



INTERNATIONAL PACIFIC



HALIBUT COMMISSION

Report of the IPHC Secretariat (2019): Draft

Agenda Item 4

IPHC-2019-IM095-04

PURPOSE

To provide the Commission with an update on the activities of the IPHC Secretariat in 2019 (as of 20 November 2019), not already contained within other papers before the Commission.



STAFFING IMPROVEMENTS: REGULAR FULL-TIME POSITIONS

	FT Arrivals	Type	Hire Date	Status	Position Title
	Ms Monica Mocaer	Regular full-time	18 Nov 2019	Active	Setline Survey Specialist
	Ms Kamala Carroll	Regular full-time	8 Aug 2019	Active	Fisheries Data Specialist (Field Staff Supervisor)
	Ms Kimberly Sawyer	Regular full-time	22 Jul 2019	Active	Fisheries Data Specialist



STAFFING IMPROVEMENTS: REGULAR FULL-TIME POSITIONS

	FT Arrivals	Type	Hire Date	Status	Position Title
	Ms Kayla Ualesi	Regular full-time	2 Dec 2019	Pending	Setline Survey Coordinator
	Ms Katja Hyvarinen	Regular full-time	2 Dec 2019	Pending	Administrative Specialist



STAFFING IMPROVEMENTS: TEMPORARY FULL-TIME POSITIONS

	FT Arrivals	Type	Hire Date	Status	Position Title
	Dr Barbara Hutniczak	Temporary full-time 2-yr contract ending 31 October 2021	1 Nov 2019	Active	Fisheries Economist
	Mr Andy Jasonowicz	Temporary full-time 1-yr contract ending in Aug 2020	26 Aug 2019	Active	Research Biologist (Genetics)
	Dr Piera Carpi	Temporary full-time 2-yr contract ending in March 2021	1 Apr 2019	Active	MSE Researcher
	Mr Colin Jones	Temporary full-time 2-yr contract ending in January 2021	14 Jan 2019	Active	Setline Survey Specialist



IPHC INTERNSHIP PROGRAM: 2019

Ms Kennedy Bolstad
14 May – 21 August 2019
University of Victoria, BC, Canada



Genotyping efforts to assist in determining the sex ratio in the commercial fishery:
DNA purification from fin clips.

Reproductive assessment project:
Identification and characterisation of reproductive markers in female Pacific halibut.



IPHC MERIT SCHOLARSHIP FOR 2019

The IPHC funds several Merit Scholarships to support university, technical college, and other post-secondary education for students from Canada and the USA who are connected to the Pacific halibut fishery.

The next call for expressions of interest/application will occur in early 2020.

Name	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Ysabel Echeverio (Stevensville, MT, USA)	-	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	-	-
Kaia Dahl (Petersburg, AK, USA)	-	-	-	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000
TBD	-	-	-	-	-	\$4,000	\$4,000



IPHC FISHERY REGULATIONS (2019)

In 2019, the Commission adopted three (3) fishery regulations in accordance with Article III of the Convention, as follows:

- 1) IPHC Pacific halibut fishery regulations, Section 4. Fishery Limits
- 2) IPHC Pacific halibut fishery regulations, Section 9. Commercial fishing periods
- 3) Charter management measures in IPHC Regulatory Areas 2C and 3A



DEFERRED REGULATORY PROPOSALS

At the 95th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM095), the Commission deferred action on a number of IPHC Secretariat and stakeholder regulatory proposals and tasked the IPHC Secretariat as follows:

Fishery Limits (Sect. 4)

Para. 63. The Commission **NOTED** regulatory proposal IPHC-2019-AM095-PropA1, which aimed to improve clarity and transparency of fishery limits in the IPHC Fishery Regulations, and to provide the framework for mortality limits adopted by the Commission.

Para 64. The Commission **DEFERRED** modifications to the fishery regulations at this time, due to administrative concerns raised by NOAA-Fisheries, and indication that they would be unable to make modifications to the IPHC's Fishery Regulations outside of absolutely essential edits.



DEFERRED REGULATORY PROPOSALS

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IPHC Fishery Regulations: minor amendments

Para. 81. The Commission **NOTED** and **DEFERRED** regulatory proposal IPHC-2019-AM095-PropA3 Rev_1, which proposed amendments to ensure clarity and consistency in the IPHC Fishery Regulations.

IPHC Regulatory Area 2A Quota Proposal

Para. 87. The Commission **NOTED** and **DEFERRED** action on regulatory proposal IPHC-2019-AM095-PropC2, which proposed an individual quota system for IPHC Regulatory Area 2A (reference paragraphs 75-79).



INTERACTIONS WITH CONTRACTING PARTIES

CONTRACTING PARTY REPORTS

At AM095, the Commission agreed to pursue a modified format for annual Contracting Party reports to the IPHC:

IPHC-2019-AM095-R, para. 101: **NOTING** that efficiencies are likely to be gained by modifying the format and content for Contracting Parties reports to the Commission, the Commission **AGREED** that the Contracting Parties, via Commissioners, would work with the IPHC Secretariat intersessionally to improve the process, including the possibility for reports from Contracting Party agencies to be aggregated and presented as a consolidated Contracting Party report to the Commission. The IPHC Secretariat will share this work with the governments of both Contracting Parties to facilitate this effort throughout 2019.



INTERACTIONS WITH CONTRACTING PARTIES

CANADA

- Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)
 - Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and the 2018 IPHC FISS
- Halibut Advisory Board (HAB)
 - Supported and participated in HAB meetings



INTERACTIONS WITH CONTRACTING PARTIES

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

- NOAA Fisheries (NMFS)
- North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC)
 - Monitored and supported the NPFMC's Abundance-Based Management Working Group
- Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC)
 - Collaborated with state and federal agencies to conduct in-season management for IPHC Regulatory Area 2A fisheries
 - Continued discussion with PFMC and state and federal agencies on the transition of IPHC Regulatory Area 2A Pacific halibut fisheries to domestic management



IPHC COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH

IPHC Website

- Significant enhancement of data availability and visualization

Annual Report

- Annual Report 2018 published 27 Feb 2019 ([IPHC-2019-2018AR](#))
- Annual Report 2019 on track for publication at the end of Feb 2020

IPHC Circulars and Media Releases

- Fully electronic information distribution as of 1 Aug 2019
- Media Releases now the primary informal communication for stakeholders



IPHC COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH

There is a considerable amount of effort put into public outreach, attending conferences and meetings that enhance knowledge, contributing expertise to the broader scientific community through participation on boards and committees, and seeking further education and training.



IPHC COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH

Committees and external organisation appointments

North America:

- 1) *Technical Subcommittee (TSC) of the Canada-United States Groundfish Committee* - Dr. Josep Planas & Ms. Lara Erikson

Canada:

- 1) *Halibut Advisory Board (Canada)* - Dr. David Wilson



IPHC COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH

Committees and external organisation appointments

United States of America:

- 1) *Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Plan Team* - Dr. Allan Hicks
- 2) *Bering Sea Fishery Ecosystem Plan Team* - Dr. Ian Stewart
- 3) *North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) Abundance-based Management Working Group* – Dr. Allan Hicks
- 4) *NPFMC Scientific and Statistical Committee* - Dr. Ian Stewart
- 5) *NPFMC Trawl Electronic Monitoring Committee* – Ms. Huyen Tran
- 6) *North Pacific Research Board Science Panel* - Dr. Josep Planas
- 7) *Observer Science Committee (NOAA-Alaska)* – Dr. Ray Webster
- 8) *Interagency electronic reporting system for commercial fishery landings in Alaska (eLandings) Steering Committee* – Ms. Lara Erikson and Ms. Huyen Tran
- 9) *Interagency electronic reporting system for commercial fishery landings in Alaska (eLandings) IT Steering Committee* – Mr. Afshin Taheri
- 10) *Western Groundfish Conference Committee* – Mr. Edward Henry, Mr. Claude Dykstra



IPHC COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH

Conferences and symposia (chronological order)

- 1) Science Talk '19, 4-5 April 2019, Portland, OR, USA – Ed Henry
- 2) 2019 Bevan Symposium, 16-18 April, Seattle, WA, USA – Ms. Lauri Sadorus
- 3) 2019 Wakefield Symposium, 7-10 May, Anchorage, AK, USA – Dr. Josep Planas
- 4) AFSC workshop on Integrating ecosystem and socioeconomic information into the groundfish/crab stock assessments Ecosystem and Socioeconomic Profiles, 29-31 May, Seattle, WA – Dr. Ian Stewart
- 5) Canadian Science Advisory Secretariat Regional Peer Review Meeting for the Widow Rockfish Stock Assessment, 18-19 June 2019, Nanaimo, BC – Dr. Allan Hicks
- 6) 54th European Marine Biology Symposium, 25-29 August, Dublin, Ireland – Dr. Tim Loher
- 7) 149th AFS Annual Meeting 29 Sept- 3 Oct, Reno, NV, U.S.A – Mr. Edward Henry
- 8) **2019 PICES Annual Meeting and Pacific halibut Workshop**, 18-24 October, Victoria, B.C., Canada - Dr. David Wilson, Dr. Ian Stewart, Dr. Allan Hicks, Dr. Josep Planas, Dr. Tim Loher, Ms. Lauri Sadorus, Ms. Joan Forsberg, Ms. Anna Simeon, Mr. Andy Jasonowicz, Ms. Dana Rudy, Mr. Claude Dykstra
- 9) CAPAM Next Generation Stock Assessment Models, 4-8 November 2019, Wellington, NZ – Dr. Allan Hicks, Dr. Piera Carpi



IPHC COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH

Outreach

- 1) **Booth at the Pacific Northwest Sportsman's Show, 5-10 February, Portland, OR, USA** – Stephen Keith, Edward Henry, Lauri Sadorus, Ian Stewart, Caroline Robinson, Lara Erikson, Collin Winkowski
- 2) **Booth at ComFish Alaska, 29-30 March, Kodiak, AK** – Dr. Ian Stewart, Ms. Lara Erikson
- 3) **Booth at the Pacific Marine Expo, 21-23 November, Seattle, WA, USA** – Edward Henry, Tom Kong, Abby Carrigan, Kimberly Sawyer, Colin Jones, Stephen Keith, Kamala Carroll, Collin Winkowski, Anna Simeon, Claude Dykstra, Josep Planas, Caroline Robinson



IPHC COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH

- 4) **2 x Booths at the Fisherman's Fall Festival, 21 September, Seattle, WA, USA** – David Wilson, Caroline Robinson, Piera Carpi, Jay Walker, Tamara Briggie, Dana Rudy, Huyen Tran, Edward Henry, Kimberly Sawyer, Abby Carrigan, Chris Johnson, Kamala Carroll, Josep Planas, Lara Erikson, Collin Winkowski, Keith Jernigan, Lauri Sadorus

For this event, 15 staff volunteered and prepared and served 1,165 portions of panko crusted Pacific halibut.

Pacific halibut donated by:

- Pacific seafood (USA) 
- Aero Trading Co Ltd (CAN) 

We raised almost **US\$5,900** which went directly to the Fishermen's Memorial Fund.



IPHC COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH

Academic affiliations

Affiliate Faculty:

- 1) Dr. Allan Hicks - University of Washington School of Aquatic and Fishery Sciences, Seattle, WA, USA
- 2) Dr. Ian Stewart - University of Washington School of Aquatic and Fishery Sciences, Seattle, WA, USA
- 3) Dr. Josep Planas - Alaska Pacific University, Anchorage, AK, USA

Graduate student committee member:

- 1) Dr. Allan Hicks - University of Massachusetts School for Marine Science & Technology, Dartmouth, MA, USA
- 2) Dr. Allan Hicks - University of Washington School of Aquatic & Fishery Sciences, Seattle, WA, USA
- 3) Dr. Ian Stewart - Alaska Pacific University, Anchorage, AK, USA
- 4) Dr. Ian Stewart - University of Washington School of Aquatic & Fishery Sciences, Seattle, WA, USA
- 5) Dr. Josep Planas - Alaska Pacific University, Anchorage, AK, USA
- 6) Dr. Tim Loher - University of Alaska Fairbanks, Juneau, AK, USA



IPHC PUBLICATIONS IN 2019

Published peer-reviewed journal articles x 2

Kuriyama PT, Branch TA, **Hicks AC**, Harms JH & Hamel OS (2019) Investigating three sources of bias in hook-and-line surveys: survey design, gear saturation, and multispecies interactions. *Can. J. Fish. Aquat. Sci.* 76: 192–207.

Nielsen JK, Mueter FJ, Adkinson MD, **Loher T**, McDermott SF & Seitz AC (2019) Effect of study area bathymetric heterogeneity on parameterization and performance of a depth-based geolocation model for demersal fish. *Ecological Modelling* 402(2019):1-34.



IPHC PUBLICATIONS IN 2019

In press peer-reviewed journal articles x 3

Monnahan, CC, Branch, TA, Thorson, JT, **Stewart, IJ**, and Szuwalski, C. (In press). Overcoming long Bayesian run times in integrated fisheries stock assessments. ICES J. Mar. Sci. doi:10.1093/icesjms/fsz059/5475859.

Rose CS, Nielsen JK, Gauvin J, **Loher T**, Sethi S, Seitz AC, Courtney MB & Drobny P (In press). Pacific halibut (*Hippoglossus stenolepis*) survivals after release from trawl catches through expedited sorting: deploying advanced tags in quantity (160) reveals patterns in survival outcomes. Canadian Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences. doi: 10.1139/cjfas-2018.0350

van Helmond ATM, Mortensen LO, Plet-Hansen KS, Ulrich C, Needle CL, Oesterwind D, Kindt-Larsen L, Catchpole T, Mangi S, Zimmermann C, Olesen HK, Bailey N, Bergsson H, Dalskov J, Elson J, Hosken M, Peterson L, McElderry H, Ruiz J, Pierre JP, **Dykstra C**, Poos JJ. (in press). Electronic monitoring in fisheries: Lessons from global experiences and future opportunities. Fish Fish. 2019; 00:1–28. <https://doi.org/10.1111/faf.12425>



IPHC PUBLICATIONS IN 2019

Submitted peer-review journal articles – In revision x 2

Punt, AE, Tuck G, Day J, Canales M, Cope JM, de Moor C, De Oliveira JAA, Dickey-Collas M, Elvarsson B, Haltuch MA, Hamel OS, **Hicks AC**, Legault CM, Lynch PD, Wilberg MJ (In review). When are model-based stock assessments rejected for use in management and what happens then? Fisheries Research.

Webster, R. A., Soderlund, E., Dykstra, C. L. and Stewart, I. J. (in review) Monitoring change in a dynamic environment: spatio-temporal modelling of calibrated data from different types of fisheries surveys of Pacific halibut. Canadian Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences.



2020 IPHC PUBLICATIONS

In preparation peer-reviewed journal articles x 9 (for 2020)

Forrest RE, **Stewart IJ**, Monnahan CC, Bannar-Martin KH, Lacko LC (In preparation). Evidence for rapid avoidance of rockfish habitat under reduced quota and comprehensive at-sea monitoring in the British Columbia Pacific Halibut fishery.

Hicks A, Carpi P, Stewart IJ (In preparation). An analysis of dynamic reference points for Pacific halibut given changes in productivity.

Sadorus LL, Goldstein E, Webster RA, Stockhausen WT, Planas JV, Duffy-Anderson J (In preparation). Multiple life-stage connectivity of Pacific halibut (*Hippoglossus stenolepis*) across the Bering Sea and Gulf of Alaska.

Planas JV, Simeon A, Jasonowicz A, Rudy D, Timmins-Schiffman E, Nunn BL, Kroska A, Wolf N, Hurst TP (In preparation). Physiological signatures of temperature-induced growth manipulations in white skeletal muscle of juvenile Pacific halibut (*Hippoglossus stenolepis*).



IPHC PUBLICATIONS

In preparation peer-reviewed journal articles x 9 (for 2020)

Simeon A, Stewart IJ, Loher T, Erikson L, McCarty O, Dykstra C, Drinan DP, Hauser L, Planas JV (In preparation). Sex marking at sea by the directed Pacific halibut fleet.

Carpi P, Dykstra C, Forsberg J, Hicks A, Jasonowicz A, Johnston C, Loher T, Planas JV, Rudy D, Sadorus L, Simeon A, Stewart IJ, Tobin R, Webster R (In preparation). Ontogenetic and spawning migration of Pacific halibut: a review.

Fish T, Winkouski C, Simeon A, Wolf N, Harris B, Planas JV (In preparation). Histological characterization of oocyte developmental stages in Pacific halibut (*Hippoglossus stenolepis*).

Rudy D, Forsberg J, Johnston C, Tobin R, Stewart IJ, Planas JV, Loher T (In preparation). Can we reconstruct the growth history of the Pacific halibut (*Hippoglossus stenolepis*) population by otolith increment analysis?

Loher T, Dykstra C, Stewart IJ, Hicks A, Wolf N, Harris B, Planas JV (In preparation). Survival estimates of discarded Pacific halibut from the directed fishery as assessed by accelerometer satellite

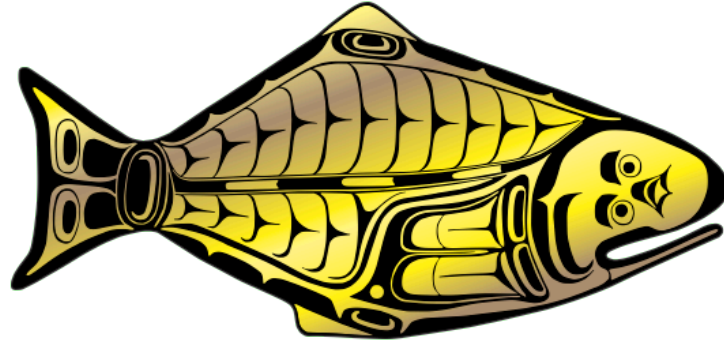


ACTION

That the Commission **NOTE** paper IPHC-2019-IM095-04 which provides the Commission with a draft update on activities of the IPHC Secretariat in 2019, not detailed in other papers before the Commission.



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