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**Subject:**Appointment of Chris Oliver as Alternate Commissioner to IPHC

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Councils,

I wanted to let you know about the Department of State's appointment of NMFS Assistant Administrator Chris Oliver as Alternate Commissioner to International Pacific Halibut Commission.

While NOAA awaits the Presidential appointments for the International Pacific Halibut Commission commissioners, Chris Oliver, the Assistant Administrator for NOAA Fisheries, has been appointed by the Department of State as an Alternate Commissioner to the IPHC serving in the Federal Commissioner role. As Assistant Administrator for NOAA Fisheries, Chris oversees the management and conservation of recreational and commercial fisheries across the United States. He previously served as the Executive Director of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council where he had direct experience working with the Pacific halibut fishery. As background, under the Northern Pacific Halibut Act of 1982, the United States is represented on the IPHC by three Commissioners to be appointed by the President, including one which must be an official from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Sam Rauch

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