



Update on actions arising from the 23rd Session of the IPHC Research Advisory Board (RAB023)

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PURPOSE

To provide the RAB with an opportunity to consider the progress made during the inter-sessional period, in relation to the recommendations and requests of the 23rd Session of the IPHC Research Advisory Board (RAB023).

BACKGROUND

At the RAB023 meeting, a series of actions were agreed upon for implementation by the IPHC Secretariat. These action items and progress made on their implementation are detailed in Appendix A.

DISCUSSION

Noting that best practice governance requires the prompt delivery of core tasks assigned by the Commission, at each subsequent session of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies, attempts will be made to ensure that any recommendations and requests for action are carefully constructed so that each contains the following elements:

- 1) a specific action to be undertaken (deliverable);
- 2) clear responsibility for the action to be undertaken (i.e. a specific Contracting Party, the IPHC Secretariat, a subsidiary body of the Commission or the Commission itself);
- 3) a desired time frame for delivery of the action (i.e. by the next session of an subsidiary body, or other date).

This involves numbering and tracking all action items (see Appendix A) from the RAB, as well as including clear progress updates and document reference numbers.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the RAB:

- 1) **NOTE** paper IPHC-2023-RAB024-03, which provided the RAB with an opportunity to consider the progress made during the inter-sessional period, in relation to the recommendations and requests of the 23rd Session of the IPHC Research Advisory Board (RAB023).
- 2) **AGREE** to consider and revise as necessary the actions, and for these to be combined with any new actions arising from RAB024.

APPENDICES

Appendix A: Update on actions arising from the 23rd IPHC Research Advisory Board (RAB023)

APPENDIX A

Update on actions arising from the 23rd Session of the Research Advisory Board
(RAB023)

Action No.	Description	Update
RECOMMENDATIONS - Nil		
REQUESTS		
RAB023- Req.01 (para. 18)	<p>2022 FISS season: Design and implementation</p> <p>The RAB NOTED that the ADFG have formally indicated to the Commission and the IPHC Secretariat that they will be requiring 100% of bycatch revenue in Alaska State waters to be provided to the agencies commencing in 2023. In the past, the IPHC has provided vessel crews working in the USA with 50% of bycatch proceeds to cover crew time and their efforts to process the bycatch and ensure it is maintained in a sellable condition. Under the new requests from ADFG, \$0 would be provided to the vessel. The RAB REQUESTED that the Commission consider the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Requiring the crew to forego any remuneration for their efforts to clean and ice bycatch to ensure quality product is landed for sale, is likely to result in a reduced willingness to do so. Some RAB members indicated that if \$0 are provided for work, that their crews will refuse to handle the fish other than for required retention. Reduced bycatch handling practices that result in poorer quality bycatch in the vessel hold, may also impact the quality of Pacific halibut in the hold, thereby reducing overall fish sale revenue for Pacific halibut. Reduced or degraded quality bycatch being landed, will result in either fish rejection at port, or very low prices being received at the dock. The IPHC Secretariat is intending on working with vessel captains to ensure bycatch receives a fair price at the dock in 2023, however some vessel captains indicated that if there was no financial benefit to the vessel, that they saw no need to assist the Secretariat in trying to obtain higher prices. 	Completed & Ongoing: The ADF&G have agreed to require 50% of bycatch revenue in Alaska State waters to be provided to the agency commencing in 2023.