### BACKGROUND

The agenda of the 102<sup>nd</sup> Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM102) included items relevant to the MSAB.

### DISCUSSION

During the course of the 102<sup>nd</sup> Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM102) the Commission made no recommendations or requests regarding the Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) and Harvest Strategy Policy (HSP) processes. However, a number of paragraphs noted the 2026 MSE and HSP Program of Work. Relevant sections from the report of AM102 ([IPHC-2026-AM102-R](#)), included these noted paragraphs are provided in [Appendix A](#) for the MSAB's consideration.

### RECOMMENDATION

That the MSAB:

- 1) **NOTE** paper IPHC-2026-MSAB022-05, which details the outcomes of the 102<sup>nd</sup> Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM102).

### APPENDICES

[Appendix A](#): Excerpts from the 102<sup>nd</sup> Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM102) Report ([IPHC-2026-AM102-R](#)).

**APPENDIX A**  
**Excerpt from the 102<sup>nd</sup> Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM102) Report**  
**(IPHC-2025-AM102-R)**

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

*Nil*

**REQUESTS**

*Nil*

**OTHER**

**IPHC-2026-AM102-R, para 55.** The Commission **RECALLED** that a Harvest Strategy Policy (HSP) was adopted by the Commission in late 2025. The HSP can be found at <https://www.iphc.int/research-monitoring/harvest-strategy-policy>.

**IPHC-2026-AM102-R, para 56.** The Commission **NOTED** that the 2026 MSE and HSP Program of Work will include the following highpriority topics: a) Update and recondition the MSE Operating Model in accordance with the schedule defined in the Harvest Strategy Policy; b) Evaluate a range of SPR values to determine if the optimal reference coastwide fishing intensity is different than the current reference fishing intensity (F43%) defined in the HSP; c) Investigate productivity regimes to determine how the Pacific halibut population and fisheries respond to different productivity regimes, if the optimal reference fishing intensity differs across productivity regimes, and how productivity regimes may be incorporated into a Management Procedure; d) Further develop the Depleted concept and identify a limit reference point below which recovery of the Pacific halibut population would be uncertain.

**IPHC-2026-AM102-R, para 57.** The Commission **NOTED** that the 2026 MSE and HSP Program of Work will include the following lowpriority topics, which may not be completed before AM103: a) Improve the estimation model used in the MSE framework to better characterize the stock assessment in the simulations; b) Evaluate potential management actions to invoke when approaching a depleted limit reference point; c) Evaluate additional elements of Management Procedures which may include a triennial assessment frequency, constraints and smoothers on the interannual change in the TCEY, and empirical rules to determine the reference TCEY in years without a stock assessment; d) Determine reference points using the updated MSE Operating Model (e.g. FMSY and MSY); e) Develop guidance documents for the Harvest Strategy Policy (e.g. specifications of a rebuilding plan).

**IPHC-2026-AM102-R, para 58.** The Commission **NOTED** that the 2026 MSE and HSP Program of Work should not include topics related to the distribution of the TCEY, as this is part of the decision-making process and not part of the management procedure, as described in the Harvest Strategy Policy.

**IPHC-2026-AM102-R, para 59.** The Commission **NOTED** that outcomes of the 2026 MSE workplan (e.g. an optimal fishing intensity) may be used to update the Harvest Strategy Policy in the future.