Report of the 99th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM099)

Victoria, B.C., Canada, 23-27 January 2023

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ACRONYMS

AM	Annual Meeting
CB	Conference Board
DFO	Fisheries and Ocean Canada
FCEY	Fishery Constant Exploitation Yield
FISS	Fishery-Independent Setline Survey
FY	Financial Year
GAAP	Generally Accepted Accounting Principles
GSA	General Services Administration
IPHC	International Pacific Halibut Commission
MSAB	Management Strategy Advisory Board
NPFMC	North Pacific Fishery Management Council
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
O32	Over 32” fish
PAB	Processor Advisory Board
PFMC	Pacific Fishery Management Council
RAB	Research Advisory Board
SB	Spawning Biomass
SRB	Scientific Review Board
SPR	Spawning Potential Ratio
TCEY	Total Constant Exploitation Yield
U26	Under 26” fish
U32	Under 32” fish
WPUE	Weight-Per-Unit-Effort

DEFINITIONS

A set of working definitions are provided in the IPHC Glossary of Terms and abbreviations: https://www.iphc.int/the-commission/glossary-of-terms-and-abbreviations

HOW TO INTERPRET TERMINOLOGY CONTAINED IN THIS REPORT

This report has been written using the following terms and associated definitions so as to remove ambiguity surrounding how particular paragraphs should be interpreted.

Level 1: **RECOMMENDED**; **RECOMMENDATION**; **ADOPTED** (formal); **REQUESTED**; **ENDORSED**; **ACCEPTED** (informal): A conclusion for an action to be undertaken, by a Contracting Party, a subsidiary (advisory) body of the Commission and/or the IPHC Secretariat.

Level 2: **AGREED**: Any point of discussion from a meeting which the Commission considers to be an agreed course of action covered by its mandate, which has not already been dealt with under Level 1 above; a general point of agreement among delegations/participants of a meeting which does not need to be elevated in the Commission’s reporting structure.

Level 3: **NOTED/NOTING**; **CONSIDERED**; **URGED**; **ACKNOWLEDGED**: General terms to be used for consistency. Any point of discussion from a meeting which the Commission considers to be important enough to record in a meeting report for future reference. Any other term may be used to highlight to the reader of an IPHC report, the importance of the relevant paragraph. Other terms may be used but will be considered for explanatory/informational purposes only and shall have no higher rating within the reporting terminology hierarchy than Level 3.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 99th Session of the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) Annual Meeting (AM099) was held in Victoria, B.C., Canada, from 23-27 January 2023. A total of 18 participants (6 Commissioners: Members; 12 advisors/experts) attended the Session from the two (2) Contracting Parties, as well as 134 members of the public (78 in-person and 56 remote). The meeting was opened by the Chairperson, Mr Paul Ryall (Canada) and the Vice-Chairperson, Mr Jon Kurland (U.S.A.) who welcomed participants.

The following are a subset of the complete recommendations and requests for action from the AM099, which are provided at Appendix XVI.

IPHC PACIFIC HALIBUT FISHERY REGULATIONS 2023

IPHC Fishery Regulations: Mortality and Fishery Limits (Sect. 5)

(para. 89) The Commission **ADOPTED** fishery regulation proposal IPHC-2023-AM099-PropA1, which provides the mortality and fishery limits framework for population at AM099 (Appendix IV). [Unanimous]

(para. 90) The Commission **ADOPTED** the distributed mortality limits for each Contracting Party, by IPHC Regulatory Area, (Table 4) and sector, as provided for in Appendix IV. [Unanimous]

IPHC Fishery Regulations: Commercial fishing periods (Sect. 9)

(para. 96) The Commission **ADOPTED** fishery regulation proposal IPHC-2023-AM099-PropA2, which specified fishing periods for the commercial Pacific halibut fisheries.

(para. 97) The Commission **ADOPTED** fishing periods for 2023 as provided below, thereby superseding the relevant portions of Section 9 of the IPHC Pacific halibut fishery regulations (Appendix V) by specifying that commercial fishing for Pacific halibut in all IPHC Regulatory Areas may begin no earlier than 1200 (noon) local time on 10 March 2023 and must cease at 1200 (noon) local time on 07 December 2023. [Unanimous]

IPHC Fishery Regulations: Fishing Period Limits (Sect. 14) & Licensing Vessels for IPHC Regulatory Area 2A (Sect. 15) – Accommodation of the transition of management in the IPHC Regulatory Area 2A

(para. 98) The Commission **ADOPTED** fishery regulation proposal IPHC-2023-AM099-PropA3, to accommodate the transition of management in the IPHC Regulatory Area 2A from the IPHC to the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) and NOAA Fisheries (Appendix VI). [Unanimous]

IPHC Fishery Regulations: minor amendments

(para. 99) The Commission **ADOPTED** fishery regulation proposal IPHC-2023-AM099-PropA4 Rev_1, which proposed minor amendments to the existing IPHC Fishery Regulations, improving their clarity and consistency (Appendix VII). [Unanimous]

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

(para. 100) The Commission **ADOPTED** fishery regulation proposal IPHC-2023-AM099-PropB1, that proposed IPHC Regulation changes for charter recreational Pacific halibut fisheries in IPHC Regulatory Areas 2C and 3A (Appendix VIII), in order to achieve the charter Pacific halibut allocation under the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council's (NPFMC) Pacific halibut Catch Sharing Plan [Unanimous]

IPHC Fishery Regulations: Recreational (Sport) Fishing for Pacific Halibut - IPHC Regulatory Area 2B (Sect. 28) - Daily bag limit in IPHC Regulatory Area 2B

(para. 101) The Commission **ADOPTED** fishery regulation proposal IPHC-2023-AM099-PropB2 Rev_1, that proposed IPHC Regulation changes to allow the daily bag limit of up to three fish per day per person in the recreational fishery in IPHC Regulatory Area 2B beginning on or after August 1 of each year until 2025 unless extended by a vote of the Commission (Appendix IX). [Unanimous]

IPHC Fishery Regulations: Recreational (Sport) Fishing for Pacific Halibut - IPHC Regulatory Areas 2C, 3A, 3B, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E (Sect. 29) - Onboard consumption

(para. 102) The Commission **ADOPTED** fishery regulation proposal IPHC-2023-AM099-PropB3, that proposed adding flexibility to existing recreational (sport) Pacific halibut fishing regulations in Alaska Regulatory Areas and allow limited consumption of recreationally-caught Pacific halibut on board charter vessels and pleasure craft, while retaining existing regulations that provide effective enforcement of daily bag limits and possession limits (Appendix X). [Unanimous]

IPHC Fishery Regulations: Logs (Sect. 20) – Logs requirements

(para. 103) The Commission **ADOPTED** fishery regulation proposal IPHC-2023-AM099-PropB4, that proposed updates to IPHC regulatory language regarding the qualifying logbooks in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A (Appendix XI). [Unanimous]

RECOMMENDATIONS

International Pacific Halibut Commission 5-year program of Integrated Research and Monitoring (2022-26)

AM099–Rec.01 (para. 12) The Commission **RECOMMENDED** that the Secretariat annually present potential changes to the Plan at the IPHC Interim Meeting. The Commission would then have the opportunity to provide any redirection based on Commission priorities and available funding. To assist in making that assessment, the Secretariat will be preparing a progress report annually.

IPHC Management Strategy Evaluation: update

AM099–Rec.02 (para. 76) The Commission **RECOMMENDED** that for the purpose of a comprehensive and intelligible Harvest Strategy Policy (HSP), four coastwide objectives should be documented within the HSP, in priority order:

a) Maintain the long-term coastwide female spawning stock biomass above a biomass limit reference point (B20%) at least 95% of the time.

b) Maintain the long-term coastwide female spawning stock biomass at or above a biomass reference point (B36%) 50% or more of the time.

c) Optimise average coastwide TCEY.

d) Limit annual changes in the coastwide TCEY.

AM099–Rec.03 (para. 84) The Commission **AGREED** sufficient analysis has been completed and **RECOMMENDED** not to change the current 32 inch size limit.

IPHC Fishery Regulations: Logs (Sect. 20) – Logs requirements

AM099–Rec.04 (para. 104) The Commission **RECOMMENDED** that the IPHC work with NOAA Fisheries on data sharing arrangement to retrieve Pacific halibut data submitted via Pacific Coast Groundfish non-trawl logbook.

REQUESTS

2023-25 FISS design evaluation

AM099–Req.01 (para. 35) The Commission **REQUESTED** a desktop review to determine if reducing bait size on the FISS would substantially reduce costs, while not reducing catch rates and associated fish sale revenue to any large degree.

AM099–Req.02 (para. 44) The Commission **REQUESTED** that the Secretariat provide a breakdown of costs associated with the FISS over the last three (3) years and what is projected for the 2023 FISS, and for this to be presented at the 13th Special Session of the Commission (SS013).

Pacific halibut mortality projections using the IPHC mortality projection tool (2023)

AM099–Req.03 (para. 61) The Commission **REQUESTED** a table be prepared annually that details the historical TCEY decisions, that is currently published on the IPHC website [https://www.iphc.int/uploads/data/time-series-datasets/excel/iphc-2023-tsd-017.xlsx]

Report on current and future biological and ecosystem science research activities

AM099–Req.04 (para. 66) The Commission **REQUESTED** that the Secretariat provide a summary of the proposed and ongoing research projects at the Secretariat, including status updates, suggestions for potential priority setting by the Commission, links to the IPHC's mandate and how the research will inform decision-making, guidance on types of research that should be considered for internal funding versus types of research that would be contingent on the availability of external funding or partnerships, among other criteria that may be requested by the Commission.

AM099–Req.05 (para. 67) The Commission **REQUESTED** that the Secretariat highlight the elements of its 5YRPIRM (the Plan) that will inform its understanding of the impacts of climate change on Pacific halibut in its annual presentations of the research Plan to the Commission.

IPHC Management Strategy Evaluation: update

AM099–Req.06 (para. 88) **NOTING** paragraph 60 from the 21st Session of the SRB (SRB021), the Commission **REQUESTED** the Secretariat develop a description of options to responding to exceptional circumstances that would trigger a stock assessment in non-assessment years and additional MSE analyses.

IPHC-2022-SRB021-R, para 60: *The SRB RECOMMENDED that Exceptional Circumstances be defined to determine whether monitoring information has potentially departed from their expected distributions generated by the MSE. Declaration of Exceptional Circumstances may warrant re-opening and revising the operating models and testing procedures used to justify a particular management procedure.*

Other key outcomes

FY2023 Budget – update

(para. 123) The Commission **ADOPTED** the revised FY2023 budget (1 October 2022 to 30 September 2023), as detailed in Appendix XII, noting that the amendments do not change the previously adopted Contracting Party contributions for FY2023, as follows:

i. Canada: Contribution to the General Fund: **US$900,407**

ii. U.S.A.: Contribution to the General Fund: **US$4,157,760**

iii. U.S.A.: Contribution to the headquarters building lease and maintenance costs: **US$489,250**

1. OPENING OF THE SESSION

1. The 99th Session of the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) Annual Meeting (AM099) was held in Victoria, B.C., Canada, from 23-27 January 2023. A total of 18 participants (6 Commissioners: Members; 12 advisors/experts) attended the Session from the two (2) Contracting Parties, as well as 134 members of the public (78 in-person and 56 remote). The list of participants is provided at Appendix I. The meeting was opened by the Chairperson, Mr Paul Ryall (Canada), and the Vice-Chairperson, Mr Jon Kurland (U.S.A.) who welcomed participants.

2. The Chairperson provided the following welcome to country statement: "*I would like to begin by acknowledging that we gather today on the land of the Lekwungen People, known today as the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations. Please join me in expressing our deepest respect and gratitude for the First Nations people, for their enduring care and protection of our shared lands and waterways.*"

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION

3. The Commission **ADOPTED** the Agenda as provided at Appendix II. The documents provided to the AM099 are listed in Appendix III.

3. IPHC PROCESS

3.1 Update on actions arising from the 98th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM098), 2022 Special Sessions, intersessional decisions, and the 98th Session of the IPHC Interim Meeting (IM098)

4. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2023-AM099-03, that provided the Commission with an opportunity to consider the progress made during the inter-sessional period, in relation to the direct requests for action by the Commission.

5. The Commission **AGREED** to consider and revise as necessary, the actions arising and for these to be combined with any new actions arising from the AM099.

3.2 Report of the IPHC Secretariat (2022)

6. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2023-AM099-04 that provided the Commission with an update on activities of the IPHC Secretariat in 2022 not detailed in other papers before the Commission.

3.3 2nd IPHC Performance Review (PRIPHC02): Implementation of recommendations

7. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2023-AM099-05 Rev_1 which provided the Commission with an update on the implementation of the recommendations arising from the 2nd Performance Review of the IPHC (PRIPHC02).

8. The Commission **RECALLED** recommendation PRIPHC02-Rec.09:

> PRIPHC02-Rec.09 [modified Commission directive]: *"The Commission RECOMMENDED that the IPHC Secretariat, in consultation with the Commission, develop minimum data collection standards for Pacific halibut by scientific observer programs. The intention would be for the Commission to review and approve the minimum standards, and recommend them for implementation by domestic agencies."*

9. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2023-AM099-16 that provides the Commission with an opportunity to consider minimum data collection standards for Pacific halibut by scientific observer programs.

3.4 International Pacific Halibut Commission 5-year program of Integrated Research and Monitoring (2022-26)

10. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2023-AM099-06 that provided the Commission with a further opportunity to comment and amend the IPHC's 5-year Program of Integrated Research and Monitoring (2022-26) (the Plan).

11. The Commission **NOTED** that:

    a) the intention is to ensure that the new integrated plan is kept as a 'living plan', and is reviewed and updated annually based on the resources available to undertake the work directed by the Commission (e.g. internal and external fiscal resources, collaborations, internal expertise);

    b) the plan focuses on core responsibilities of the Commission; and incorporates any redirection provided by the Commission;

    c) each year the Scientific Review Board (SRB) may choose to recommend to the Commission that modifications to the current Plan be made, and that any modifications subsequently adopted by the Commission would be documented both in the Plan itself, and through reporting back to the SRB and the Commission.

12. The Commission **RECOMMENDED** that the Secretariat annually present potential changes to the Plan at the IPHC Interim Meeting. The Commission would then have the opportunity to provide any redirection based on Commission priorities and available funding. To assist in making that assessment, the Secretariat will be preparing a progress report annually.

3.5 Report of the 23rd Session of the IPHC Research Advisory Board (RAB023)

13. The Commission **NOTED** the Report of the 23rd Session of the IPHC Research Advisory Board (RAB023 - IPHC-2022-RAB023-R) which was presented by the Chairperson, Dr David Wilson.

14. The Commission **CONSIDERED** the recommendations made by the RAB023 and **AGREED** to take them into consideration when deliberating on relevant agenda items throughout the meeting.

3.6 Reports of the IPHC Scientific Review Board

15. The Commission **NOTED** the Reports of the 20th and 21st Sessions of the IPHC Scientific Review Board (SRB020 - IPHC-2022-SRB020-R; SRB021 - IPHC-2022-SRB021-R) which were presented by the Chairperson, Dr Sean Cox (Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada).

16. The Commission **NOTED** the ongoing recruitment process for at least one additional SRB member by the IPHC Secretariat, and the intention to involve the SRB Chairperson in reviewing those candidates for selection.

17. The Commission **CONSIDERED** the recommendations made by the SRB in 2022 and **AGREED** to take them into consideration when deliberating on relevant agenda items throughout the meeting.

18. The Commission **NOTED** minor differences in the FISS in terms of catchability between fixed and snap gear, and highlighted the importance of having FISS data.

4. FISHERY MONITORING

4.1 Fishery-dependent data overview (2022)

19. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2023-AM099-07 Rev_1 that provided an overview of the key fisheries data regarding Pacific halibut removals from fisheries catching Pacific halibut during 2022, including the status of landings compared to fishery limits implemented by the Contracting Parties to the Commission.

4.2 Fishery-independent data overview (2022)

4.2.1 IPHC Fishery-Independent Setline Survey (FISS) design and implementation in 2022

20. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2022-AM099-08 which provided an overview of the IPHC's FISS design and implementation in 2022.

21. The Commission **RECALLED** that the IPHC's FISS consists of a standard grid totalling 1,890 stations (Fig. 1), within the prescribed depth range of 18 to 732 metres (10 to 400 fathoms).

22. At the 97th Session of the IPHC Interim Meeting (IM097), the Commission recommended a FISS design for 2022 that included 1,188 stations coastwide (Fig. 2). The design comprised sampling of subareas within IPHC Regulatory Areas 2A, 2B, 3A, 3B, 4A, 4B, and 4CDE and was intended to reduce potential bias (relative to historical observed changes year-to-year) and to achieve a level of precision comparable to or better than recent setline surveys. Sampling in 2022 in IPHC Regulatory Areas 2C included random subsampling from the full FISS design (full coastwide sampling grid Fig. 1) in IPHC charter region Ketchikan while sampling in IPHC charter regions Ommaney & Sitka included 100% of the full FISS design.

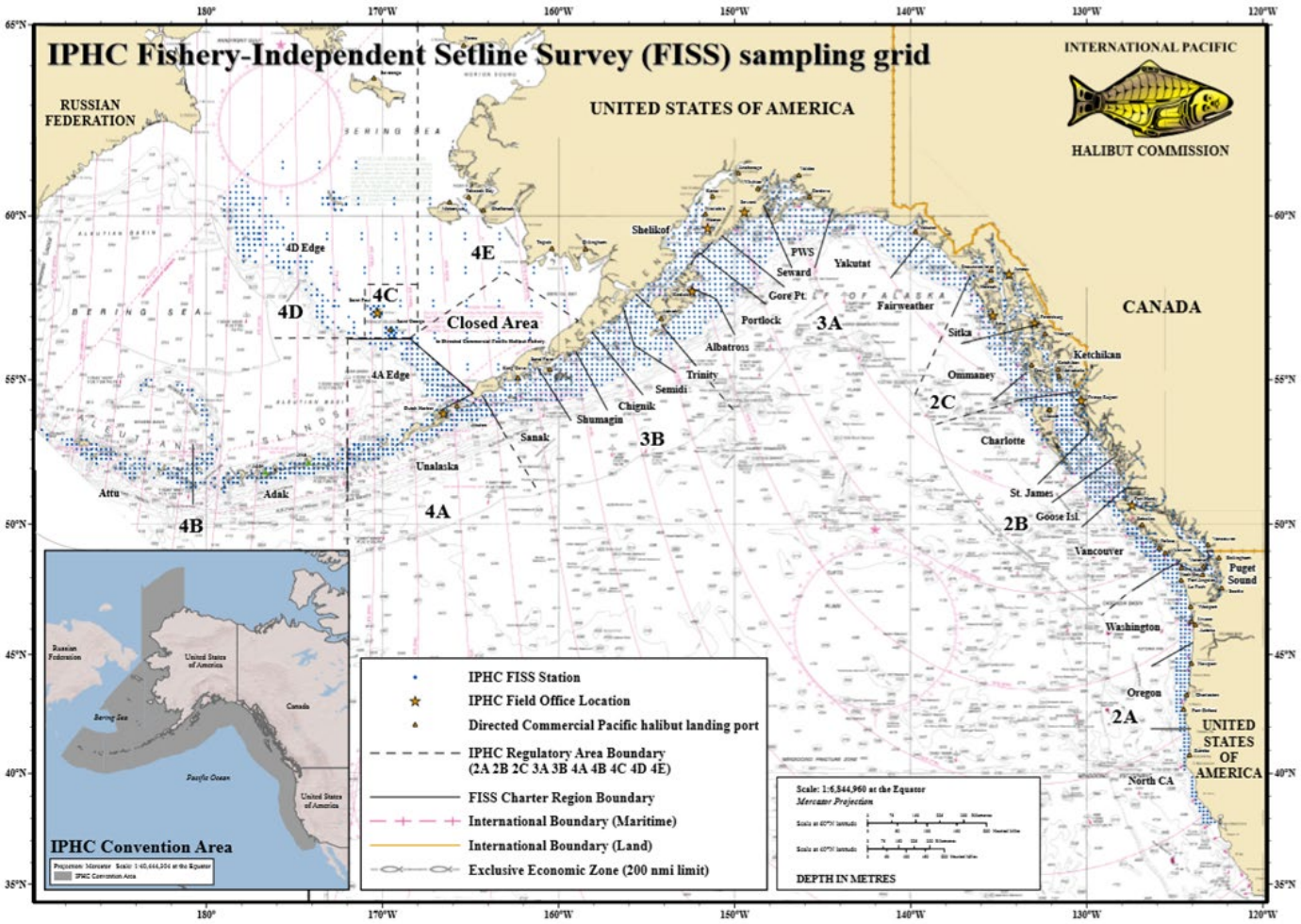


Figure 1. IPHC Fishery-Independent Setline Survey (FISS) with full sampling grid shown.

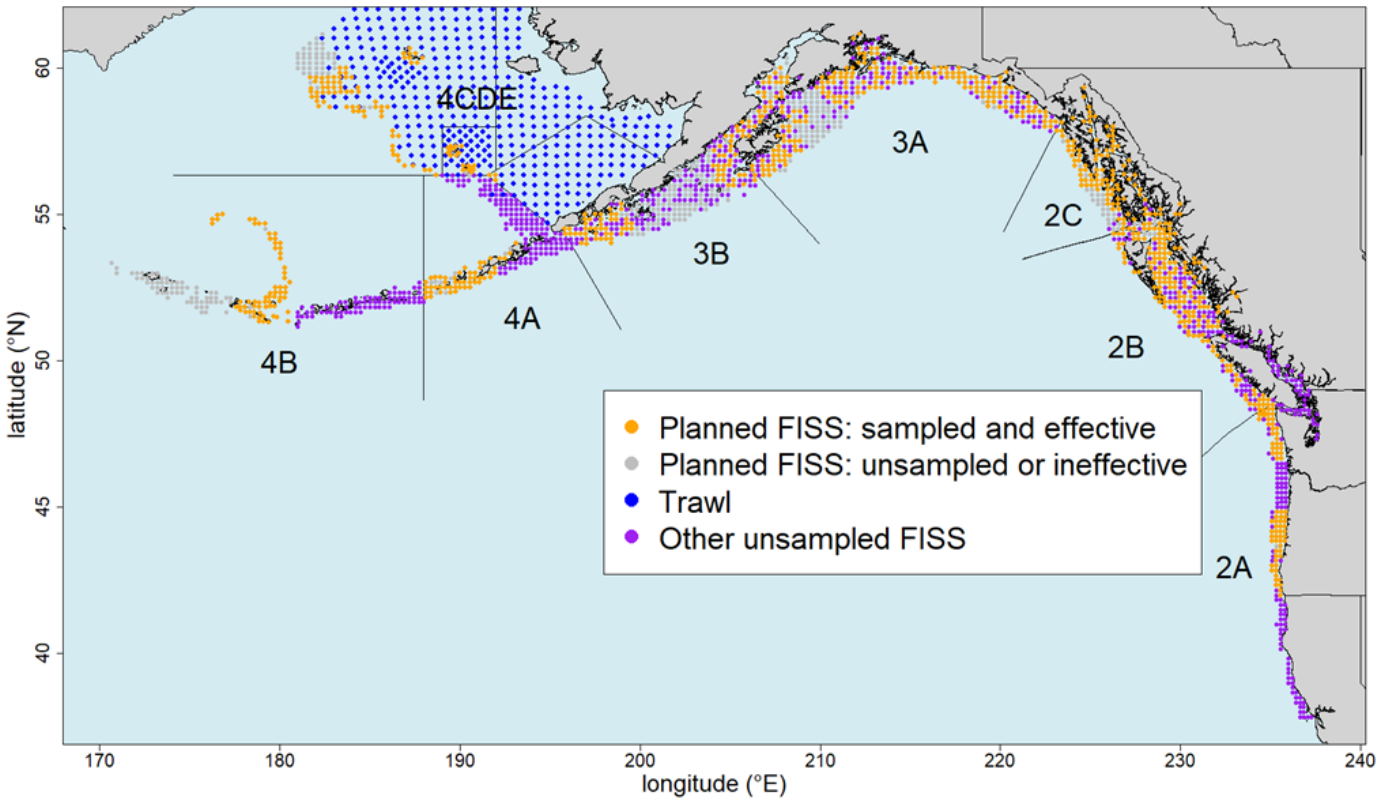


Figure 2. Map of the 2022 FISS design endorsed by the Commission on 1 December 2021 (IPHC-2021-IM097-R) and implemented/sampled in 2022. Purple circles were not planned to be sampled in 2022.

23. The Commission **NOTED** that as in previous years, legal-sized (O32) Pacific halibut caught on FISS stations were sacrificed to obtain biological data and thereafter, were retained and sold. In addition, beginning in 2020, sub-legal (U32) Pacific halibut that were caught and randomly selected for otolith sampling were also retained and sold. This helps to offset costs of the FISS. FISS vessels also retained for sale incidentally captured rockfish (*Sebastes* spp.) and Pacific cod (*Gadus macrocephalus*). These species were retained because they rarely survive the barotrauma resulting from capture. Most vessel contracts provided the vessel a lump sum payment, along with a 10% share of the Pacific halibut proceeds and a 50% share of the incidental catch proceeds.

24. The Commission **NOTED** that the interactive views of the 2022 FISS results (including all prior years) were made publicly available via the IPHC website on 31 October 2022: https://www.iphc.int/data/setline-survey-catch-per-unit-effort.

25. The Commission **NOTED** that:

    a) a total of 289 initially planned stations were not sampled in 2022. There were challenges with vessel recruitment this season due to 1) increased sablefish quota availability; 2) several vessels transitioning to snap-gear; 3) vessel maintenance; and 4) challenges with vessel crew recruitment;

    b) due to the challenges with vessel recruitment, the following stations within IPHC charter regions were not sampled: Gore Point (35 stations), Semidi (27 stations), Chignik (35 stations), Shumagin (26 stations), and 4CDE North (40 stations), Attu (61 stations), Portlock (27 stations), Shelikof (9 stations), Ketchikan (12 stations) and Ommaney (12 stations);

    c) two (2) stations in Sitka were unsampled as they were within Glacier Bay National Park and NOAA did not permit to complete these stations within the park this year;

d) two (2) stations in Yakutat were unsampled due to the presence of sea ice restricting the vessel's access, and one (1) station in Unalaska was un-sampled due to poor weather and tides.

26. The Commission **NOTED** that coastwide, forty-five (45) stations were deemed ineffective due to Orca depredation (n=16), Sperm whale depredation (n=15), gear soak time (n=4), shark predation (n=1), sand flea activity (n=1), station moved > 3nmi (n=1), and setting and gear issues (n=7).

27. The Commission **NOTED** that while ineffective stations due to whale predation have increased over the last number of years, the criteria for which to identify a station as being impacted by whale predation has evolved over time and has likely contributed to the observed increase.

5. STOCK STATUS OF PACIFIC HALIBUT (2022) AND HARVEST DECISION TABLE (2023)

5.1 Space-time modelling of survey data

28. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2023-AM099-09 that provided the results of the space-time modelling of Pacific halibut survey data for the period 1993-2022.

29. The Commission **NOTED** Figure 3 that shows the time series estimates of O32 weight per unit effort (WPUE) (most comparable to fishery catch-rates) over the 1993-2022 period included in the 2022 space-time modelling. Overall, there was an estimated coastwide decline of 18% for the O32 WPUE index from 2021, due largely to decreases in the indices in Region 3, with Regions 2 and 4 also contributing.

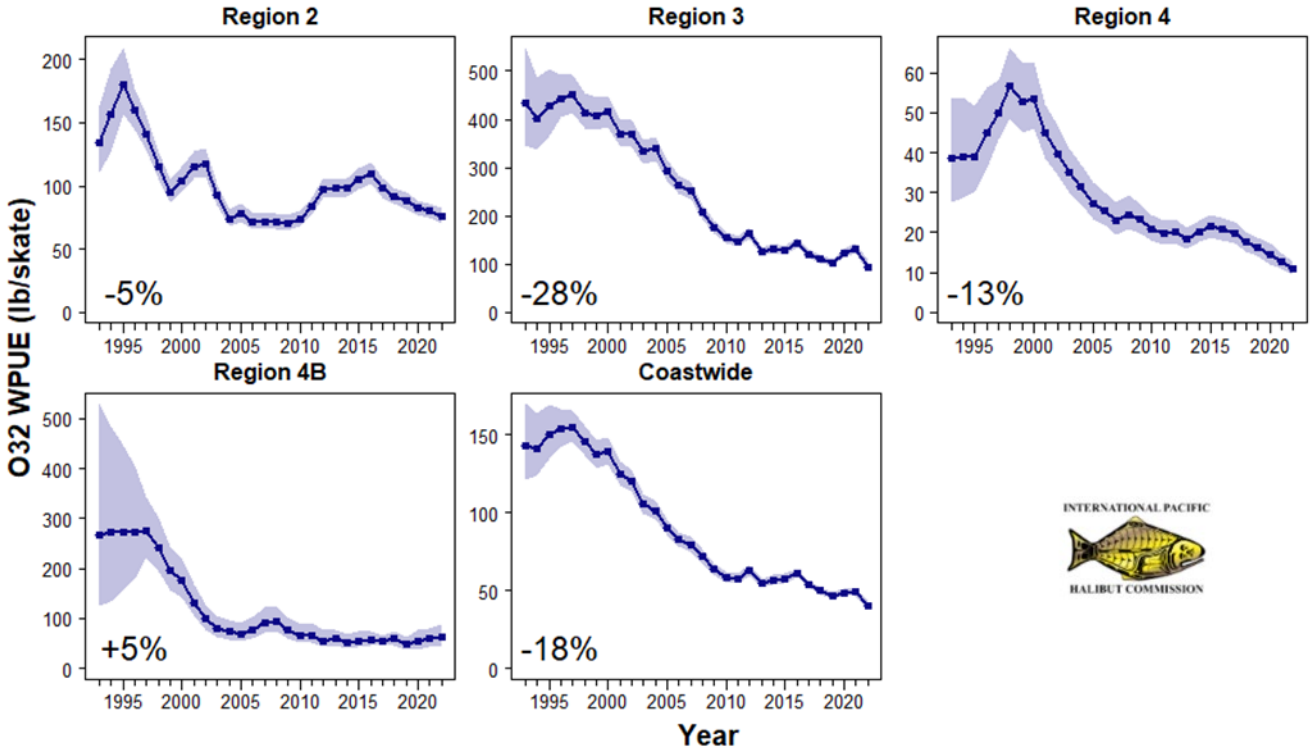
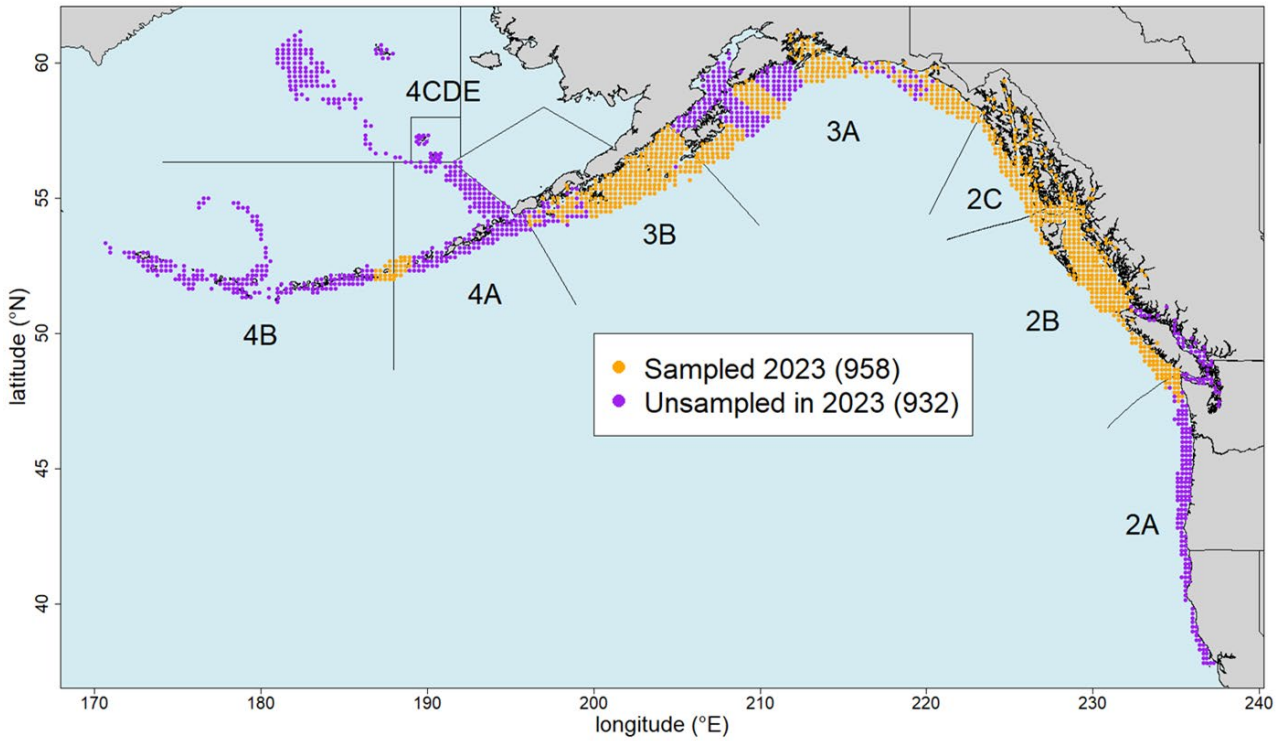


Figure 3. Space-time model output for O32 WPUE for 1993-2022 for Biological Regions. Filled circles denote the posterior means of O32 WPUE for each year. Shaded regions show posterior 95% credible intervals, which provide a measure of uncertainty: the wider the shaded interval, the greater the uncertainty in the estimate. Numeric values in the lower left-hand corners are estimates of the change in mean O32 WPUE from 2021 to 2022.

5.2 2023-25 FISS design evaluation

30. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2023-AM099-10 which provided the designs for the IPHC's Fishery-Independent Setline Survey (FISS) for the 2023-25 period, as reviewed by the Scientific Review Board (SRB) in 2022, and endorsed at IM098:

> IPHC-2022-IM098-R, para. 31: "*The Commission ENDORSED an optimized design for the 2023 FISS as provided at Appendix IV, that balances the Commission's primary and secondary objectives for the FISS. As with all years, the Commission will have an additional opportunity to modify the 2023 FISS design at AM099.*"



IPHC-2022-IM098-R, Appendix IV: Map of the 2022 FISS design endorsed by the Commission on 1 December 2021. Purple circles were not sampled in 2022.

31. The Commission **RECALLED** that the primary purpose of the annual FISS is to sample Pacific halibut and provide data for the stock assessment (abundance indices, biological data) and estimates of stock distribution for use in the IPHC's management procedure. The priority of the current rationalised FISS is therefore to maintain or enhance data quality (precision and bias) by establishing baseline sampling requirements in terms of station count, station distribution and skates per station. Potential considerations that could add to or modify the design are logistics and cost (secondary design layer), and FISS removals (impact on the stock), data collection assistance for other agencies, and IPHC policies (tertiary design layer). These priorities are outlined in Table 1.

32. The Commission **RECALLED** that the addition of stations beyond those required to meet minimum bias and maximum variance targets, whether for logistical or revenue/expense purposes, also provide a scientific benefit in the current year and in subsequent years in the form of increased precision, reduced potential for bias and increased biological sampling.

33. The Commission **NOTED** that the 2022 coastwide coefficient of variation (CV) is under 5% for O32 and for the all sizes WPUE indices, and at 5% for the all-sizes number per unit effort (NPUE) index.

34. The Commission **NOTED** that any changes to the type or size of bait used on the FISS would require a bait comparison study to understand the effect of any bait changes on catch rates and biological parameters (e.g. size and age distribution) of Pacific halibut, along with the effect on catch rates of non-target species.

A 2012 bait comparison study found differences in catch rates among bait types that varied across IPHC Regulatory Areas. Changes in FISS bait have the potential to impact estimates of stock trends and distribution, along with biological inputs to the stock assessment, and it is therefore essential to have data that allow us to understand and estimate these impacts.

35. The Commission **REQUESTED** a desktop review to determine if reducing bait size on the FISS would substantially reduce costs, while not reducing catch rates and associated fish sale revenue to any large degree.

36. The Commission **NOTED** that the full Bering Sea FISS design in conjunction with domestic agency trawl survey stations provide comprehensive spatial coverage of Pacific halibut habitat in the Bering Sea. As such, these surveys together provide an effective tool for monitoring changes in Pacific halibut distribution in USA waters in the Bering due to the impacts of climate change.

37. The Commission **NOTED** stakeholder concerns that the current full FISS design in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A does not effectively sample all Pacific halibut habitat. Similar concerns were addressed in 2017-18 through the implementation of a densified FISS grid off the north Washington coast, and that other such scientifically-sound FISS design changes can be made at the direction of the Commission.

38. The Commission **NOTED** that:

    a) the choice of numbers of skates per station is made to help ensure that the secondary objective of long-term revenue neutrality is met, and accounts for differences in cost due to the relationship between number of skates and number of stations that can be fished per day;

    b) a low proportion of FISS stations are ineffective due to whale depredation, and the effect of this loss of data on the variance of estimates is minor;

    c) a <15% target range for the CV at the IPHC Regulatory Area level of WPUE and NPUE indices was chosen in order to maintain the precision of the estimated indices within historical levels. CVs are lower than 10% within IPHC Regulatory Areas 2B, 2C, 3A, 3B, and 4CDE, but the sampling required to decrease the CV further in other IPHC Regulatory Areas would present considerable logistical challenges.

Table 1. Prioritization of FISS objectives and corresponding design layers.

Priority	Objective	Design Layer
Primary	Sample Pacific halibut for stock assessment and stock distribution estimation.	Minimum sampling requirements in terms of: • Station distribution; • Station count; • Skates per station.
Secondary	Long-term revenue neutrality.	Logistics and cost: operational feasibility and cost/revenue neutrality.
Tertiary	Minimize removals, and assist others where feasible on a cost-recovery basis.	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.

39. The Commission **NOTED** that the IPHC Secretariat will consider adding the charter region of Portlock, back into the 2023 FISS should in-season revenue conditions and vessel availability allow. Similarly, should in-season conditions be favourable, then the IPHC Secretariat will propose to the Commission for decision, any increase in the FISS station count in Regulatory Areas 4A, 4B, and 2A.

40. The Commission **NOTED** the United States' interest in ensuring all IPHC Regulatory Areas would have some level of sampling, and **NOTED** the United States' intent to provide additional funding to finance stations in Regulatory Areas 4A, 4B and 2A, totalling approximately US$114,000, if needed.

Cost and revenue

41. The Commission **RECALLED** that FISS design projections for 2023 are based on a 5% decline in catch rates and a 5% decline in price relative to 2022.

42. The Commission **NOTED** that:

    a) the estimated revenue figures should be considered with a +/- of ~US$500,000 given stock abundance and price uncertainty;

    b) the Secretariat will continue to target long-term revenue neutrality for the FISS unless an alternative direction is provided by the Commission. Given low biomass and increasing operating costs, a more precautionary design to minimize FISS costs within the bounds of the survey objectives is desirable for 2023;

    c) providing the SRB with revenue neutral designs for consideration at their June and September meetings would be challenging, given current year FISS costs and revenue are still being determined in September and October of each year. Efforts would be made however to provide very approximate calculations of in-season calculations at the SRB June and September meetings;

    d) the FISS is facing increasing cost and logistical challenges, and consideration is being given to rethinking how the FISS is designed and implemented. This may include consideration of the need for annually updated data for stock assessment input and stock distribution estimation, standardization amendments (e.g. incorporation of snap-gear, modification of number of skates, implementation of electronic monitoring in lieu of at-sea technicians, etc.), and the implications for management of any such design changes; and

    e) the Secretariat will continue to meet with FISS stakeholders to discuss potential amendments to the FISS to help reduce financial and logistical challenges.

43. The Commission **ACKNOWLEDGED** that supplementary funding may be needed to sustain the FISS moving forward if no changes are made to the FISS design and implementation, whether it be from external bodies or from the Contracting Parties.

44. The Commission **REQUESTED** that the Secretariat provide a breakdown of costs associated with the FISS over the last three (3) years and what is projected for the 2023 FISS, and for this to be presented at the 13th Special Session of the Commission (SS013).

2023 FISS bid specifications and tenders

45. The Commission **NOTED** that the IPHC Secretariat is currently soliciting tenders for the 2023 FISS (with tenders due on 3 February 2023), and that tender specifications incorporate standard wording for amendments that the Commission may make at any time prior to the FISS season commencing. The Secretariat is welcoming bids from both fixed-gear and snap-gear vessels with the goal of soliciting more tenders and sample all stations being proposed in the endorsed FISS design for 2023. The tender process follows standard U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) guidelines, and is available on the IPHC website for transparency and accountability purposes.

46. The Commission **NOTED** that the endorsed FISS design for 2023 may undergo further modification depending on the outcome of the 2023 request for tender process, as well as any unforeseen in-season logistical issues that IPHC contracted vessels encounter throughout 2023 (e.g. weather, mechanical).

5.3 Stock Assessment: Data overview and stock assessment (2022), and harvest decision table (2023)

47. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2023-AM099-11, which provided the Commission with a summary of data, stock assessment, and short-term (i.e. three (3) years) harvest decision table at the end of 2022.

48. The Commission **NOTED** that:

    a) the 2022 assessment represents a full analysis, following the previous full assessment conducted in 2019, updated in 2020 and updated again in 2021;

    b) the 2022 directed commercial fishery and FISS both encountered the highest proportion of fish at age 10, corresponding to the 2012 year-class and representing a clear transition from older fish observed in previous years;

    c) the 2012 year class is only estimated to be 29% mature in 2022 and appears to show a more spatially and temporally variable distribution than older year classes on which recent fisheries have relied;

    d) although size-at-age remains low for the oldest Pacific halibut it is increasing for fish up to approximately age 14;

    e) the current estimate of the 2012 year-class is slightly lower than that of the 2005 year class, with a very low estimated 2013 cohort and little information to provide a precise estimate of 2014 and subsequent year classes;

49. The Commission **NOTED** that a recent change in the Secretariat's treatment of the natural mortality rate, from the previously assumed value of 0.15 to an estimated value of to 0.21 in the short Areas-As-Fleets model, and its effect on the full ensemble, resulted in lower historical estimates of fishing intensity, including an estimate of F51% for 2022 compared to F43% estimated last year.

50. The Commission **NOTED** the following scientific advice from the IPHC Secretariat (table and figure references are those in paper IPHC-2023-AM099-11):

    *a) "**Sources of mortality**: In 2022, total Pacific mortality due to fishing increased to 39.69 million pounds (18,003 t), above the 5-year average of 38.10 million pounds (17,284 t). Of that total, 85% comprised the retained catch (Table 2), down from 87% in 2021.*

    *b) **Fishing intensity**: The 2022 fishing mortality corresponded to a point estimate of Spawning Potential Ratio (SPR) = 51%; there is a 27% chance that fishing intensity exceeded the IPHC's current reference level of F43% (Table 2). The Commission does not currently have a coastwide fishing intensity limit reference point.*

    *c) **Stock status (spawning biomass)**: Current (beginning of 2023) female spawning biomass is estimated to be 192 million pounds (87,058 t), which corresponds to an 25% chance of being below the IPHC trigger reference point of SB30%, and less than a 1% chance of being below the IPHC limit reference point of SB20%. The stock is estimated to have declined by 16% since 2016 but is currently at 42% of the unfished state. Therefore, the stock is considered to be 'not overfished'. Projections indicate that mortality consistent with the interim management procedure reference fishing intensity (F43%) is very likely to result in further declining biomass levels in the near future.*

    *d) **Stock distribution**: After increases in 2020-2021, the proportion of the coastwide stock represented by Biological Region 3 has decreased sharply in 2022, (Figure 6, Table 1). This trend occurs in tandem with increases in Biological Regions 2, 4 and 4B; however, all regions remain within the historical range observed from 1993-2021."*

51. The Commission **NOTED** the following outlook for the stock provided by the IPHC Secretariat:

> *"**Outlook.** The projections for this assessment are much more optimistic than those from recent assessments due to the increase in the estimated productivity of the stock resulting from 3/4 rather than 2/4 models estimating natural mortality at much higher values than the historical fixed assumption of 0.15. Further, the trend in spawning biomass is estimated to have stabilized as the 2012 year-class continues to mature. This translates to a lower probability of stock decline at higher yields for 2023 than in recent assessments as well as a decrease in this probability through 2024-26. There is greater than a 50% probability of stock decline in 2024 (53-86/100) for all yields greater than the status quo, including the entire range of SPR values from 40-46%. The 2023 "3-year surplus" alternative, corresponds to a TCEY of 43.0 million pounds 19,504 t), and a projected SPR of 48% (credible interval 28-62%;* **[Table 2, Figure 4]**. *At the reference level (a projected SPR of 43%), the probability of spawning biomass decline from 2023 to 2024 is 75%, decreasing to 71% in three years. The one-year risk of the stock dropping below SB30% is 25% across all alternatives."*

52. The Commission **NOTED** that despite these optimistic projections, some additional risks are not incorporated into the assessment projections, as noted in paragraphs 54 and 55 below, indicating reasons for applying a precautionary approach in interpreting the assessment projections.

53. The Commission **NOTED** there is a less than 50% probability that the stock will decline in 2023 from status quo.

54. The Commission **NOTED** that fisheries will rely heavily on a single (2012) year class in the near-term and that FISS and commercial fishery catch rates were at the lowest values in 30 years.

55. The Commission **NOTED** that stock projections were conducted using the integrated results from the stock assessment ensemble in tandem with summaries of the 2022 directed and non-directed fisheries. The harvest decision table (Table 3) provides a comparison of the relative risk (in times out of 100), using stock and fishery metrics (rows), against a range of alternative harvest levels for 2023 (columns). The block of rows entitled "Stock Trend" provides for evaluation of the risks to short-term trend in spawning biomass, independent of all harvest policy calculations. The remaining rows portray risks relative to the spawning biomass reference points ("Stock Status") and fishery performance relative to the approach identified in the interim management procedure. The alternatives (columns) include several levels of mortality intended for evaluation of stock and management procedure dynamics.

Table 2. Harvest decision table for 2023 mortality limits. Columns correspond to yield alternatives and rows to risk metrics. Values in the table represent the probability, in "times out of 100" (or percent chance) of a particular risk.

2023 Alternative					*Status quo -18%*	*Status quo -15%*	*Status quo -10%*	*Status quo*	3-Year Surplus				*Reference* $F_{43\%}$				
Total mortality (M lb)			0.0	31.3	35.1	36.4	38.4	42.5	44.3	48.1	49.8	51.5	53.3	55.1	57.1	59.1	61.3	
TCEY (M lb)			0.0	30.0	33.8	35.0	37.1	41.2	43.0	46.8	48.4	50.2	52.0	53.8	55.8	57.8	60.0	
2023 fishing intensity			$F_{100\%}$	$F_{59\%}$	$F_{55\%}$	$F_{54\%}$	$F_{53\%}$	$F_{50\%}$	$F_{48\%}$	$F_{46\%}$	$F_{45\%}$	$F_{44\%}$	$F_{43\%}$	$F_{42\%}$	$F_{41\%}$	$F_{40\%}$	$F_{39\%}$	
Fishing intensity interval			–	37-71%	34-68%	33-67%	32-66%	29-63%	28-62%	26-59%	25-59%	24-58%	24-57%	23-56%	22-55%	21-54%	21-53%	
Stock Trend (spawning biomass)	In 2024	Is less than 2023	<1	20	29	32	38	49	53	63	67	71	75	79	83	86	89	a
		Is 5% less than 2023	<1	2	4	5	7	13	15	22	25	28	31	35	39	43	47	b
	In 2025	Is less than 2023	<1	18	27	30	35	46	50	60	64	68	72	76	80	83	87	c
		Is 5% less than 2023	<1	6	11	13	16	24	28	36	40	44	48	52	57	62	67	d
	In 2026	Is less than 2023	<1	20	28	31	36	46	50	60	63	67	71	75	79	82	85	e
		Is 5% less than 2023	<1	10	16	18	22	31	35	43	47	51	55	59	64	68	72	f
Stock Status (Spawning biomass)	In 2024	Is less than 30%	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	g
		Is less than 20%	<1	<1	<1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	3	3	h
	In 2025	Is less than 30%	18	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	i
		Is less than 20%	<1	<1	1	1	1	1	2	3	3	4	4	5	6	6	7	j
	In 2026	Is less than 30%	6	23	24	24	24	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	k
		Is less than 20%	<1	<1	1	1	1	2	3	4	5	6	6	7	9	10	11	l
Fishery Trend (TCEY)	In 2024	Is less than 2023	0	17	24	24	25	28	31	38	41	45	50	55	59	64	69	m
		Is 10% less than 2023	0	11	20	22	24	26	27	32	35	38	42	46	51	55	60	n
	In 2025	Is less than 2023	0	15	22	24	25	28	30	37	41	45	50	55	60	66	71	o
		Is 10% less than 2023	0	11	19	21	23	26	27	32	35	38	42	47	52	57	62	p
	In 2026	Is less than 2023	0	14	21	23	24	28	30	37	41	46	51	56	62	67	72	q
		Is 10% less than 2023	0	10	18	20	22	25	27	32	35	39	43	48	53	58	64	r
Fishery Status (Fishing intensity)	In 2023	Is above $F_{43\%}$	0	19	24	25	26	29	31	38	42	46	50	54	59	63	68	s

Terms: *Constant Exploitation Yield (CEY)*: A specific concept from the IPHC's interim management procedure: the Total CEY (TCEY) is the current basis for Commission mortality limits. TCEY includes all sources and sizes of mortality, except discard mortality in non-directed fisheries less than 26 inches in length (66cm; U26). The Fishery CEY (FCEY) is the amount of yield for directed Pacific halibut fisheries as defined by IPHC Regulatory Area-specific catch agreements, where applicable. *Spawning Potential Ratio (SPR)*: A commonly used metric of fishing intensity. SPR is the ratio of the equilibrium spawning biomass per recruit given some level of fishing and the equilibrium spawning biomass per recruit in the absence of fishing. Sometimes referred to as SBR, relative Spawning Biomass per Recruit.

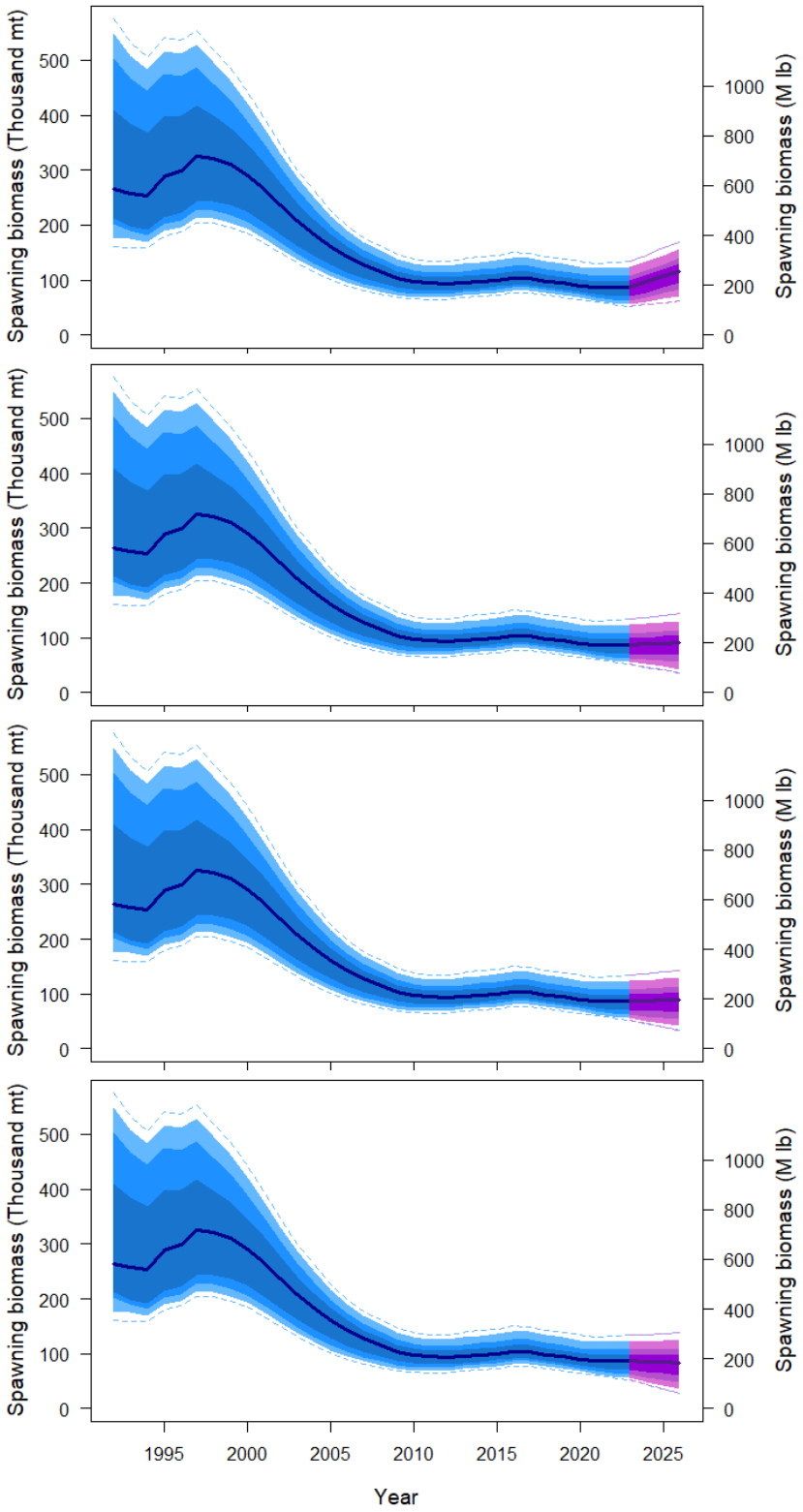


Figure 4. Three-year projections of stock trend under alternative levels of mortality: no fishing mortality (upper panel), the status quo TCEY set in 2022 of 41.2 million pounds, 18,697 t; second panel), the three (3)-year surplus (a TCEY of 43.0 million pounds, 19,504 t; third panel), and the TCEY projected for the IPHC's interim management procedure (52.0 million pounds, 23,564 t; lower panel).

56. The Commission **NOTED** that there are additional risks associated with the stock condition and mortality limit considerations for 2023 that are not quantitatively captured in the decision table, these include:

    a) Historically low observed fishery catch rates corresponding to reduced efficiency/performance in 2022;

    b) Due to the low recruitments that occurred from 2006-11 (the lowest observed since the 1960s), current and near-term projected spawning biomass relies heavily on the maturity a single cohort from 2012, and therefore any deviation from the maturity schedule (as it is currently understood), could result in an unknown degree of bias in the estimated spawning biomass;

    c) Ecosystem conditions continue to show elevated variability and therefore correspond to greater uncertainty in potential effects on Pacific halibut dynamics;

    d) The future effects of climate change on Pacific halibut.

5.4 Pacific halibut mortality projections using the IPHC mortality projection tool (2023)

57. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2023-AM099-INF02 which provided an updated description of the IPHC's web-based mortality projection tool (https://www.iphc.int/data/projection-tool) for setting mortality limits in 2023. This tool provides all user groups the ability to create alternative projection tables as necessary for discussion and decision-making.

58. The Commission **NOTED** that the mortality projection tool for 2023 does not include default values predetermined by the previous interim management procedure. The previous interim management procedure was in place only through the 2022 mortality limits.

59. The Commission **NOTED** that the reference projection results (corresponding to F43%) resulted in a 2023 TCEY of 51.95 million lbs (Table 3). This represents an increase from the reference level calculated for 2022 based on the 2021 stock assessment (41.22 million pounds). The increase in the reference TCEY largely reflects the improved (and higher) estimate of natural mortality in the 2022 stock assessment, and to a lesser degree the continued maturation of the 2012 year-class.

60. The Commission **NOTED** that the 3-year surplus, mainly reflecting the recruitment strength of the 2012 year class and size at age, increased from the 2022 estimate of 38.0 million pounds to 43.0 million pounds for 2023 (Table 2).

Table 3. Comparison of TCEY values (Mlbs) from 2020 to those projected for 2023. The reported SPR value represents the estimate at the time of adoption.

	Total
2020 Reference (SPR=46%)	31.90
2020 Adopted (SPR=42%)	36.60
2021 Reference (SPR=43%)	39.00
2021 Adopted (SPR=43%)	39.00
2022 Reference (SPR=43%)	41.22
2022 Adopted (SPR=43%)	41.22
2023 Reference (SPR=43%)[1]	51.95
2023 Adopted (SPR=53%)	36.97

[1] There was no interim management procedure in place for distribution of the coastwide TCEY for 2023.

61. The Commission **REQUESTED** a table be prepared annually that details the historical TCEY decisions, that is currently published on the IPHC website [https://www.iphc.int/uploads/data/time-series-datasets/excel/iphc-2023-tsd-017.xlsx]

62. The Commission **RECALLED** that the Pacific halibut mortality projections for 2023 continue to be based on the three-year average non-directed discard estimates ('bycatch') as adjusting directed fishery limits to

account for full regulatory attainment of non-directed discards in the U.S.A. and Canada would result in substantially reduced directed fishery opportunity (as reported in the mortality projection tool).

6. IPHC SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

6.1 Report on current and future biological and ecosystem science research activities

63. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2023-AM099-12 that provided a description of the biological and ecosystem science research projects conducted and planned by the IPHC Secretariat and contemplated within the IPHC's Five-year Program of Integrated Research and Monitoring (2022-2026).

64. The Commission **NOTED** that the primary biological research activities at IPHC that follow Commission objectives are identified and described in the IPHC Five-Year Program of Integrated Research and Monitoring (2022-2026). These activities are summarized in five broad research areas designed to provide inputs into stock assessment (SA) and the management strategy evaluation (MSE) processes, as follows:

    a) **Migration and Population Dynamics**. Studies are aimed at improving current knowledge of Pacific halibut migration and population dynamics throughout all life stages in order to achieve a complete understanding of stock structure and distribution across the entire distribution range of Pacific halibut in the North Pacific Ocean and the biotic and abiotic factors that influence it.

    b) **Reproduction**. Studies are aimed at providing information on the sex ratio of the commercial catch and to improve current estimates of maturity and fecundity.

    c) **Growth**. Studies are aimed at describing the role of factors responsible for the observed changes in size-at-age and at evaluating growth and physiological condition in Pacific halibut.

    d) **Mortality and Survival Assessment**. Studies are aimed at providing updated estimates of discard mortality rates in the guided recreational fisheries and at evaluating methods for reducing mortality of Pacific halibut.

    e) **Fishing Technology**. Studies are aimed at developing methods that involve modifications of fishing gear with the purpose of reducing Pacific halibut mortality due to depredation and bycatch.

65. The Commission **NOTED** that there are aspects of biological and ecosystem research that the Secretariat does not have the resources to complete internally, and thus, a broad range of collaborative efforts have been, and will be employed to support Commission decision making needs.

66. The Commission **REQUESTED** that the Secretariat provide a summary of the proposed and ongoing research projects at the Secretariat, including status updates, suggestions for potential priority setting by the Commission, links to the IPHC's mandate and how the research will inform decision-making, guidance on types of research that should be considered for internal funding versus types of research that would be contingent on the availability of external funding or partnerships, among other criteria that may be requested by the Commission.

67. The Commission **REQUESTED** that the Secretariat highlight the elements of its 5YRPIRM (the Plan) that will inform its understanding of the impacts of climate change on Pacific halibut in its annual presentations of the research Plan to the Commission.

7. MANAGEMENT STRATEGY EVALUATION

7.1 Report of the 17th Session of the IPHC Management Strategy Advisory Board (MSAB017)

68. The Commission **NOTED** the Report of the 17th Session of the IPHC Management Strategy Advisory Board (IPHC-2022-MSAB-017-R) which were presented by the Co-Chairpersons, Mr Adam Keizer (Canada) and Mr Pete Hulson (USA).

69. The Commission **AGREED** that the Management Strategy Evaluation process and the Management Strategy Advisory Board continue to support the Commission's management of the stock and fishery by providing the means to define fishery objectives and evaluate the performance of management measures against these objectives. The two Contracting Parties have reviewed MSAB membership with the intention of ensuring that the MSAB represents the diversity of interests and remains at a manageable size.
70. The Commission **AGREED** that term appointments can continue to be renewed without limit at the discretion of the Commissioners.
71. The Commission **AGREED** that current MSAB membership terms which expired on 31 December 2022 should be renewed for up to four (4) years to facilitate staggered term expiry among members.
72. The Commission **NOTED** that there are vacancies within the current membership, and **AGREED** that there will not be active solicitations to fill these vacancies. The MSAB process remains open to observers, including to people who may be interested in applying for an appointment to the MSAB at a later date.
73. The Commissioners **AGREED** that the IPHC Secretariat should continue to support the implementation of hybrid meetings which would facilitate in-person and remote participation for MSAB members and observers and help control meeting costs.
74. The Commission **AGREED** that a MSAB meeting should take place before the June SRB meeting in 2023 to discuss objectives, performance metrics, multi-year management procedures, dissemination of information to constituents, and methods for evaluation and presentation to the Commission. Noting budgetary constraints in FY2023, this meeting may be electronic.

7.2 IPHC Management Strategy Evaluation: update

75. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2023-AM099-13 that provided results of the Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) simulations of size limit and multi-year stock assessment Management Procedures (MPs), and to request decisions from the Commission on the Objectives, Performance Metrics, and MPs.
76. The Commission **RECOMMENDED** that for the purpose of a comprehensive and intelligible Harvest Strategy Policy (HSP), four coastwide objectives should be documented within the HSP, in priority order:
    a) Maintain the long-term coastwide female spawning stock biomass above a biomass limit reference point (B20%) at least 95% of the time.
    b) Maintain the long-term coastwide female spawning stock biomass at or above a biomass reference point (B36%) 50% or more of the time.
    c) Optimise average coastwide TCEY.
    d) Limit annual changes in the coastwide TCEY.
77. The Commission **AGREED** that the performance metrics associated with the objectives in Paragraph 76 are:
    a) P(RSB<20%) Probability that the long-term Relative Spawning Biomass (RSB) is less than the Relative Spawning Biomass Limit, failing if the value is greater than 0.05.
    b) P(RSB<36%): Probability that the long-term RSB is less than the Relative Spawning Biomass Reference Point, failing if the value is greater than 0.50.
    c) Median TCEY: the median of the short-term average TCEY over a ten-year period, where the short-term is 4-14 years in the future.
    d) Median AAV TCEY: the average annual variability of the short-term TCEY determined as the average difference in the TCEY over a ten-year period.

78. The Commission **AGREED** that the HSP objectives should be used to rank management procedures which perform the best, while Regulatory Area-specific performance metrics should inform the deliberations of the MSAB and the Commission. For a management procedure to be a candidate for adoption by the Commission, the procedure must meet the first two HSP objectives (a and b in Paragraph 76), show relatively high median TCEYs, and within that subset, the relatively low median AAV for the TCEY. An adopted management procedure may be identified from the subset of management procedures that are consistent with the HSP and through finer spatial scale evaluation by the MSAB and Commission.

79. The Commission **AGREED** that the MSE process should continue to examine the performance of management procedures at the coastwide, Biological Region and IPHC Regulatory Area level.

80. The Commission **NOTED** the following reduced set of MPs, as presented by the IPHC Secretariat for decision-making at AM099 or for further testing.

    a) **MP-A32:** Annual assessment frequency and a 32-inch size limit for the directed commercial fishery.

    b) **MP-A26:** Annual assessment frequency and a 26-inch size limit for the directed commercial fishery.

    c) **MP-A0:** Annual assessment frequency and no size limit (full retention) for the directed commercial fishery.

    d) **MP-Bb32:** Biennial assessment frequency and a 32-inch size limit for the directed commercial fishery. The coastwide TCEY in non-assessment years is determined from the change in the coastwide O32 FISS index. The distribution of TCEY in all years is calculated using the FISS observations within a defined distribution procedure.

    e) **MP-Tb32:** Triennial assessment frequency and a 32-inch size limit for the directed commercial fishery. The coastwide TCEY in non-assessment years is determined from the change in the coastwide O32 FISS index. The distribution of TCEY in all years is calculated using the FISS observations within a defined distribution procedure.

81. The Commission **NOTED** that:

    a) for all management procedures evaluated, the long-term relative spawning biomass passed both spawning biomass objectives for all MPs and was more often above the target for SPR values ranging between 40% and 46%;

    b) removal of a size limit resulted in a 3.7% increase, on average, for the short-term median coastwide TCEY and a 2.7% increase, on average, for the long-term median coastwide TCEY. A majority of that increase occurs when reducing the size limit for directed commercial fisheries to 26 inches;

    c) without a size limit for the directed commercial fishery, landings of O32 fish would likely decline while U32 landings would likely increase, and the trade-off is dependent on population characteristics such as incoming recruitment and size-at-age;

    d) without a size limit for the directed commercial fishery, short-term coastwide directed commercial fishery discard mortality would decline by, on average, 78%;

    e) for the directed commercial fishery without a size limit to maintain equal value to the fishery with a 32-inch size limit, the price of U32 fish would have to be near one-half the price of O32 fish, on average, and this equal value price ratio would most likely range between zero and one, depending on stock conditions;

    f) a biennial assessment frequency with an empirical rule using FISS observations in non-assessment years shows similar results to an annual assessment;

    g) a triennial assessment frequency with an empirical rule using FISS observations in non-assessment years shows a similar short-term median TCEY along with a significant reduction in inter-annual variability of the TCEY;

h) costs associated with multi-year assessments include 1) lack of detailed management information every year, 2) possibly a loss in long-term yield, and 3) a chance of a smaller stock size. Benefits include 1) reduced inter-annual variability in the TCEY, 2) use of the annual FISS index in a transparent process, 3) more focused assessment research, 4) potential for additional collaboration within the Secretariat, 5) consistency with the three-year cycle of update and full assessments, and 6) following the precedent of other fisheries commissions.

82. The Commission **ACKNOWLEDGED** the significant amount of analysis completed by the IPHC Secretariat to evaluate alternative size limits and the consequences of such a change.

83. The Commission **NOTED** the concerns raised about the potential elimination of the size limit with respect to the potential for high grading and the lower prices anticipated for smaller Pacific halibut.

84. The Commission **AGREED** sufficient analysis has been completed and **RECOMMENDED** not to change the current 32 inch size limit.

85. The Commission **AGREED** that there is utility in continuing to explore multi-year stock assessment management procedures, in a manner consistent with the advice from SRB and MSAB.

86. The Commission **NOTED** that additional work is required to further define, for evaluation, a suite of management procedures related to multi-year assessments that ultimately define the TCEY by IPHC Regulatory Area in non-assessment years. Some specific components include (1) defining a coastwide TCEY and (2) specifying how the coastwide TCEY is determined for each IPHC Regulatory Area (i.e. a distribution procedure to allocate the TCEY). Investigation into the sources of uncertainty that lead to understanding potential TCEY variability and how variability in the TCEY differs in non-assessment and assessment years will be useful.

87. The Commission **AGREED** that following agreement about a distribution procedure, the IPHC Secretariat and MSAB should reassess multi-year stock assessment management procedures, as well as coastwide elements of a management procedure such as the SPR value.

88. **NOTING** paragraph 60 from the 21st Session of the SRB (SRB021), the Commission **REQUESTED** the Secretariat develop a description of options to responding to exceptional circumstances that would trigger a stock assessment in non-assessment years and additional MSE analyses.

> IPHC-2022-SRB021-R, para 60: *The SRB RECOMMENDED that Exceptional Circumstances be defined to determine whether monitoring information has potentially departed from their expected distributions generated by the MSE. Declaration of Exceptional Circumstances may warrant re-opening and revising the operating models and testing procedures used to justify a particular management procedure.*

8. IPHC FISHERY REGULATIONS: PROPOSALS FOR THE 2022-23 PROCESS

8.1 IPHC Secretariat fishery regulation proposals

8.1.1 IPHC Fishery Regulations: Mortality and Fishery Limits (Sect. 5)

89. The Commission **ADOPTED** fishery regulation proposal IPHC-2023-AM099-PropA1, which provides the mortality and fishery limits framework for population at AM099 (Appendix IV). [Unanimous]

90. The Commission **ADOPTED** the distributed mortality limits for each Contracting Party, by IPHC Regulatory Area, (Table 4) and sector, as provided for in Appendix IV. [Unanimous]

91. The Commission **NOTED** that the adopted mortality limits for 2023 are projected to result in a fishing intensity of F53%, representing a reduction from the estimates for 2020 and 2021 of F51%.

92. The Commission **NOTED** that the adopted mortality limits for each Contracting Party represent a 10.3% decrease from 2022.

93. The Commission **NOTED** that Canada's allocation is a 10.3% reduction from the 2022 allocation of 7.56Mlbs and incorporates a 50% U26 adjustment.

94. The Commission **NOTED** that the adopted mortality limits for 2023 correspond to a 38% probability of stock decline through 2024, and a 36% probability of stock decline through 2026.

Table 4. Adopted TCEY mortality limits for 2023

Contracting Party IPHC Regulatory Area	Mortality limit (TCEY) (mlbs)	Mortality limit (TCEY) (metric tonnes)
Canada Total: 2B	**6.78**	**3,075.36**
USA: 2A	1.65	748.43
USA: 2C	5.85	2,653.52
USA: 3A	12.08	5,479.40
USA: 3B	3.67	1,664.68
USA: 4A	1.73	784.71
USA: 4B	1.36	616.89
USA: 4CDE	3.85	1,746.33
United States of America Total	**30.19**	**13,693.95**
Total (IPHC Convention Area)	**36.97**	**16,769.31**

95. The Commission **NOTED** that the FCEY values resulting from the adopted TCEY mortality limits, listed in Appendix IV, are used by the Contracting Parties to determine fishery sector allocations, recognizing that each Contracting Party may implement more restrictive limits. The detailed projections by sector are provided in Table 5.

Table 5. Detailed 2023 projections, by sector, based on the adopted TCEY mortality limits from Table 4 (IPHC Regulatory Area).

	Sector	IPHC Regulatory Area								
		2A	**2B**	**2C**	**3A**	**3B**	**4A**	**4B**	**4CDE**	**Total**
1	**Commercial discards**	0.05	0.18	NA	NA	0.29	0.05	0.01	0.08	0.66
2	**O26 Non-directed discards**	0.08	0.24	0.06	0.39	0.27	0.25	0.13	1.72	3.13
3	**Recreational**	NA	0.04	1.14	1.20	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	2.40
4	**Subsistence**	NA	0.41	0.29	0.18	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.04	0.94
5	**Total non-FCEY**	0.13	0.86	1.49	1.77	0.58	0.32	0.14	1.83	7.13
6	**Commercial discards**	NA	NA	0.15	0.58	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.73
7	**Recreational**	0.62	0.89	0.80	1.89	NA	NA	NA	NA	4.19
8	**Subsistence**	0.02	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.02
9	**Commercial landings**	0.88	5.03	3.41	7.84	3.09	1.41	1.22	2.02	24.90
10	**Total FCEY**	1.52	5.92	4.36	10.31	3.09	1.41	1.22	2.02	29.84
							4C FCEY		*0.90*	
							4D FCEY		*0.90*	
							4E FCEY		*0.22*	
	TCEY	1.65	6.78	5.85	12.08	3.67	1.73	1.36	3.85	36.97
	U26 Non-directed discards	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.24	0.10	0.10	0.01	0.88	1.37
	Total	1.65	6.81	5.85	12.32	3.77	1.83	1.37	4.73	38.34

1st row: Commercial discards include all discard mortality estimated due to the 32" minimum size limit, lost gear, and legal-sized discards associated with quota attainment. Estimates not included in the FCEY due to the IPHC Regulatory Area Catch Sharing Plans/Agreements.
2nd row: Non-directed commercial discards ('bycatch') not included in any IPHC Regulatory Area Catch Sharing Plans/Agreements.
3rd row: Recreational mortality not included in IPHC Regulatory Area Catch Sharing Plans/Agreements, 2B: discards only, 2C and 3A: unguided landings and discard mortality, 3B-4CDE: Recreational landings and discard mortality.
4th row: 2B-4CDE: Includes personal use and subsistence.
5th row: total of rows 1-4.
6th row: 2C and 3A: Commercial discard mortality is included in the Catch Sharing Plans for these areas.
7th row: 2A: All recreational landings and discard mortality, 2B: Recreational landings, 2C and 3A: Guided recreational landings and discard mortality.
8th row: 2A only: Ceremonial and subsistence mortality
10th row: All mortality included in IPHC Regulatory Area Catch Sharing Plans/Agreements.

8.1.2 IPHC Fishery Regulations: Commercial fishing periods (Sect. 9)

96. The Commission **ADOPTED** fishery regulation proposal IPHC-2023-AM099-PropA2, which specified fishing periods for the commercial Pacific halibut fisheries.

Commercial fishing periods

97. The Commission **ADOPTED** fishing periods for 2023 as provided below, thereby superseding the relevant portions of Section 9 of the IPHC Pacific halibut fishery regulations (Appendix V) by specifying that commercial fishing for Pacific halibut in all IPHC Regulatory Areas may begin no earlier than 1200 (noon) local time on 10 March 2023 and must cease at 1200 (noon) local time on 07 December 2023. [Unanimous]

8.1.3 IPHC Fishery Regulations: Fishing Period Limits (Sect. 14) & Licensing Vessels for IPHC Regulatory Area 2A (Sect. 15) – Accommodation of the transition of management in the IPHC Regulatory Area 2A

98. The Commission **ADOPTED** fishery regulation proposal IPHC-2023-AM099-PropA3, to accommodate the transition of management in the IPHC Regulatory Area 2A from the IPHC to the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) and NOAA Fisheries (Appendix VI). [Unanimous]

8.1.4 IPHC Fishery Regulations: minor amendments

99. The Commission **ADOPTED** fishery regulation proposal IPHC-2023-AM099-PropA4_Rev_1, which proposed minor amendments to the existing IPHC Fishery Regulations, improving their clarity and consistency (Appendix VII). [Unanimous]

8.2 Contracting Party fishery regulation proposals

8.2.1 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

100. The Commission **ADOPTED** fishery regulation proposal IPHC-2023-AM099-PropB1, that proposed IPHC Regulation changes for charter recreational Pacific halibut fisheries in IPHC Regulatory Areas 2C and 3A (Appendix VIII), in order to achieve the charter Pacific halibut allocation under the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council's (NPFMC) Pacific halibut Catch Sharing Plan [Unanimous]

8.2.2 IPHC Fishery Regulations: Recreational (Sport) Fishing for Pacific Halibut - IPHC Regulatory Area 2B (Sect. 28) - Daily bag limit in IPHC Regulatory Area 2B

101. The Commission **ADOPTED** fishery regulation proposal IPHC-2023-AM099-PropB2_Rev_1, that proposed IPHC Regulation changes to allow the daily bag limit of up to three fish per day per person in the recreational fishery in IPHC Regulatory Area 2B beginning on or after August 1 of each year until 2025 unless extended by a vote of the Commission (Appendix IX). [Unanimous]

8.2.3 IPHC Fishery Regulations: Recreational (Sport) Fishing for Pacific Halibut - IPHC Regulatory Areas 2C, 3A, 3B, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E (Sect. 29) - Onboard consumption

102. The Commission **ADOPTED** fishery regulation proposal IPHC-2023-AM099-PropB3, that proposed adding flexibility to existing recreational (sport) Pacific halibut fishing regulations in Alaska Regulatory Areas and allow limited consumption of recreationally-caught Pacific halibut on board charter vessels and pleasure craft, while retaining existing regulations that provide effective enforcement of daily bag limits and possession limits (Appendix X). [Unanimous]

8.2.4 IPHC Fishery Regulations: Logs (Sect. 20) – Logs requirements

103. The Commission **ADOPTED** fishery regulation proposal IPHC-2023-AM099-PropB4, that proposed updates to IPHC regulatory language regarding the qualifying logbooks in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A (Appendix XI). [Unanimous]

104. The Commission **RECOMMENDED** that the IPHC work with NOAA Fisheries on data sharing arrangement to retrieve Pacific halibut data submitted via Pacific Coast Groundfish non-trawl logbook.

8.3 Stakeholder fishery regulation proposals

8.3.1 IPHC Fishery Regulations: Recreational (Sport) Fishing for Pacific Halibut - IPHC Regulatory Areas 2C, 3A, 3B, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E (Sect. 29) - Processing Pacific halibut for eating and preservation

105. The Commission **NOTED** fishery regulation proposal IPHC-2023-AM099-PropC1, that proposed amendments to include an exception that allows recreational fishermen in Alaska Regulatory Areas who do not return to port each day to process Pacific halibut for eating and/or preservation, subject to measures to facilitate enforcement of the applicable daily bag limits (Proposal No. 1); or exclude preserved and consumed on board fish from applicable possession limits (Proposal No. 2); or create a narrow exception that allows for limited processing of a single fish per day for consumption only (Proposal No. 3).

8.3.2 IPHC Fishery Regulations: Mortality and Fishery Limits (Sect. 5) - TCEY floor in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A

106. The Commission **NOTED** fishery regulation proposal IPHC-2023-AM099-PropC2, that proposed amendments to include a constant TCEY floor in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A.

107. The Commission **NOTED** that the United States Government recognizes its trust responsibility to the 13 treaty tribes in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A that depend upon Pacific halibut, as such, the U.S.A. Commissioners have consistently supported a TCEY of 1.65Mlb for Regulatory Area 2A since 2019.

108. The Commission **NOTED** the USA Commissioners view that this allocation reflects the needs of IPHC Regulatory Area 2A Pacific halibut users, with minimal impact on the larger Pacific halibut biomass that is distributed to the north, and it remains a small fraction of the IPHC Region 2 allocation.

109. The Commission **NOTED** that the U.S.A. and the treaty tribes recognize that the Commission's foremost obligation is to ensure sustainability of the Pacific halibut resource, and that responding to changes in abundance, particularly when abundance decreases, is necessary to ensure the long-term viability of the stock. Therefore, the U.S.A. Commissioners will continue to consider the need for 1.65Mlb in Regulatory Area 2A via the IPHC decision-making process and in either annual or multi-year agreements between the U.S.A. and Canada, rather than through an absolute allocation that is fixed in regulation.

8.3.3 IPHC Fishery Regulations: Recreational (Sport) Fishing for Pacific Halibut—IPHC Regulatory Areas 2C, 3A, 3B, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E (Sect. 29) - Onboard consumption in IPHC Regulatory Area 2C

110. The Commission **NOTED** fishery regulation proposal IPHC-2023-AM099-PropC3, that proposed adding flexibility to existing recreational (sport) Pacific halibut fishing regulations in IPHC Regulatory Area 2C and allow limited consumption of Pacific halibut on board of unguided recreational vessels.

8.4 Stakeholder statements

111. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2023-AM099-INF01 Rev_2 which provided the Commission with a consolidated document containing comments from stakeholders on IPHC Fishery Regulations or published regulatory proposals submitted to the Commission for its consideration at the 99th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM099).

9. CONTRACTING PARTY NATIONAL REPORTS

9.1 Canada

112. The Commission **NOTED** the Contracting Party report from Canada (IPHC Regulatory Area 2B; IPHC-2023-AM099-NR01).

9.2 United States of America

113. The Commission **NOTED** the Contracting Party report from the United States of America IPHC Regulatory Areas 2A/2C/3/4; IPHC-2023-AM099-NR02 Rev_1).

9.3 National Report topics

114. The Commission **AGREED** to undertake annual discussions at the IPHC Work Meeting of the Commission to identify focal topics it wishes to discuss during the presentation of Contracting Party National Reports at the Annual Meeting, and to confirm those topics by the Interim Meeting.

10. REPORT OF THE 99TH SESSION OF THE IPHC FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (FAC099)

115. The Commission **NOTED** the Report of the 99th Session of the IPHC Finance and Administration Committee (FAC099) (IPHC-2023-FAC099-R) which was presented by Dr David T. Wilson (IPHC Executive Director).

10.1 Financial Statements for FY2022

116. The Commission **NOTED** the Financial Statements for FY2022 (financial period: 1 October 2021 to 30 September 2022), as detailed in paper IPHC-2023-FAC099-04.

10.2 Annual independent auditor's report (FY2022)

117. The Commission **ACCEPTED** the independent external auditors report for FY2022 (IPHC-2023-FAC099-05), as per Regulation 14 of the IPHC Financial Regulations (2021), by consensus.

118. The FAC **ACKNOWLEDGED** the great strides that the IPHC Secretariat has continued to make over the past three years to improve the transparency, accountability, and accessibility of the IPHC accounting systems and practices. The 'unmodified opinion' provided by the independent auditors for the past three years is testament to the work done.

10.3 FY2023 Budget – update

119. The Commission **NOTED** the update on the FY2023 budget (financial period: 1 October 2022 to 30 September 2023), and that current expenditure for the first quarter of FY2023 is in-line with the approved budget.

120. The Commission **NOTED** that the following contributions have been received from the Contracting Parties:

a) Canada: **$900,407** (received 26 October 2022);

b) U.S.A.: **US$4,582,000** (received 10 January 2023) (note: $65,010 short of the US$4,647,010 approved budget for FY2023 for contributions to the General Fund and HQ lease and maintenance).

121. The Commission **NOTED** that the U.S.A. intends to supplement the amount appropriated by the U.S. Congress (US$4,582,000) with an additional **US$65,010** as adjustments are made during budget implementation in the coming months. If needed to address any shortfall, either Contracting Party can call an intersessional meeting for the Commission to consider reductions to FY2023 expenses.

122. The Commission **NOTED** the U.S.A.'s intent to consider additional funding to finance the adopted 2023 FISS design, an approximate **US$114,000**, and that the Commission will need to reduce the 2023 FISS .design accordingly if this additional funding is not received.

123. The Commission **ADOPTED** the revised FY2023 budget (1 October 2022 to 30 September 2023), as detailed in Appendix XII, noting that the amendments do not change the previously adopted Contracting Party contributions for FY2023, as follows:

i. Canada: Contribution to the General Fund: **US$900,407**

ii. U.S.A.: Contribution to the General Fund: **US$4,157,760**

iii. U.S.A.: Contribution to the headquarters building lease and maintenance costs: **US$489,250**

124. The Commission **NOTED** the extra-budgetary (IFCP Fund deficit) contributions from each Contracting Party for FY2023 as follows:

i. Canada:
- 50% Contribution to the IFCP Fund deficit (former staff pension plan): **US$127,848**

ii. U.S.A.:
- 50% Contribution to the IFCP Fund deficit (former staff pension plan): **US$127,848**

10.4 Budget estimates: FY2024 (for approval); FY2025 and FY2026 (for information)

FY2024

125. The Commission **NOTED** the proposed FY2024 budget (financial period: 1 October 2023 to 30 September 2024; Appendix XIII), proposed by the IPHC Secretariat.

126. The Commission **NOTED** the IPHC Secretariat proposed contributions from the Contracting Parties to the General Fund for FY2024 as follows:
- Canada: Contribution to the General Fund: **US$1,019,947.68**
- U.S.A.: Contribution to the General Fund: **US$4,646,428.31**
- U.S.A.: Contribution to the headquarters building lease and maintenance costs: US$**513,712.50**

127. The FAC **NOTED** the extra-budgetary (IFCP Fund deficit) contributions from each Contracting Party for FY2024 as follows:
- Canada:
  - 50% Contribution to the IFCP Fund deficit (former staff pension plan): US$**127,848**

- U.S.A.:
    - 50% Contribution to the IFCP Fund deficit (former staff pension plan): US$**127,848**

128. The Commission **AGREED** for the two Contracting Parties to engage in inter-sessional discussions over the coming months to adopt a budget for FY2024 and the associated Contributions. In doing so, the Contracting Parties may consult with, and have requested assistance from the IPHC Secretariat.

129. The Commission **AGREED** that the two Contracting Parties to engage inter-sessionally to conduct a review of the budget and appropriations.

FY2025 and FY2026

130. The Commission **NOTED** the IPHC Secretariat's indicative budgets for FY2025 and FY2026 as provided in Appendix XIV and Appendix XV, respectively.

10.5 IPHC Financial Regulations (2021)

131. The Commission **NOTED** that the IPHC Secretariat will continue to engage with our independent auditors and Accounting Firm to draft and propose amendments to the IPHC Financial Regulations (2021) throughout 2023 for consideration by the Commission in 2024 (if necessary). The intention is to further improve the basis of accounting to fully align with GAAP standards while maintaining regulatory compliance.

10.6 IPHC Rules of Procedure (2022)

132. The Commission **ADOPTED** the IPHC Rules of Procedure (2023), as provided in IPHC-2023-FAC098-09, and **REQUESTED** that the IPHC Secretariat finalise and publish them accordingly, with the following amendments:

a) Amend para. 14b-e of the PAB TOR's to read as follows:

b) Proxies are allowed from accredited members from the PAB;

c) Only one proxy per attending member;

d) Proxies will be submitted to the IPHC Secretariat prior to the PAB meeting in written or electronic form;

e) A general proxy will authorize a designated PAB member to vote on any or all topics brought before the PAB on behalf of a PAB member who cannot attend. A specific proxy will authorize a PAB member to vote on specifically named topics (listed on the proxy itself) on behalf of the PAB member who can not attend.

133. The Commission **REQUESTED** that a working group involving interested PAB members, convened by the IPHC Secretariat, be formed to determine if additional edits to the PAB Rules of Procedure are necessary on topics including but not limited to membership eligibility. Any further amendments are to be provided to the Commission within three (3) months.

11. REPORT OF THE 93RD SESSION OF THE IPHC CONFERENCE BOARD (CB093)

134. The Commission **NOTED** the Report of the 93rd Session of the IPHC Conference Board (CB093) (IPHC-2023-CB093-R) which was presented by the Co-Chairpersons of the CB, Mr Jim Lane (Canada) and Ms Linda Behnken (USA). A total of 59 (60 in 2022) member organisations attended the Session from the two (2) Contracting Parties. The meeting was opened by Mr. Jim Lane (Canada) and Ms Linda Behnken (U.S.A.) (Co-Chairpersons), who welcomed participants.

12. REPORT OF THE 28TH SESSION OF THE IPHC PROCESSOR ADVISORY BOARD (PAB028)

135. The Commission **NOTED** the Report of the 28th Session of the IPHC Processor Advisory Board (PAB028) (IPHC-2023-PAB028-R) which was presented by the Chairperson of the PAB, Mr Carl Nordmann (Canada). A total of 16 (16 in 2022) members attended the Session from the two (2) Contracting Parties.

13. OTHER BUSINESS

13.1 IPHC meetings calendar (2023-25)

136. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2023-AM099-15 that proposed dates and places for the meetings of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies.

137. The Commission **RECOMMENDED** that the 13th Special Session of the Commission be held electronically in mid-April 2023 to review and adopt an FY2024 budget.

138. The Commission **NOTED** and **ACCEPTED** the offer by the USA to host the 100th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM100) in 2024, in Anchorage, Alaska, from 22 to 26 January 2024.

13.1.1 100 Year Anniversary (2024)

139. The Commission **RECALLED** that the IPHC Convention between Canada and the United States of America has been in effect for 99 years and the collaborative efforts of the two Contracting Parties has had a positive impact on the sustainable management of the resource and the fisheries that rely on it. In doing so, the Commission **NOTED** that the 100th Anniversary will coincide with the 100th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM100) to be held in January 2024. The 100th year of the IPHC will commence on 21 October 2023, with the IPHC turning 100 on 21 October 2024.

13.2 Election of a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson for the next year

140. The Commission **NOTED** that the term of the current Chairperson, Mr Paul Ryall (Canada), is due to expire at the closing of the current Session, and as per Rule 9 of the IPHC Rules of Procedure (2022) the Commission is required to elect a new Chairperson for the next year.

141. **NOTING** Rule 9 of the IPHC Rules of Procedure (2022), the Commission called for nominations for the newly vacated position of Chairperson of the IPHC for the next year. Mr Jon Kurland (U.S.A.) was nominated, seconded, and elected as Chairperson of the IPHC for the next year.

142. The Commission **NOTED** that the term of the current Vice-Chairperson, Mr Jon Kurland (U.S.A.), is due to expire at the closing of the current Session, and as per Rule 9 of the IPHC Rules of Procedure (2022) the Commission is required to elect a new Vice-Chairperson for the next year.

143. **NOTING** Rule 9 of the Rules of Procedure (2022), the Commission called for nominations for the newly vacated position of Vice-Chairperson of the IPHC for the next year. Mr Paul Ryall (Canada) was nominated, seconded, and elected as Vice-Chairperson of the IPHC for the next year.

14. REVIEW OF THE DRAFT AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE 99TH SESSION OF THE IPHC ANNUAL MEETING (AM099)

144. The Commission **REQUESTED** that the IPHC Secretariat finalise and publish the IPHC *Pacific Halibut Fishery Regulations (2023)* as soon as possible, **NOTING** that only minor editorial and formatting changes are permitted beyond the decisions made by the Commission at the AM099.

145. The Report of the 99th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (IPHC-2023-AM099-R) was **ADOPTED** via correspondence on 8 February 2023, including the consolidated set of recommendations and requests arising from AM099, provided at Appendix XVI.

APPENDIX I
LIST OF PARTICIPANTS FOR THE 99TH SESSION OF THE IPHC ANNUAL MEETING (AM099)

Commission Officers

Chairperson	Vice-Chairperson
Mr Paul **Ryall** (Canada)	Mr Jon **Kurland** (United States of America)

Commissioners

Canada	United States of America
Mr Paul **Ryall**	Mr Jon **Kurland**
Mr Neil **Davis**	Mr Robert **Alverson**
Mr Peter **DeGreef**	Mr Richard **Yamada**

Advisors/experts

Ms Felicia **Cull** – Policy Advisor	Dr. Kelly **Kryc** – Policy Advisor
Mr. Adam **Keizer** – Technical Advisor	Mr. Kurt **Iverson** – Technical Advisor
Ms. Danielle **Scriven** – Technical Advisor	Mr. Frank **Lockhart** – Technical/Policy Advisor
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APPENDIX II
AGENDA FOR THE 99TH SESSION OF THE IPHC ANNUAL MEETING (AM099)

Date: 23-27 January 2023
Location: Victoria, BC, Canada
Venue: Fairmont Empress
Time (PST): 23 Jan: 12:30-17:30;
24-27 Jan: 09:00-17:00 daily
Chairperson: Mr Paul Ryall (Canada)
Vice-Chairperson: Mr Jon Kurland (USA)

1. **OPENING OF THE SESSION** (Chairperson)
2. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION** (Chairperson & Executive Director)
3. **IPHC PROCESS**
   - 3.1 Update on actions arising from the 98th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM098), 2022 Special Sessions, intersessional decisions, and the 98th Session of the IPHC Interim Meeting (IM098) (D. Wilson)
   - 3.2 Report of the IPHC Secretariat (2022) (D. Wilson & B. Hutniczak)
   - 3.3 2nd IPHC Performance Review (PRIPHC02): Implementation of recommendations (D. Wilson)
   - 3.4 International Pacific Halibut Commission 5-year program of Integrated Research and Monitoring (2022-26) (D. Wilson, J. Planas, I. Stewart, A. Hicks, R. Webster, B. Hutniczak, & J. Jannot)
   - 3.5 Report of the 23rd Session of the IPHC Research Advisory Board (RAB023) (D. Wilson, J. Planas)
   - 3.6 Reports of the IPHC Scientific Review Board (SRB Chairperson)
4. **FISHERY MONITORING**
   - 4.1 Fishery-dependent data overview (2022) (J. Jannot)
   - 4.2 Fishery-independent data overview (2022)
     - 4.2.1 IPHC Fishery-Independent Setline Survey (FISS) design and implementation in 2022 (K. Ualesi)
5. **STOCK STATUS OF PACIFIC HALIBUT (2022) AND HARVEST DECISION TABLE 2023**
   - 5.1 Space-time modelling of survey data (R. Webster)
   - 5.2 2023-25 FISS design evaluation (R. Webster)
   - 5.3 Stock Assessment: Data overview and stock assessment (2022), and harvest decision table (2023) (I. Stewart, A. Hicks, R. Webster, D. Wilson, & B. Hutniczak)
   - 5.4 Pacific halibut mortality projections using the IPHC mortality projection tool (2023) (I. Stewart)
6. **BIOLOGICAL AND ECOSYSTEM SCIENCES – PROJECT UPDATES**
   - 6.1 Report on Current and Future Biological and Ecosystem Science Research Activities (J. Planas)
7. **MANAGEMENT STRATEGY EVALUATION**
   - 7.1 Report of the 17th Session of the IPHC Management Strategy Advisory Board (MSAB017) (Co-Chairpersons)

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

8. IPHC FISHERY REGULATIONS: PROPOSALS FOR THE 2022-23 PROCESS

8.1 IPHC Secretariat fishery regulation proposals (B. Hutniczak)
8.2 Contracting Party fishery regulation proposals (Contracting Parties)
8.3 Stakeholder fishery regulation proposals (Stakeholders)
8.4 Stakeholder statements (B. Hutniczak)

9. CONTRACTING PARTY NATIONAL REPORTS

9.1 Canada (TBA)
9.2 United States of America (TBA)

10. REPORT OF THE 99th SESSION OF THE IPHC FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (FAC099) (D. Wilson)

11. REPORT OF THE 93rd SESSION OF THE IPHC CONFERENCE BOARD (CB093) (CB Co-Chairpersons)

12. REPORT OF THE 28th SESSION OF THE IPHC PROCESSOR ADVISORY BOARD (PAB028) (PAB Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson)

13. OTHER BUSINESS

13.1 IPHC meetings calendar (2023-25) (D. Wilson)
13.2 Election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson for the next year (D. Wilson)

14. REVIEW OF THE DRAFT AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE 99th SESSION OF THE IPHC ANNUAL MEETING (AM099) (Chairperson)

APPENDIX III
LIST OF DOCUMENTS FOR THE 99TH SESSION OF THE IPHC ANNUAL MEETING (AM099)

Meeting documents	Title	Availability
IPHC-2023-AM099-01	Agenda & Schedule for the 99th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM099)	✓ 19 Oct 2022 ✓ 20 Dec 2022 ✓ 23 Jan 2023
IPHC-2023-AM099-02	List of Documents for the 99th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM099)	✓ 19 Oct 2022 ✓ 8 Dec 2022 ✓ 26 Jan 2022
IPHC-2023-AM099-03	Update on actions arising from the 98th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM098), 2022 Special Sessions, intersessional decisions, and the 98th Session of the IPHC Interim Meeting (IM098) (D. Wilson)	✓ 19 Dec 2022
IPHC-2023-AM099-04	Report of the IPHC Secretariat (2022) (D. Wilson & B. Hutniczak)	✓ 20 Dec 2022
IPHC-2023-AM099-05 Rev_1	Implementation of the Recommendations from the 2nd IPHC Performance Review (PRIPHC02) (D. Wilson)	✓ 8 Dec 2022 ✓ 19 Dec 2022
IPHC-2023-AM099-06	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, & J. Jannot)	✓ 8 Dec 2022
IPHC-2023-AM099-07	Fisheries data overview (2022) (J. Jannot, H. Tran, T. Kong, K. Magrane, & K. Sawyer van Vleck)	✓ 19 Dec 2022
IPHC-2023-AM099-08	IPHC Fishery-independent setline survey (FISS) design and implementation in 2022 (K. Ualesi, C. Jones, R. Rillera, & T. Jack)	✓ 19 Dec 2022
IPHC-2023-AM099-09	Space-time modelling of survey data (R. Webster)	✓ 21 Dec 2022
IPHC-2023-AM099-10	2023-25 FISS Design evaluation (R. Webster & D. Wilson)	✓ 20 Dec 2022
IPHC-2023-AM099-11	Summary of the data, stock assessment, and harvest decision table for Pacific halibut (*Hippoglossus stenolepis*) at the end of 2022 (I. Stewart, A. Hicks, R. Webster, D. Wilson)	✓ 13 Dec 2022
IPHC-2023-AM099-12	Report on Current and Future Biological and Ecosystem Science Research Activities (J. Planas)	✓ 12 Dec 2022
IPHC-2023-AM099-13	IPHC Management Strategy Evaluation and Harvest Strategy Policy: FOR DECISION (A. Hicks, I. Stewart & D. Wilson)	✓ 20 Dec 2022

IPHC-2023-AM099-14	IPHC Fishery Regulations: Proposals for the 2022-23 process (B. Hutniczak)	✓ 22 Dec 2022
IPHC-2023-AM099-15	IPHC 3-year meetings calendar (2023-25) (D. Wilson)	✓ 20 Dec 2022
IPHC-2023-AM099-16	Minimum data collection standards for Pacific halibut by scientific observer programs (D. Wilson & J. Jannot)	✓ 20 Dec 2022
Contracting Party National Reports		
IPHC-2023-AM099-NR01	**Canada**: National Report (Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO))	✓ 23 Dec 2022
IPHC-2023-AM099-NR02 Rev_1	**United States of America**: National Report (NOAA Fisheries)	✓ 21 Dec 2022 ✓ 18 Jan 2023
IPHC Fishery Regulation proposals for 2023		
IPHC Secretariat Fishery Regulation proposals for 2023		
IPHC-2023-AM099-PropA1	Mortality and Fishery Limits (Sect. 5) (IPHC Secretariat)	✓ 8 Dec 2022
IPHC-2023-AM099-PropA2	Commercial Fishing Periods (Sect. 9) (IPHC Secretariat)	✓ 21 Dec 2022
IPHC-2023-AM099-PropA3	Fishing Period Limits (Sect 14) & Licensing Vessels for IPHC Regulatory Area 2A (Sect. 15) – Accommodation of the transition of management in the IPHC Regulatory Area 2A (IPHC Secretariat)	✓ 21 Dec 2022
IPHC-2023-AM099-PropA4 Rev_1	IPHC Fishery Regulations: minor amendments (IPHC Secretariat)	✓ 21 Dec 2022 ✓ 11 Jan 2023
Contracting Party Fishery Regulation proposals for 2023		
IPHC-2023-AM099-PropB1	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: NOAA-Fisheries)	✓ 20 Dec 2022
IPHC-2023-AM099-PropB2 Rev_1	Recreational (Sport) Fishing for Pacific Halibut—IPHC Regulatory Area 2B – Daily bag limit in IPHC Regulatory Area 2B (Sect. 28) (Canada: DFO)	✓ 22 Dec 2022 ✓ 26 Jan 2023
IPHC-2023-AM099-PropB3	Recreational (sport) fishing for Pacific halibut—IPHC Regulatory Areas 2c, 3a, 3b, 4a, 4b, 4c, 4d, 4e (Sect. 29) – *Onboard consumption* (USA: NOAA-Fisheries)	✓ 20 Dec 2022
IPHC-2023-AM099-PropB4	Logs (Sect 20) – Logs requirements (USA: NOAA-Fisheries)	✓ 22 Dec 2022

Other Stakeholder Fishery Regulation proposals for 2023		
IPHC-2023-AM099-PropC1	Recreational (Sport) Fishing for Pacific Halibut—IPHC Regulatory Areas 2C, 3A, 3B, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E (Sect. 29) - Processing Pacific halibut for eating and preservation (J. Fields)	✓ 21 Dec 2022
IPHC-2023-AM099-PropC2	Mortality and Fishery Limits (Sect. 5) - *TCEY floor in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A* (P. DePoe)	✓ 13 Dec 2022
IPHC-2023-AM099-PropC3	Recreational (Sport) Fishing for Pacific Halibut—IPHC Regulatory Areas 2C, 3A, 3B, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E (Sect. 29) - Onboard consumption in IPHC Regulatory Area 2C (T. Cooper)	✓ 8 Dec 2022
Information papers		
IPHC-2023-AM099-INF01 Rev_2	Stakeholder Statements on IPHC Fishery Regulations or published regulatory proposals (B. Hutniczak)	✓ 20 Dec 2022 ✓ 20 Jan 2023 ✓ 23 Jan 2023
IPHC-2023-AM099-INF02	The IPHC mortality projection tool for 2023 mortality limits (I. Stewart)	✓ 20 Jan 2023
IPHC-2023-AM099-INF03	Transition of management in the IPHC Regulatory Area 2A: outreach material (IPHC Secretariat)	✓ 13 Dec 2022
IPHC-2023-AM099-INF04	Revision of the IPHC length-weight relationship (R. Webster & I. Stewart)	✓ 20 Jan 2023
Reports from IPHC subsidiary bodies (2022-23)		
IPHC-2022-SRB020-R	Report of the 20th Session of the IPHC Scientific Review Board (SRB020)	✓ 16 Jun 2022
IPHC-2022-SRB021-R	Report of the 21st Session of the IPHC Scientific Review Board (SRB021)	✓ 22 Sept 2022
IPHC-2022-MSAB017-R	Report of the 17th Session of the IPHC Management Strategy Advisory Board (MSAB017)	✓ 20 Oct 2022
IPHC-2022-RAB023-R	Report of the 23rd Session of the IPHC Research Advisory Board (RAB023)	✓ 28 Nov 2022
IPHC-2022-IM098-R	Report of the 98th Session of the IPHC Interim Meeting (IM098)	✓ 16 Dec 2022
IPHC-2023-FAC099-R	Report of the 99th Session of the IPHC Finance and Administration Committee (FAC099)	✓ 25 Jan 2023
IPHC-2023-PAB028-R	Report of the 28th Session of the IPHC Processor Advisory Board (PAB028)	✓ 26 Jan 2023
IPHC-2023-CB093-R	Report of the 93rd Session of the IPHC Conference Board (CB093)	✓ 26 Jan 2023

APPENDIX IV
IPHC FISHERY REGULATIONS: MORTALITY AND FISHERY LIMITS (SECT. 5)

IPHC-2023-AM099-PropA1

5. Mortality and Fishery Limits

(1) The Commission has adopted the following distributed mortality (TCEY) values:

IPHC Regulatory Area	***Distributed mortality (TCEY) limits (net weight)***	
	Tonnes (t)	**Million Pounds (Mlb)**
Area 2A (California, Oregon, and Washington)	748	1.65
Area 2B (British Columbia)	3,075	6.78
Area 2C (southeastern Alaska)	2,654	5.85
Area 3A (central Gulf of Alaska)	5,479	12.08
Area 3B (western Gulf of Alaska)	1,665	3.67
Area 4A (eastern Aleutians)	785	1.73
Area 4B (central and western Aleutians)	617	1.36
Areas 4CDE (Bering Sea)	1,746	3.85
Total	**16,769**	**36.97**

(2) The fishery limits resulting from the IPHC-adopted distributed mortality (TCEY) limits and the existing Contracting Party catch sharing arrangements are as follows, recognising that each Contracting Party may implement more restrictive limits:

IPHC Regulatory Area	***Fishery limits (net weight)***	
	Tonnes (t)	**Million Pounds (Mlb)**
Area 2A (California, Oregon, and Washington)	**689**	**1.52**
Non-tribal directed commercial (south of Pt. Chehalis)	117	*257,819**
Non-tribal incidental catch in salmon troll fishery	21	*45,497**
Non-tribal incidental catch in sablefish fishery (north of Pt. Chehalis)	32	*70,000**
Treaty Indian commercial	228	*502,500**
Treaty Indian ceremonial and subsistence (year-round)	13	*29,500**
Recreational – Washington	128	*281,728**
Recreational – Oregon	133	*293,436**
Recreational – California	18	*39,520**
Area 2B (British Columbia) (combined commercial and recreational)	**2,685**	**5.92**
Commercial fishery	2,282	5.03
Recreational fishery	404	0.89
Area 2C (southeastern Alaska) (combined commercial and guided recreational)	**1,978**	**4.36**

Commercial fishery (includes 3.41 landings and 0.15 Mlb discard mortality)	1,615	3.56
Guided recreational fishery (includes landings and discard mortality)	363	0.80
Area 3A (central Gulf of Alaska) (combined commercial and guided recreational)	**4,677**	**10.31**
Commercial fishery (includes 7.84 Mlb landings and 0.58 Mlb discard mortality)	3,819	8.42
Guided recreational fishery (includes landings and discard mortality)	857	1.89
Area 3B (western Gulf of Alaska)	**1,402**	**3.09**
Area 4A (eastern Aleutians)	**640**	**1.41**
Area 4B (central and western Aleutians)	**553**	**1.22**
Areas 4CDE (Bering Sea)	**916**	**2.02**
Area 4C (Pribilof Islands)	408	0.90
Area 4D (northwestern Bering Sea)	408	0.90
Area 4E (Bering Sea flats)	100	0.22
Total	**13,535**	**29.84**

* Allocations resulting from the IPHC Regulatory Area 2A Catch Share Plan are listed in *pounds*.

APPENDIX V
IPHC FISHERY REGULATIONS: COMMERCIAL FISHING PERIODS (SECT. 9)

IPHC-2022-AM098-PropA2

9. Commercial Fishing Periods

(1) The fishing periods for each IPHC Regulatory Area apply where the fishery limits specified in section 5 have not been taken.

(2) Unless the Commission specifies otherwise, commercial fishing for Pacific halibut in all IPHC Regulatory Areas may begin no earlier in the year than 1200 local time on 10 March.

(3) All commercial fishing for Pacific halibut in all IPHC Regulatory Areas shall cease for the year at 1200 local time on 7 December.

~~(4) The first fishing period in the IPHC Regulatory Area 2A non-tribal directed commercial fishery[2] shall begin at 0800 on the fourth Tuesday in June and terminate at 1800 local time on the subsequent Thursday, unless the Commission specifies otherwise. If the Commission determines that the fishery limit specified for IPHC Regulatory Area 2A in Section 5 has not been exceeded, it may announce a second fishing period of up to three fishing days to begin on Tuesday two weeks after the first period, and, if necessary, a third fishing period of up to three fishing days to begin on Tuesday four weeks after the first period.~~

(4) Regulations pertaining to the non-tribal directed commercial fishing[2] periods in the IPHC Regulatory Area 2A will be promulgated by NOAA Fisheries and published in the Federal Register. This fishery will occur between the dates and times listed in paragraphs (2) and (3) of this Section.

(5) Notwithstanding paragraph (4) of this Section~~, and paragraph (6) of section 12~~, an incidental catch fishery[3] is authorized during the sablefish seasons in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A in accordance with regulations promulgated by NOAA Fisheries. This fishery will occur between the dates and times listed in paragraphs (2) and (3) of this section.

(6) Notwithstanding paragraph (4) of this Section~~, and paragraph (6) of section 12~~, an incidental catch fishery is authorized during salmon troll seasons in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A in accordance with regulations promulgated by NOAA Fisheries. This fishery will occur between the dates and times listed in paragraphs (2) and (3) of this section.

[2] The non-tribal directed fishery is restricted to waters that are south of Point Chehalis, Washington, (46°53.30′ N. latitude) under regulations promulgated by NOAA Fisheries and published in the Federal Register.

[3] The incidental fishery during the directed, fixed gear sablefish season is restricted to waters that are north of Point Chehalis, Washington, (46°53.30′ N. latitude) under regulations promulgated by NOAA Fisheries at 50 CFR 300.63. Landing restrictions for Pacific halibut retention in the fixed gear sablefish fishery can be found at 50 CFR 660.231.

APPENDIX VI
IPHC FISHERY REGULATIONS: FISHING PERIOD LIMITS (SECT. 14) & LICENSING VESSELS FOR IPHC REGULATORY AREA 2A (SECT. 15) – ACCOMMODATION OF THE TRANSITION OF MANAGEMENT IN THE IPHC REGULATORY AREA 2A

IPHC-2022-AM098-PropA3

3. Definitions

(1) In these Regulations, […]

~~(k) "license" means a Pacific halibut fishing license issued by the Commission pursuant to Section 15;~~

(k) "permit" means a Pacific halibut fishing license issued by NOAA Fisheries;

12. Application of Commercial Fishery Limits

(1) Notwithstanding the fishery limits described in Section 5, regulations pertaining to the division of the IPHC Regulatory Area 2A fishery limit between the directed commercial fishery and the incidental catch fishery as described in paragraphs (5) and (6) of Section 9 will be promulgated by NOAA Fisheries and published in the Federal Register.

~~(2) The Commission shall determine and announce to the public the date on which the fishery limit for IPHC Regulatory Area 2A will be taken.~~

(2) Notwithstanding the fishery limits described in Section 5, the IPHC Regulatory Area 2A non-tribal directed commercial fishery will close when NOAA Fisheries determines and announces in the Federal Register that the fishery limit has been or is projected to be reached, or on the date when fishing must cease as specified in Section 9, whichever is earlier.

(3) Notwithstanding the fishery limits described in Section 5, the commercial fishing in IPHC Regulatory Area 2B will close only when all Individual Vessel Quotas (IVQ) and Individual Transferable Quotas (ITQ) assigned by DFO are taken, or on the date when fishing must cease as specified in Section 9, whichever is earlier.

(4) Notwithstanding the fishery limits described in Section 5, IPHC Regulatory Areas 2C, 3A, 3B, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, and 4E will each close only when all Individual Fishing Quotas (IFQ) and all CDQ issued by NOAA Fisheries have been taken, or on the date when fishing must cease as specified in Section 9, whichever is earlier.

~~(5) If the Commission determines that the fishery limit specified for IPHC Regulatory Area 2A in Section 5 would be exceeded in an additional directed commercial fishing period as specified in paragraph (4) of Section 9, the fishery limit for that area shall be considered to have been taken and the directed commercial fishery closed as announced by the Commission.~~

~~(6) When under paragraphs (1), (2), and (5) the Commission has announced a date on which the fishery limit for IPHC Regulatory Area 2A will be taken, no person shall fish for Pacific halibut in that area after that date for the rest of the year, unless the Commission has announced the reopening of that area for Pacific halibut fishing.~~

14. Fishing ~~Period Limits~~ in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A

(1) No person shall fish for Pacific halibut from a vessel, nor land or retain Pacific halibut on board a vessel, used for commercial fishing in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A, unless issued a permit valid for fishing in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A by NOAA Fisheries according to 50 CFR 300 Subpart E.

(2) It shall be unlawful for any vessel to retain more Pacific halibut than authorized by that vessel's ~~license~~ permit in any fishing period for which ~~the Commission has announced~~ a fishing period limit is announced by NOAA Fisheries in the Federal Register.

(3) The operator of any vessel that fishes for Pacific halibut during a fishing period when fishing period limits are in effect must, upon commencing an offload of Pacific halibut to a commercial fish processor, completely offload all Pacific halibut on board said vessel to that processor and ensure that all Pacific halibut is weighed and reported on State fish tickets.

(4) The operator of any vessel that fishes for Pacific halibut during a fishing period when fishing period limits are in effect must, upon commencing an offload of Pacific halibut other than to a commercial fish processor, completely offload all Pacific halibut on board said vessel and ensure that all Pacific halibut are weighed and reported on State fish tickets.

(5) The provisions of paragraph (3) are not intended to prevent retail over-the-side sales to individual purchasers so long as all the Pacific halibut on board is ultimately offloaded and reported.

~~(5) When fishing period limits are in effect, a vessel's maximum retainable catch will be determined by the Commission based on:~~

~~(a) the vessel's overall length in feet and associated length class;~~

~~(b) the average performance of all vessels within that class; and~~

~~(c) the remaining fishery limit.~~

~~(6) Length classes are shown in the following table:~~

~~Overall Length (in feet)~~	~~Vessel Class~~
~~1-25~~	~~A~~
~~26-30~~	~~B~~
~~31-35~~	~~C~~
~~36-40~~	~~D~~
~~41-45~~	~~E~~
~~46-50~~	~~F~~
~~51-55~~	~~G~~
~~56+~~	~~H~~

(6) Fishing period limits in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A will be promulgated by NOAA Fisheries and published in the Federal Register and apply only to the non-tribal directed commercial Pacific halibut fishery referred to in paragraph (4) of Section 9.

~~15. Licensing Vessels for IPHC Regulatory Area 2A~~

~~(1) No person shall fish for Pacific halibut from a vessel, nor possess Pacific halibut on board a vessel, used either for commercial fishing or as a charter vessel in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A, unless the Commission has issued a license valid for fishing in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A in respect of that vessel.~~

~~(2) A license issued for a vessel operating in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A shall be valid only for operating either as a charter vessel or a commercial vessel, but not both.~~

~~(3) A vessel with a valid IPHC Regulatory Area 2A commercial license cannot be used to recreationally (sport) fish for Pacific halibut in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A.~~

~~(4) A license issued for a vessel operating in the commercial fishery in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A shall be valid for one of the following:~~

~~(a) the directed commercial fishery during the fishing periods specified in paragraph (4) of Section 9;~~

~~(b) the incidental catch fishery during the sablefish fishery specified in paragraph (5) of Section 9; or~~

~~(c) the incidental catch fishery during the salmon troll fishery specified in paragraph (6) of Section 9.~~

~~(5) A vessel with a valid license for the IPHC Regulatory Area 2A incidental catch fishery during the sablefish fishery described in paragraph (4)(b) may also apply for or be issued a license for the directed commercial fishery described in paragraph (4)(a).~~

~~(6) A license issued in respect to a vessel referred to in paragraph (1) of this Section must be carried on board that vessel at all times and the vessel operator shall permit its inspection by any authorized officer.~~

~~(7) The Commission shall issue a license in respect to a vessel from its office in Seattle, Washington, upon receipt of a completed "Application for Vessel License for the Pacific Halibut Fishery" form.~~

~~(8) A vessel operating in the directed commercial fishery in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A must have submitted its "Application for Vessel License for the Pacific Halibut Fishery" form no later than 2359 local time on 30 April, or the first weekday in May if 30 April is a Saturday or Sunday.~~

~~(9) A vessel operating in the incidental catch fishery during the sablefish fishery in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A must have submitted its "Application for Vessel License for the Pacific Halibut Fishery" form no later than 2359 local time on 29 May, or the next weekday in May if 29 May is a Saturday or Sunday.~~

~~(10) A vessel operating in the incidental catch fishery during the salmon troll fishery in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A must have submitted its "Application for Vessel License for the Pacific Halibut Fishery" form no later than 2359 local time on 15 March, or the next weekday in March if 15 March is a Saturday or Sunday.~~

~~(11) Applications are submitted on the IPHC Secretariat webpage.~~

~~(12) Information on the "Application for Vessel License for the Pacific Halibut Fishery" form must be accurate.~~

~~(13) The "Application for Vessel License for the Pacific Halibut Fishery" form shall be completed by the vessel owner.~~

~~(14) Licenses issued under this Section shall be valid only during the year in which they are issued.~~

~~(15) A new license is required for a vessel that is sold, transferred, renamed, or for which the documentation is changed.~~

~~(16) The license required under this Section is in addition to any license, however designated, that is required under the laws of the United States of America or any of its States.~~

~~(17) The United States of America may suspend, revoke, or modify any license issued under this Section under policies and procedures in U.S. Code Title 15, CFR Part 904.~~

21. Receipt and Possession of Pacific Halibut

(1) No person shall receive Pacific halibut caught in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A from a United States of America vessel that does not have on board the ~~license~~ permit required by Section ~~15~~14(1) [as amended].

23. Fishing by United States Indian Tribes

(1) Pacific halibut fishing in IPHC Regulatory Area Subarea 2A-1 by members of United States treaty Indian tribes located in the State of Washington shall be regulated under regulations promulgated by NOAA Fisheries and published in the Federal Register:

(a) Subarea 2A-1 includes the usual and accustomed fishing areas for Pacific Coast treaty tribes off the coast of Washington and all inland marine waters of Washington north of Point Chehalis (46°53.30′ N. lat.), including Puget Sound. Boundaries of a tribe's fishing area may be revised as ordered by a United States Federal court;

(b) Section ~~15 (Licensing Vessels for IPHC Regulatory Area 2A)~~ 14(1) [as amended] does not apply to commercial fishing for Pacific halibut in Subarea 2A-1 by Indian tribes; and

(c) ceremonial and subsistence fishing for Pacific halibut in Subarea 2A-1 is permitted with hook and line gear from 1 January through 31 December.

27. Recreational (Sport) Fishing for Pacific Halibut—IPHC Regulatory Area 2A

[…]

(3) No person shall fish for Pacific halibut from a vessel, nor land or retain Pacific halibut on board a vessel, used as a charter vessel in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A, unless issued a permit valid for fishing in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A by NOAA Fisheries according to 50 CFR 300 Subpart E.

Minor edits throughout for consistency in Sections numbering.

APPENDIX VII
IPHC FISHERY REGULATIONS: MINOR AMENDMENTS (VARIOUS SECTIONS)

IPHC-2022-AM098-PropA4 Rev_1

1. Section 3, Definitions would include a definition of the total constant exploitation yield (TCEY).

3. Definitions

(1) In these Regulations, […]

(u) "total constant exploitation yield (TCEY)" means the mortality comprised of Pacific halibut from directed fisheries and that from non-directed fisheries greater than 26 inches (66 cm) in length;

2. Consistent use of the definition "authorized representative of the Commission".

19. Logs

(7) The log referred to in paragraph (5) shall be: […]

(f) submitted to the Commission within seven days of the final offload if not previously collected ~~by a Commission employee~~an authorized representative of the Commission.

3. Consistent use of "non-tribal directed commercial fishery".

9. Commercial Fishing Periods

(4) Regulations pertaining to the non-tribal directed commercial fishing[2] periods in the IPHC Regulatory Area 2A will be promulgated by NOAA Fisheries and published in the Federal Register. This fishery will occur between the dates and times listed in paragraphs (2) and (3) of this Section.

[2] The non-tribal directed commercial fishery is restricted to waters that are south of Point Chehalis, Washington, (46°53.30′ N. latitude) under regulations promulgated by NOAA Fisheries and published in the Federal Register.

12. Application of Commercial Fishery Limits

(1) Notwithstanding the fishery limits described in Section 5, regulations pertaining to the division of the IPHC Regulatory Area 2A fishery limit between the non-tribal directed commercial fishery and the incidental catch fishery as described in paragraphs (5) and (6) of Section 9 will be promulgated by NOAA Fisheries and published in the Federal Register.

17. Fishing Gear

(7) No person on board a vessel used to fish for any species of fish anywhere in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A during the 72-hour period immediately before the fishing period for the non-tribal directed commercial fishery shall catch or possess Pacific halibut anywhere in those waters during that Pacific halibut fishing period unless, prior to the start of the Pacific halibut fishing period, the vessel has removed its gear from the water and has either:

(a) made a landing and completely offloaded its catch of other fish; or

(b) submitted to a hold inspection by an authorized officer.

(8) No vessel used to fish for any species of fish anywhere in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A during the 72-hour period immediately before the fishing period for the non-tribal directed commercial fishery may be used to catch or possess Pacific halibut anywhere in those waters during that Pacific halibut fishing period unless, prior to the start of the Pacific halibut fishing period, the vessel has removed its gear from the water and has either:

(a) made a landing and completely offloaded its catch of other fish; or

(b) submitted to a hold inspection by an authorized officer.

4. Minor edits throughout for stylistic consistency among Sections.
5. Unambiguous use of the term "permit".

21. Receipt and Possession of Pacific Halibut

(13) No person shall tag Pacific halibut unless the tagging is authorized by IPHC ~~permit~~ or by a Federal or State agency.

APPENDIX VIII
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

IPHC-2022-AM098-PropB1

29. Recreational (Sport) Fishing for Pacific Halibut—IPHC Regulatory Areas 2C, 3A, 3B, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E

[…]

(2) For guided recreational (sport) fishing (as referred to in 50 CFR 300.65) in IPHC Regulatory Area 2C:

(a) no person on board a charter vessel (as referred to in 50 CFR 300.65) shall catch and retain more than one Pacific halibut per calendar day.

(b) no person on board a charter vessel (as referred to in 50 CFR 300.65) shall catch and retain any Pacific halibut that with head on is greater than 40 inches (101.6 cm) and less than 80 inches (203.2 cm) as measured in a straight line, passing over the pectoral fin from the tip of the lower jaw with mouth closed, to the extreme end of the middle of the tail, and

(c) no person on board a charter vessel may catch and retain Pacific halibut in 2023 on any Monday from July 24 – December 31.

~~(c) no person on board a charter vessel may catch and retain Pacific halibut on the following Mondays: [a list of dates of 2023 Mondays would follow]~~

(d) ~~charter vessel anglers may catch and retain no more than three Pacific halibut per calendar year on board charter vessels in IPHC Regulatory Area 2C. Pacific halibut that are retained as GAF, retained while on a charter vessel fishing trip in other Commission regulatory areas, or retained while fishing without the services of a guide do not accrue toward the three-fish annual limit for Regulatory Area 2C.~~

(3) For guided recreational (sport) fishing (as referred to in 50 CFR 300.65) in IPHC Regulatory Area 3A:

(a) no person on board a charter vessel (as referred to in 50 CFR 300.65) shall catch and retain more than two Pacific halibut per calendar day;

(b) at least one of the retained Pacific halibut must have a head-on length of no more than 28 inches (71.1 cm) as measured in a straight line, passing over the pectoral fin from the tip of the lower jaw with mouth closed, to the extreme end of the middle of the tail. If a person sport fishing on a charter vessel in IPHC Regulatory Area 3A retains only one Pacific halibut in a calendar day, that Pacific halibut may be of any length;

(c) a "charter halibut permit" (as referred to in 50 CFR 300.67) may only be used for one charter vessel fishing trip in which Pacific halibut are caught and retained per calendar day. A charter vessel fishing trip is defined at 50 CFR 300.61 as the time period between the first deployment of fishing gear into the water by a charter vessel angler (as defined at 50 CFR 300.61) and the offloading of one or more charter vessel anglers or any Pacific halibut from that vessel. For purposes of this trip limit, a charter vessel fishing trip ends at 2359 (Alaska local time) on the same calendar day that the fishing trip began, or when any anglers or Pacific halibut are offloaded, whichever comes first;

(d) a charter vessel on which one or more anglers catch and retain Pacific halibut may only make one charter vessel fishing trip per calendar day. A charter vessel fishing trip is defined at 50 CFR 300.61 as the time period between the first deployment of fishing gear into the water by a charter vessel angler (as defined at 50 CFR 300.61) and the offloading of one or more charter vessel anglers or any Pacific halibut from that vessel. For purposes of this trip limit, a charter vessel fishing trip ends at 2359 (Alaska local time) on the same calendar day that the fishing trip began, or when any anglers or Pacific halibut are offloaded, whichever comes first; and

(e) no person on board a charter vessel may catch and retain Pacific halibut in 2023 on any Wednesday, or on the following Tuesdays: June 20, June 27, July 4, July 11, July 18, July 25, August 1, August 8, August 15~~on any Wednesday, or on the following Tuesdays in 2023: July 25 and August 1.~~

APPENDIX IX
IPHC FISHERY REGULATIONS: RECREATIONAL (SPORT) FISHING FOR PACIFIC HALIBUT - IPHC REGULATORY AREA 2B (SECT. 28) - DAILY BAG LIMIT IN IPHC REGULATORY AREA 2B

IPHC-2022-AM098-PropB2 Rev_1

28. Recreational (Sport) Fishing for Pacific Halibut—IPHC Regulatory Area 2B

(1) In all waters off British Columbia:[6, 7]

(a) the recreational (sport) fishing season will open on 1 February ~~unless more restrictive regulations are in place~~;

(b) the recreational (sport) fishing season will close when the recreational (sport) fishery limit allocated by DFO is taken, or 31 December, whichever is earlier; and

(c) the daily bag limit is two (2) Pacific halibut of any size per day, per person, and may be increased to a daily bag limit of three (3) Pacific halibut per day, per person on or after 1 August. This provision shall remain in effect through 2025, unless extended by a vote of the Commission.

(2) In British Columbia, no person shall fillet, mutilate, or otherwise disfigure a Pacific halibut in any manner that prevents the determination of minimum size or the number of fish caught, possessed, or landed.

(3) The possession limit for Pacific halibut in the waters off the coast of British Columbia is three Pacific halibut.[6, 7]

[6] DFO could implement more restrictive regulations for the recreational (sport) fishery, therefore anglers are advised to check the current Federal or Provincial regulations prior to fishing.

[7] For regulations on the experimental recreational fishery implemented by DFO check the current Federal or Provincial regulations.

APPENDIX X
IPHC FISHERY REGULATIONS: RECREATIONAL (SPORT) FISHING FOR PACIFIC HALIBUT—IPHC REGULATORY AREAS 2C, 3A, 3B, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E (SECT. 29) – ONBOARD CONSUMPTION

IPHC-2022-AM098-PropB3

29. Recreational (Sport) Fishing for Pacific Halibut—IPHC Regulatory Areas 2C, 3A, 3B, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E

(1) In Convention waters in and off Alaska: […]

(d) no person shall possess on board a vessel, including charter vessels and pleasure craft used for fishing, Pacific halibut that have been filleted, mutilated, or otherwise disfigured in any manner, except each Pacific halibut may be cut into no more than 2 ventral pieces, 2 dorsal pieces, and 2 cheek pieces, with a patch of skin on each piece, naturally attached. Either one dorsal piece or one ventral piece from one Pacific halibut on board may be consumed;

APPENDIX XI
IPHC FISHERY REGULATIONS: LOGS (SECT. 20) – LOGS REQUIREMENTS

IPHC-2022-AM098-PropB4

20. Logs

(1) The operator of any U.S. vessel fishing for Pacific halibut that has an overall length of 26 feet (7.9 meters) or greater shall maintain an accurate log of Pacific halibut fishing operations. The operator of a vessel fishing in waters in and off Alaska must use one of the following logbooks: the Groundfish/IFQ Longline and Pot Gear Daily Fishing Logbook, in electronic or paper form, provided by NOAA Fisheries; the Alaska hook-and-line logbook provided by Petersburg Vessel Owners Association or Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association; the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG) longline-pot logbook; or the logbook provided by IPHC. The operator of a vessel fishing in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A must use either the ~~WDFW Voluntary Sablefish Logbook,~~ Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) Fixed Gear Logbook, Pacific Coast Groundfish non-trawl logbook provided by NOAA Fisheries, or the logbook provided by IPHC.

APPENDIX XII
FY2023 BUDGET: REVISED AND ADOPTED

(1 Oct. 2022 to 30 Sept. 2023)

FY2023 Account Number	1 October 2022 to 30 September 2023 Account Name	10 - General FY2023	20 - Research FY2023	30 - Statistics FY2023	TOTAL (10,20,30) FY2023	40 - FISS FY2023	TOTAL (All Funds) FY2023
Income							
40000 Contracting Party Contributions							
40000.01	Canada	$ 900,407.00	$ -	$ -	$ 900,407.00	$ -	$ 900,407.00
40000.02	United States of America	$ 4,157,760.00	$ -	$ -	$ 4,157,760.00	$ -	$ 4,157,760.00
	Total 40000 - Contracting Party Contributions	$ 3,034,355.43	$ 887,685.80	$ 1,136,125.77	$ 5,058,167.00	$ -	$ 5,058,167.00
40055 - Headquarters (Lease & Maintenance)							
40055	Headquarters (Lease & Maintenance)	$ 489,250.00	$ -	$ -	$ 489,250.00	$ -	$ 489,250.00
	Total 40055 - Headquarters (Lease & Maintenance)	$ 489,250.00	$ -	$ -	$ 489,250.00	$ -	$ 489,250.00
40060 Other Income							
40060.05	Recouped leave expenses	$ 80,000.00	$ 22,700.00	$ 54,400.00	$ 157,100.00	$ 7,500.00	$ 164,600.00
40060.06	Rent - Dutch harbor	$ -	$ -	$ 5,600.00	$ 5,600.00	$ -	$ 5,600.00
Total 40060 - Other Income		$ 80,000.00	$ 22,700.00	$ 60,000.00	$ 162,700.00	$ 7,500.00	$ 170,200.00
40100 Grants, Contracts & Agreements							
40100.01	802 - NOAA Port Sampling Grant	$ -	$ -	$ 621,605.00	$ 621,605.00	$ -	$ 621,605.00
40100.02	MoU WDFW Rockfish sampling	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 34,289.00	$ 34,289.00
40100.05	807 - NOAA - BREP	$ -	$ 99,700.00	$ -	$ 99,700.00	$ -	$ 99,700.00
40100.06	808 - NPRB	$ -	$ 98,255.30	$ -	$ 98,255.30	$ -	$ 98,255.30
	Total 40100 - Grants, Contracts & Agreements	$ -	$ 197,955.30	$ 621,605.00	$ 819,560.30	$ 34,289.00	$ 853,849.30
40200 Interest Income					$ -		
40200.01	Bank Interest	$ 772.50	$ -	$ -	$ 772.50	$ -	$ 772.50
	Total 40200 - Interest Income	$ 772.50	$ -	$ -	$ 772.50	$ -	$ 772.50
40350 Fish Sales							
40350.01	Fish Sales - Pacific Halibut	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 4,224,000.00	$ 4,224,000.00
40350.02	Fish Sales - Byproduct	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 111,000.00	$ 111,000.00
	Total 40060 - Fish Sales	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 4,335,000.00	$ 4,335,000.00
	Total Income	$ 3,604,377.93	$ 1,108,341.10	$ 1,817,730.77	$ 6,530,449.80	$ 4,376,789.00	$ 10,907,238.80
Expense							
Personnel Expenses							
50000 Salary & Wages		$ 1,781,129.44	$ 621,393.10	$ 1,225,169.56	$ 3,627,692.10	$ 809,973.72	$ 4,437,665.82
50100 Benefits		$ 761,702.37	$ 255,320.00	$ 459,980.00	$ 1,477,002.37	$ 204,926.00	$ 1,681,928.37
50200 Training & Education		$ 44,050.00	$ 18,477.00	$ 20,000.00	$ 82,527.00	$ 38,000.00	$ 120,527.00
50300 Personnel Related Expenses		$ 5,665.00	$ -	$ 11,300.00	$ 16,965.00	$ 5,000.00	$ 21,965.00
	Total Personnel Expenses	$ 2,592,546.81	$ 895,190.10	$ 1,716,449.56	$ 5,204,186.47	$ 1,057,899.72	$ 6,262,086.19
Operational Expenses							
51000 Publications		$ 4,000.00	$ 7,500.00	$ 1,200.00	$ 12,700.00	$ 400.00	$ 13,100.00
51100 Mailing and Shipping		$ 3,500.00	$ 7,000.00	$ 5,150.00	$ 15,650.00	$ 118,000.00	$ 133,650.00
51200 Travel		$ 131,100.00	$ 14,825.00	$ 42,894.73	$ 188,819.73	$ 113,000.00	$ 301,819.73
51300 IPHC Meetings		$ 128,500.00	$ -	$ -	$ 128,500.00	$ -	$ 128,500.00
51400 Technology		$ 144,050.00	$ -	$ -	$ 144,050.00	$ 21,000.00	$ 165,050.00
	Total Operational Expenses	$ 411,150.00	$ 29,325.00	$ 49,244.73	$ 489,719.73	$ 252,400.00	$ 742,119.73
Fees and Contract Expenses							
52000 Professional Fees		$ 218,600.00	$ -	$ 1,458.48	$ 220,058.48	$ 2,000.00	$ 222,058.48
52100 Vessel Expenses		$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 544,000.00	$ 544,000.00
52200 Other Fees and Charges		$ 51,500.57	$ -	$ 13,000.00	$ 64,500.57	$ 23,000.00	$ 87,500.57
52300 Leases and Contracts		$ 42,164.00	$ 39,019.00	$ 24,000.00	$ 105,183.00	$ 1,665,000.00	$ 1,770,183.00
54000 Communications		$ 35,500.00	$ -	$ 1,700.00	$ 37,200.00	$ 1,690.00	$ 38,890.00
	Total Fees and Contract Expenses	$ 347,764.57	$ 39,019.00	$ 40,158.48	$ 426,942.05	$ 2,235,690.00	$ 2,662,632.05
Facilities and Equipment Expenses							
53000 Equipment Expense		$ 6,600.00	$ -	$ 2,500.00	$ 9,100.00	$ 33,000.00	$ 42,100.00
53100 Supplies Expense		$ 47,500.00	$ 144,807.00	$ 2,678.00	$ 194,985.00	$ 711,000.00	$ 905,985.00
53200 Maintenance and Utilities		$ 50,500.00	$ -	$ 3,400.00	$ 53,900.00	$ 77,385.00	$ 131,285.00
53300 Facility Rentals		$ 456,255.64	$ -	$ 3,300.00	$ 459,555.64	$ 16,507.00	$ 476,062.64
	Total Facilities and Equipment Expenses	$ 560,855.64	$ 144,807.00	$ 11,878.00	$ 717,540.64	$ 837,892.00	$ 1,555,432.64
Other Expenses							
55200	Fund Cost Recovery (50 - Reserve SS012)	$ (76,745.00)	$ -	$ -	$ (76,745.00)	$ -	$ (76,745.00)
55200	Fund Cost Recovery (50 - Reserve for IM098)	$ (12,000.00)	$ -	$ -	$ (12,000.00)	$ -	$ (12,000.00)
	Total Other Expenses	$ (88,745.00)	$ -	$ -	$ (88,745.00)	$ -	$ (88,745.00)
	Total Expense	$ 3,823,572.02	$ 1,108,341.10	$ 1,817,730.77	$ 6,749,643.89	$ 4,383,881.72	$ 11,133,525.61
	Sub-Total: Net Income (Loss)	$ (219,194.09)	$ -	$ -	$ (219,194.09)	$ (7,092.72)	$ (226,286.81)
	FISS cost-recovery (% overhead)	$ 219,194.09	$ -	$ -	$ 219,194.09	$ (219,194.09)	$ -
	Net Income (Loss)	$ (0.00)	$ -	$ -	$ (0.00)	$ (226,286.81)	$ (226,286.81)

APPENDIX XIII
FY2024 TENTATIVE BUDGET (PROPOSED)

(1 Oct. 2023 to 30 Sept. 2024)

FY2024 Account Number	10 - General FY2024	20 - Research FY2024	30 - Statistics FY2024	TOTAL (10,20,30) FY2024	40 - FISS FY2024	TOTAL (All Funds) FY2024
Income						
40000 Contracting Party Contributions						
40000.01 - Canada	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,019,947.68	$ -	$ 1,019,947.68
40000.02 - United States of America	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 4,646,428.31	$ -	$ 4,646,428.31
Total 40000 - Contracting Party Contributions	**$ 3,379,416.75**	**$ 1,187,904.42**	**$ 1,099,054.82**	**$ 5,666,375.99**	**$ -**	**$ 5,666,375.99**
40055 - Headquartes (Lease and Maintenance)	$ 513,712.50	$ -	$ -	$ 513,712.50	$ -	$ 513,712.50
Total 40055 - Headquarters (Lease & Maintenance)	**$ 513,712.50**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ 513,712.50**	**$ -**	**$ 513,712.50**
40060 Other Income						
40060.05 - Recoupend leave expenses	$ 82,800.00	$ 23,494.50	$ 56,304.00	$ 162,598.50	$ 7,762.50	$ 170,361.00
40060.06 - Rent - Dutch Harbor	$ -	$ -	$ 5,600.00	$ 5,600.00	$ -	$ 5,600.00
Total 40060 - Other Income	**$ 82,800.00**	**$ 23,494.50**	**$ 61,904.00**	**$ 168,198.50**	**$ 7,762.50**	**$ 175,961.00**
40100 Grants, Contracts & Agreements						
40100.01 - 802 - NOAA Port Sampling Grant	$ -	$ -	$ 767,000.00	$ 767,000.00	$ -	$ 767,000.00
40100.02 - MoU WDFW Rockfish sampling	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 36,003.00	$ 36,003.00
Total 40100 - Grants, Contracts & Agreements	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ 767,000.00**	**$ 767,000.00**	**$ 36,003.00**	**$ 803,003.00**
40200 Interest Income				$ -		
40200.01 - Bank Interest	$ 772.50	$ -	$ -	$ 772.50	$ -	$ 772.50
Total 40200 - Interest Income	**$ 772.50**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ 772.50**	**$ -**	**$ 772.50**
40350 Fish Sales						
40350.01 - Fish Sales - Pacific Halibut	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 4,224,000.00	$ 4,224,000.00
40350.02 - Fish Sales - Byproduct	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 111,000.00	$ 111,000.00
Total 40060 - Fish Sales	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	$ -	**$ 4,335,000.00**	$ 4,335,000.00
Total Income	**$ 3,976,701.75**	**$ 1,211,398.92**	**$ 1,927,958.82**	**$ 7,116,059.49**	**$ 4,378,765.50**	**$ 11,494,824.99**
Expense						
Personnel Expenses						
50000 Salary & Wages	$ 1,935,298.70	$ 718,467.02	$ 1,311,907.87	$ 3,965,673.59	$ 869,406.57	$ 4,835,080.16
50100 Benefits	$ 825,524.66	$ 261,303.90	$ 470,046.00	$ 1,556,874.56	$ 189,504.06	$ 1,746,378.62
50200 Training & Education	$ 43,000.00	$ 18,477.00	$ 16,200.87	$ 77,677.87	$ 42,000.00	$ 119,677.87
50300 Personnel Related Expenses	$ 5,665.00	$ -	$ 12,021.00	$ 17,686.00	$ 5,000.00	$ 22,686.00
Total Personnel Expenses	**$ 2,809,488.36**	**$ 998,247.92**	**$ 1,810,175.74**	**$ 5,617,912.02**	**$ 1,105,910.63**	**$ 6,723,822.65**
Operational Expenses						
51000 Publications	$ 4,000.00	$ 7,500.00	$ 2,000.00	$ 13,500.00	$ 400.00	$ 13,900.00
51100 Mailing and Shipping	$ 3,500.00	$ 7,000.00	$ 5,538.56	$ 16,038.56	$ 118,000.00	$ 134,038.56
51200 Travel	$ 153,700.00	$ 14,825.00	$ 32,400.00	$ 200,925.00	$ 113,000.00	$ 313,925.00
51300 IPHC Meetings	$ 138,500.00	$ -	$ -	$ 138,500.00	$ -	$ 138,500.00
51400 Technology	$ 144,050.00	$ -	$ 17,000.00	$ 161,050.00	$ 21,000.00	$ 182,050.00
Total Operational Expenses	**$ 443,750.00**	**$ 29,325.00**	**$ 56,938.56**	**$ 530,013.56**	**$ 252,400.00**	**$ 782,413.56**
Fees and Contract Expenses						
52000 Professional Fees	$ 227,300.00	$ -	$ 1,560.57	$ 228,860.57	$ 2,000.00	$ 230,860.57
52100 Vessel Expenses	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 544,000.00	$ 544,000.00
52200 Other Fees and Charges	$ 53,842.86	$ -	$ 13,039.38	$ 66,882.24	$ 23,000.00	$ 89,882.24
52300 Leases and Contracts	$ 42,164.00	$ 39,019.00	$ 25,573.50	$ 106,756.50	$ 1,665,000.00	$ 1,771,756.50
54000 Communications	$ 35,500.00	$ -	$ 3,400.00	$ 38,900.00	$ 1,690.00	$ 40,590.00
Total Fees and Contract Expenses	**$ 358,806.86**	**$ 39,019.00**	**$ 43,573.45**	**$ 441,399.31**	**$ 2,235,690.00**	**$ 2,677,089.31**
Facilities and Equipment Expenses						
53000 Equipment Expense	$ 6,600.00	$ -	$ 4,408.40	$ 11,008.40	$ 33,000.00	$ 44,008.40
53100 Supplies Expense	$ 44,000.00	$ 144,807.00	$ 3,300.00	$ 192,107.00	$ 711,000.00	$ 903,107.00
53200 Maintenance and Utilities	$ 53,000.00	$ -	$ 6,062.67	$ 59,062.67	$ 77,385.00	$ 136,447.67
53300 Facility Rentals	$ 482,651.16	$ -	$ 3,500.00	$ 486,151.16	$ 16,507.00	$ 502,658.16
Total Facilities and Equipment Expenses	**$ 586,251.16**	**$ 144,807.00**	**$ 17,271.07**	**$ 748,329.23**	**$ 837,892.00**	**$ 1,586,221.23**
Other Expenses						
55000 - Budget Contingency	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
55200 - Fund Cost Recovery	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Total Other Expenses	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**
Total Expense	**$ 4,198,296.38**	**$ 1,211,398.92**	**$ 1,927,958.82**	**$ 7,337,654.13**	**$ 4,431,892.63**	**$ 11,769,546.76**
Sub-Total: Net Income (Loss)	**$ (221,594.63)**	**$ -**	**$ (0.00)**	**$ (221,594.64)**	**$ (53,127.13)**	**$ (274,721.77)**
FISS cost-recovery (% overhead)	$ 221,594.63	$ -	$ -	$ 221,594.63	$ (221,594.63)	$ -
Net Income (Loss)	$ (0.00)	$ -	$ (0.00)	$ (0.00)	$ (274,721.76)	$ (274,721.77)

APPENDIX XIV
FY2025 INDICATIVE BUDGET

(1 Oct. 2024 to 30 Sept. 2025)

FY2025 Account Number	10 - General FY2025	20 - Research FY2025	30 - Statistics FY2025	TOTAL (10,20,30) FY2025	40 - FISS FY2025	TOTAL (All Funds) FY2025
Income						
40000 Contracting Party Contributions						
40000.01 - Canada	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,019,947.68	$ -	$ 1,019,947.68
40000.02 - United States of America	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 4,646,428.31	$ -	$ 4,646,428.31
Total 40000 - Contracting Party Contributions	**$ 3,497,696.34**	**$ 1,229,481.07**	**$ 1,137,521.74**	**$ 5,864,699.15**	**$ -**	**$ 5,666,375.99**
40055 - Headquartes (Lease and Maintenance)	$ 531,692.44	$ -	$ -	$ 531,692.44	$ -	$ 531,692.44
Total 40055 - Headquarters (Lease & Maintenance)	**$ 531,692.44**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ 531,692.44**	**$ -**	**$ 531,692.44**
40060 Other Income						
40060.05 - Recoupend leave expenses	$ 85,698.00	$ 23,494.50	$ 56,304.00	$ 165,496.50	$ 7,762.50	$ 173,259.00
40060.06 - Rent - Dutch Harbor	$ -	$ -	$ 5,600.00	$ 5,600.00	$ -	$ 5,600.00
Total 40060 - Other Income	**$ 85,698.00**	**$ 23,494.50**	**$ 61,904.00**	**$ 171,096.50**	**$ 7,762.50**	**$ 178,859.00**
40100 Grants, Contracts & Agreements						
40100.01 - 802 - NOAA Port Sampling Grant	$ -	$ -	$ 767,000.00	$ 767,000.00	$ -	$ 767,000.00
40100.02 - MoU WDFW Rockfish sampling	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 36,003.00	$ 36,003.00
Total 40100 - Grants, Contracts & Agreements	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ 767,000.00**	**$ 767,000.00**	**$ 36,003.00**	**$ 803,003.00**
40200 Interest Income				$ -		
40200.01 - Bank Interest	$ 811.13	$ -	$ -	$ 811.13	$ -	$ 811.13
Total 40200 - Interest Income	**$ 811.13**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ 811.13**	**$ -**	**$ 811.13**
40350 Fish Sales						
40350.01 - Fish Sales - Pacific Halibut	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 4,224,000.00	$ 4,224,000.00
40350.02 - Fish Sales - Byproduct	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 111,000.00	$ 111,000.00
Total 40060 - Fish Sales	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	$ -	**$ 4,335,000.00**	$ 4,335,000.00
Total Income	**$ 4,115,897.90**	**$ 1,252,975.57**	**$ 1,966,425.74**	**$ 7,335,299.21**	**$ 4,378,765.50**	**$ 11,714,064.71**
Expense						
Personnel Expenses						
50000 Salary & Wages	$ 2,003,034.15	$ 718,467.02	$ 1,311,907.87	$ 4,033,409.04	$ 869,406.57	$ 4,902,815.61
50100 Benefits	$ 854,418.03	$ 261,303.90	$ 470,046.00	$ 1,585,767.93	$ 189,504.06	$ 1,775,271.99
50200 Training & Education	$ 44,505.00	$ 18,477.00	$ 16,200.87	$ 79,182.87	$ 42,000.00	$ 121,182.87
50300 Personnel Related Expenses	$ 5,863.28	$ -	$ 12,021.00	$ 17,884.28	$ 5,000.00	$ 22,884.28
Total Personnel Expenses	**$ 2,907,820.46**	**$ 998,247.92**	**$ 1,810,175.74**	**$ 5,716,244.12**	**$ 1,105,910.63**	**$ 6,822,154.75**
Operational Expenses						
51000 Publications	$ 4,140.00	$ 7,500.00	$ 2,000.00	$ 13,640.00	$ 400.00	$ 14,040.00
51100 Mailing and Shipping	$ 3,622.50	$ 7,000.00	$ 5,538.56	$ 16,161.06	$ 118,000.00	$ 134,161.06
51200 Travel	$ 159,079.50	$ 14,825.00	$ 32,400.00	$ 206,304.50	$ 113,000.00	$ 319,304.50
51300 IPHC Meetings	$ 143,347.50	$ -	$ -	$ 143,347.50	$ -	$ 143,347.50
51400 Technology	$ 149,091.75	$ -	$ 17,000.00	$ 166,091.75	$ 21,000.00	$ 187,091.75
Total Operational Expenses	**$ 459,281.25**	**$ 29,325.00**	**$ 56,938.56**	**$ 545,544.81**	**$ 252,400.00**	**$ 797,944.81**
Fees and Contract Expenses						
52000 Professional Fees	$ 235,255.50	$ -	$ 1,560.57	$ 236,816.07	$ 2,000.00	$ 238,816.07
52100 Vessel Expenses	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 544,000.00	$ 544,000.00
52200 Other Fees and Charges	$ 55,727.36	$ -	$ 13,039.38	$ 68,766.74	$ 23,000.00	$ 91,766.74
52300 Leases and Contracts	$ 43,639.74	$ 39,019.00	$ 25,573.50	$ 108,232.24	$ 1,665,000.00	$ 1,773,232.24
54000 Communications	$ 36,742.50	$ -	$ 3,400.00	$ 40,142.50	$ 1,690.00	$ 41,832.50
Total Fees and Contract Expenses	**$ 371,365.10**	**$ 39,019.00**	**$ 43,573.45**	**$ 453,957.55**	**$ 2,235,690.00**	**$ 2,689,647.55**
Facilities and Equipment Expenses						
53000 Equipment Expense	$ 6,831.00	$ -	$ 4,408.40	$ 11,239.40	$ 33,000.00	$ 44,239.40
53100 Supplies Expense	$ 45,540.00	$ 144,807.00	$ 3,300.00	$ 193,647.00	$ 711,000.00	$ 904,647.00
53200 Maintenance and Utilities	$ 54,855.00	$ -	$ 6,062.67	$ 60,917.67	$ 77,385.00	$ 138,302.67
53300 Facility Rentals	$ 499,543.95	$ -	$ 3,500.00	$ 503,043.95	$ 16,507.00	$ 519,550.95
Total Facilities and Equipment Expenses	**$ 606,769.95**	**$ 144,807.00**	**$ 17,271.07**	**$ 768,848.02**	**$ 837,892.00**	**$ 1,606,740.02**
Other Expenses						
55000 - Budget Contingency	$ 1,119.56	$ 41,576.65	$ 38,466.92	$ 81,163.13	$ -	$ 81,163.13
55200 - Fund Cost Recovery	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Total Other Expenses	**$ 1,119.56**	**$ 41,576.65**	**$ 38,466.92**	**$ 81,163.13**	**$ -**	**$ 81,163.13**
Total Expense	**$ 4,346,356.32**	**$ 1,252,975.57**	**$ 1,966,425.74**	**$ 7,565,757.63**	**$ 4,431,892.63**	**$ 11,997,650.26**
Sub-Total: Net Income (Loss)	**$ (230,458.42)**	**$ 0.00**	**$ (0.00)**	**$ (230,458.42)**	**$ (53,127.13)**	**$ (283,585.55)**
FISS cost-recovery (% overhead)	$ 230,458.42	$ -	$ -	$ 230,458.42	$ (230,458.42)	$ -
Net Income (Loss)	$ (0.00)	$ 0.00	$ (0.00)	$ 0.00	$ (283,585.55)	$ (283,585.55)

APPENDIX XV
FY2026 INDICATIVE BUDGET

(1 Oct. 2025 to 30 Sept. 2026)

FY2026 Account Number	10 - General FY2026	20 - Research FY2026	30 - Statistics FY2026	TOTAL (10,20,30) FY2026	40 - FISS FY2026	TOTAL (All Funds) FY2026
Income						
40000 Contracting Party Contributions						
40000.01 - Canada	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,019,947.68	$ -	$ 1,019,947.68
40000.02 - United States of America	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 4,646,428.31	$ -	$ 4,646,428.31
Total 40000 - Contracting Party Contributions	**$ 3,620,115.71**	**$ 1,272,512.91**	**$ 1,177,335.00**	**$ 6,069,963.62**	**$ -**	**$ 5,666,375.99**
40055 - Headquartes (Lease and Maintenance)	$ 550,301.67	$ -	$ -	$ 550,301.67	$ -	$ 550,301.67
Total 40055 - Headquarters (Lease & Maintenance)	**$ 550,301.67**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ 550,301.67**	**$ -**	**$ 550,301.67**
40060 Other Income						
40060.05 - Recoupend leave expenses	$ 88,697.43	$ 23,494.50	$ 56,304.00	$ 168,495.93	$ 7,762.50	$ 176,258.43
40060.06 - Rent - Dutch Harbor	$ -	$ -	$ 5,600.00	$ 5,600.00	$ -	$ 5,600.00
Total 40060 - Other Income	**$ 88,697.43**	**$ 23,494.50**	**$ 61,904.00**	**$ 174,095.93**	**$ 7,762.50**	**$ 181,858.43**
40100 Grants, Contracts & Agreements						
40100.01 - 802 - NOAA Port Sampling Grant	$ -	$ -	$ 767,000.00	$ 767,000.00	$ -	$ 767,000.00
40100.02 - MoU WDFW Rockfish sampling	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 36,003.00	$ 36,003.00
Total 40100 - Grants, Contracts & Agreements	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ 767,000.00**	**$ 767,000.00**	**$ 36,003.00**	**$ 803,003.00**
40200 Interest Income				$ -		
40200.01 - Bank Interest	$ 851.68	$ -	$ -	$ 851.68	$ -	$ 851.68
Total 40200 - Interest Income	**$ 851.68**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ 851.68**	**$ -**	**$ 851.68**
40350 Fish Sales						
40350.01 - Fish Sales - Pacific Halibut	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 4,224,000.00	$ 4,224,000.00
40350.02 - Fish Sales - Byproduct	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 111,000.00	$ 111,000.00
Total 40060 - Fish Sales	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ 4,335,000.00**	**$ 4,335,000.00**
Total Income	**$ 4,259,966.49**	**$ 1,296,007.41**	**$ 2,006,239.00**	**$ 7,562,212.90**	**$ 4,378,765.50**	**$ 11,940,978.40**
Expense						
Personnel Expenses						
50000 Salary & Wages	$ 2,073,140.35	$ 718,467.02	$ 1,311,907.87	$ 4,103,515.24	$ 869,406.57	$ 4,972,921.81
50100 Benefits	$ 884,322.66	$ 261,303.90	$ 470,046.00	$ 1,615,672.56	$ 189,504.06	$ 1,805,176.62
50200 Training & Education	$ 46,062.68	$ 18,477.00	$ 16,200.87	$ 80,740.55	$ 42,000.00	$ 122,740.55
50300 Personnel Related Expenses	$ 6,068.49	$ -	$ 12,021.00	$ 18,089.49	$ 5,000.00	$ 23,089.49
Total Personnel Expenses	**$ 3,009,594.17**	**$ 998,247.92**	**$ 1,810,175.74**	**$ 5,818,017.83**	**$ 1,105,910.63**	**$ 6,923,928.46**
Operational Expenses						
51000 Publications	$ 2,500.00	$ 7,500.00	$ 2,000.00	$ 12,000.00	$ 400.00	$ 12,400.00
51100 Mailing and Shipping	$ 3,749.29	$ 7,000.00	$ 5,538.56	$ 16,287.85	$ 118,000.00	$ 134,287.85
51200 Travel	$ 150,673.26	$ 14,825.00	$ 32,400.00	$ 197,898.26	$ 113,000.00	$ 310,898.26
51300 IPHC Meetings	$ 148,364.66	$ -	$ -	$ 148,364.66	$ -	$ 148,364.66
51400 Technology	$ 154,309.96	$ -	$ 17,000.00	$ 171,309.96	$ 21,000.00	$ 192,309.96
Total Operational Expenses	**$ 459,597.17**	**$ 29,325.00**	**$ 56,938.56**	**$ 545,860.73**	**$ 252,400.00**	**$ 798,260.73**
Fees and Contract Expenses						
52000 Professional Fees	$ 243,489.44	$ -	$ 1,560.57	$ 245,050.01	$ 2,000.00	$ 247,050.01
52100 Vessel Expenses	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 544,000.00	$ 544,000.00
52200 Other Fees and Charges	$ 57,677.82	$ -	$ 13,039.38	$ 70,717.20	$ 23,000.00	$ 93,717.20
52300 Leases and Contracts	$ 45,167.13	$ 39,019.00	$ 25,573.50	$ 109,759.63	$ 1,665,000.00	$ 1,774,759.63
54000 Communications	$ 38,028.49	$ -	$ 3,400.00	$ 41,428.49	$ 1,690.00	$ 43,118.49
Total Fees and Contract Expenses	**$ 384,362.88**	**$ 39,019.00**	**$ 43,573.45**	**$ 466,955.33**	**$ 2,235,690.00**	**$ 2,702,645.33**
Facilities and Equipment Expenses						
53000 Equipment Expense	$ 7,070.09	$ -	$ 4,408.40	$ 11,478.49	$ 33,000.00	$ 44,478.49
53100 Supplies Expense	$ 47,133.90	$ 144,807.00	$ 3,300.00	$ 195,240.90	$ 711,000.00	$ 906,240.90
53200 Maintenance and Utilities	$ 56,774.93	$ -	$ 6,062.67	$ 62,837.60	$ 77,385.00	$ 140,222.60
53300 Facility Rentals	$ 517,027.99	$ -	$ 3,500.00	$ 520,527.99	$ 16,507.00	$ 537,034.99
Total Facilities and Equipment Expenses	**$ 628,006.90**	**$ 144,807.00**	**$ 17,271.07**	**$ 790,084.97**	**$ 837,892.00**	**$ 1,627,976.97**
Other Expenses						
55000 - Budget Contingency	$ -	$ 84,608.49	$ 78,280.18	$ 162,888.67	$ -	$ 162,888.67
55200 - Fund Cost Recovery	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Total Other Expenses	**$ -**	**$ 84,608.49**	**$ 78,280.18**	**$ 162,888.67**	**$ -**	**$ 162,888.67**
Total Expense	**$ 4,481,561.12**	**$ 1,296,007.41**	**$ 2,006,239.00**	**$ 7,783,807.53**	**$ 4,431,892.63**	**$ 12,215,700.16**
Sub-Total: Net Income (Loss)	**$ (221,594.63)**	**$ 0.00**	**$ (0.00)**	**$ (221,594.63)**	**$ (53,127.13)**	**$ (274,721.76)**
FISS cost-recovery (% overhead)	$ 221,594.63	$ -	$ -	$ 221,594.63	$ (221,594.63)	$ -
Net Income (Loss)	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ (0.00)	$ 0.00	$ (274,721.76)	$ (274,721.76)

APPENDIX XVI
CONSOLIDATED SET OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND REQUESTS OF THE 99TH SESSION OF THE IPHC ANNUAL MEETING (AM099) (23-27 JANUARY 2023)

RECOMMENDATIONS

International Pacific Halibut Commission 5-year program of Integrated Research and Monitoring (2022-26)

AM099–Rec.01 (para. 12) The Commission **RECOMMENDED** that the Secretariat annually present potential changes to the Plan at the IPHC Interim Meeting. The Commission would then have the opportunity to provide any redirection based on Commission priorities and available funding. To assist in making that assessment, the Secretariat will be preparing a progress report annually.

IPHC Management Strategy Evaluation: update

AM099–Rec.02 (para. 76) The Commission **RECOMMENDED** that for the purpose of a comprehensive and intelligible Harvest Strategy Policy (HSP), four coastwide objectives should be documented within the HSP, in priority order:

a) Maintain the long-term coastwide female spawning stock biomass above a biomass limit reference point (B20%) at least 95% of the time.

b) Maintain the long-term coastwide female spawning stock biomass at or above a biomass reference point (B36%) 50% or more of the time.

c) Optimise average coastwide TCEY.

d) Limit annual changes in the coastwide TCEY.

AM099–Rec.03 (para. 84) The Commission **AGREED** sufficient analysis has been completed and **RECOMMENDED** not to change the current 32 inch size limit.

IPHC Fishery Regulations: Logs (Sect. 20) – Logs requirements

AM099–Rec.04 (para. 104) The Commission **RECOMMENDED** that the IPHC work with NOAA Fisheries on data sharing arrangement to retrieve Pacific halibut data submitted via Pacific Coast Groundfish non-trawl logbook.

IPHC meetings calendar (2023-25)

AM099–Rec.05 (para. 137) The Commission **RECOMMENDED** that the 13th Special Session of the Commission be held electronically in mid-April 2023 to review and adopt an FY2024 budget.

REQUESTS

2023-25 FISS design evaluation

AM099–Req.01 (para. 35) The Commission **REQUESTED** a desktop review to determine if reducing bait size on the FISS would substantially reduce costs, while not reducing catch rates and associated fish sale revenue to any large degree.

AM099–Req.02 (para. 44) The Commission **REQUESTED** that the Secretariat provide a breakdown of costs associated with the FISS over the last three (3) years and what is projected for the

2023 FISS, and for this to be presented at the 13th Special Session of the Commission (SS013).

Pacific halibut mortality projections using the IPHC mortality projection tool (2023)

AM099–Req.03 (para. 61) The Commission **REQUESTED** a table be prepared annually that details the historical TCEY decisions, that is currently published on the IPHC website [https://www.iphc.int/uploads/data/time-series-datasets/excel/iphc-2023-tsd-017.xlsx]

Report on current and future biological and ecosystem science research activities

AM099–Req.04 (para. 66) The Commission **REQUESTED** that the Secretariat provide a summary of the proposed and ongoing research projects at the Secretariat, including status updates, suggestions for potential priority setting by the Commission, links to the IPHC's mandate and how the research will inform decision-making, guidance on types of research that should be considered for internal funding versus types of research that would be contingent on the availability of external funding or partnerships, among other criteria that may be requested by the Commission.

AM099–Req.05 (para. 67) The Commission **REQUESTED** that the Secretariat highlight the elements of its 5YRPIRM (the Plan) that will inform its understanding of the impacts of climate change on Pacific halibut in its annual presentations of the research Plan to the Commission.

IPHC Management Strategy Evaluation: update

AM099–Req.06 (para. 88) **NOTING** paragraph 60 from the 21st Session of the SRB (SRB021), the Commission **REQUESTED** the Secretariat develop a description of options to responding to exceptional circumstances that would trigger a stock assessment in non-assessment years and additional MSE analyses.

IPHC-2022-SRB021-R, para 60: *The SRB RECOMMENDED that Exceptional Circumstances be defined to determine whether monitoring information has potentially departed from their expected distributions generated by the MSE. Declaration of Exceptional Circumstances may warrant re-opening and revising the operating models and testing procedures used to justify a particular management procedure.*

IPHC Rules of Procedure (2022)

AM099–Req.07 (para. 132) The Commission **ADOPTED** the IPHC Rules of Procedure (2023), as provided in IPHC-2023-FAC098-09, and **REQUESTED** that the IPHC Secretariat finalise and publish them accordingly, with the following amendments:

a) Amend para. 14b-e of the PAB TOR's to read as follows:

b) Proxies are allowed from accredited members from the PAB;

c) Only one proxy per attending member;

d) Proxies will be submitted to the IPHC Secretariat prior to the PAB meeting in written or electronic form;

e) A general proxy will authorize a designated PAB member to vote on any or all topics brought before the PAB on behalf of a PAB member who cannot attend. A specific proxy will authorize a PAB member to vote on specifically named topics (listed on the proxy itself) on behalf of the PAB member who can not attend.

AM099–Req.08 (para. 133) The Commission **REQUESTED** that a working group involving interested PAB members, convened by the IPHC Secretariat, be formed to determine if additional edits to the PAB Rules of Procedure are necessary on topics including but not limited to membership eligibility. Any further amendments are to be provided to the Commission within three (3) months.

Review of the draft and adoption of the report of the 99th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM099)

AM099–Req.09 (para. 144) The Commission **REQUESTED** that the IPHC Secretariat finalise and publish the IPHC *Pacific Halibut Fishery Regulations (2023)* as soon as possible, **NOTING** that only minor editorial and formatting changes are permitted beyond the decisions made by the Commission at the AM099.