



## Report of the 28<sup>th</sup> Session of the IPHC Processor Advisory Board (PAB028)

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Victoria, B.C., Canada, 24-25 January 2023

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## ACRONYMS

AM	Annual Meeting, of the IPHC
FCEY	Fishery Constant Exploitation Yield
FISS	Fishery-independent setline survey
IPHC	International Pacific Halibut Commission
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association
ODFW	Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
SPR	Spawning Potential Ratio
TCEY	Total Constant Exploitation Yield
WPUE	Weight Per Unit Effort

## 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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**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<b>REPORT OF THE 28<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE IPHC PROCESSOR ADVISORY BOARD (PAB028)</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>TABLE OF CONTENTS</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>1. OPENING OF THE SESSION</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION</b> .....	<b>8</b>
<b>3. IPHC SECRETARIAT INFORMATIONAL SESSION</b> .....	<b>8</b>
3.1 <i>Mortality Limits and TCEY</i> .....	8
3.2 <i>MSE update</i> .....	8
<b>4. FISHING PERIODS: SEASON OPENING AND CLOSING DATES</b> .....	<b>8</b>
<b>5. MORTALITY LIMITS</b> .....	<b>8</b>
5.1 <i>Coastwide perspectives</i> .....	8
5.2 <i>Regulatory Area perspectives</i> .....	8
5.3 <i>TCEY Recommendations</i> .....	8
<b>6. IPHC FISHERY REGULATION PROPOSALS FOR 2022</b> .....	<b>9</b>
6.1 <i>IPHC Secretariat fishery regulation proposals</i> .....	9
6.2 <i>Contracting Party fishery regulation proposals</i> .....	9
6.3 <i>Other Stakeholder fishery regulation proposals</i> .....	10
<b>7. RULES OF PROCEDURE - PAB</b> .....	<b>10</b>
<b>8. OTHER BUSINESS</b> .....	<b>11</b>
<b>9. REVIEW OF THE DRAFT AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE 28<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE IPHC PROCESSOR ADVISORY BOARD (PAB028)</b> .....	<b>11</b>
<b>APPENDIX I LIST OF PARTICIPANTS FOR THE 28<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE IPHC PROCESSOR ADVISORY BOARD (PAB028)</b> .....	<b>12</b>
<b>APPENDIX II AGENDA FOR THE 28<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE IPHC PROCESSOR ADVISORY BOARD (PAB028)</b> .....	<b>14</b>
<b>APPENDIX III PACIFIC HALIBUT MORTALITY PROJECTED FOR 2023 BASED ON THE PAB RECOMMENDED TCEY MORTALITY LIMITS</b> .....	<b>15</b>
<b>APPENDIX IV CONSOLIDATED SET OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND REQUESTS OF THE 28<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE IPHC PROCESSOR ADVISORY BOARD (PAB028) (24-25 JANUARY 2023)</b> .....	<b>16</b>

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 28<sup>th</sup> Session of the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) Processor Advisory Board (PAB028) was held in a hybrid format in Victoria, B.C., Canada from 24-25 January 2023. A total of 16 members attended the Session from the two (2) Contracting Parties. The meeting was opened by Mr Carl Nordmann (Canada) and Ms Jessie Keplinger (U.S.A.), who welcomed participants.

The following are a subset of the complete recommendations and requests for action from the PAB028, which are provided at [Appendix IV](#).

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### *Fishing periods: season opening and closing dates*

PAB028-Rec.01 ([para. 11](#)) The PAB **RECOMMENDED** the following fishing period dates for 2023:

- a) Opening: 10 March *[Canada: in favour=1; against=3; abstain=0]*  
*[USA: in favour=12; against=0; abstain=0]*
- b) Closing: 10 November *[Canada: in favour=1; against=3; abstain=0]*  
*[USA: in favour=12; against=0; abstain=0]*

### *Mortality limits: TCEY Recommendations*

PAB028-Rec.02 ([para. 16](#)) The PAB **RECOMMENDED** the following TCEY mortality limits for the 2023 fishing period as provided in [Table 1](#), which translate to the mortality estimates by sector (as provided by the IPHC Secretariat) provided in [Appendix III](#) and an SPR of 53% *[In favour=16; against=0; abstain=0]*

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

PAB028-Rec.03 ([para. 17](#)) The PAB **NOTED** and **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission adopt, fishery regulation proposal [IPHC-2023-AM099-PropA1](#), with the addition of the mortality limits for each Contracting Party, by sector, as detailed in [Section 5.3](#)), but also include all mortality (e.g. subsistence, bycatch, and non-guided sport) in annual summary framework table. *[In favour=16; against=0; abstain=0]*

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

PAB028-Rec.04 ([para. 18](#)) The PAB **NOTED** and **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission adopt, fishery regulation proposal [IPHC-2023-AM099-PropA2](#), which specified fishing periods for the commercial Pacific halibut fisheries. See [Section 4](#) for a summary of discussions and recommendations. *[In favour=16; against=0; abstain=0]*

### *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*

PAB028-Rec.05 ([para. 19](#)) The PAB **NOTED** and **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission adopt, 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. *[In favour=16; against=0; abstain=0]*

### *IPHC Fishery Regulations: minor amendments*

PAB028-Rec.06 ([para. 20](#)) The PAB **NOTED** and **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission adopt, fishery regulation proposal [IPHC-2023-AM099-PropA4 Rev 1](#) that proposed minor amendments to the existing IPHC Fishery Regulations, improving their clarity and consistency. *[In favour=16; against=0; abstain=0]*

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

PAB028-Rec.07 (para. 24) The PAB **NOTED** and **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission adopt, fishery regulation proposal [IPHC-2023-AM099-PropB4](#), that proposed updates to IPHC regulatory language regarding the qualifying logbooks in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A. [*In favour=16; against=0; abstain=0*]

**Rules of Procedure - PAB**

PAB028-Rec.08 (para. 33) The PAB **RECOMMENDED** to approve accreditation for industry associations that represent Pacific halibut processors from both Canada and the USA as members with voting participation. For as far back as the PAB members can remember these associations have always been allowed to be members of the PAB and we see no reason to change that at this time. These groups play an important role in providing pertinent information regarding meetings and dates, communication of issues and concerns in the fishery, as well as assisting in introducing processing participants to the IPHC process and each other. [*In favour=16; against=0; abstain=0*]

PAB028-Rec.09 (para. 34) The PAB **RECOMMENDED** that a working group be convened over the next six (6) months to discuss:

- a) PAB Rules of operation under Roberts Rules of Order; [*In favour=16; against=0; abstain=0*]
- b) Accreditation form;
- c) Suggest a timeline of proposed changes to give to the Commission;
- d) Voting Members.

PAB028-Rec.10 (para. 35) The PAB **RECOMMENDED** the following regarding proxy voting:

- a) Proxies are allowed from accredited members from the PAB.
- b) Only one proxy per member is allowed – Change to: only one proxy per attending member;
- c) Proxies will be submitted to the IPHC Secretariat prior to the PAB meeting in written or electronic form;
- d) 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.

**Other key actions**

(para. 36) The PAB **ENDORSED** all proposed changes to the Rules of Procedure contained in paper [IPHC-2023-FAC099-09](#), with the modifications as prescribed in [para. 35](#). [*In favour=16; against=0; abstain=0*]

## 1. OPENING OF THE SESSION

1. The 28<sup>th</sup> Session of the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) Processor Advisory Board (PAB028) was in a hybrid format in Victoria, B.C., Canada from 24-25 January 2023. A total of 16 members attended the Session from the two (2) Contracting Parties. The list of participants is provided at [Appendix I](#). The meeting was opened by Mr Carl Nordmann (Canada) and Ms Jessie Keplinger (U.S.A.), who welcomed participants.

### 1.1 Election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson

2. In accordance with Appendix IV, Section III of the IPHC Rules of Procedure (2022), the PAB **NOTED** the requirement to elect a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson of the PAB for one year, or until a replacement is elected.
3. The PAB **CALLED** for nominations for the position of Chairperson of the PAB for one year, or until a replacement is elected. Carl Nordmann (Canada) was nominated, seconded and elected as Chairperson.
4. The PAB **CALLED** for nominations for the position of Vice-Chairperson of the PAB for one year, or until a replacement is elected. Jessie Keplinger (USA) was nominated, seconded and elected as Vice-Chairperson.

### 1.2 Accreditation of PAB membership (2023)

5. The PAB **NOTED** that with the transition in Secretariat roles to the IPHC Secretariat commencing in January 2022, and that no accreditation details were available, there was a need for all potential PAB members to be formally reaccredited.
6. The PAB **NOTED** that Canada accredited 4 members and the USA accredited 12 members, for participation in the 2023 Processor Advisory Board proceedings, as follows:

#### a) Canada

- |                               |               |
|-------------------------------|---------------|
| 1) Coldfish Seafood Co. Inc.  | Casey Sugden  |
| 2) FAS Seafood Producers, Ltd | Bruce Hale    |
| 3) Seven Seas Fish Co. Ltd    | Nick Heras    |
| 4) S.M. Products (B.C) Ltd    | Carl Nordmann |

#### b) USA

- |  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| 1) 170 Degrees West                    | Heather McCarty  |
| 2) Dana Besecker Co.                   | Miles Smith      |
| 3) E&E Foods, Inc.                     | Kit Durnil       |
| 4) John Nagle Company                  | Mark Callahan    |
| 5) Northport Fisheries                 | Tyler Goodnight  |
| 6) OBI Seafoods                        | John Woodruff    |
| 7) Peter Pan Seafood Co.               | Steven Minor     |
| 8) Seafood Producers Coop.             | Norman Pillen    |
| 9) Taku Fisheries, Hoonah Cold Storage | Tim James        |
| 10) Alaska Glacier Seafoods            | Jessie Keplinger |
| 11) Pacific Seafoods                   | David Brindle    |
| 12) Katchemak Bay Seafoods             | William Sullivan |

7. The PAB **DISCUSSED** membership eligibility for associations whose direct business does not involve the purchasing, processing and selling of Pacific halibut. It was agreed that these types of companies and associations could provide valuable contributions to the PAB. The relevant rule, which has remained unmodified since the PAB (originally PAG) was formed states:

[IPHC Rules of Procedure \(2022\)](#), Appendix VI, Sect. II, para 3: “Any company or association, including sole-proprietorships, corporation, or partnerships whose direct business is purchasing, processing and selling Pacific halibut caught in Alaska, British Columbia, Washington, Oregon, or California is eligible for PAB membership.” [note: further discussion points moved to the [Section 7](#), Rules of Procedure].

## 2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION

8. The PAB **ADOPTED** the Agenda as provided at [Appendix II](#). The documents provided to the PAB028 are those submitted for the 99<sup>th</sup> Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM099). To assist the PAB in navigating its meeting, all documents relevant to the agenda were posted as links on the PAB webpage: <https://www.iphc.int/venues/details/28th-session-of-the-iphc-processor-advisory-board-pab028>.

## 3. IPHC SECRETARIAT INFORMATIONAL SESSION

### 3.1 Mortality Limits and TCEY

9. The PAB **NOTED** the informal presentation by Dr Ian Stewart (IPHC Quantitative Scientist).

### 3.2 MSE update

10. The PAB **NOTED** the review of the MSE process and MSAB reports provided by Dr Allan Hicks (IPHC Quantitative Scientist).

## 4. FISHING PERIODS: SEASON OPENING AND CLOSING DATES

11. The PAB **RECOMMENDED** the following fishing period dates for 2023:
- a) Opening: 10 March *[Canada: in favour=1; against=3; abstain=0]*  
*[USA: in favour=12; against=0; abstain=0]*
  - b) Closing: 10 November *[Canada: in favour=1; against=3; abstain=0]*  
*[USA: in favour=12; against=0; abstain=0]*
12. The PAB **NOTED** that three members (3 Canadian) voting against these dates were supportive of a longer fishing period (10 March to 30 November).

## 5. MORTALITY LIMITS

### 5.1 Coastwide perspectives

13. Nil

### 5.2 Regulatory Area perspectives

14. Nil

### 5.3 TCEY Recommendations

15. The PAB **AGREED** to support a coastwide TCEY of 37.997 million pounds which corresponds to a projected 2023 fishing intensity of  $F_{53\%}$ . *[In favour=16; against=0; abstain=0]*
16. The PAB **RECOMMENDED** the following TCEY mortality limits for the 2023 fishing period as provided in [Table 1](#), which translate to the mortality estimates by sector (as provided by the IPHC Secretariat) provided in [Appendix III](#) and an SPR of 53% *[In favour=16; against=0; abstain=0]*

**Table 1.** Processor Advisory Board (PAB) recommended TCEY mortality limits for 2023. See previous paragraphs for voting.

IPHC Regulatory Area	Mortality limit (TCEY) (mlbs)
2A	1.650
2B	6.960
2C	5.851
3A	12.368
3B	4.080
4A	1.785
4B	1.450
4CDE	3.854
<b>Total (IPHC Convention Area)</b>	<b>37.997</b>

## 6. IPHC FISHERY REGULATION PROPOSALS FOR 2022

### 6.1 IPHC Secretariat fishery regulation proposals

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

17. The PAB **NOTED** and **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission adopt, fishery regulation proposal [IPHC-2023-AM099-PropA1](#), with the addition of the mortality limits for each Contracting Party, by sector, as detailed in [Section 5.3](#)), but also include all mortality (e.g. subsistence, bycatch, and non-guided sport) in annual summary framework table. [*In favour=16; against=0; abstain=0*]

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

18. The PAB **NOTED** and **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission adopt, fishery regulation proposal [IPHC-2023-AM099-PropA2](#), which specified fishing periods for the commercial Pacific halibut fisheries. See [Section 4](#) for a summary of discussions and recommendations. [*In favour=16; against=0; abstain=0*]

#### 6.1.3 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

19. The PAB **NOTED** and **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission adopt, 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. [*In favour=16; against=0; abstain=0*]

#### 6.1.4 IPHC Fishery Regulations: minor amendments

20. The PAB **NOTED** and **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission adopt, fishery regulation proposal [IPHC-2023-AM099-PropA4 Rev\\_1](#) that proposed minor amendments to the existing IPHC Fishery Regulations, improving their clarity and consistency. [*In favour=16; against=0; abstain=0*]

### 6.2 Contracting Party fishery regulation proposals

#### 6.2.1 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

21. The PAB **NOTED** 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, in order to achieve the charter Pacific halibut allocation under the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council's (NPFMC) Pacific halibut Catch Sharing Plan.

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

22. The PAB **NOTED** fishery regulation proposal [IPHC-2023-AM099-PropB2](#), 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.

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

23. The PAB **NOTED** 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.

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

24. The PAB **NOTED** and **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission adopt, fishery regulation proposal [IPHC-2023-AM099-PropB4](#), that proposed updates to IPHC regulatory language regarding the qualifying logbooks in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A. [*In favour=16; against=0; abstain=0*]

### 6.3 Other Stakeholder fishery regulation proposals

#### 6.3.1 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

25. The PAB **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).

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

26. The PAB **OPPOSED** fishery regulation proposal [IPHC-2023-AM099-PropC2](#), that proposed amendments to include a constant TCEY floor in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A. [*In favour=16; against=0; abstain=0*]

#### 6.3.3 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 (T. Cooper)

27. The PAB **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.

## 7. RULES OF PROCEDURE - PAB

28. The PAB **NOTED** paper [IPHC-2023-FAC099-09](#) that proposed improvements to the PAB Rules of Procedure.
29. The PAB **NOTED** the consultation process that was undertaken throughout 2022 by the IPHC Secretariat, that was initiated on 15 January 2022 and culminated in the presentation of proposed amendments to the PAB Rules of Procedure at PAB028. The consultation included emails to all PAB members, follow-up correspondence, and provision of the proposed changes more than 30 days ahead of the IPHC meeting series in Victoria, Canada.
30. The PAB **NOTED** the presentation on each of the proposed improvements, rationale, as well as other factors that it may wish to consider in making recommendations to the Commission.
31. The PAB **NOTED** the current issue with non-directly involved associations not being eligible for PAB membership, in accordance with the IPHC Rules of Procedure for the PAB, which has been unchanged since the PABs inception.
32. The PAB **AGREED** that companies, and associations, including sole-proprietorships, corporations, or partnerships, whose direct or indirect business is purchasing, processing and selling Pacific halibut caught in Alaska, British Columbia, or who represent Pacific halibut processors from Canada and the USA, should be eligible for PAB membership.
33. The PAB **RECOMMENDED** to approve accreditation for industry associations that represent Pacific halibut processors from both Canada and the USA as members with voting participation. For as far back as the PAB members can remember these associations have always been allowed to be members of the PAB and we see no reason to change that at this time. These groups play an important role in providing pertinent information regarding meetings and dates, communication of issues and concerns in the fishery, as well as assisting in introducing processing participants to the IPHC process and each other. [*In favour=16; against=0; abstain=0*]

34. The PAB **RECOMMENDED** that a working group be convened over the next six (6) months to discuss:
- PAB Rules of operation under Roberts Rules of Order; [In favour=16; against=0; abstain=0]
  - Accreditation form;
  - Suggest a timeline of proposed changes to give to the Commission;
  - Voting Members.
35. The PAB **RECOMMENDED** the following regarding proxy voting:
- Proxies are allowed from accredited members from the PAB.
  - Only one proxy per member is allowed – Change to: only one proxy per attending member;
  - Proxies will be submitted to the IPHC Secretariat prior to the PAB meeting in written or electronic form;
  - 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.
36. The PAB **ENDORSED** all proposed changes to the Rules of Procedure contained in paper [IPHC-2023-FAC099-09](#), with the modifications as prescribed in [para. 35](#). [In favour=16; against=0; abstain=0]

## 8. OTHER BUSINESS

37. The PAB **OPPOSES** the recommendation of the MSAB to reduce Pacific halibut size limit and **REQUESTED** the Commission note:
- The PAB believes that the value in the marketplace of a Pacific halibut smaller than 32 inches will be significantly lower than the value of a fish 32 inches or over, and much less than the projected value used in the MSE modelling. The recovery rates on smaller fish are low;
  - This change would likely cause changes in fishing behaviour, which needs further analysis and discussion;
  - Results from the MSAB evaluation suggested that removing the size limit over the long-term could impact the age and size diversity in the biomass, i.e. the percentage of older, larger individuals would decline while the percentage of small fish would increase. We don't yet know what long-term impacts on the full range of halibut and the sustainability of a less-diverse biomass in the future;
  - PAB is strongly against fishing U32 fish.
38. The PAB **ENCOURAGED** further consideration before moving from an annual to a triennial stock assessment. While there may be advantages in doing the full stock assessment less frequently, including the potential for less extreme changes from one year to the next, there is also the potential for unexpectedly large changes at the end of a three-year period. In this time of rapid climate and ecosystem changes, annual stock assessments may remain the more prudent choice. In addition, we need more information on how it will affect IPHC Regulatory Area specific TCEY and suggest identifying fluctuation in the FISS that would cause enough concern to trigger a biological risk and initiate a full stock assessment in off years.
39. The PAB **EXPRESSED** its appreciation for the assistance provided by the IPHC Secretariat, and for in-session presentations and support by Andrea Keikkala, Monica Thom, Tom Kong, Robert Tynes, Dr David Wilson, Dr Ian Stewart, Dr Allan Hicks, Dr Basia Hutniczak, and the Secretariat support behind the scenes.

## 9. REVIEW OF THE DRAFT AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE 28TH SESSION OF THE IPHC PROCESSOR ADVISORY BOARD (PAB028)

40. The report of the 28<sup>th</sup> Session of the IPHC Processor Advisory Board ([IPHC-2023-PAB028-R](#)) was **ADOPTED** on 25 January 2023, including the consolidated set of recommendations and requests arising from PAB028, provided at [Appendix IV](#). [In favour=11; against=0; abstain=0]

**APPENDIX I**  
**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS FOR THE 28<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE IPHC PROCESSOR ADVISORY BOARD**  
**(PAB028)**

**Officers**

<b>Chairperson</b>	<b>Vice-Chairperson</b>
Mr Carl <b>Nordmann</b> (Canada)	Ms Jessie <b>Keplinger</b> (United States of America)

**PAB Members**

<b>Canada</b>			
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Ms Kayla Carr	
Mr Pete Hulson	NOAA
Mr Scott Jellison	Resurrection Bay Seafoods
Ms Lynn Mattes	Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
Mr Scott Mazzone	Quinault Indian Nation
Ms Caroline McKnight	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Ms Alicia Miller	NOAA

Mr Martin Paish	BC SFAB
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**APPENDIX II****AGENDA FOR THE 28<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE IPHC PROCESSOR ADVISORY BOARD (PAB028)****Date:** 24-25 January 2023**Location:** Victoria, BC, Canada**Venue:** [Fairmont Empress](#)**Time:** 24<sup>th</sup>: 13:30-17:00; 25<sup>th</sup>: 09:00-17:00**Chairperson:** Mr Carl Nordmann (Canada) **Vice-Chairperson:** Ms Jessie Keplinger (USA)**1. OPENING OF THE SESSION**

- 1.1 Election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson
- 1.2 Accreditation of PAB Membership (2023)

**2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION****3. IPHC SECRETARIAT INFORMATIONAL SESSION**

- 6.4 Mortality Limits and TCEY
- 6.5 MSE Update

**4. FISHING PERIODS: SEASON OPENING AND CLOSING DATES****5. MORTALITY LIMITS**

- 5.1 Coastwide perspectives
- 5.2 Regulatory Area perspectives
- 5.3 TCEY Recommendations

**6. IPHC FISHERY REGULATION PROPOSALS FOR 2023**

- 6.1 IPHC Secretariat fishery regulation proposals
- 6.2 Contracting Party fishery regulation proposals
- 6.3 Other Stakeholder fishery regulation proposals

**7. RULES OF PROCEDURE – PAB**

- 7.1 IPHC Rules of Procedure (2023)

**8. OTHER BUSINESS**

- 8.1 Size limits
- 8.2 Halibut fisheries in the world.
- 8.3 Input of the accreditation process for new members in the rules and procedures

**9. REVIEW OF THE DRAFT AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE 28<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE IPHC PROCESSOR ADVISORY BOARD (PAB028)**

**APPENDIX III  
PACIFIC HALIBUT MORTALITY PROJECTED FOR 2023 BASED ON THE PAB RECOMMENDED  
TCEY MORTALITY LIMITS**

**Note:** All values reported in millions of net pounds.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Detailed 2023 projections, by sector, based on the TCEY mortality limits endorsed by the PAB028

Sector	IPHC Regulatory Area								
	2A	2B	2C	3A	3B	4A	4B	4CDE	Total
<b>Commercial discards</b>	0.05	0.18	NA	NA	0.33	0.05	0.01	0.08	0.70
<b>O26 Non-directed discards</b>	0.08	0.24	0.06	0.39	0.27	0.25	0.13	1.72	3.13
<b>Recreational</b>	NA	0.04	1.14	1.20	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	2.40
<b>Subsistence</b>	NA	0.41	0.29	0.18	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.04	0.94
<b>Total non-FCEY</b>	0.13	0.87	1.49	1.77	0.62	0.33	0.14	1.83	7.17
<b>Commercial discards</b>	NA	NA	0.15	0.60	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.75
<b>Recreational</b>	0.62	0.91	0.80	1.89	NA	NA	NA	NA	4.22
<b>Subsistence</b>	0.02	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.02
<b>Commercial landings</b>	0.88	5.18	3.41	8.11	3.46	1.46	1.31	2.02	25.83
<b>Total FCEY</b>	1.52	6.09	4.36	10.60	3.46	1.46	1.31	2.02	30.83
						<i>4C FCEY</i>		<i>0.90</i>	
						<i>4D FCEY</i>		<i>0.90</i>	
						<i>4E FCEY</i>		<i>0.22</i>	
<b>TCEY</b>	<b>1.65</b>	<b>6.96</b>	<b>5.85</b>	<b>12.37</b>	<b>4.08</b>	<b>1.79</b>	<b>1.45</b>	<b>3.85</b>	<b>38.00</b>
<b>U26 Non-directed discards</b>	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.24	0.10	0.10	0.01	0.88	1.37
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.65</b>	<b>6.99</b>	<b>5.85</b>	<b>12.61</b>	<b>4.18</b>	<b>1.89</b>	<b>1.46</b>	<b>4.73</b>	<b>39.36</b>

## APPENDIX IV

**CONSOLIDATED SET OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND REQUESTS OF THE 28<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE  
IPHC PROCESSOR ADVISORY BOARD (PAB028) (24-25 JANUARY 2023)**

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

***Fishing periods: season opening and closing dates***

- PAB028-Rec.01 (para. 11) The PAB **RECOMMENDED** the following fishing period dates for 2023:
- a) Opening: 10 March [Canada: in favour=1; against=3; abstain=0]  
[USA: in favour=12; against=0; abstain=0]
  - b) Closing: 10 November [Canada: in favour=1; against=3; abstain=0]  
[USA: in favour=12; against=0; abstain=0]

***Mortality limits: TCEY Recommendations***

- PAB028-Rec.02 (para. 16) The PAB **RECOMMENDED** the following TCEY mortality limits for the 2023 fishing period as provided in [Table 1](#), which translate to the mortality estimates by sector (as provided by the IPHC Secretariat) provided in [Appendix III](#) and an SPR of 53% [In favour=16; against=0; abstain=0]

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

- PAB028-Rec.03 (para. 17) The PAB **NOTED** and **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission adopt, fishery regulation proposal [IPHC-2023-AM099-PropA1](#), with the addition of the mortality limits for each Contracting Party, by sector, as detailed in [Section 5.3](#)), but also include all mortality (e.g. subsistence, bycatch, and non-guided sport) in annual summary framework table. [In favour=16; against=0; abstain=0]

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

- PAB028-Rec.04 (para. 18) The PAB **NOTED** and **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission adopt, fishery regulation proposal [IPHC-2023-AM099-PropA2](#), which specified fishing periods for the commercial Pacific halibut fisheries. See [Section 4](#) for a summary of discussions and recommendations. [In favour=16; against=0; abstain=0]

***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***

- PAB028-Rec.05 (para. 19) The PAB **NOTED** and **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission adopt, 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. [In favour=16; against=0; abstain=0]

***IPHC Fishery Regulations: minor amendments***

- PAB028-Rec.06 (para. 20) The PAB **NOTED** and **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission adopt, fishery regulation proposal [IPHC-2023-AM099-PropA4 Rev\\_1](#) that proposed minor amendments to the existing IPHC Fishery Regulations, improving their clarity and consistency. [In favour=16; against=0; abstain=0]

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

- PAB028-Rec.07 (para. 24) The PAB **NOTED** and **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission adopt, fishery regulation proposal [IPHC-2023-AM099-PropB4](#), that proposed updates to IPHC regulatory language regarding the qualifying logbooks in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A. [In favour=16; against=0; abstain=0]

**Rules of Procedure - PAB**

- PAB028-Rec.08 ([para. 33](#)) The PAB **RECOMMENDED** to approve accreditation for industry associations that represent Pacific halibut processors from both Canada and the USA as members with voting participation. For as far back as the PAB members can remember these associations have always been allowed to be members of the PAB and we see no reason to change that at this time. These groups play an important role in providing pertinent information regarding meetings and dates, communication of issues and concerns in the fishery, as well as assisting in introducing processing participants to the IPHC process and each other. [*In favour=16; against=0; abstain=0*]
- PAB028-Rec.09 ([para. 34](#)) The PAB **RECOMMENDED** that a working group be convened over the next six (6) months to discuss:
- a) PAB Rules of operation under Roberts Rules of Order; [*In favour=16; against=0; abstain=0*]
  - b) Accreditation form;
  - c) Suggest a timeline of proposed changes to give to the Commission;
  - d) Voting Members.
- PAB028-Rec.10 ([para. 35](#)) The PAB **RECOMMENDED** the following regarding proxy voting:
- a) Proxies are allowed from accredited members from the PAB.
  - b) Only one proxy per member is allowed – Change to: only one proxy per attending member;
  - c) Proxies will be submitted to the IPHC Secretariat prior to the PAB meeting in written or electronic form;
  - d) 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.

**Other key actions**

([para. 36](#)) The PAB **ENDORSED** all proposed changes to the Rules of Procedure contained in paper [IPHC-2023-FAC099-09](#), with the modifications as prescribed in [para. 35](#). [*In favour=16; against=0; abstain=0*]

**REQUESTS**

- PAB028-Req.01 ([para. 37](#)) The PAB **OPPOSED** the recommendation of the MSAB to reduce Pacific halibut size limit and **REQUESTED** the Commission note:
- a) The PAB believes that the value in the marketplace of a Pacific halibut smaller than 32 inches will be significantly lower than the value of a fish 32 inches or over, and much less than the projected value used in the MSE modelling. The recovery rates on smaller fish are low;
  - b) This change would likely cause changes in fishing behaviour, which needs further analysis and discussion;
  - c) Results from the MSAB evaluation suggested that removing the size limit over the long-term could impact the age and size diversity in the biomass, i.e. the percentage of older, larger individuals would decline while the percentage of small fish would increase. We don't yet know what long-term impacts on the full range of halibut and the sustainability of a less-diverse biomass in the future;
  - d) PAB is strongly against fishing U32 fish.