



Report of the 98th Session of the IPHC Interim Meeting (IM098)

Meeting held electronically, 30 November – 1 December 2022

Commissioners

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

Executive Director

David T. Wilson, Ph.D.

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Participants in the Session
Members of the Commission
IPHC Secretariat

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Contact details:

International Pacific Halibut Commission
2320 W. Commodore Way, Suite 300
Seattle, WA, 98199-1287, U.S.A.
Phone: +1 206 634 1838
Fax: +1 206 632 2983
Email: secretariat@iphc.int
Website: <http://www.iphc.int/>

ACRONYMS

CB	Conference Board
DFO	Department of Fisheries and Ocean (Canada)
FISS	Fishery-Independent Setline Survey
IPHC	International Pacific Halibut Commission
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
RAB	Research Advisory Board
SB	Spawning Biomass
SRB	Scientific Review Board
TCEY	Total Constant Exploitation Yield
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 98th Session of the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) Interim Meeting (IM098) was held in a hybrid format from 30 November to 1 December 2022. A total of 18 members (6 Commissioners; 12 advisors/experts) attended the Session from the two (2) Contracting Parties, as well as 114 observers. The meeting was opened by the Chairperson, Mr Paul Ryall (Canada), who welcomed participants.

The following are a subset of the complete recommendations and requests for action from the IM098, which are provided at [Appendix V](#).

RECOMMENDATIONS

IPHC Fishery regulations: Proposals for the 2022-23 process

IM098-Rec.01 ([para. 63](#)) The Commission **RECOMMENDED** that interested stakeholders note the deadline for submission of IPHC Fishery Regulation proposals, for consideration at the 99th Session of the Annual Meeting (AM099), of **24 December 2022**. Late proposals will not be considered at AM099, but stakeholders may also submit statements up until the day before the AM099. More information is available via the updated IPHC website: <https://iphc.int/the-commission/fishery-regulations/>

REQUESTS

2023-25 FISS design evaluation

IM098-Req.01 ([para. 32](#)) The Commission **REQUESTED** that the IPHC Secretariat consider adding the charter region of Portlock back into the 2023 FISS should in-season revenue conditions and vessel availability, permit it. Similarly, should in-season conditions be favourable, then consider increasing the FISS station count in Regulatory Areas 4B, 4A and 2A.

Management Strategy Evaluation

IM098-Req.02 ([para. 59](#)) The Commission **AGREED** that it was not yet ready to provide direction to the IPHC Secretariat on a set of objectives, performance metrics, or a reduced set of Management Procedures for the IPHC Management Strategy Evaluation process and **REQUESTED** that the IPHC Secretariat present their proposals for focusing the IPHC's MSE efforts at AM099 for consideration.

IPHC Rules of Procedure: Draft amendments

IM098-Req.03 ([para. 78](#)) The Commission **REQUESTED** a dedicated time slot be added to the AM099 agenda, where the Commission will clarify the role and purpose of the MSAB moving forward, as well as to explain changes in membership and representation.

In addition, the Commission endorsed the following:

2023-25 FISS design evaluation

([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.

([para. 34](#)) The Commission tentatively **ENDORSED** the proposed designs for 2024-25, as provisionally endorsed by the Scientific Review Board at SRB021, recognizing that the 2024-25 designs are expected to be modified in subsequent years.

1. OPENING OF THE SESSION

1. The 98th Session of the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) Interim Meeting (IM098) was held in a hybrid format from 30 November to 1 December 2022. A total of 18 members (6 Commissioners; 12 advisors/experts) attended the Session from the two (2) Contracting Parties, as well as 114 observers. The list of participants is provided at [Appendix I](#). The meeting was opened by the Chairperson, Mr Paul Ryall (Canada), who welcomed participants.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION

2. The Commission **ADOPTED** the Agenda as provided at [Appendix II](#). The documents provided to the IM097 are listed in [Appendix III](#).

2.1 Election of Vice-Chairperson of the Commission

3. The Commission **NOTED** that the Vice-Chairperson position role was vacant, and as per Rule 9 of the IPHC Rules of Procedure (2022) the Commission is required to elect a new Vice-Chairperson until the close of the next Annual Meeting.
4. **NOTING** Rule 9 of the Rules of Procedure (2022), the Commission called for nominations for the vacant position of Vice-Chairperson of the IPHC until the close of the next Annual Meeting. Mr John Kurland (U.S.A.) was nominated, seconded, and elected as Vice-Chairperson of the IPHC until the close of the next Annual Meeting.

3. IPHC PROCESS

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

5. The Commission **NOTED** paper [IPHC-2022-IM098-03](#) which provided an opportunity to consider the progress made during the intersessional period in relation to the direct requests for action by the Commission during the 98th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM098, January 2022), 2022 Special Sessions, and intersessional decisions.
6. 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 IM098.

3.2 Report of the IPHC Secretariat (2022): Draft

7. The Commission **NOTED** paper [IPHC-2022-IM098-04](#) which provided the Commission with a draft update on the activities of the IPHC Secretariat in 2022, not already contained within other papers before the Commission.

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

8. The Commission **NOTED** paper [IPHC-2022-IM098-05](#), which provided the Commission with an update on the implementation of the recommendations arising from the 2nd Performance Review of the IPHC (PRIPHC02).
9. The Commission **NOTED** progress has not been made on 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.*”

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

10. The Commission **NOTED** paper [IPHC-2022-IM098-06](#), which provided the Commission with an opportunity to comment and amend the IPHC’s 5-year Program of Integrated Research and Monitoring (2022-26) (the Plan).

-
11. The Commission **RECALLED** that 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 of the Commission (e.g. internal and external fiscal resources, collaborations, internal expertise). The plan focuses on core responsibilities of the Commission; and any redirection provided by the Commission. Each year the SRB may choose to recommend modifications to the current Plan, and that any modifications subsequently made would be documented both in the Plan itself, and through reporting back to the SRB and then the Commission.

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

12. The Commission **NOTED** the Report of the 23rd Session of the IPHC Research Advisory Board (RAB023) ([IPHC-2022-RAB023-R](#)) which was held on 28 November 2022.
13. The Commission **NOTED** the concern expressed by the RAB023 on the request from ADFG to have 100% of FISS bycatch revenue taken from fish caught in Alaskan state waters to be provided to ADFG.

3.6 Reports of the Scientific Review Board (SRB)

14. 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 SRB Chairperson, Dr Sean Cox.

4. FISHERY MONITORING

4.1 Fishery-dependent data overview (2022)

15. The Commission **NOTED** paper [IPHC-2022-IM098-07 Rev 1](#) which provided an overview of the key fishery statistics from fisheries catching Pacific halibut during 2022, including the status of landings compared to fishery limits implemented by the Contracting Parties of the Commission.
16. The Commission **NOTED** the comparatively low cumulative percent attainment and landed catch for all Regulatory Areas being observed, combined with anecdotal evidence from harvesters that finding fish has been difficult in 2022.

4.2 Fishery-independent data overview (2022)

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

17. The Commission **NOTED** paper [IPHC-2022-IM098-08](#) that provided an overview of the IPHC Fishery-Independent Setline Survey (FISS) design and implementation in 2022.
18. The Commission **RECALLED** that the annual IPHC Fishery-Independent Setline Survey (FISS) of the Pacific halibut stock consists of a standard grid in all IPHC Regulatory Areas, and totals 1,890 stations (the full FISS design) ([Fig. 1](#)), within the prescribed depth range of 18 to 732 metres (10 to 400 fathoms).
19. The Commission **RECALLED** that 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 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. 2022 sampling in IPHC Regulatory Areas 2C included random subsampling from the full design in IPHC charter region Ketchikan while sampling in IPHC charter regions Ommaney & Sitka included 100% of the full FISS design.

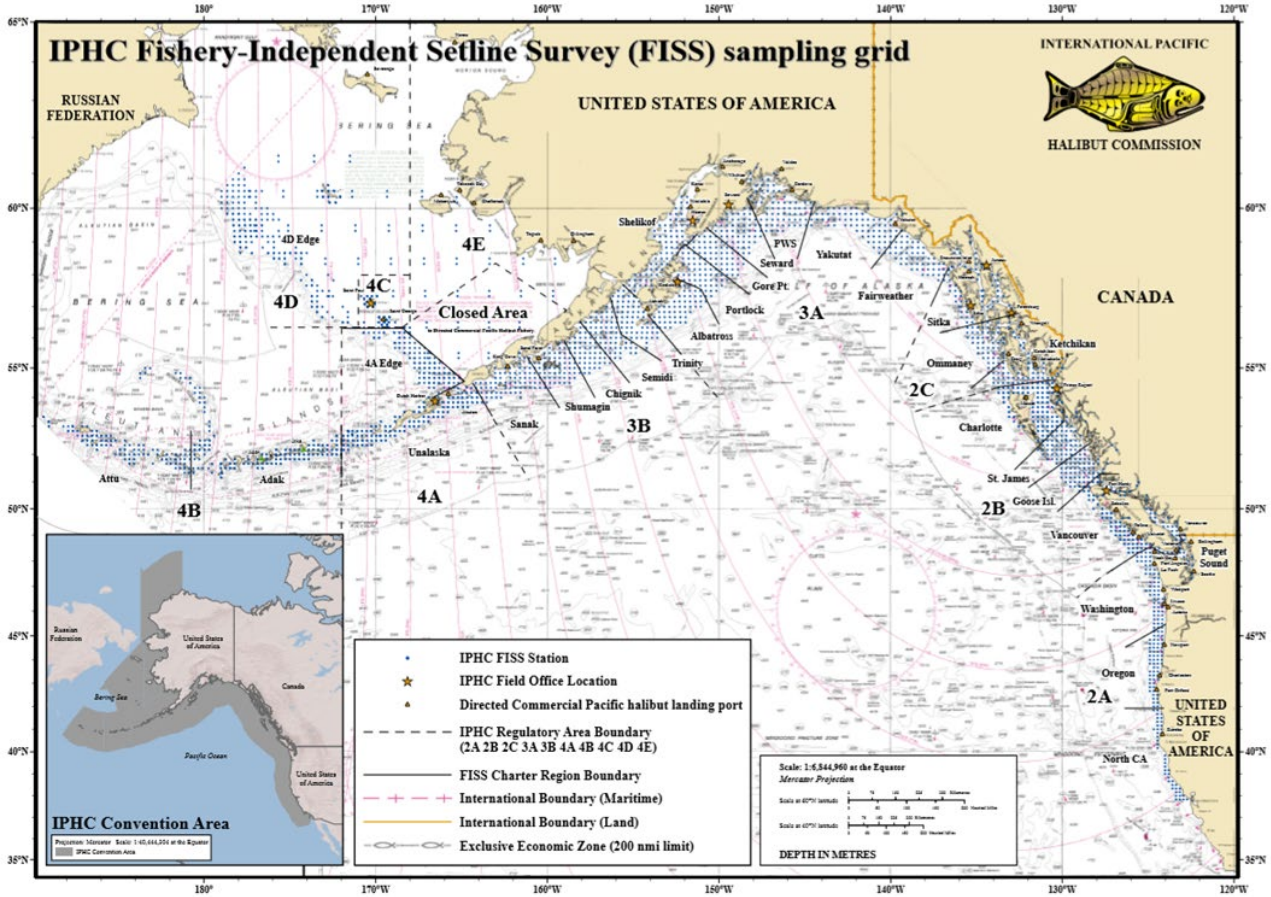


Figure 1. IPHC Fishery-Independent Setline Survey (FISS) with full sampling grid shown.

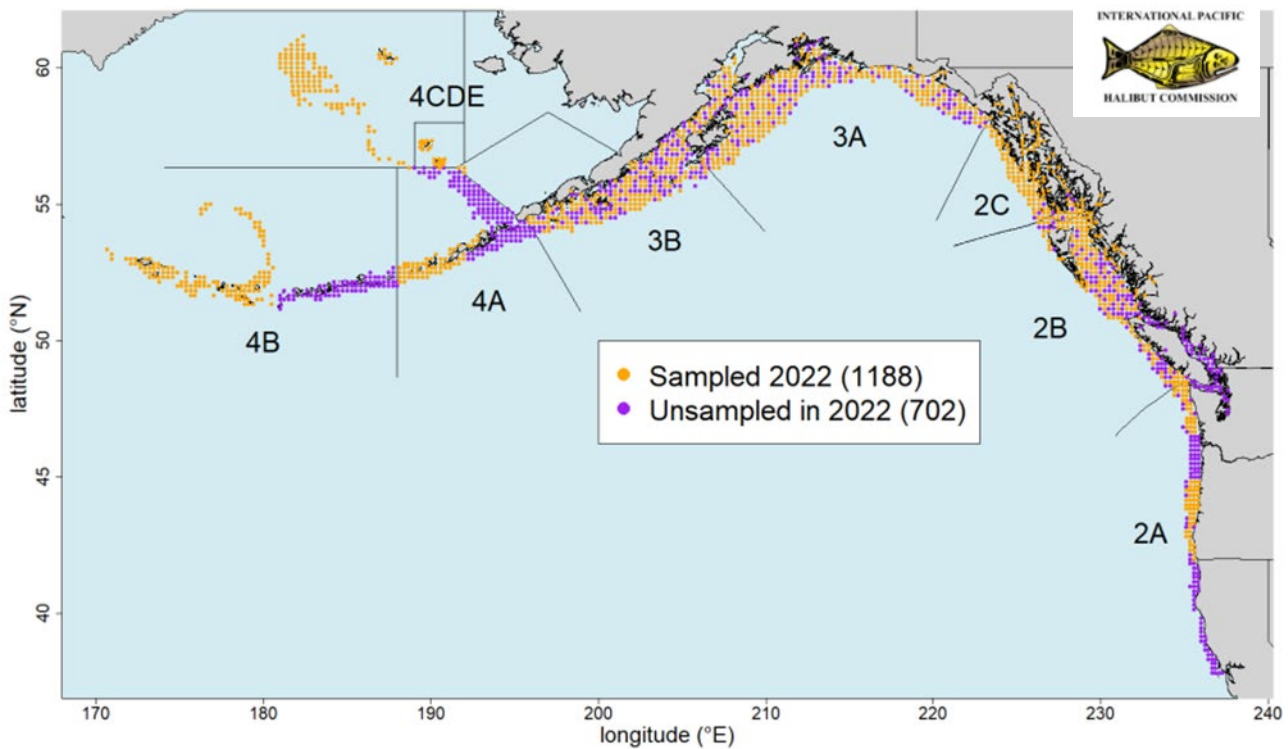


Figure 2. Map of the 2022 FISS design endorsed by the Commission on 1 December 2021 ([IPHC-2021-IM097-R](#)). Purple circles were not to be sampled in 2022.

20. The Commission **NOTED** that as in previous years, all legal-sized (O32) Pacific halibut that were caught on FISS stations were retained, and sold. Average price per pound increased from \$6.87 in 2021 to \$7.72 in 2022, varying from \$5.61 in Regulatory Area 2A to \$9.01 in Canada (i.e., Regulatory Area 2B). However, actual catch was significantly lower than predicted catch, mainly owing to low catches in

Regulatory Area 3A (actual catch representing only 54% of predicted catch), resulting in only \$3,194,874.77 in total Pacific halibut sales in 2022.

21. The Commission **NOTED** that sub-legal (U32) Pacific halibut that were caught and randomly selected for otolith sampling were also retained and sold, as has been the case since 2020. 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.
22. The Commission **NOTED** that the 2022 FISS chartered 8 commercial longline vessels (four Canadian and four USA) during a combined 49 trips and 513 charter days. Otoliths were removed from 10,308 fish coastwide. Approximately 188 tonnes (414,000 pounds) of Pacific halibut, 31 tonnes (69,200 pounds) of Pacific cod, and 32 tonnes (71,400 pounds) of rockfish were landed from the FISS stations.
23. 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>.

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

5.1 Space-time modelling of survey data

24. The Commission **NOTED** paper [IPHC-2022-IM098-09 Rev 1](#) that provided the results of the 2022 space-time modelling of Pacific halibut survey data for the period 1993-2022 (including data from several fishery-independent surveys).
25. The Commission **NOTED** [Figure 3](#) which shows the time series estimates of O32 WPUE (most comparable to fishery catch-rates) over the 1993-2022 period included in the 2022 space-time modelling. Overall, there was an estimated decrease of 18% in the coastwide O32 WPUE index from 2021, due largely to a 28% decrease in in Region 3 ([Fig. 3](#)).

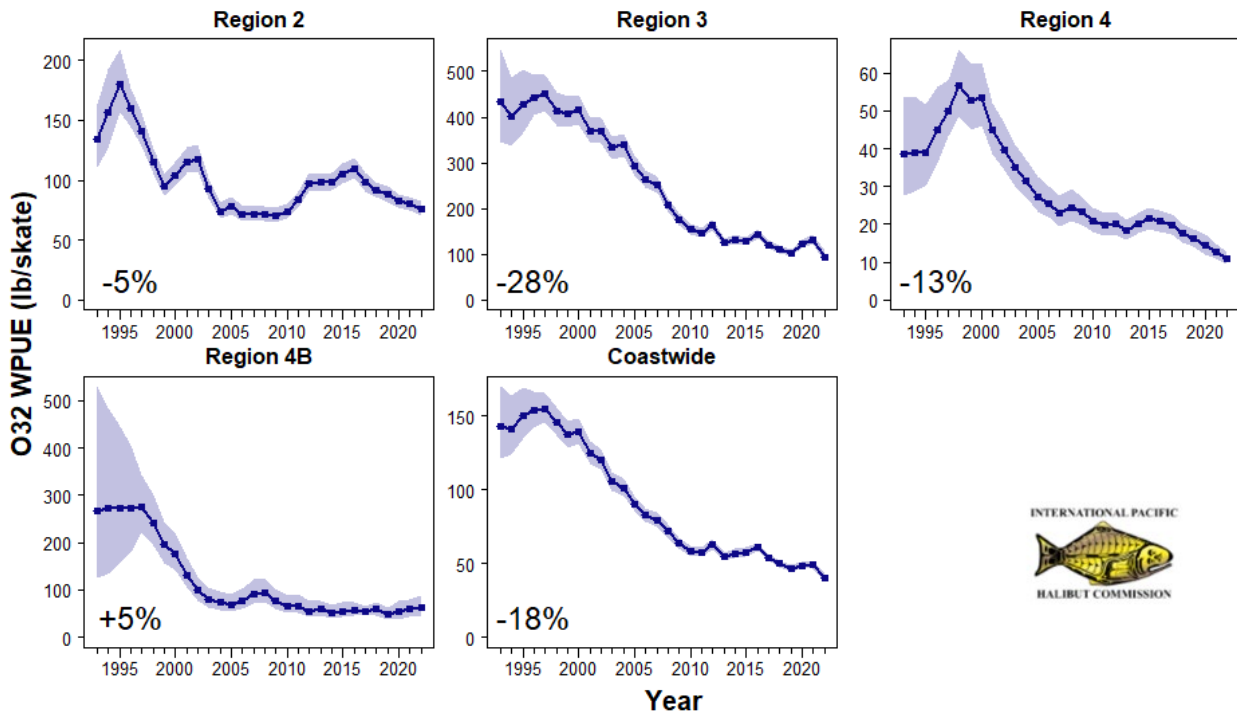


Figure 3. Space-time model output for O32 WPUE for 1993-2022 for Biological Regions. Filled circles denote the posterior means of O32 WPUE for each year. Shaded regions show posterior 95% credible intervals, which provide a measure of uncertainty: the wider the shaded interval, the greater the uncertainty 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

26. The Commission **NOTED** paper [IPHC-2022-IM098-10](#) which proposed designs for the IPHC’s Fishery-Independent Setline Survey (FISS) for the 2023-25 period, and an evaluation of those designs, as reviewed and endorsed by the Scientific Review Board in September 2022 (SRB021).
27. The Commission **RECALLED** that the priority of an optimised FISS sampling design is to maintain or enhance data quality (precision and bias) by establishing minimum 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 specific Contracting Party agencies, and IPHC policies (tertiary design layer). These priorities are outlined in [Table 1](#).
28. 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 that year and in subsequent years in the form of increased precision, reduced potential for bias and increased biological sampling.
29. The Commission **NOTED** that the 2022 coastwide coefficient of variation (CV) is under 5% for O32 and all sizes WPUE indices, and at 5% for the all-sizes NPUE index.
30. The Commission **NOTED** that:
- 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;
 - 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;
 - 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.

31. The Commission **ENDORSED** an optimized design for the 2023 FISS as provided at [Appendix IV](#), that balances the Commissions 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.
32. The Commission **REQUESTED** that the IPHC Secretariat consider adding the charter region of Portlock back into the 2023 FISS should in-season revenue conditions and vessel availability, permit it. Similarly, should in-season conditions be favourable, then consider increasing the FISS station count in Regulatory Areas 4B, 4A and 2A.

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33. The Commission **NOTED** the United States' interest in ensuring all IPHC Regulatory Areas would have some level of sampling, and **NOTED** its intent to consider additional funding to finance stations in Regulatory Areas 4A, 4B and 2A, totalling an approximate US\$114,000.
34. The Commission tentatively **ENDORSED** the proposed designs for 2024-25, as provisionally endorsed by the Scientific Review Board at SRB021, recognizing that the 2024-25 designs are expected to be modified in subsequent years.

Cost and revenue

35. 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.
36. The Commission **NOTED** that the estimated revenue figures should be considered with a +/- of ~\$500,000 given stock abundance and price uncertainty.
37. The Commission **AGREED** that the FISS should continue to target long-term revenue neutrality, and given the challenges facing the fishery in 2023, a more precautionary design is desirable for 2023.
38. The Commission **NOTED** that 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.
39. The Commission **AGREED** that the FISS is facing increasing cost and logistical challenges, and consideration be 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.
40. The Commission **NOTED** that the Secretariat will continue to meet with FISS stakeholders to discuss potential amendments to the FISS to help reduce financial and logistical challenges.
41. 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 Contracting Parties.

2023 FISS bid specifications and tenders

42. The Commission **NOTED** that the IPHC Secretariat will be soliciting tenders for the 2023 FISS in December 2022 (with tenders due on 3 February 2023), and that tender specifications would incorporate standard wording for amendments that the Commission may make at any time prior to the FISS season commencing. The Secretariat will welcome bids from both fixed-gear and snap-gear vessels. The tender process follows standard U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) guidelines, and is available on the IPHC website for transparency and accountability purposes.

5.3 Data overview and preliminary stock assessment (2022), and draft harvest decision table (2023)

43. The Commission **NOTED** paper [IPHC-2022-IM098-11 Rev 1](#) which provided an opportunity to consider the results of the 2022 IPHC stock assessment for Pacific halibut within the Convention Area, including a summary of data sources used, as well as stock projections and the draft harvest decision table for 2023.
44. The Commission **NOTED** that:
- a) the 2022 stock assessment represented a full analysis and review, following updates in 2020 and 2021;
 - b) improvements included: assessment model software updates, treatment of natural mortality for very young (ages 0-2) fish, data weighting of composition data based on actual sampling designs, and estimation of natural mortality in the Areas-As-Fleets short model in the same manner as in the two (2) long time-series models);

- c) the current trend in population distribution (measured via the modelled FISS catch in weight of all Pacific halibut) showed a sharp drop in Biological Region 3 after increases in 2020 and 2021. This corresponds to an increase in all other Biological Regions;
 - d) stock distribution has shifted over 2019-2022 period. After steady increases from 2019 through-2021 in Biological Region 3, in 2022 the proportion of the coastwide stock dropped in Region 3 with concurrent increases observed in Biological Regions 2 and 4.
45. The Commission **NOTED** that 2022 data showed:
- a) low catch rates observed in the FISS, both in numbers of Pacific halibut (down 8% from 2021) and weight per unit of effort (WPUE) for Pacific halibut over 32 inches, which was down 19% coastwide from 2021, and was the lowest since 1993. The coastwide WPUE in the commercial fishery was also the lowest over the 1993-2022 period;
 - b) that the FISS and Commercial fishery encountered the 2012 year-class in the greatest numbers of any cohort currently in the population, which represents a substantial shift away from the 2005 and older year classes, that have been dominant cohorts in previous years;
 - c) increasing trends continued weight-at-age for younger fish (<14 years).
46. The Commission **NOTED** that the spawning biomass is estimated to have decreased since 2016 and remained nearly constant from 2021-2022 despite a shift from older to younger fish.
47. The Commission **NOTED** that change in natural mortality, from the previously assumed value of 0.15 to an estimated value of 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.
48. The Commission **NOTED** that the reference level of fishing intensity (F43%) is estimated to result in a coastwide TCEY of 52.0 million pounds for 2023, which is above both the three-year surplus production that is projected to stabilize the stock at the current spawning biomass (43.0 million pounds) and the status quo coastwide TCEY set for 2022 (41.2 million pounds). All TCEYs projected to be in excess of 43.0 million pounds resulted in a high probability of further stock decline.
49. The Commission **NOTED** several risks to the stock that are not included in the harvest decision table, including: the current low absolute stock abundance relative to recent history, historically low catch rates in the FISS and directed commercial fishery, and the high reliance of growth and maturity of the 2012 year-class for near-term projections.
50. The Commission **NOTED** that detailed mortality projections for 2023 will be provided in January 2023, pending revised non-directed discard mortality estimates and guidance from the Commission on TCEY distribution methods.

6. BIOLOGICAL & ECOSYSTEM SCIENCES – PROJECT UPDATES

51. The Commission **NOTED** paper [IPHC-2022-IM098-12](#) that provided the Commission with a description of the biological and ecosystem science research projects conducted and planned by the IPHC Secretariat and contemplated within the Five-year Program of Integrated Research and Monitoring (2022-26).
52. The Commission **NOTED** 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 (2022-26). 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.

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- 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.
53. The Commission **NOTED** the progress that the IPHC Secretariat has made in the five key research areas contemplated in the IPHC 5-Year Program of Integrated Research and Monitoring (2022-26).
54. The Commission **NOTED** the generation of genomic resources that are already being applied to ongoing analyses of population genomic structure through low-coverage whole genome resequencing.
55. The Commission **NOTED** the work that the IPHC Secretariat is conducting on revising maturity schedules by histological analyses at a coastwide level as a key input in future stock assessments.
56. The Commission **CONSIDERED** the fishing technology studies and expressed a number of differing views regarding their relevance to the IPHC's core mandate.

7. MANAGEMENT STRATEGY EVALUATION

7.1 IPHC Management Strategy Evaluation: update

57. The Commission **NOTED** paper [IPHC-2022-IM098-13 Rev 1](#), that describes the MSE framework, size limit and multi-year assessment management procedures, and simulation results.
58. That the Commission **ACKNOWLEDGED** that the IPHC's MSE Operating Model has been thoroughly reviewed by the SRB and is performing well for evaluating management procedures, noting that further adjustments may be made, at the request of the Commission, to align with the stock assessment (i.e. conditioning to updated stock assessment outputs).
59. The Commission **AGREED** that it was not yet ready to provide direction to the IPHC Secretariat on a set of objectives, performance metrics, or a reduced set of Management Procedures for the IPHC Management Strategy Evaluation process and **REQUESTED** that the IPHC Secretariat present their proposals for focusing the IPHC's MSE efforts at AM099 for consideration.
60. The Commission **NOTED** the following points of interest raised during the discussion of paper [IPHC-2022-IM098-13 Rev 1](#):
- a) **Objectives:** It was suggested by a Commissioner that the priority objectives be presented in the following order of importance: maintain a threshold of 20% relative spawning biomass, target a long-term relative spawning biomass to be on average above a defined reference point; optimize the coastwide TCEY; and limit the average annual variability (AAV) in the TCEY. The terminology used to describe objectives and performance metrics may need to be improved by suggestions of the Contracting Parties;
 - b) **Performance Metrics:** Depending on how a target relative spawning biomass objective is defined, it was suggested by an individual Commissioner to report the probability that the relative spawning biomass, rather than a pass/fail result. It was also suggested that reporting about the four (4) Performance Metrics could be improved by reporting the 25th and 75th percentiles along with the median, or graphically displaying the performance metrics in a way to convey the range of outcomes.;
 - c) **Management Procedures:** The IPHC Secretariat requested its efforts be focused on a reduced set of MPs to move forward with as part of further testing and for presentation to the Commission at AM099. The Secretariat also seeks input on whether the current means to provide MSE results is reasonable and adequate. Noting that no direction was provided, no additional testing would be undertaken prior to AM099 and the Commission would consider the information currently available.

61. 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 results 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 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%, from 0.76 Mlbs to 0.16 Mlbs on average;
- 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 at least 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 and would align with the current full assessment schedule;
- h) costs and benefits associated with multi-year assessments include those listed in Section 5.2.3 of paper [IPHC-2022-IM098-13 Rev. 1](#).

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

62. The Commission **NOTED** paper [IPHC-2022-IM098-14](#), that provided the Commission with an indication of the IPHC Fishery Regulation proposals, which the IPHC Secretariat, Contracting Parties, and other stakeholders have submitted or indicated they anticipate submitting, for consideration by the Commission in the 2022-23 regulatory process.
63. The Commission **RECOMMENDED** that interested stakeholders note the deadline for submission of IPHC Fishery Regulation proposals, for consideration at the 99th Session of the Annual Meeting (AM099), of **24 December 2022**. Late proposals will not be considered at AM099, but stakeholders may also submit statements up until the day before the AM099. More information is available via the updated IPHC website: <https://iphc.int/the-commission/fishery-regulations/>
64. The Commission **NOTED** that the IPHC Secretariat and the relevant Contracting Party agencies intend to coordinate a joint review of regulatory proposals, with the aim of identifying and resolving issues and clarifying draft regulatory language in advance of AM099.

8.1 *IPHC Secretariat fishery regulation proposals*

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

65. The Commission **NOTED** paper [IPHC-2022-IM098-PropA1](#), that provides the Commission with an opportunity to recall the format of the IPHC Fishery Regulations: Mortality and Fishery Limits (Sect. 5), to be populated at AM099.

8.1.2 *IPHC Fishery Regulations: Commercial Fishing Periods (Sect. 9)*

66. The Commission **NOTED** paper [IPHC-2022-IM098-PropA2](#), that provides the Commission with an opportunity to recall the format of the IPHC Pacific Halibut Fishery Regulations: Commercial Fishing Periods (Sect. 9), to be filled at AM099.

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

67. The Commission **NOTED** paper [IPHC-2022-IM098-PropA3](#), that proposed amendments to accommodate the transition of management in the IPHC Regulatory Area 2A from the IPHC to the PFMC and NOAA Fisheries (Sect. 14 & 15).

8.1.4 IPHC Fishery Regulations: minor amendments

68. The Commission **NOTED** paper [IPHC-2022-IM098-PropA4](#), that proposed amendments to ensure clarity and consistency in the IPHC Fishery Regulations.

8.2 Contracting Party fishery regulation proposals

8.2.1 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

69. The Commission **NOTED** an indication of expected paper IPHC-2022-IM098-PropB1, that would propose charter management measures reflective of fishery limits for the recreational fisheries in IPHC Regulatory Areas 2C and 3A. This proposal was deferred until AM099.

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

70. The Commission **NOTED** paper [IPHC-2022-IM098-PropB2](#), that proposed the daily bag limit of up to three fish per day per person in the recreational fishery in IPHC Regulatory Area 2B.

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

71. The Commission **NOTED** paper [IPHC-2022-IM098-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.

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

72. The Commission **NOTED** paper [IPHC-2022-IM098-PropC1_Rev_1](#), 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

73. The Commission **NOTED** paper [IPHC-2022-IM098-PropC2](#), that proposed amendments to include a constant TCEY floor in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A.

8.4 Stakeholder statements

74. The Commission **NOTED** that no statements on IPHC fishery Regulations or published regulatory proposals from stakeholders (IPHC-2022-IM098-INF01) were submitted to the IPHC Secretariat prior to the IM098.

9. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

9.1 IPHC Rules of Procedure: Draft amendments

75. The Commission **NOTED** paper [IPHC-2022-IM098-15](#), which proposed amendments to the IPHC Rules of Procedure (2022). The proposed revisions incorporate process and functional amendments intended to further modernise the IPHC's governance procedures for some of its subsidiary bodies.
76. The Commission **AGREED** that the MSAB should be focused on the technical aspects of the MSE process and should not discuss or propose allocation perspectives.
77. The Commission **AGREED** that it would provide additional suggestions for improvement prior to the FAC099 document deadline of 24 December 2022, including a potential refocus of the mandate of the MSAB, and composition and representation, with the overall aim of improving the effectiveness and focus of the MSAB.
78. The Commission **REQUESTED** a dedicated time slot be added to the AM099 agenda, where the Commission will clarify the role and purpose of the MSAB moving forward, as well as to explain changes in membership and representation.

9.2 FY2022 Independent auditing process

79. The Commission **NOTED** paper [IPHC-2022-IM098-16](#), which provided the Commission with the process for completion of the Independent External Auditors Report for FY2022, as per Regulation 14 of the IPHC Financial Regulations (2021).

9.3 FY2023 Budget update

80. The Commission **NOTED** paper [IPHC-2022-IM098-17](#), which provided the Commission with an update on the FY2023 budget (financial period: 1 October 2022 to 30 September 2023), including potential modifications based on the 2023 FISS sampling design.
81. The Commission **NOTED** the intention of the IPHC Secretariat to propose a revised FY2023 budget (financial period: 1 October 2022 to 30 September 2023) at the FAC099 to accommodate the final 2023 FISS design to be implemented, noting that there will be no change in the Contracting Party contributions due for FY2023.
82. The Commission **NOTED** the United States of America's intent to consider additional funding to finance the adopted 2023 FISS design, an approximate US\$114,000.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

10.1 Preparation for 99th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM099) and associated subsidiary bodies

83. The Commission **RECALLED** that the 99th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM099) will be held in-person from 23-27 January 2023, at the Fairmont Empress in Victoria, BC, Canada.
84. The Commission **NOTED** that information concerning the meeting, including electronic versions of documents to be considered, will be published on the meeting webpages as they become available, but no later than 30 days prior to the commencement of each meeting, in accordance with Rule 8.4 of the IPHC Rules of Procedure (2022), as follows:
- [99th Session of the IPHC Finance and Administration Committee \(FAC099\)](#): Deadline 24 December 2022;
 - [99th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting \(AM099\)](#): Deadline 24 December 2022;
 - [28th Session of the IPHC Processor Advisory Board \(PAB028\)](#): Deadline 25 December 2022;
 - [93rd Session of the IPHC Conference Board \(CB093\)](#): Deadline 25 December 2022.
85. The Commission **NOTED** the request from the IPHC Secretariat for all those who wish to attend the AM099 and associated subsidiary bodies, to register for each meeting as needed. In particular, as this is

the first year the IPHC Secretariat will be fully administering the meeting, all PAB participants are required to submit an [accreditation form](#) via the meeting page for re-verification of eligibility in accordance with the IPHC Rules of Procedure (2022).

10.2 Preparations for the 100th year of the IPHC

86. The Commission **RECALLED** that the 100th year of the IPHC will commence on 21 October 2023, with the IPHC turning 100 on 21 October 2024.

11. REVIEW OF THE DRAFT AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE 97TH SESSION OF THE IPHC INTERIM MEETING (IM097)

87. The report of the 98th Session of the IPHC Interim Meeting ([IPHC-2022-IM098-R](#)) was **ADOPTED** via correspondence on 16 December 2022, including the consolidated set of recommendations and requests arising from IM098, provided at [Appendix V](#).

APPENDIX I

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS FOR THE 98TH SESSION OF THE IPHC INTERIM MEETING (IM098)

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	Mr. Kurt Iverson – Technical Advisor
Mr. Adam Keizer – Technical Advisor	Mr. Frank Lockhart – Technical/Policy Advisor
Ms. Danielle Scriven – Technical Advisor	Dr. Peter Hulson – Scientific Advisor
Ms. Gwynhyfar Mason – Technical Advisor	Ms. Alicia Miller – Technical Advisor
Ms. Ann-Marie Huang – Science Advisor	Mr. David Moore – Policy Advisor
	Mr. Demian Schane – Legal Advisor
	Mr. Patrick Moran – Policy Advisor

Observers

Participant	Organisation	Email
Pratima Alexander	Fisheries and Oceans Canada	pratima.alexander@df-mpo.gc.ca
Lyle Almond	Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe	lyle.almond@elwha.org
Phil Anderson	Pacific Fishery Management Council	pmand001@comcast.net
Chuck Ashcroft	Sport Fishing Advisory Board - South	chuckashcroft@telus.net
Jim Balsiger	N/A	N/A
Thompson Banez	California Department of Fish & Game	thompson.banez@wildlife.ca.gov
Scott Bass	N/A	N/A
Linda Behnken	Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association	alfafishak@gmail.com
Forrest Braden	Southeast Alaska Guides Organization	forrest@seagoalaska.org
Aaron Brooks	Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe	N/A
Russell Cameron	UFAWU- Unifour	president@ufawu.org
Kayla Carr	Alaska State Fish & Game	kayla.carr@alaska.gov
Marc Carrel	Cordova District Fishermen United	marc.carrel@gmail.com
Benjamin Cheeseman	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	benjamin.cheeseman@noaa.gov
Paul Clampitt	Sablefish & Halibut Pot Association	pfishcl@gmail.com
Michele Conrad	Oceanbeat Consulting	michele@oceanbeatconsulting.com
William Cook	N/A	yukonmac@sbcglobal.net
Sean Cox	Simon Fraser University	sean_cox@sfu.ca
Sam Cunningham	N/A	N/A
Dick Curran	F/V Cherokee	seaward99835@yahoo.com
Katie Davis	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	katie.davis@noaa.gov
Patrick DePoe	Makah Tribal Council	Patrick.depoe@makah.com
Angel Drobnica	Aleutian Pribilof Island Community Development Association	adrobnica@apicda.com

Doug Duncan	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	N/A
Robin Ehlke	Pacific Fishery Management Council	robin.ehlke@noaa.gov
Garrett Elwood	National Grain & Feed Association	garrett.ngfa@gmail.com
Lando Echeverio	Seven Sisters Fisheries	lechevario@yahoo.com
Brett Ettinger	U.S. Coast Guard 13 th District	bdettinger@gmail.com
Daniel Falvey	Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association	myriadfisheries@gmail.com
Jeff Farvour	N/A	jefarv@gmail.com
Maureen Finn	Fisheries and Oceans Canada	maureen.finn@dfm-mpo.gc.ca
Heather Fitch	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	heather.fitch@noaa.gov
John Fortuna	Jones Fortuna LP	jfortuna@jonesfortuna.com
Michael Fowler	Sport Fishing Advisory Board - North Coast	midon@protonmail.ch
Nicole Frederickson	Island Marine Aquatic Working Group	nfrederickson.imawg@gmail.com
Tad Fujioka	N/A	N/A
Tom Gemmell	Halibut Coalition	tom.gemmell@gmail.com
Chris German	United States Coast Guard	christofer.l.german2@uscg.mil
Angus Grout	Gulf Troll Association	rommel@telus.net
Heather Hall	Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife	heather.hall@dfw.wa.gov
Kathy Hansen	SE AK Fishermen's Alliance	woodentoys@ak.net
Christian Heath	Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife	christian.t.heath@odfw.oregon.gov
Russ Hepfer	Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe	russell.hepfer@elwha.org
Elden Hillaire	Lummi Nation Natural Resources and Fisheries Commission	hillaire.k.n.d.m.4@gmail.com
Lolinthea Hinkley	Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe	lolinthea.hinkley@elwha.org
Megan Hintz	Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe	mhintz@pgst.nsn.us
Brian Hoffman	Hoh Tribe	brian.hoffman@hohtribe-nsn.org
James Hughes	Seafood Producers Cooperative	carterhughes@hotmail.com
James Johnson	Deep Sea Fishermen's Union	jj.deepseafishermensunion@gmail.com
Steve Joner	Makah Tribe	gofish@olympen.com
Jeff Kauffman	Saint Paul Fishing Company	jeff@spfishco.com
Shannon Kent	N/A	N/A
Jessie Keplinger	Alaska Home Pack/Alaska Glacier	jessica@akhomepack.com
Brianna King	Alaska Department of Fish & Game	brianna.king@alaska.gov
Karl Klaptorsk	N/A	karlbuttllove@gmail.com
Jim Lane	Nuu-Chah-Nulth Tribal Council	jim.lane@nuuchahnulth.org
Don Lane	F/V Predator	donlane71@gmail.com
Patrick Lane	Sea Lanes Inc / Snowy Lanes Fisheries	patrickhlane907@gmail.com
Maddie Lightsey	N/A	N/A
Joshua Lindsay	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	joshua.lindsay@noaa.gov
Stephanie Madsen	At-Sea Processors Association	smadsen@atsea.org
Heather Mann	N/A	N/A
Mary Marking	Humboldt Area Saltwater Anglers	ma5marking@gmail.com
Thomas Marking	Recreational Fishing Alliance - Northern CA	tmmarking@sbcglobal.net

Sarah Marrinan	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	sarah.marrinan@noaa.gov
Lynn Mattes	Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife	lynn.mattes@odfw.oregon.gov
Scott Mazzone	Quinalt Indian Nation	smazzone@quinault.org
Carey McGilliard	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	carey.mcgilliard@noaa.gov
Brian McTague	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	brian.mctague@noaa.gov
Myron Melovidov	St. Paul Fishermen's Association	mmelovidov@cbsfa.com
Ray Melovidov	Central Bering Sea Fishermen's Association	raymelovidov@cbsfa.com
Glenn Merrill	North Star Fisheries	glenn@northstarfishing.com
Thomas Meyer	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	tom.gcak.meyer@noaa.gov
Malcolm Milne	North Pacific Fisheries Association	milnmarine@yahoo.com
Mark Nelson	Lummi Nation	markn@lummi-nsn.gov
Nick Nekeferoff	N/A	N/A
Corey Niles	Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife	corey.niles@dfw.wa.gov
Phillip Null	N/A	N/A
Megan O'Neil	Petersburg Vessel Owner's Association	pvoa@gci.net
Alan Otness	N/A	adotness@gmail.com
Makena Otoole	N/A	N/A
Peggy Parker	Halibut Association of North America	peggyparker616@gmail.com
Mateo Paz-Soldan	City of Saint Paul Island, AK	mateo@mpstrategies.net
Leslie Pemberton	Puffin Fishing Charters	puffincharters@gmail.com
Dwayne Pecosky	Quileute Nation	qnr.director@quileutetribe.com
Joe Petersen	Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission	jpetersen@nwifc.org
Bryon Pfundt	Petersburg Vessel Owner's Association	N/A
James Phillips	Pacific Fishing, Inc – F/V Pacific Dawn	pacificdawn6@gmail.com
Lyle Pierce	Vancouver Island Longline Association	lyle_p@shaw.ca
Katie Pierson	N/A	N/A
Norman Pillen	Seafood Producers Cooperative	npillen@spsales.com
Landry Price	Yukon Delta Fisheries Development Association	landry@ydfda.org
Samantha Rae	Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe	samantha.rae@elwha.org
Shelby Restrepo	Alaska Department of Fish & Game	shelby.dresdow@gmail.com
Brian Ritchie	Alaska Charter Association	brianandrewritchie@gmail.com
Kevin Romanian	British Columbia Ministry of Agriculture, Food & Fisheries	kevin.romanin@gov.bc.ca
Brett Roth	Fisherman	alaskabrett@yahoo.com
Jess Rude	Cordova District Fishermen United	director@dcfu.org
Christa Rusel	A-Tlegay Fisheries Society	christarusel@shawcable.com
Bryan Schroder	Cashion Gilmore & Lindemuth	bryan@cashiongilmore.com
Anthony Severson	Alaska Department of Fish & Game	N/A
Rebecca Skinner	Alaska Whitefish Trawlers	execdir@alaskawhitefishtrawlers.org
Chris Sporer	Pacific Halibut Management Association of BC	chris.sporer@phma.ca
Rose Stanley	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	rose.stanley@noaa.gov

Jeff Stephan	United Fishermen's Marketing Association	jeff.stephan@me.com
Matthew Thompson	N/A	matthew.thompson@iphc.int
Lorna Wargo	Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife	lorna.wargo@dfw.wa.gov
Jessica Watson	Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife	jessica.l.watson@odfw.oregon.gov
Sarah Webster	Alaska Department of Fish & Game	sarah.webster@alaska.gov
Laine Welch	N/A	msfish@alaskan.com
Mike Wells	N/A	wellsmichael86@gmail.com
John Williams	N/A	pwsscuba@mac.com
Chris Woodley	Groundfish Forum	chrisw@seanet.com
Doug Woodruff	Quileute Tribe	doug.woodruff@quileutenation.org

IPHC Secretariat

Participant	Title	Email
In-Person attendance		
Dr David Wilson	Executive Director	david.wilson@iphc.int
Ms Andrea Keikkala	Assistant Director	andrea.keikkala@iphc.int
Dr Barbara Hutniczak	Fisheries Policy Branch Manager	barbara.hutniczak@iphc.int
Dr Jason Jannot	Fisheries Data Services Branch Manager	jason.jannot@iphc.int
Dr Josep Planas	Biological & Ecosystem Sciences Branch Manager	josep.planas@iphc.int
Dr Allan Hicks	Quantitative Scientist (MSE)	allan.hicks@iphc.int
Dr Ian Stewart	Quantitative Scientist (Stock Assessment)	ian.stewart@iphc.int
Dr Raymond Webster	Quantitative Scientist (Biometrician)	ray.webster@iphc.int
Mr Edward Henry	Communications Specialist	edward.henry@iphc.int
Mr Robert Tynes	Lead IT Specialist (INFOSEC/SysAdmin)	robert.tynes@iphc.int
Ms Kayla Ualesi	Setline Survey Coordinator	kayla.ualesi@iphc.int
Remote attendance		
Ms Lorissa Burkhalter	Administrative Specialist	lorissa.burkhalter@iphc.int
Ms Tara Coluccio	Administrative Specialist/Communications	tara.coluccio@iphc.int
Mr Claude Dykstra	Research Biologist (Mortality and Survivorship)	claudio.dykstra@iphc.int
Ms Joan Forsberg	Otolith Lab Technician, Senior	joan.forsberg@iphc.int
Mr Tyler Jack	Setline Survey Specialist	tyler.jack@iphc.int
Mr Andrew Jasonowicz	Research Biologist	andy.jasonowicz@iphc.int
Mr Christopher Johnston	Otolith Lab Technician	chris.johnston@iphc.int
Mr Colin Jones	Research Biologist (Life History)	colin.jones@iphc.int
Mr Thomas Kong	Fisheries Data Specialist	tom.kong@iphc.int
Ms Rebecca Kuklok	Administrative Specialist (Accounting)	rebecca.kuklok@iphc.int
Ms Kelsey Magrane	Fisheries Data Specialist	kelsey.magrane@iphc.int
Ms Rachel Rillera	Setline Survey Specialist	rached.rillera@iphc.int
Ms Lauri Sadorus	Communications Coordinator & Research Biologist	lauri.sadorus@iphc.int
Ms Kimberly Sawyer Van Vleck	Fisheries Data Specialist	kimberly.sawyer.vanvleck@iphc.int

Mr Afshin Taheri	Information Technology Specialist (Application Developer)	afshin.taheri@iphc.int
Ms Monica Thom	Port Operations Coordinator	monica.thom@iphc.int
Ms Huyen Tran	Fisheries Data Coordinator	huyen.tran@iphc.int
Ms Ola Wietecha	Administrative Specialist	ola.wietecha@iphc.int

APPENDIX II
AGENDA FOR THE 98TH SESSION OF THE IPHC INTERIM MEETING (IM098)

Date: 30 November – 1 December 2022

Location: Electronic

Venue: Adobe Connect

Time: 09:00-17:00 (PST) 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)
 - 2.1 Election of Vice-Chairperson of the Commission (Chairperson)
- 3. IPHC PROCESS** (D. Wilson)
 - 3.1 Update on actions arising from the 98th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM098), 2022 Special Sessions, and intersessional decisions (D. Wilson)
 - 3.2 Report of the IPHC Secretariat (2022): Draft (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 Data overview and preliminary stock assessment (2022), and draft harvest decision table (2023) (I. Stewart, A. Hicks, R. Webster, D. Wilson, & B. Hutniczak)
- 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 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. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

9.1 IPHC Rules of Procedure: amendments for 2023 (D. Wilson)

9.2 FY2022 Independent auditing process (D. Wilson, A. Keikkala)

9.3 FY2023 Budget update (D. Wilson, A. Keikkala)

10. OTHER BUSINESS

10.1 Preparation for the 99th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM099) and associated subsidiary bodies (D. Wilson)

11. REVIEW OF THE DRAFT AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE 98th SESSION OF THE IPHC INTERIM MEETING (IM098) (Chairperson & Executive Director)

APPENDIX III

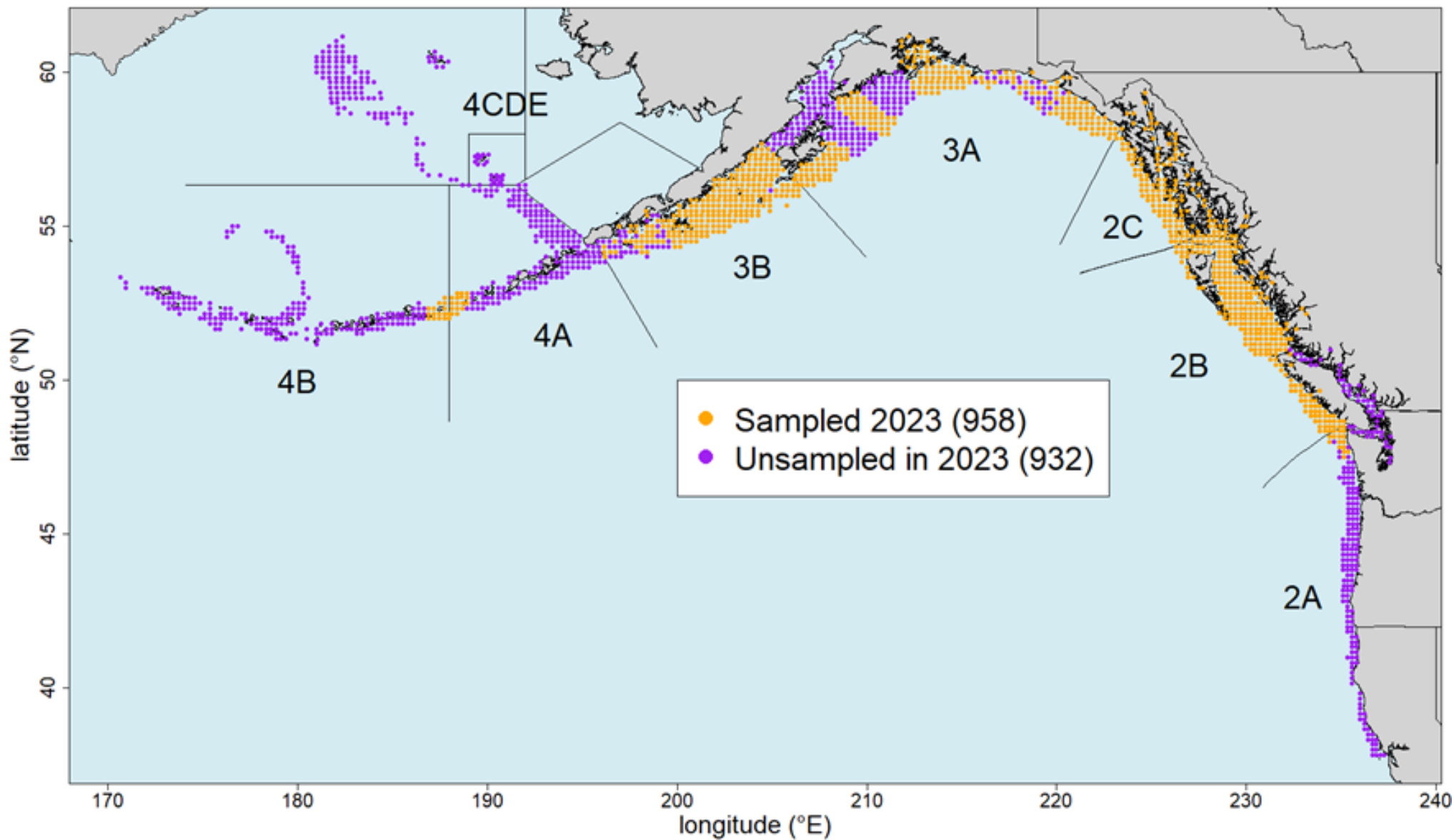
LIST OF DOCUMENTS FOR THE 98TH SESSION OF THE IPHC INTERIM MEETING (IM098)

Document	Title	Availability
IPHC-2022-IM098-01	Agenda & Schedule for the 98 th Session of the IPHC Interim Meeting (IM098)	✓ 16 Aug 2022 ✓ 21 Sept 2022 ✓ 25 Oct 2022
IPHC-2022-IM098-02	List of Documents for the 98 th Session of the IPHC Interim Meeting (IM098)	✓ 21 Sept 2022 ✓ 28 Oct 2022 ✓ 28 Nov 2022
IPHC-2022-IM098-03	Update on actions arising from the 98 th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM098), 2022 Special Sessions, and intersessional decisions (D. Wilson)	✓ 24 Oct 2022
IPHC-2022-IM098-04	Report of the IPHC Secretariat (2022): Draft (D. Wilson & B. Hutniczak)	✓ 25 Oct 2022
IPHC-2022-IM098-05	Implementation of the Recommendations from the 2 nd IPHC Performance Review (PRIPHC02) (D. Wilson)	✓ 24 Oct 2022
IPHC-2022-IM098-06	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)	✓ 24 Oct 2022
IPHC-2022-IM098-07 Rev_1	Fisheries data overview (2022): Preliminary statistics (J. Jannot, H. Tran, T. Kong, K. Magrane & K. Sawyer van Vleck)	✓ 25 Oct 2022 ✓ 9 Nov 2022
IPHC-2022-IM098-08	IPHC Fishery-independent setline survey (FISS) design and implementation in 2022 (K. Ualesi, C. Jones, R. Rillera & T. Jack)	✓ 26 Oct 2022
IPHC-2022-IM098-09 Rev_1	Space-time modelling of survey data (R.A. Webster)	✓ 26 Oct 2022 ✓ 9 Nov 2022
IPHC-2022-IM098-10	2023-25 FISS Design evaluation (R. Webster & D. Wilson)	✓ 26 Oct 2022
IPHC-2022-IM098-11 Rev_1	Summary of the data, stock assessment, and harvest decision table for Pacific halibut (<i>Hippoglossus stenolepis</i>) at the end of 2022 (I. Stewart, A. Hicks, R. Webster, & D. Wilson)	✓ 21 Oct 2022 ✓ 23 Nov 2022
IPHC-2022-IM098-12	Report on Current and Future Biological and Ecosystem Science Research Activities (J. Planas)	✓ 24 Oct 2022
IPHC-2022-IM098-13 Rev_1	IPHC Management Strategy Evaluation and Harvest Strategy Policy: FOR DECISION (A. Hicks, I. Stewart & D. Wilson)	✓ 27 Oct 2022 ✓ 18 Nov 2022
IPHC-2022-IM098-14	IPHC Fishery Regulations: Proposals for the 2022-23 process (B. Hutniczak)	✓ 28 Oct 2022
IPHC-2022-IM098-15	IPHC Rules of Procedure – Draft amendments (D. Wilson & A. Hicks)	✓ 25 Oct 2022

IPHC-2022-IM098-16	FY2022 Independent auditing process (D. Wilson & A. Keikkala)	✓ 25 Oct 2022
IPHC-2022-IM098-17	FY2023 Budget - update (D. Wilson & A. Keikkala)	✓ 25 Oct 2022
<i>IPHC Fishery Regulation proposals for 2023</i>		
<i>IPHC Secretariat Fishery Regulation proposals for 2023</i>		
IPHC-2022-IM098-PropA1	Mortality and Fishery Limits (Sect. 5) (IPHC Secretariat)	✓ 25 Oct 2022
IPHC-2022-IM098-PropA2	Commercial Fishing Periods (Sect. 9) (IPHC Secretariat)	✓ 25 Oct 2022
IPHC-2022-IM098-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	✓ 26 Oct 2022
IPHC-2022-IM098-PropA4	IPHC Fishery Regulations: minor amendments (IPHC Secretariat)	✓ 25 Oct 2022
<i>Contracting Party Fishery Regulation proposals for 2023</i>		
IPHC-2022-IM098-PropB1	Recreational (sport) fishing for Pacific halibut—IPHC Regulatory Areas 2c, 3a, 3b, 4a, 4b, 4c, 4d, 4e (Sect. 29) - <i>Charter Management Measures in IPHC Regulatory Areas 2C and 3A</i> (USA: NOAA-Fisheries)	Deferred to AM098
IPHC-2022-IM098-PropB2	<i>Recreational (Sport) Fishing for Pacific Halibut—IPHC Regulatory Area 2B – Daily bag limit in IPHC Regulatory Area 2B (Sect. 28) (Canada: DFO)</i>	✓ 28 Oct 2022
IPHC-2022-IM098-PropB3	Recreational (sport) fishing for Pacific halibut—IPHC Regulatory Areas 2c, 3a, 3b, 4a, 4b, 4c, 4d, 4e (Sect. 29) – <i>Onboard consumption</i> (USA: NOAA-Fisheries)	✓ 25 Oct 2022
<i>Other Stakeholder Fishery Regulation proposals for 2023</i>		
IPHC-2022-IM098-PropC1 Rev_1	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)	✓ 30 Aug 2022 ✓ 6 Oct 2022
IPHC-2022-IM098-PropC2	Mortality and Fishery Limits (Sect. 5) - TCEY floor in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A	✓ 28 Oct 2022
<i>Reports from IPHC subsidiary bodies</i>		
IPHC-2022-SRB020-R	Report of the 20 th Session of the IPHC Scientific Review Board (SRB020)	✓ 16 Jun 2022
IPHC-2022-SRB021-R	Report of the 21 st Session of the IPHC Scientific Review Board (SRB021)	✓ 22 Sept 2022
IPHC-2022-MSAB017-R	Report of the 17 th Session of the IPHC Management Strategy Advisory Board (MSAB017)	✓ 20 Oct 2022
IPHC-2022-RAB023-R	Report of the 23 rd Session of the IPHC Research Advisory Board (RAB023)	✓ 28 Nov 2022
IPHC-2022-FAC098-R	Report of the 98 th Session of the IPHC Finance and Administration Committee (FAC098)	✓ 25 Jan 2022

IPHC-2022-PAB027-R	Report of the 27 th Session of the IPHC Processor Advisory Board (PAB027)	✓ 27 Jan 2022
IPHC-2022-CB092-R	Report of the 92 nd Session of the IPHC Conference Board (CB092)	✓ 27 Jan 2022
<i>Information papers</i>		
IPHC-2022-IM098-INF01	Stakeholder Statements on IPHC Fishery Regulation proposals (B. Hutniczak)	None received
IPHC-2022-IM098-INF02	The IPHC mortality projection tool for 2023 mortality limits (I. Stewart)	✓ 19 Oct 2022
IPHC-2022-IM098-INF03	Transition of management in the IPHC Regulatory Area 2A: outreach material (IPHC Secretariat)	✓ 28 Oct 2022

APPENDIX IV
 ENDORSED - OPTIMIZED FISS DESIGN FOR 2023



APPENDIX V**CONSOLIDATED SET OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND REQUESTS OF THE 98TH SESSION OF THE
IPHC INTERIM MEETING (IM098) (30 NOVEMBER – 1 DECEMBER 2022)****RECOMMENDATIONS*****IPHC Fishery regulations: Proposals for the 2022-23 process***

IM098-Rec.01 (para. 63) The Commission **RECOMMENDED** that interested stakeholders note the deadline for submission of IPHC Fishery Regulation proposals, for consideration at the 99th Session of the Annual Meeting (AM099), of **24 December 2022**. Late proposals will not be considered at AM099, but stakeholders may also submit statements up until the day before the AM099. More information is available via the updated IPHC website: <https://iphc.int/the-commission/fishery-regulations/>

REQUESTS***2023-25 FISS design evaluation***

IM098-Req.01 (para. 32) The Commission **REQUESTED** that the IPHC Secretariat consider adding the charter region of Portlock back into the 2023 FISS should in-season revenue conditions and vessel availability, permit it. Similarly, should in-season conditions be favourable, then consider increasing the FISS station count in Regulatory Areas 4B, 4A and 2A.

Management Strategy Evaluation

IM098-Req.02 (para. 59) The Commission **AGREED** that it was not yet ready to provide direction to the IPHC Secretariat on a set of objectives, performance metrics, or a reduced set of Management Procedures for the IPHC Management Strategy Evaluation process and **REQUESTED** that the IPHC Secretariat present their proposals for focusing the IPHC's MSE efforts at AM099 for consideration.

IPHC Rules of Procedure: Draft amendments

IM098-Req.03 (para. 78) The Commission **REQUESTED** a dedicated time slot be added to the AM099 agenda, where the Commission will clarify the role and purpose of the MSAB moving forward, as well as to explain changes in membership and representation.