



INTERNATIONAL PACIFIC HALIBUT COMMISSION 5-YEAR PROGRAM OF INTEGRATED RESEARCH AND MONITORING (2022-26): UPDATES

PREPARED BY: IPHC SECRETARIAT (D. WILSON, J. PLANAS, I. STEWART, A. HICKS, B. HUTNICZAK, AND R. WEBSTER; 23 AUGUST 2023)

PURPOSE

To provide the SRB with an annual opportunity to comment and propose amendments to the [IPHC's 5-year Program of Integrated Research and Monitoring \(2022-26\)](#) (the Plan).

BACKGROUND

Recalling that:

- a) the IPHC Secretariat conducts activities to address key issues identified by the Commission, its subsidiary bodies, the broader stakeholder community, and the IPHC Secretariat;
- b) the process of identifying, developing, and implementing the IPHC's science-based activities involves several steps that are circular and iterative in nature, but result in clear project activities and associated deliverables;
- c) the process includes developing and proposing projects based on direct input from the Commission, the experience of the IPHC Secretariat given its broad understanding of the resource and its associated fisheries, and concurrent consideration by relevant IPHC subsidiary bodies, and where deemed necessary, including by the Commission, additional external peer review;
- d) the IPHC Secretariat commenced implementation of the new Plan in 2022 and will keep the Plan under review on an ongoing basis.

Also recalling that an overarching goal of the IPHC 5-year Program of Integrated Research and Monitoring (2022-26) is to promote integration and synergies among the various research and monitoring activities of the IPHC Secretariat in order to improve knowledge of key inputs into the Pacific halibut stock assessment, and Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) processes, thereby providing the best possible advice for management decision making processes.

The 1st iteration of the Plan was formally presented to the Commission at IM097 in November 2021 ([IPHC-2021-IM097-12](#)) for general awareness of the documents ongoing development. At the 98th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM098) in January 2022, the Commission requested a number of amendments which were subsequently incorporated.

The Plan had already been through two cycles of review and improvement with the Scientific Review Board (SRB).

In 2022, the plan went through two further cycles of review and improvement with the SRB, with amendments being suggested and incorporated accordingly. The current version will move to an annual comment and amendment process at each years' Interim and then Annual Meetings.

DISCUSSION

The SRB should note that:

- a) 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);
- b) the plan focuses on core responsibilities of the Commission; and any redirection provided by the Commission;
 - c) 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.

At the 22nd Session of the Scientific Review Board (SRB022) in June 2023, the SRB provided the following recommendation to the Commission.

International Pacific Halibut Commission 5-year program of integrated research and monitoring (2022-26)

SRB022–Rec.01 ([para. 15](#)) The SRB **NOTED** the reporting table draft provided by the Contracting Parties (Appendix A of paper [IPHC-2023-SRB022-05](#)) and **RECOMMENDED** further modification by adding the following and as shown in [Table 1](#) below:

- a) *New Column: Brief description of the project and how it relates to the core mandate of the Commission;*
- b) *Description of the problem being addressed;*
- c) *Objective: List of concise objectives (research and how the results will be incorporated);*
- d) *Impact scale and timing;*
- e) *Interim performance/evaluation metrics.*

The template (provided at [Appendix A](#)) will be populated fully as we prepare for the Interim and Annual meetings. We have also commenced populating the table as provided in paper **IPHC-2023-SRB023-INF01**.

RECOMMENDATION

That the SRB:

- 1) **NOTE** paper IPHC-2023-SRB023-05 which provides the IPHC 5-year program of Integrated Research and Monitoring (2022-26) with potential updates.

APPENDICES

[Appendix A](#): Overview of research activities within the 5-YPIRM – Contents provided as an excel file on the WM2023 page.

**Appendix A
Overview of research activities within the 5-YPIRM**

Project start/end year	General area	Topic	Problem	Relevance to General Area	Study objectives and rationale	Anticipated results/ application	Expected Impact	Impact timing	Funding details (amount required per year, funding source)	Commissioner decision	Status
<i>E.g. 1, 2, 3</i>	<i>Stock assessment or MSE</i>		<i>E.g. similar to typical science abstract to summarize project, with links to IPHC core mandate and decision-making</i>		<i>a list of concise project objectives including main research objectives and rationale for why the results are important to the General Area</i>	<i>Results and application in SA or MSE</i>	<i>High-Med-Low</i>	<i>expected timeframe in which the Impact will occur. These are labelled Short1 (within 1 year), Med2-4 (2-4 years), and Long6+ (more than 6 years)</i>	<i>E.g. 2023: \$XX,XX; 2024: ...; funded internally or externally for XX reason</i>	<i>E.g. Adopted Not adopted Supported by CAN only USA only</i>	<i>E.g. Specify status similar to what is done to report on PR; status to be linked to milestones</i>
NEW PROJECTS - FOR DECISION											
...											
PREVIOUSLY PITCHED PROJECTS (including adopted and not adopted)											
...											