

OUTCOMES OF THE 11TH SESSION OF THE IPHC SCIENTIFIC REVIEW BOARD (SRB11)

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PURPOSE

To provide the MSAB with the results of the 11th Session of the IPHC Scientific Review Board (SRB11) relevant to the mandate of the MSAB.

BACKGROUND

The 11th Session of the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) Scientific Review Board (SRB11) was held in Seattle, Washington, U.S.A. from 26 to 28 September 2017. Agenda item 7 of the SRB11 (7. Management Strategy Evaluation: Update) provided the SRB with two sub-topics for their consideration:

- 7.1 A description of the closed-loops simulations
- 7.2 Simulation results and presenting results to the IPHC Management Strategy Advisory Board

The SRB provided the IPHC Secretariat with guidance on future MSE work as detailed below, and described in detail in the Report of the 11th Session of the SRB11, which is available from the IPHC website: [IPHC-2017-SRB11-R](#).

DISCUSSION

The following are the recommendations and requests for action from the SRB11, relevant to the MSAB. Para numbers and links refer to those contained in the report [IPHC-2017-SRB11-R](#).

RECOMMENDATIONS

Management Strategy Evaluation: A description of the closed-loop simulations

SRB11–Rec.02 ([para. 25](#)) The SRB **RECOMMENDED** that the IPHC Secretariat and Management Strategy Advisory Board collaborate to:

- a) further clarify and improve the presentation of the Harvest Strategy Policy ([Appendix IV](#)). This would improve not only transparency of the existing interim harvest policy, but also of the MSE process for evaluating alternatives.
- b) Review harvest policies from other bodies to develop an objectives hierarchy that explicitly prioritizes long-term conservation over short-/medium-term (e.g., 3-8 years) catch performance.

SRB11–Rec.03 ([para. 29](#)) The SRB **RECOMMENDED** that the IPHC Secretariat hire a modeler/programmer to support MSE work so that timely feedback can be given the MSAB in the MSE process.

REQUESTS

Management Strategy Evaluation: A description of the closed-loop simulations

SRB11–Req.06 ([para. 27](#)) The SRB **REQUESTED** that a quasi-extinction threshold be established so that:

- a) simulation replicates can be flagged when projected spawning biomass drops below this threshold;

b) parameter sets causing quasi-extinction in the historical period can be dropped from the operating model initialization.

*SRB11–Req.07 ([para. 28](#)) The SRB **REQUESTED** that the MSE simulation initialize the operating model biomass in the current year from the more precise Ensemble distribution of the current state (e.g., 2017) rather than the wider distribution obtained from the Operating model.*

RECOMMENDATION

That the MSAB:

- 1) **NOTE** paper IPHC-2017-MSAB10-06 which details the outcomes of the 11th Session of the IPHC Scientific Review Board (SB11) relevant to the mandate of the MSAB.

APPENDICES

Nil