



Report of the 95th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM095)

Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, 28 January to 1 February 2019

Commissioners

Canada	United States of America
Paul Ryall	Chris Oliver
Neil Davis	Robert Alverson
Peter DeGreef	Richard Yamada

Executive Director

David T. Wilson, Ph.D.

DISTRIBUTION:

Participants in the Session
Members of the Commission
IPHC Secretariat

BIBLIOGRAPHIC ENTRY

IPHC 2019. Report of the 95th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM095). Victoria, Canada, 28 January to 1 February 2019.
IPHC-2019-AM095-R, 46 pp.



The designations employed and the presentation of material in this publication and its lists do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) concerning the legal or development status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

This work is protected by copyright. Fair use of this material for scholarship, research, news reporting, criticism or commentary is permitted. Selected passages, tables or diagrams may be reproduced for such purposes provided acknowledgment of the source is included. Major extracts or the entire document may not be reproduced by any process without the written permission of the Executive Director, IPHC.

The IPHC has exercised due care and skill in the preparation and compilation of the information and data set out in this publication. Notwithstanding, the IPHC, its employees and advisers, assert all rights and immunities, and disclaim all liability, including liability for negligence, for any loss, damage, injury, expense or cost incurred by any person as a result of accessing, using or relying upon any of the information or data set out in this publication, to the maximum extent permitted by law including the International Organizations Immunities Act.

Contact details:

International Pacific Halibut Commission
2320 W. Commodore Way, Suite 300
Seattle, WA, 98199-1287, U.S.A.
Phone: +1 206 634 1838
Fax: +1 206 632 2983
Email: secretariat@iphc.int
Website: <http://iphc.int/>



ACRONYMS

CB	Conference Board
CSP	Catch Sharing Plan
DFO	Department of Fisheries and Ocean (Canada)
FCEY	Fishery Constant Exploitation Yield
HANA	Halibut Association of North America
IFQ	Individual Fishing Quota
IPHC	International Pacific Halibut Commission
MSAB	Management Strategy Advisory Board
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Services, of NOAA
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NPFMC	North Pacific Fishery Management Council
NPUE	Number Per Unit Effort
OLE	Office of Law Enforcement
PAB	Processor Advisory Board
PFMC	Pacific Fisheries Management Council
RAB	Research Advisory Board
SB	Spawning Biomass
SRB	Scientific Review Board
SPR	Spawning Potential Ratio
TCEY	Total Constant Exploitation Yield
WPUE	Weight Per Unit Effort

DEFINITIONS

A set of working definitions are provided in the IPHC Glossary of Terms and abbreviations: <https://iphc.int/the-commission/glossary-of-terms-and-abbreviations>

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** (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.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

REPORT OF THE 95TH SESSION OF THE IPHC ANNUAL MEETING (AM095)	1
TABLE OF CONTENTS	4
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	6
1. OPENING OF THE SESSION	9
2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION	9
3. UPDATE ON ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE 94TH SESSION OF THE IPHC ANNUAL MEETING (AM094) AND THE 94TH SESSION OF THE IPHC INTERIM MEETING (IM094)	9
4. REPORT OF THE IPHC SECRETARIAT (2018)	9
5. FISHERY STATISTICS (2018)	9
6. STOCK STATUS OF PACIFIC HALIBUT (2018) AND HARVEST DECISION TABLE (2019)	11
6.1 <i>Fishery Independent Setline Survey (FISS) design and implementation in 2018, including current and future expansions</i>	11
6.2 <i>Space-time modelling of survey data (WPUE; FISS expansion results, etc.)</i>	11
6.3 <i>Data overview and stock assessment (2018), and draft harvest decision table (2019)</i>	12
6.3.1 <i>Data overview (2018)</i>	12
6.3.2 <i>Stock assessment (2018)</i>	12
6.4 <i>Pacific halibut mortality projections – Using the IPHC mortality projection tool</i>	14
7. IPHC 5-YEAR RESEARCH PROGRAM	15
7.1 <i>IPHC 5-year Biological & Ecosystem Sciences research program: update</i>	15
8. REPORT OF THE 19TH SESSION OF THE IPHC RESEARCH ADVISORY BOARD (RAB019)	16
9. REPORT OF THE 13TH SESSION OF THE IPHC SCIENTIFIC REVIEW BOARD (SRB013)	16
10. MANAGEMENT STRATEGY EVALUATION	16
10.1 <i>IPHC Management Strategy Evaluation: update</i>	16
10.2 <i>Report of the 12th Session of the IPHC Management Strategy Advisory Board (MSAB012)</i>	17
11. REGULATORY PROPOSALS FOR 2019	18
11.1 <i>IPHC Secretariat regulatory proposals</i>	18
11.1.1 <i>Fishery Limits (Sect. 4)</i>	18
11.1.2 <i>Commercial fishing periods (Sect. 9)</i>	19
11.1.3 <i>IPHC Fishery Regulations: minor amendments</i>	20
11.2 <i>Contracting Party regulatory proposals</i>	20
11.2.1 <i>Charter management measures in IPHC Regulatory Areas 2C and 3A</i>	20
11.3 <i>Other Stakeholder regulatory proposals</i>	20
11.3.1 <i>Minimum TCEY in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A</i>	20
11.3.2 <i>IPHC Regulatory Area 2A Quota Proposal</i>	21
11.4 <i>Stakeholder statements</i>	21
12. CONTRACTING PARTY (BY AGENCY) REPORTS	21
12.1 <i>Regulatory Area 2A (U.S.A.: West coast)</i>	21
12.2 <i>Regulatory Area 2B (Canada: British Columbia)</i>	21
12.3 <i>Regulatory Areas 2C/3/4 (U.S.A.: Alaska)</i>	22
12.4 <i>IPHC Contracting Party Report Template</i>	22
13. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION	23
13.1 <i>Financial Statement for FY2018</i>	23
13.2 <i>Annual independent auditor’s report (2017 & 2018)</i>	23
13.3 <i>Budget estimates for FY2020 (for approval), and tentatively for FY2021</i>	23
13.4 <i>Draft: IPHC Financial Regulations (2019)</i>	24
13.5 <i>Draft: IPHC Rules of Procedure (2019)</i>	24
14. IPHC PERFORMANCE REVIEW	24



14.1	2 nd IPHC Performance Review: update	24
14.2	Peer review process for IPHC science products.....	25
15.	REPORT OF THE 24TH SESSION OF THE IPHC PROCESSOR ADVISORY BOARD (PAB024).....	25
16.	REPORT OF THE 89TH SESSION OF THE IPHC CONFERENCE BOARD (CB089).....	25
17.	OTHER BUSINESS.....	26
17.1	IPHC meetings calendar (2019-21).....	26
17.2	News release	26
17.3	Election of a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson	26
18.	REVIEW OF THE DRAFT AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE 95TH SESSION OF THE IPHC ANNUAL MEETING (AM095)	27
	APPENDIX I LIST OF PARTICIPANTS FOR THE 95TH SESSION OF THE IPHC ANNUAL MEETING (AM095).....	28
	APPENDIX II AGENDA FOR THE 95TH SESSION OF THE IPHC ANNUAL MEETING (AM095)	33
	APPENDIX III LIST OF DOCUMENTS FOR THE 95TH SESSION OF THE IPHC ANNUAL MEETING (AM095)	35
	APPENDIX IV MORTALITY TABLE PROJECTED FOR THE 2019 MORTALITY LIMITS BY IPHC REGULATORY AREA	39
	APPENDIX V FY2019 BUDGET (1 OCT. 2018 TO 30 SEPT. 2019).....	40
	APPENDIX VI FY2020 PROPOSED BUDGET.....	41
	APPENDIX VII FY2021 PROPOSED BUDGET	42
	APPENDIX VIII IPHC MEETINGS CALENDAR (2019-21).....	43
	APPENDIX IX CONSOLIDATED SET OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND REQUESTS OF THE 95TH SESSION OF THE IPHC ANNUAL MEETING (AM095) (28 JANUARY TO 01 FEBRUARY 2019)	44



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 95th Session of the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) Annual Meeting (AM095) was held in Victoria, Canada, from 28 January to 1 February 2019. A total of 16 (21 in 2018) members (6 Commissioners; 10 advisors/experts) attended the Session from the two (2) Contracting Parties, as well as 182 (199 in 2018) members of the public in person and 142 (99 in 2018) via the webcast (total of 340 meeting participants). The meeting was opened by the Chairperson, Mr Paul Ryall (Canada) and Vice-Chairperson, Mr Chris Olivier (U.S.A.), who welcomed participants to Victoria, Canada.

The following are a subset of the complete recommendations and requests for action from the AM095, which are provided at [Appendix IX](#).

PACIFIC HALIBUT FISHERY REGULATION 2019

The Commission **ADOPTED** the mortality limits for each Contracting Party, by IPHC Regulatory Area, ([Table 5](#)) and sector, as provided in [Appendix IV](#). ([para. 70](#))

Table 5. Adopted TCEY mortality limits for 2019

IPHC Regulatory Area	Mortality limit (TCEY) (mlbs)	Mortality limit (TCEY) (metric tonnes)
2A	1.65	748.42
2B	6.83	3,098.04
2C	6.34	2,875.78
3A	13.50	6,123.50
3B	2.90	1,315.42
4A	1.94	879.97
4B	1.45	657.71
4CDE	4.00	1,814.37
Total (IPHC Convention Area)	38.61	17,513.20

Commercial fishing periods

The Commission **ADOPTED** fishing periods for 2019 as provided below, thereby superseding Section 9 of the IPHC Pacific halibut fishery regulations: ([para. 80](#))

- a) All commercial fishing for Pacific halibut in all IPHC Regulatory Areas may begin no earlier than 15 March and must cease on 14 November.
- b) IPHC Regulatory Area 2A (Non-Treaty Directed Commercial): Retain the 10-hour derby fishery for 2019, 26 June, 10 July, 24 July, 7 August, 21 August, 4 September, 18 September, with additional openings and fishing period limits (vessel quota) to be determined and communicated by the IPHC Secretariat.

Charter management measures in IPHC Regulatory Areas 2C and 3A

The Commission **NOTED** and **ADOPTED** regulatory proposal IPHC-2019-AM095-PropB1, which proposed IPHC Regulation changes for charter 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. ([para. 83](#))

RECOMMENDATIONS

Report of the 12th Session of the IPHC Management Strategy Advisory Board (MSAB012)

AM095-Rec.02 ([para. 62](#)) The Commission **RECOMMENDED** that the MSAB and IPHC Secretariat continue its program of work on the Management Procedure for the Scale portion of the harvest strategy, **NOTING** that Scale and Distribution components will be evaluated and presented no later than at AM097 in 2021, for potential adoption and subsequent



implementation as a harvest strategy. The management procedure that best meets the primary objectives for coastwide scale is:

- a) A target SPR of 40% with a fishery trigger of 30% and a fishery limit of 20% in the control rule;
- b) An annual constraint of 15% from the previous year's mortality limit.

Fishery Limits (Sect. 4)

AM095–Rec.04 ([para. 66](#)) The Commission **RECOMMENDED** evaluating and redefining TCEY to include the U26 component of discard mortalities, including bycatch, as steps towards more comprehensive and responsible management of the resource, in coordination with the IPHC Secretariat and Contracting Parties. The intent is that each Contracting Party to the Treaty would be responsible for counting its U26 mortalities against its collective TCEY. This change would be intended to take effect for TCEYs established at the 2020 Annual Meeting.

IPHC Regulatory Area 2A Non-Tribal Directed Commercial Fishery

AM095–Rec.08 ([para. 78](#)) **NOTING** the indication made to the PFMC in a letter dated 25 January 2019, that the IPHC Secretariat would welcome the opportunity to further address the safety concerns in the fishery, and to examine other potential management options for the fishery such as an IFQ or limited entry, as well as its management responsibilities, the Commission **RECOMMENDED** that this workshop take place, given the desire for the IPHC to move full management of the fishery from the IPHC (an international fisheries management body) to the relevant domestic agencies.

Peer review process for IPHC science products

AM095–Rec.10 ([para. 129](#)) The Commission **RECOMMENDED** that the IPHC Secretariat develop terms of reference for a consultant to undertake a peer review of the IPHC Pacific halibut stock assessment, for implementation in early 2019. The terms of reference and budget shall be endorsed by the Commission inter-sessionally.

AM095–Rec.11 ([para. 130](#)) The Commission **RECOMMENDED** that the IPHC Secretariat finalise terms of reference for a expert/consultant to undertake a peer review of the IPHC Pacific halibut MSE, for implementation in early November 2019 and July 2020. The terms of reference and budget shall be endorsed by the Commission inter-sessionally.

REQUESTS

Report of the IPHC Secretariat (2018)

AM095–Req.01 ([para. 06](#)) The Commission **NOTED** the new functionality added to the IPHC website in 2018, and **REQUESTED** that these initiatives continue to be enhanced, with the overall aim of further improving the transparency of the IPHC's operations and data collected (<http://iphc.int/>):

- a) [Fishery-Independent Setline Survey \(FISS\) data interactive](#)
- b) [Regulations portal](#), including the online [regulatory proposal submission form](#)
- c) [Landings Report](#)
- d) [Mortality projection tool](#)
- e) Commercial Fisheries data interactive ([in development](#))



Contracting Party (by Agency) reports - Regulatory Area 2A (U.S.A.: West coast)

AM095–Req.04 ([para. 91](#)) **NOTING** a lack of clarity regarding the accounting for Pacific halibut caught recreationally in British Columbia waters (Canada) and landed in Washington ports (U.S.A.), the Commission **REQUESTED** continued liaison between the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and Fisheries and Oceans Canada on the subject.

IPHC Financial Regulations (2019)

AM095–Req.06 ([para. 120](#)) The Commission **ADOPTED** the revised IPHC Financial Regulations (2019) by consensus, and **REQUESTED** that the IPHC Secretariat finalise and publish them accordingly.

IPHC Rules of Procedure (2019)

AM095–Req.07 ([para. 124](#)) The Commission **ADOPTED** the revised IPHC Rules of Procedure (2019) by consensus, and **REQUESTED** that the IPHC Secretariat finalise and publish them accordingly.

Review of the draft and adoption of the report of the 95th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM095)

AM095–Req.08 ([para. 150](#)) The Commission **REQUESTED** that the IPHC Secretariat finalise and publish the IPHC *Pacific Halibut Fishery Regulations (2019)* no later than 28 February 2019, **NOTING** that only minor editorial and formatting changes are permitted beyond the decisions made by the Commission at the AM095.



1. OPENING OF THE SESSION

1. The 95th Session of the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) Annual Meeting (AM095) was held in Victoria, Canada, from 28 January to 1 February 2019. A total of 16 (21 in 2018) members (6 Commissioners; 10 (15 in 2018) advisors/experts) attended the Session from the two (2) Contracting Parties, as well as 182 (199 in 2018) members of the public in person and 142 (99 in 2018) via the webcast (total of 340 meeting participants). The list of participants is provided at [Appendix I](#). The meeting was opened by the Chairperson, Mr Paul Ryall (Canada) and Vice-Chairperson, Mr Chris Olivier (U.S.A.), who welcomed participants to Victoria, Canada.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION

2. The Commission **ADOPTED** the Agenda as provided at [Appendix II](#). The documents provided to the AM094 are listed in [Appendix III](#).

3. UPDATE ON ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE 94TH SESSION OF THE IPHC ANNUAL MEETING (AM094) AND THE 94TH SESSION OF THE IPHC INTERIM MEETING (IM094)

3. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2019-AM095-03 which provided an opportunity to consider the progress made during the inter-sessional period, in relation to the recommendations and requests of the 94th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM094), and 94th Session of the IPHC Interim Meeting (IM094) in 2018.
4. The Commission **AGREED** to consider and revise as necessary, the actions arising from AM094 and IM094 meetings, and for these to be combined with any new actions arising from the AM095.

4. REPORT OF THE IPHC SECRETARIAT (2018)

5. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2019-AM095-04 which provided the Commission with an update on activities of the IPHC Secretariat in 2018 not detailed in other papers before the Commission.
6. The Commission **NOTED** the new functionality added to the IPHC website in 2018, and **REQUESTED** that these initiatives continue to be enhanced, with the overall aim of further improving the transparency of the IPHC's operations and data collected (<http://iphc.int/>):
 - f) [Fishery-Independent Setline Survey \(FISS\) data interactive](#)
 - g) [Regulations portal](#), including the online [regulatory proposal submission form](#)
 - h) [Landings Report](#)
 - i) [Mortality projection tool](#)
 - j) Commercial Fisheries data interactive ([in development](#))
7. The Commission **ACKNOWLEDGED** the ongoing efforts by the IPHC Secretariat to publish its research in peer reviewed journals. In 2018, the IPHC Secretariat published seven (7) peer reviewed journal articles, has one (1) paper '*in press*', and three (3) others that have been submitted and are currently undergoing peer review.
8. The Commission **NOTED** the 2018 IPHC regulatory proposals referred to a working group of IPHC Contracting Party agencies and **AGREED** that further work by the IPHC Secretariat was not necessary, given the matters identified were for the domestic Contracting Party agencies to consider.

5. FISHERY STATISTICS (2018)

9. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2019-AM095-05 which provided an overview of the key fishery statistics from fisheries catching Pacific halibut during 2018, including the status of landings compared to fishery limits implemented by the Contracting Parties of the Commission.



10. The Commission **NOTED** the following issues in regard to mortality exceeding projected mortalities based on 2017 observations (for all bycatch and recreational sectors), and overages (for commercial sectors) in the following Contracting Party sectors/fisheries in 2018 ([Table 1](#)):

Table 1. Fishery sectors with mortality overages in 2018. ^Projected for all except commercial. *rounding

Sector	IPHC Regulatory Area	Mortality limit/level^		2018 Mortality		Percent
		MIb	t	MIb	t	
Commercial	2A – Treaty Indian	0.39	177	0.40	183	104
	2A – directed	0.20	92	0.20	92	<101*
Recreational	3A – guided	1.79	812	1.87	847	104
Subsistence	4CDE	1.17	529	1.17	530	<101*
Bycatch	2A	0.11	50	0.13	59	117
	2B	0.23	104	0.27	122	117
	2C	0.02	9	0.03	15	160
	3A	1.01	458	1.28	581	127
	4B	0.20	91	0.22	102	112

11. The Commission **NOTED** that in 2018, 5.4 tonnes (2.8 tonnes in 2017) of Pacific halibut were landed with their ‘head-off’ fresh in Canada, in contravention of IPHC Fishery Regulation (2018) Section 18, para. 8, and the IPHC Secretariat was working with DFO to mitigate against future landings of this nature.

12. **NOTING** the uncertainty associated with various estimates of removals, as listed below, the Commission **REQUESTED** each Contracting Party address these uncertainties in a report to the Commission at its next Session. The intention is to provide greater detail on how each removal category is quantified, and verified:

Canada

- a) self-reporting of lodges for recreational estimates in Canada;
- b) subsistence estimates in Canada;

United States of America

- c) self-reporting of lodges for recreational estimates in the U.S.A. (Alaska);
- d) recreational discard mortality estimates for U.S.A. (IPHC Regulatory Area 2A);
- e) subsistence estimates in the U.S.A.;
- f) estimates for the Pacific halibut commercial fishery discard mortality in U.S.A. (Alaska) due to the estimates calculated by the IPHC Secretariat differing from those provided by NMFS, due primarily to the way coverage is measured (by fish weight caught, versus fishing trip);
- g) the estimates for Pacific halibut bycatch mortality in other fisheries in the U.S.A, for the same reasons identified in the previous point.

13. The Commission **NOTED** the mortality limit/level and associated realised mortality by IPHC Regulatory Area is presented in IPHC-2019-AM095-05, Table 1.

14. The Commission **NOTED** that all removal estimates received to date are included in IPHC-2019-AM095-05 apart from the recent update of the mortality estimate for the Regulatory Area 2A subsistence fishery.



6. STOCK STATUS OF PACIFIC HALIBUT (2018) AND HARVEST DECISION TABLE (2019)

6.1 *Fishery Independent Setline Survey (FISS) design and implementation in 2018, including current and future expansions*

15. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2019-AM095-06 which provided an overview of the International Pacific Halibut Commission's (IPHC) fishery-independent setline survey (FISS) design and implementation in 2018, including current and future expansions.
16. The Commission **RECALLED** that the fixed-station design leads to more precise estimates of trends in abundance, in contrast to designs where station locations would vary from year to year (e.g. fully randomised designs). Estimates of trends from randomised designs include additional variation due to the change of sampling locations, and thus in general yield less precise estimates of trends.
17. The Commission **RECALLED** the intention to review the design and implementation of the FISS throughout 2019 based upon the expansions already completed, as well as following the completion of the 2019 expansions in IPHC Regulatory Areas 3A and 3B. Preliminary results will be presented at the 14th Session of the IPHC Scientific Review Board (SRB014) in June 2019, and also to the Commission at its 2019 Work Meeting (WM2019; September 2019) for initial feedback, and subsequently at the 95th Interim Meeting (IM095 in November 2019) and the 96th Annual Meeting (AM096 in January 2020).
18. The Commission **RECALLED** that the IPHC Secretariat employs non-subjective methods to determine whether a FISS station is ineffective due to whale depredation. fishery-independent setline survey station is deemed to be ineffective as a result of toothed whale depredation, when sperm whales are sited within 3 nm during the haul-back of the gear (this was an improved protocol for 2018). Ineffective stations are also recorded for killer whales when greater than or equal to two (2) hooks are returned with Pacific halibut lips attached. One percent of the 2018 FISS stations were considered ineffective due to whale depredation.
19. The Commission **NOTED** the NOAA Fisheries report with FISS profiler data which depicts physical conditions coastwide.
20. The Commission **NOTED** the need to prospect some FISS stations for the planned 2019 expansion into Regulatory Areas 3A and 3B due to uncertainty as to whether they meet the FISS depth criteria (10 fathoms to 400 fathoms).

6.2 *Space-time modelling of survey data (WPUE; FISS expansion results, etc.)*

21. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2019-AM095-07 which provided the results of the 2018 space-time modelling of Pacific halibut survey data (which includes data from the IPHC fishery-independent setline survey (FISS), and other fishery-independent surveys), as well as the detailed results of the FISS expansions in IPHC Regulatory Areas 2A, 2B and 2C conducted in 2018.
22. The Commission **NOTED** that the hypoxic event off the Washington coast, which affected the catch rates on the Washington ad-hoc densification expansion grid in 2017, was not repeated in 2019. It was highlighted that the effect of adding the densified expansion grid on the overall value and precision of Regulatory Area 2A estimates of WPUE was minor.
23. **NOTING** that more FISS stations in the disputed area between Regulatory Areas 2B and 2C appear to be assigned to Regulatory Area 2C, and that the IPHC Secretariat indicated that this assignment is based on a 'compromise' boundary line previously developed, the Commission **REQUESTED** that this separation line be clarified and clearly marked on any future IPHC map to avoid confusion. The IPHC Secretariat shall develop such maps and distribute to the Commission in the coming weeks.
24. The Commission **NOTED** that reductions in uncertainty in WPUE and NPUE indices with time are largely due to improvements in FISS spatial coverage, but also in part to the fact that, all else being equal, uncertainty in absolute terms is proportional to the value of the index.



25. The Commission **NOTED** that the space-time modelling smooths across space and time, which should not result in systematic differences (either upward or downward) in mean WPUE and NPUE indices relative to averages obtained from raw, adjusted survey data.
26. The Commission **NOTED** that the NOAA-fisheries (NMFS) sablefish longline survey takes place during the same summer period in which the FISS is undertaken.

6.3 Data overview and stock assessment (2018), and draft harvest decision table (2019)

6.3.1 Data overview (2018)

27. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2019-AM095-08, which provided the Commission with an overview of the data sources available for the Pacific halibut (*Hippoglossus stenolepis*) stock assessment, harvest policy, Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) and other related analyses.

6.3.2 Stock assessment (2018)

28. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2019-AM095-09, which provided the Commission with a detailed report of the 2018 stock assessment analysis for Pacific halibut within the Convention Area, including the draft harvest decision table for 2019 ([Table 2](#)).

29. The Commission **NOTED** the following scientific advice from the IPHC Secretariat:

- a) **Fishing intensity:** *The IPHC does not have an explicit coastwide fishing intensity target or limit reference point, making it difficult to determine if current levels of fishing intensity are consistent with the interim harvest strategy policy objectives. However, given the healthy female spawning biomass and the TAC set for 2018 only being marginally higher than the levels estimated to maintain biomass at or near current levels of 43%, on the weight-of-evidence, the stock is classified as **not subject to overfishing**.*
- b) **Spawning biomass:** *Female spawning stock biomass of Pacific halibut at the beginning of 2018 was estimated to be 43% (27–63%) of the SB_0 (unfished levels) defined by the interim harvest strategy policy (Table 1). The probability that the stock is below the SB_{30} level (IPHC trigger) is estimated to be 11%, with less than a 1% chance that the stock is below SB_{20} (IPHC limit reference point). Thus, on the weight-of-evidence available, the Pacific halibut stock is determined to be **not overfished** ($SB_{2019} > SB_{20\%}$).*
- c) **Outlook.** *The stock is projected to decrease over the period from 2019-22 for all TCEYs greater than 20 million pounds (~9,070 t), corresponding to a Spawning Potential Ratio (SPR) of 64%. At the reference level (SPR of 46% and a TCEY of 40 Mlbs or 18,140 t) the probability of at least a 5% decrease in stock size increases over time from 37% (2020) to 86% (2022). There is a one third chance (<34/100) that the stock will decline below the threshold reference point ($SB_{30\%}$) in projections for all the levels of fishing intensity up to an SPR of 40% evaluated over three years.*

30. The Commission **NOTED** that stock projections were conducted using the integrated results from the stock assessment ensemble, summaries of the 2018 directed fisheries and other sources of mortality. The harvest decision table ([Table 2](#)) provides a comparison of the relative risk (in times out of 100), using stock and fishery metrics (rows), against a range of alternative harvest levels for 2019 (columns).

31. The Commission **NOTED** that:

- a) the harvest alternatives (columns) provided in the harvest decision table include several extreme levels of mortality (set aside in the left and right sections of the table) intended to provide for evaluation of stock dynamics:
 - i. No fishing mortality (useful to evaluate the stock trend due solely to population processes);



- ii. A 10 million pound (~4,500 t) 2019 Total Constant Exploitation Yield (TCEY¹)
- iii. A 60 million pound (~27,200 t) 2019 TCEY
- b) A finer grid of alternative TCEY values is provided around the column corresponding to the reference level of fishing intensity (SPR=46%; for 2019 a TCEY of 40 million pounds, ~18,140 t):
 - i. The ‘replacement yield’ for the next three-year period (a 20 million pound, 9070 t, TCEY) corresponding to a 51/100 chance of stock decrease. This column represents the maximum yield available that will provide a nearly equal chance that the spawning stock is above or below its current level at the end of the projection.
 - ii. A 30 million pound (~13,600 t) 2019 TCEY
 - iii. A grid of TCEY values corresponding to SPRs from 49-40% in 1% increments.
 - This section includes the TCEY equal to the 2018 mortality limits adopted by each nation (the status quo), and the mortality consistent with the reference level of fishing intensity (F46%).

Table 2. Harvest decision table for 2019. Columns correspond to yield alternatives and rows to risk metrics. Values in the table represent the probability, in “times out of 100” (or percent chance) of a particular risk.

2019 Alternative			No fishing mortality		Status quo										Reference SPR=46%			
			0.0	11.7	21.8	31.8	37.6	39.0	40.4	41.8	43.1	44.3	45.5	46.8	48.3	49.9	61.8	
Total mortality (M lb)			0.0	10.0	20.0	30.0	35.8	37.2	38.6	40.0	41.3	42.5	43.7	45.0	46.5	48.1	60.0	
2019 Fishing intensity			F100%	F78%	F64%	F54%	F49%	F48%	F47%	F46%	F45%	F44%	F43%	F42%	F41%	F40%	F34%	
Fishing intensity interval			-	56-87%	41-76%	31-67%	27-63%	26-62%	25-61%	25-60%	24-59%	23-59%	23-58%	22-57%	22-56%	21-55%	17-49%	
Stock Trend (spawning biomass)	in 2020	is less than 2019	1	3	26	60	77	81	84	87	90	92	93	95	96	97	>99	a
		is 5% less than 2019	<1	<1	1	10	26	30	34	37	39	41	43	45	48	50	78	b
	in 2021	is less than 2019	1	7	41	75	90	93	94	96	97	98	98	99	99	99	>99	c
		is 5% less than 2019	<1	1	11	42	57	61	65	69	73	77	80	83	87	90	99	d
	in 2022	is less than 2019	1	12	51	82	93	94	96	97	98	98	99	99	99	>99	>99	e
		is 5% less than 2019	<1	3	28	58	76	79	83	86	88	90	92	93	95	96	>99	f
Stock Status (Spawning biomass)	in 2020	is less than 30%	5	7	11	14	17	17	18	18	19	19	20	20	21	21	25	g
		is less than 20%	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	1	h
	in 2021	is less than 30%	3	7	13	20	24	25	25	26	27	27	27	28	29	29	33	i
		is less than 20%	<1	<1	<1	<1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	4	10	j
	in 2022	is less than 30%	2	8	17	25	28	29	29	30	30	31	31	32	33	33	41	k
		is less than 20%	<1	<1	<1	2	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	12	13	15	24	l
Fishery Trend (TCEY)	in 2020	is less than 2019	0	<1	18	26	40	45	51	56	60	63	66	69	73	77	95	m
		is 10% less than 2019	0	<1	12	25	29	33	37	42	47	51	54	58	62	66	95	n
	in 2021	is less than 2019	0	<1	20	28	46	51	56	60	64	67	70	73	77	81	97	o
		is 10% less than 2019	0	<1	16	26	35	39	44	49	53	56	59	63	66	71	97	p
	in 2022	is less than 2019	0	<1	22	32	50	54	58	62	66	69	72	76	79	83	98	q
		is 10% less than 2019	0	<1	19	28	40	45	49	53	56	60	62	66	69	73	98	r
Fishery Status (Fishing intensity)	in 2019	is above F _{46%}	0	<1	16	25	35	40	46	50	56	59	62	65	69	72	92	s

Terms: *Constant Exploitation Yield (CEY):* A specific concept from the IPHC's interim management procedure: the Total CEY (TCEY) is the amount of yield of Pacific halibut greater than 26 inches (66 cm) in length, and Fishery CEY (FCEY), is the amount of yield for the directed Pacific halibut fisheries where applicable. *Spawning Potential Ratio (SPR):* A commonly used metric of fishing intensity. SPR is the ratio of the equilibrium spawning biomass per recruit given some level of fishing and the equilibrium spawning biomass per recruit in the absence of fishing. Sometimes referred to as SBR, relative Spawning Biomass per Recruit.

32. The Commission **RECALLED** that the 2018 mortality limits implemented by the Contracting Parties corresponded to a projected SPR of 41%. Estimates provided at AM094 indicated that a mortality at this level corresponded to a 93% probability that the spawning biomass would decline from 2018 to 2019, and a 73% probability that the FCEY would have to be reduced to maintain the reference SPR (46%) in

¹ The TCEY corresponds approximately to the mortality comprised of Pacific halibut greater than 26 inches (66 cm) in length.



2019. Further, there was an estimated 63% probability of at least a 10% decrease in the FCEY from 2018 to 2019 in order to maintain the reference SPR.

- 33. The Commission **NOTED** the differences among the results from the four stock assessment models related to the treatment of indices of abundance as separate time-series (Areas-As-Fleets models) or aggregate coastwide trends (coastwide models) as well as the scaling of recruitment estimates due to differences in natural mortality estimates.
- 34. The Commission **NOTED** that the 2018 FISS expansion in Biological Region 2 (revised trend and increased precision of the index) and the 2018 age information from the FISS were highly influential to the stock assessment results and that IPHC-2019-AM095-09 provided sensitivity analyses to both of these sources of information.
- 35. The Commission **NOTED** that the uncertainty in estimates of fishing intensity (SPR) are highly asymmetric, reflecting the differences among the stock assessment model estimates and the information content of the fishery data, ruling out extremely high levels of fishing intensity, but not those associated with lower fishing intensity and higher biomass.

6.4 Pacific halibut mortality projections – Using the IPHC mortality projection tool

- 36. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2019-AM095-11 Rev_1 which provided the Commission with an introduction and usage guide for the IPHC’s web-based mortality projection tool (<https://iphc.int/data/projection-tool>).
- 37. The Commission **NOTED** the summary of IPHC Regulatory Area-specific mortality projections for 2019 based on the interim management procedure and other alternatives.
- 38. The Commission **NOTED** that the relative harvest rates applied in the ‘interim management procedure’ (1.0 for Regulatory Areas 2A-3A and 0.75 for Regulatory Areas 3B-4CDE; consistent with the method from recent years), and available through the default inputs to the Mortality Projection Tool, differ from the relative harvest rates output from that tool. The latter simply reflect the aggregate TCEY by Biological Region relative to the biological stock distribution based on all sizes of Pacific halibut captured by the 2018 FISS, rescaled such that Biological Region 3 is always equal to a value of 1.0.
- 39. The Commission **NOTED** that the reference projection results in a 2019 TCEY of 40.00 million lbs, (~18,140 t; [Table 3](#)). This represents an increase of 29% from the reference level calculated based on the 2017 stock assessment, and 24% from the catch limits adopted for 2018. Because components within the TCEY have changed since 2017, the Fishery Constant Exploitation Yields (FCEYs), and allocations to specific fisheries based on domestic catch agreements have also changed.

Table 3. Comparison of TCEY values (Mlbs) among IPHC Regulatory Areas from 2018 and projected for 2019 using the reference SPR (SPR46%) along with the current management procedure for TCEY distribution, and the adopted limits from 2018.

	2A	2B	2C	3A	3B	4A	4B	4CDE	Total
2018 Reference SPR (46%)	0.59	3.84	5.65	12.07	2.56	1.69	1.21	3.39	31.00
2018 Adopted SPR (49%) ¹	1.32	7.10	6.34	12.54	3.27	1.74	1.28	3.62	37.21
2019 Reference SPR (46%)	0.78	4.91	6.26	16.35	2.97	2.21	1.95	4.59	40.00

¹ This SPR value represents the current estimate, based on the 2018 stock assessment. At the time the 2017 catch limits were adopted, they were predicted to result in an SPR of 41%.

- 40. The Commission **AGREED** that the Pacific halibut mortality projections for 2019 based on the attainment of full Protected Species Catch (PSC, a.k.a. bycatch) by the non-directed fleets fishing in Alaska, while maintaining the reference SPR of 46%, was not acceptable, as it would result in zero or substantially lower catch limits for directed fleets operating in a number of Regulatory Areas.
- 41. The Commission **AGREED** that further discussion throughout the course of the CB089, PAB024 and AM095, should run on the assumption that bycatch mortality levels from the non-directed fisheries catching Pacific halibut will be at the same level as those estimated for 2018. Thus, the reference



projection which results in a 2019 TCEY of 40.00 Mlb (~18,140 t; [Table 4](#)), along with the current management procedure for TCEY distribution, could be considered a reference level for further discussion at the AM095.

Table 4. Pacific halibut mortality projected for 2019 based on the reference SPR (46%) and *interim management procedure* for TCEY distribution. All values reported in millions of net pounds.

	2A	2B	2C	3A	3B	4A	4B	4CDE	Total
Commercial discard mortality	0.01	0.09	NA	NA	0.20	0.10	0.03	0.05	0.48
O26 Bycatch	0.13	0.27	0.03	1.28	0.36	0.18	0.22	1.87	4.33
Non-CSP Recreational (+ discards)	NA	0.05	1.38	1.74	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	3.18
Subsistence	NA	0.41	0.44	0.22	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.06	1.14
Total Non-FCEY	0.14	0.82	1.85	3.24	0.57	0.30	0.25	1.97	9.14
Commercial discard mortality	NA	NA	0.06	0.40	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.45
CSP Recreational (+ discards)	0.29	0.58	0.81	2.29	NA	NA	NA	NA	3.97
Subsistence	0.03	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.03
Commercial Landings	0.32	3.51	3.55	10.41	2.39	1.91	1.70	2.62	26.41
Total FCEY	0.64	4.09	4.42	13.10	2.39	1.91	1.70	2.62	30.86
TCEY	0.78	4.91	6.26	16.35	2.97	2.21	1.95	4.59	40.00
U26 Bycatch	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.37	0.11	0.10	0.01	1.12	1.73
Total Mortality	0.78	4.93	6.26	16.72	3.07	2.31	1.96	5.71	41.73

42. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2019-AM095-INF07 which detailed an analysis of the effects of bycatch mortality in non-halibut fisheries (both total and U26).
43. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2019-AM095-INF08 which provided Harvest Decision tables reflecting alternative reference levels (i.e. alternative management procedures rather than just alternative mortality limits for 2019-2021 of SPR=43%, 48%, and 50%) for comparison with the Interim Management Procedure.
44. The Commission **NOTED** that although there was extensive discussion of the use of Biological Regions and stock distribution calculated from all sizes of Pacific halibut captured by the FISS the calculations on which the interim management procedure are based (and the default values provided in the mortality projection tool (<https://iphc.int/data/projection-tool>) remain unchanged from recent years: the scale of fishing intensity from SPR=46%, and the distribution based on the O32 survey distribution and relative harvest rates of 1.0 for IPHC Regulatory Areas 2A-3A, and 0.75 for Areas 3B-4CDE.

7. IPHC 5-YEAR RESEARCH PROGRAM

7.1 IPHC 5-year Biological & Ecosystem Sciences research program: update

45. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2019-AM095-14 which outlined the research projects proposed by the IPHC Secretariat and provided an overview of the Five-Year Biological and Ecosystem Sciences Research Plan.
46. The Commission **ENDORSED** the new and continuing biological research projects proposed by the IPHC Secretariat that are intended to provide relevant biological inputs into the stock assessment and management strategy evaluation processes.



47. The Commission **NOTED** the stated aims of each of the five major research areas described in the Five-Year Research Plan:

- a) to improve our understanding of larval, juvenile and adult Pacific halibut migration and distribution;
- b) to provide information on the sex ratio of the commercial landings and to update current estimates of maturity in order to improve estimates of female spawning stock biomass;
- c) to provide updated and novel estimates of discard mortality rates in all Pacific halibut fisheries;
- d) to improve our understanding of the biological basis for the observed changes in size-at-age and to provide measures of growth and physiological condition in Pacific halibut;
- e) to further refine the genetic structure of the Pacific halibut population and to identify rapid adaptive changes in response to fishery-dependent and fishery-independent influences.

8. REPORT OF THE 19TH SESSION OF THE IPHC RESEARCH ADVISORY BOARD (RAB019)

48. The Commission **NOTED** the Report of the 19th Session of the IPHC Research Advisory Board (RAB019) (IPHC-2019-RAB019-R) which was presented by the Chairperson, Dr David Wilson (IPHC Executive Director).

49. The Commission **CONSIDERED** the recommendations made by the RAB019 and **AGREED** to take them into consideration when deliberating on relevant agenda items throughout the meeting.

9. REPORT OF THE 13TH SESSION OF THE IPHC SCIENTIFIC REVIEW BOARD (SRB013)

50. The Commission **NOTED** the Report of the 13th Session of the IPHC Scientific Review Board (SRB013) (IPHC-2018-SRB013-R) which was presented by the Chairperson, Dr Sean Cox (Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada), one of the four (4) SRB members.

51. The Commission **CONSIDERED** the recommendations made by the SRB013 and **AGREED** to take them into consideration when deliberating on relevant agenda items throughout the meeting.

52. The Commission **NOTED** the potential benefits in terms of transparency and simplicity, of a management procedure setting mortality limits directly from modelled survey results, particularly for long-lived species where year-to-year demographic change will be relatively minor.

53. The Commission **ACKNOWLEDGED** that the appropriate review period for an MSE/management procedure process may be unique to the application and/or specific conditions encountered by the stock and fishery. A period of 3-5 years has been used for some other species.

10. MANAGEMENT STRATEGY EVALUATION

10.1 *IPHC Management Strategy Evaluation: update*

54. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2019-AM095-12 which provided an update on the MSE including goals and objectives, the simulation framework, results for management procedures consisting of a range of SPR values from 0.56 to 0.30, three control rules (25:10, 30:20, and 40:20), and investigation of constrained management procedures, a framework for a management procedure to distribute TCEY across the coast, possible elements of management procedures related to distribution, and a 5-year program of work.

55. The Commission **NOTED** that uncertainty is an important component of the MSE process when developing management procedures. The primary sources of uncertainty in the MSE framework are changes in weight-at-age over time, variable recruitment, and estimation error. Additional sources of uncertainty include sector-specific realized mortality, life-history parameters, fishery selectivity, and structural assumption of population dynamics.



56. The Commission **NOTED** that the MSE process is separate from the stock assessment in that the goal of the MSE is to develop a management procedure that is robust to uncertainty and meets the defined objectives if the management procedure is implemented in a consistent manner. The goal of the stock assessment is to provide tactical advice to inform short-term decision making. Deviating from the management procedure may result in unpredictable outcomes and a lack of meeting objectives.
57. The Commission **NOTED** that a management procedures was ranked if it first met the biological sustainability objective and subsequently met the catch stability objective. Ranks between management procedures that met these two priority objectives are determined from the resulting median total mortality limit.
58. The Commission **NOTED** that the biological objective of the stock status not being below 20% of spawning biomass with a tolerance of 10% can be interpreted as accepting the stock status being below 20% in 1 out of 10 years. This is a common biological objective in fisheries, and addressing concerns of fishery performance can be stated as fishery objectives, such as defining a low tolerance for fishery closures.
59. The Commission:
- a) **ENDORSED** the primary objectives and associated performance metrics used to evaluate management procedures in the MSE process (as detailed in paper IPHC-2019-AM095-12).
 - b) **NOTED** secondary objectives, performance metrics, and statistics of interest that will be used to supplement the evaluation of management procedures.
 - c) **RECOMMENDED** the MSAB develop the following additional objective, as well as prioritize this objective in the evaluation of management procedures, for the Commission's consideration.
 - i. A conservation objective that meets a spawning biomass target.
 - d) **NOTED** the primary performance metrics reported for various management procedures incorporating a range of SPR values from 56% to 30% and control rules of 30:20, 40:20, and 25:10.
 - e) **NOTED** the overall results of the MSE simulations (Section 5) including:
 - i. that all management procedures for SPR values greater than or equal to 32% (lower fishing intensities) met the priority biological objective, but did not meet the catch stability objective;
 - ii. at SPR values less than 40% (higher fishing intensities) the yield curve was flattening and variability in mortality limits increased at a faster rate;
 - iii. adding a constraint on changes to the total mortality limit from the previous year resulted in some management procedures meeting all primary objectives.
 - iv. of the management procedures evaluated, an SPR of 40% with a 30:20 control rule and a constraint to not change the annual mortality limit by more than 15% in either direction met all objectives and was ranked the highest based on the primary objectives.

10.2 Report of the 12th Session of the IPHC Management Strategy Advisory Board (MSAB012)

60. The Commission **NOTED** the Report of the 12th Session of the IPHC Management Strategy Advisory Board (MSAB012) (IPHC-2018-MSAB012-R) which was presented by Mr Adam Keizer (Canada).
61. The Commission **AGREED** with the MSAB recommendation that the harvest strategy policy consist of a coast wide fishing intensity SPR should not be lower than 40% nor higher than 46%, with a target SPR of 42%-43% and with a 30:20 HCR.



62. The Commission **RECOMMENDED** that the MSAB and IPHC Secretariat continue its program of work on the Management Procedure for the Scale portion of the harvest strategy, **NOTING** that Scale and Distribution components will be evaluated and presented no later than at AM097 in 2021, for potential adoption and subsequent implementation as a harvest strategy. The management procedure that best meets the primary objectives for coastwide scale is:
- a) A target SPR of 40% with a fishery trigger of 30% and a fishery limit of 20% in the control rule;
 - b) An annual constraint of 15% from the previous year's mortality limit.

11. REGULATORY PROPOSALS FOR 2019

11.1 IPHC Secretariat regulatory proposals

11.1.1 Fishery Limits (Sect. 4)

63. The Commission **NOTED** regulatory proposal IPHC-2019-AM095-PropA1, which aimed to improve clarity and transparency of fishery limits in the IPHC Fishery Regulations, and to provide the framework for mortality limits adopted by the Commission.
64. The Commission **DEFERRED** modifications to the fishery regulations at this time, due to administrative concerns raised by NOAA-Fisheries, and indication that they would be unable to make modifications to the IPHC's Fishery Regulations outside of absolutely essential edits.
65. The Commission **RECOMMENDED** that Contracting Parties undertake a detailed review of the amendments to the IPHC Fishery Regulations contained in IPHC-2019-AM095-PropA1, and to provide initial feedback at the 95th Session of the IPHC Interim Meeting (IM095) on whether agreement could be reached to adopt the amendments at the subsequent 96th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM096) in January 2020.
66. The Commission **RECOMMENDED** evaluating and redefining TCEY to include the U26 component of discard mortalities, including bycatch, as steps towards more comprehensive and responsible management of the resource, in coordination with the IPHC Secretariat and Contracting Parties. The intent is that each Contracting Party to the Treaty would be responsible for counting its U26 mortalities against its collective TCEY. This change would be intended to take effect for TCEYs established at the 2020 Annual Meeting.
67. The Commission **RECOMMENDED** that the IPHC Secretariat expand upon the analysis completed in IPHC-2019-AM095-INF08 "*Treatment and effects of Pacific halibut discard mortality (bycatch) in non-directed fisheries projected for 2019*", to be reviewed by the SRB at its next meeting. The objective of this work is to estimate lost yield from bycatch of Pacific halibut in non-directed fisheries for the years of 1991-2018.
68. The Commission **AGREED** to continue the development of a workplan to 1) explore methods for improvement of monitoring requirements in directed and non-directed fisheries, and 2) examining options in each IPHC Regulatory Area for mitigating the impact of bycatch in one IPHC Regulatory Area on available harvest in other IPHC Regulatory Areas.
69. The Commission **ADOPTED**:
- a) a coastwide target SPR of 47% for 2019;
 - b) a share-based allocation for IPHC Regulatory Area 2B. The share will be defined based on a weighted average that assigns 30% weight to the current interim management procedure's target TCEY distribution and 70% on 2B's recent historical average share of 20%. This formula for defining IPHC Regulatory Areas 2B's annual allocation is intended to apply for a period of 2019 to 2022. For 2019, this equates to a share of 17.7%; and



- c) a fixed TCEY for IPHC Regulatory Area 2A of 1.65 mlbs is intended to apply for a period from 2019-2022, subject to any substantive conservation concerns.

70. The Commission **ADOPTED** the mortality limits for each Contracting Party, by IPHC Regulatory Area, ([Table 5](#)) and sector, as provided in [Appendix IV](#).

Table 5. Adopted TCEY mortality limits for 2019

IPHC Regulatory Area	Mortality limit (TCEY) (mlbs)	Mortality limit (TCEY) (metric tonnes)
2A	1.65	748.42
2B	6.83	3,098.04
2C	6.34	2,875.78
3A	13.50	6,123.50
3B	2.90	1,315.42
4A	1.94	879.97
4B	1.45	657.71
4CDE	4.00	1,814.37
Total (IPHC Convention Area)	38.61	17,513.20

71. The Commission **RECOMMENDED** that the IPHC Secretariat continue to report out annually on Regulatory Area mortality against the TCEY adopted for each Regulatory Area.

72. The Commission **RECOMMENDED** that the IPHC Secretariat develop options for accounting for Pacific halibut mortalities associated with the FISS and their other research projects in the definition of the coastwide TCEY.

11.1.2 Commercial fishing periods (Sect. 9)

73. The Commission **NOTED** regulatory proposal IPHC-2019-AM095-PropA2, which specified fishing periods for the commercial Pacific halibut fisheries.

All commercial Pacific halibut fisheries

74. The Commission **AGREED** that at this time, there does not appear to be an appetite for fixing fishing period dates, with the caveat expressed by the CB that it may be something it would like to consider in the future.

IPHC Regulatory Area 2A Non-Tribal Directed Commercial Fishery

75. The Commission **AGREED** that for IPHC Regulatory Area 2A, fishing periods for the non-tribal directed commercial fishery should be longer than the current 10-hour derby fishing periods, primarily for safety reasons.

76. The Commission **NOTED** that of the 171 license holders in this fishery from 2016 to 2018, a clear majority (86% of the 80% who responded to the IPHC Secretariat's survey) favoured a longer fishing period with lower individual vessel quotas for each opening. Of those surveyed respondents who participated in the fishery (delivered fish) during those years, 76% favoured one of the longer fishing periods proposed.

77. The Commission **NOTED** the suggestion from the PFMC and the NOAA Fisheries West Coast Region office for a workshop to consider future changes to the IPHC Regulatory Area 2A Pacific halibut fishery management structure in a more holistic way, to include all management partners and to take place as early as spring 2019.

78. **NOTING** the indication made to the PFMC in a letter dated 25 January 2019, that the IPHC Secretariat would welcome the opportunity to further address the safety concerns in the fishery, and to examine other potential management options for the fishery such as an IFQ or limited entry, as well as its management responsibilities, the Commission **RECOMMENDED** that this workshop take place, given the desire for



the IPHC to move full management of the fishery from the IPHC (an international fisheries management body) to the relevant domestic agencies.

79. **NOTING** the concerns expressed by Canada about the safety issues related to the current management of this derby fishery, the Commission **EXPRESSED** its hope that there will be a proposal for an alternative management approach that addresses safety concerns by the time the Commission reconvenes at next year's annual meeting. If no resolution is in hand by then, the IPHC expects to re-examine what steps it can take to address the issue, including moving to longer fishing periods.

Commercial fishing periods

80. The Commission **ADOPTED** fishing periods for 2019 as provided below, thereby superseding Section 9 of the IPHC Pacific halibut fishery regulations:
- a) All commercial fishing for Pacific halibut in all IPHC Regulatory Areas may begin no earlier than 15 March and must cease on 14 November.
 - b) IPHC Regulatory Area 2A (Non-Treaty Directed Commercial): Retain the 10-hour derby fishery for 2019, 26 June, 10 July, 24 July, 7 August, 21 August, 4 September, 18 September, with additional openings and fishing period limits (vessel quota) to be determined and communicated by the IPHC Secretariat.

11.1.3 IPHC Fishery Regulations: minor amendments

81. The Commission **NOTED** and **DEFERRED** regulatory proposal IPHC-2019-AM095-PropA3 Rev_1, which proposed amendments to ensure clarity and consistency in the IPHC Fishery Regulations.
82. The Commission **RECOMMENDED** that Contracting Parties undertake a detailed review of the amendments to the IPHC Fishery Regulations contained in IPHC-2019-AM095-PropA3 Rev_1, and to provide initial feedback at the 95th Session of the IPHC Interim Meeting (IM095) on whether agreement could be reached to adopt the amendments at the subsequent 96th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM096) in January 2020.

11.2 Contracting Party regulatory proposals

11.2.1 Charter management measures in IPHC Regulatory Areas 2C and 3A

83. The Commission **NOTED** and **ADOPTED** regulatory proposal IPHC-2019-AM095-PropB1, which proposed IPHC Regulation changes for charter 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.
84. The Commission **AGREED** that depending on the specific mortality limit adopted, the charter management measures in IPHC Regulatory Area 2C may be slightly less restrictive than the measures that result from the method described in IPHC-2019-AM095-PropB1. **NOTING** that the IPHC Regulatory Area 2C charter harvest has consistently been below the charter allocation for the past several years, it is anticipated that such a deviation from the proposed management measure would be no more than one inch. Any adjustment would be clarified when the TCEY limits are set for IPHC Regulatory Area 2C.

11.3 Other Stakeholder regulatory proposals

11.3.1 Minimum TCEY in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A

85. The Commission **NOTED** regulatory proposal IPHC-2019-AM095-PropC1, which proposed adopting a TCEY for IPHC Regulatory Area 2A that supports a FCEY no lower than 1.5Mlb. In years when the distribution would indicate a FCEY higher than 1.5Mlb is available, that number would be adopted.



86. The Commission **DEFERRED** action on the mortality limit proposed, to the coastwide mortality distribution discussions under [Section 11.1.1](#).

11.3.2 IPHC Regulatory Area 2A Quota Proposal

87. The Commission **NOTED** and **DEFERRED** action on regulatory proposal IPHC-2019-AM095-PropC2, which proposed an individual quota system for IPHC Regulatory Area 2A (reference [paragraphs 75-79](#)).

11.4 Stakeholder statements

88. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2019-AM095-INF01 Rev_2 which provided the Commission with a consolidated document containing submitted 'Statements' from stakeholders on the range of Regulatory Proposals and other topics submitted to the Commission for its consideration at the 95th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM095).

12.CONTRACTING PARTY (BY AGENCY) REPORTS

12.1 Regulatory Area 2A (U.S.A.: West coast)

89. The Commission **NOTED** the Contracting Party reports (by agency) for IPHC Regulatory Area 2A (west coast U.S.A.), including the PFMC Catch Sharing Plan for IPHC Regulatory Area 2A (west coast U.S.A.) as follows:

- a) *IPHC-2019-AM095-AR01 USA - Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) report to the IPHC*
- b) *IPHC-2019-AM095-AR02 USA - NMFS Report: Report on the 2018 Pacific halibut fisheries in Area 2a*
- c) *IPHC-2019-AM095-AR03 USA - U.S. Coast Guard Enforcement Report (IPHC Areas 2A, 2C, 3A, 3B, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D and 4E) to the International Pacific Halibut Commission (11th, 13th and 17th Districts)*
- d) *IPHC-2019-AM095-AR04 USA - NOAA-NMFS Office of Law Enforcement (OLE) - West coast enforcement division report to the International Pacific Halibut Commission*
- e) *IPHC-2019-AM095-AR05 USA - Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW): Summary of Washington Pacific Halibut fisheries management in 2018*
- f) *IPHC-2019-AM095-AR06 USA - Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW): Report: Summary of Oregon Recreational and Commercial Pacific Halibut Fisheries in 2018*
- g) *IPHC-2019-AM095-AR07 USA - Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife Division: Halibut Enforcement Summary 2018*
- h) *IPHC-2019-AM095-AR08 USA - 2018 California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) report to the International Pacific Halibut Commission*

90. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2019-AM095-INF06, which provided a summary of the 2018 Treaty Tribes fisheries from the Northwest Indian Fish Commission.

91. **NOTING** a lack of clarity regarding the accounting for Pacific halibut caught recreationally in British Columbia waters (Canada) and landed in Washington ports (U.S.A.), the Commission **REQUESTED** continued liaison between the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and Fisheries and Oceans Canada on the subject.

12.2 Regulatory Area 2B (Canada: British Columbia)

92. The Commission **NOTED** the Contracting Party reports (by agency) for IPHC Regulatory Area 2B (British Columbia, Canada), as follows:

- a) *IPHC-2019-AM095-AR09 Canada - Canada National Report 2018 - Fisheries and Oceans Canada*
- b) *IPHC-2019-AM095-AR10 Canada - Province of British Columbia Report*



12.3 Regulatory Areas 2C/3/4 (U.S.A.: Alaska)

93. The Commission **NOTED** the Contracting Party reports (by agency) for IPHC Regulatory Area 2C/3/4 (Alaska, U.S.A.), including the NPFMC Catch Sharing Plans for IPHC Regulatory Area 2C/3/4 (Alaska, U.S.A.), as follows:

- a) *IPHC-2019-AM095-AR12 USA - North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) Report to the IPHC*
- b) *IPHC-2019-AM095-AR13 USA - Report to the International Pacific Halibut Commission 2019 Annual Meeting - Alaska Region, National Marine Fisheries Service*
- c) *IPHC-2019-AM095-AR14 USA - Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG) – Division of sport fish (recreational)*
- d) *IPHC-2019-AM095-AR15 USA - Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG) Subsistence Report*
- e) *IPHC-2019-AM095-AR16 USA - NOAA Fisheries Office of Law Enforcement (OLE): Alaska enforcement division report to the International Pacific Halibut Commission*

94. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2019-AM095-INF05, which provided the Alaska Seafood Cooperative Halibut Bycatch Performance Report to the IPHC.

95. The Commission **RECALLED** that at the 94th session of the IPHC Interim Meeting (IM094), the following request was made: (IM094. Req.03):

“The Commission REQUESTED a detailed report of the NMFS observer program in the Bering Sea and Gulf of Alaska, including coverage rates, to be submitted and presented to the 95th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM095), NOTING the offer from the NPFMC to facilitate this report and presentation.”

96. The Commission **NOTED** that the NOAA Fisheries Observer Deployment Plan for 2019 was approved in December 2018 and that the NOAA Fisheries Observer Report for 2018 is scheduled to be published in June 2019. The North Pacific Fishery Management Council is currently engaged in an analysis of the observer program, including possibilities for increased coverage supported by increased fees on industry within the limits of current law, which is expected to be considered at its April 2019 meeting.

97. The Commission **NOTED** the differences between the management of the guided (charter) and unguided recreational sectors in Alaska, and how the mortality estimates for the unguided recreational sector in Alaska affect the mortality (catch) available to the other fishery sectors.

98. The Commission **NOTED** the initial data on the retention of Pacific halibut taken with pot gear in the Gulf of Alaska and the Bering Sea as result of regulatory changes instituted in recent years, and that the IPHC Secretariat shall continue to monitor the performance of this fishery.

99. The Commission **NOTED** the results of the Alaska Seafood Cooperative’s deck-sorting experiment to reduce Pacific halibut bycatch in the trawl sector, and that new NOAA Fisheries regulations are being developed to incorporate these methods.

12.4 IPHC Contracting Party Report Template

100. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2019-AM095-INF02 which provided a revised draft template for use by Contracting Parties (and/or domestic agencies) in their annual reports to the Commission.

101. **NOTING** that efficiencies are likely to be gained by modifying the format and content for Contracting Parties reports to the Commission, the Commission **AGREED** that the Contracting Parties, via Commissioners, would work with the IPHC Secretariat intersessionally to improve the process, including the possibility for reports from Contracting Party agencies to be aggregated and presented as a consolidated Contracting Party report to the Commission. The IPHC Secretariat will share this work with the governments of both Contracting Parties to facilitate this effort throughout 2019.



13. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

13.1 *Financial Statement for FY2018*

102. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2019-AM095-16 which provided the end of year financial statement for FY2018 (financial period: 1 October 2017 to 30 September 2018).
103. The Commission **NOTED** the contributions (in USD) received from Contracting Parties as follows:
- a) *Canada Contribution* – In FY2018, the Canadian government contributed **\$956,035** to the IPHC. The Canadian contributions included \$848,720 for general contributions (which has been unchanged since 2003), as well as a separate amount of \$107,315 to cover pension deficit payments.
 - b) *U.S.A. Contribution* – In FY2018, the U.S.A. Government appropriated **\$4,200,000** to the IPHC. The U.S.A. contributions included funding for pension deficits and headquarters lease costs.
104. The Commission **NOTED** that FY2018 General Operations expenses were 91% of the projected budget (Budget: **\$7,006,154**; Expenses: **\$6,384,047**).
105. The Commission **NOTED** that FY2018 Supplementary Operations expenses were 96% of the projected budget (Budget: **\$5,552,072**; Expenses: **\$5,315,861**).
106. The Commission **APPROVED** the financial statement for FY2018, as detailed in paper IPHC-2019-AM095-16.
107. The Commission **RECALLED** the FY2019 approved budget from IM094, a summary of which is provided at [Appendix V](#).

13.2 *Annual independent auditor's report (2017 & 2018)*

108. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2019-AM095-17 which provided the Commission with the Auditors Report for FY2017, and process for FY2018, as per Regulation 14 of the IPHC Financial Regulations (2018). In addition, the report provides information on past audit costs and recommendation for appointment of the auditor for FY2019.
109. The Commission **APPROVED** the FY2017 audit report.
110. The Commission **ENDORSED** the re-appointment of MKD CPAs PPLC (Seattle, WA) as the IPHC auditor for the FY2019 audit of the IPHC financial statements.
111. The Commission **RECALLED** that due to issues related to the updated financial accounting software and the initial implementation, the audit report was delayed while erroneous FY2017 data were updated. These issues have been resolved.
112. The Commission **NOTED** that the FY2018 audit is scheduled for February 2019 and the report will be available for distribution and approval inter-sessionally by the Commission.

13.3 *Budget estimates for FY2020 (for approval), and tentatively for FY2021*

113. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2019-AM095-18 which provided the Commission with the budget estimates for FY2020 for approval, and tentatively for FY2021 for information (financial periods: 1 October 2019 to 30 September 2020 & 1 October 2020 to 30 September 2021, respectively).
114. The Commission **AGREED** to Contracting Party contributions (in USD) for FY2020 are as follows:
- a) *Canadian Contribution* – In FY2020, the Canadian government contribution is requested at **\$985,432**. The Canadian contributions includes **\$874,182** for general contributions, as well as an amount of **\$111,250** to cover pension deficit payments.



- b) *U.S.A. Contribution* – In FY2020, the U.S.A. Government contribution is requested at **\$4,532,000** to the IPHC. As currently constructed, the U.S. contributions included funding for pension deficits and headquarters lease costs.
115. The Commission **NOTED** that FY2020 anticipated income (in USD) is **\$10,934,100** and expenses at **\$11,668,678**. The Commission anticipates using **\$734,578** from the General Operations and Supplementary Operations budget carryovers for expenses in excess of income.
116. The Commission **ADOPTED** the FY2020 budget, a summary of which is provided at [Appendix VI](#), and includes a Fishery Economist 2-yr contracted position.
117. The Commission **REQUESTED** that the IPHC Secretariat continue to develop a proposal for a potential Life History Modeller to join the IPHC Secretariat and for this to be provided to the Commission for consideration inter-sessionally.
118. The Commission **NOTED** the preliminary budget estimates for FY2021 ([Appendix VII](#)).

13.4 *Draft: IPHC Financial Regulations (2019)*

119. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2019-AM095-19 which provided the Commission with an opportunity to consider proposed amendments to the IPHC Financial Regulations (2018).
120. The Commission **ADOPTED** the revised IPHC Financial Regulations (2019) by consensus, and **REQUESTED** that the IPHC Secretariat finalise and publish them accordingly.

13.5 *Draft: IPHC Rules of Procedure (2019)*

121. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2019-AM095-20 Rev_1 which provided the Commission with an opportunity to consider proposed amendments to the IPHC Rules of Procedure (2017).
122. The Commission **NOTED** the indication from the Executive Director that the Conference Board was uncomfortable at this point in adopting changes other than minor editorial and standardisation edits.
123. The Commission **NOTED** that the Executive Director had suggested to the CB that they convene an inter-sessional working group to consider the rules of procedure relevant to the CB and provide further standardisation recommendations in conjunction with the IPHC Secretariat at the 96th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM096). The CB agreed in principle to include the accreditation procedure as a topic for discussion and potential improvement by the working group.
124. The Commission **ADOPTED** the revised IPHC Rules of Procedure (2019) by consensus, and **REQUESTED** that the IPHC Secretariat finalise and publish them accordingly.

14. IPHC PERFORMANCE REVIEW

14.1 *2nd IPHC Performance Review: update*

125. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2019-AM095-21 which provided the Commission with an update on progress regarding the 2nd Performance Review of the IPHC (PRIPHC02) and an opportunity to direct the IPHC Secretariat regarding its completion.
126. The Commission **RECALLED** that it had deferred the 2nd IPHC Performance Review until FY2019 (1 Oct. 2018 to 30 Sept. 2019), due to budget limitations in the previous financial year.
127. The Commission **AGREED** that should the IPHC Secretariat be unable to secure an NGO representative for the Panel, that it should proceed with the Performance Review Panel meetings without that representation.



14.2 Peer review process for IPHC science products

128. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2019-AM095-15 which provided the Commission with an opportunity to consider options for further improving the peer review process for Commission science products.
129. The Commission **RECOMMENDED** that the IPHC Secretariat develop terms of reference for a consultant to undertake a peer review of the IPHC Pacific halibut stock assessment, for implementation in early 2019. The terms of reference and budget shall be endorsed by the Commission inter-sessionally.
130. The Commission **RECOMMENDED** that the IPHC Secretariat finalise terms of reference for an expert/consultant to undertake a peer review of the IPHC Pacific halibut MSE, for implementation in early November 2019 and July 2020. The terms of reference and budget shall be endorsed by the Commission inter-sessionally.

15. REPORT OF THE 24TH SESSION OF THE IPHC PROCESSOR ADVISORY BOARD (PAB024)

131. The Commission **NOTED** the Report of the 24th Session of the IPHC Processor Advisory Board (PAB024) (IPHC-2019-PAB024-R) which was presented by the Chairperson of the PAB, Mr Robert Fraumeni (Canada). A total of 18 member companies (20 in 2018) attended the Session (7 from Canada and 11 from the U.S.A.).
132. The Commission **CONSIDERED** the recommendations made by the PAB024 from its 2019 report (IPHC-2019-PAB024-R) and provided comment or endorsement as specified below.
133. The Commission **NOTED** the PAB proposed 2019 fishing period (season) dates for the commercial fishery:
- a) Opening: 23 March 2019
 - b) Closing: 07 November 2019
134. The Commission **NOTED** the PAB proposed TCEY catch limits for the 2019 fishing period as provided in [Table 6](#).

Table 6. Processor Advisory Board (PAB) recommended TCEY mortality limits for 2019 [In favour=11; Against=7 Abstain=0]

IPHC Regulatory Area	Mortality limit (TCEY) (mlbs)
2A	1.65
2B	6.01
2C	6.17
3A	13.54
3B	3.06
4A	1.86
4B	1.47
4CDE	3.87
Total (IPHC Convention Area)	37.63

135. The Commission **NOTED** the potential impacts that the east coast Atlantic halibut (*Hippoglossus hippoglossus*) fishery has had on the Pacific halibut fishery in recent years and considered the pros and cons of extending the Pacific halibut fishing period to more closely align with the product availability coming from the east coast.

16. REPORT OF THE 89TH SESSION OF THE IPHC CONFERENCE BOARD (CB089)

136. The Commission **NOTED** the Report of the 89th Session of the IPHC Conference Board (CB089) (IPHC-2019-CB089-R) which was presented by the Co-Chairpersons of the CB, Mr Jeff Kauffman



(U.S.A.) and Mr Martin Paish (Canada). A total of 70 members from the two Contracting Parties (78 in 2018) were represented at the Session.

137. The Commission **CONSIDERED** the recommendations made by the CB089 from its 2019 report (IPHC-2019-CB089-R) and provided comment or endorsement as specified below.

138. The Commission **CONSIDERED** Angel Drobnic or Forrest Braiden for a seat on the MSAB.

139. The Commission **NOTED** the CB proposed 2019 fishing period (season) dates for the commercial fishery:

- a) Opening: 02 March 2019
- b) Closing: 30 November 2019

140. The Commission **NOTED** the indication from the CB that it may be willing to consider options for fixing fishing periods coastwide, and that this could be explored over the coming year for consideration at AM096.

141. The Commission **NOTED** the CB proposed TCEY catch limits for the 2019 fishing period as provided in [Table 7](#).

Table 7. Conference Board (CB) recommended TCEY mortality limits for 2018, with each Contracting Party not agreeing to the other's.

IPHC Regulatory Area	Catch limit (TCEY) (Mlbs)
2A	1.65
2B	7.38
2C	6.30
3A	13.81
3B	3.12
4A	1.90
4B	1.50
4CDE	3.94
Total (IPHC Convention Area)	39.60

17. OTHER BUSINESS

17.1 *IPHC meetings calendar (2019-21)*

142. The Commission **NOTED** paper IPHC-2019-AM095-22 which provided an opportunity to consider the draft IPHC meetings calendar (2019-21).

143. The Commission **NOTED** the offer by Canada to host the 97th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM097) in 2021 in Victoria, Canada.

144. The Commission **ADOPTED** the proposed dates and places for the meetings of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies, as provided in [Appendix VIII](#), **NOTING** that the IPHC Secretariat will endeavour to resolve the conflicting meeting dates with that of the NPFMC.

17.2 *News release*

145. The Commission **AGREED** to the contents of the initial news release on 1 February 2019 announcing the 2019 mortality limits and fishing periods, and that a subsequent, more detailed news release will be published within 14 days of the close of the Session.

17.3 *Election of a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson*

146. The Commission **NOTED** that the term of the current Chairperson, Mr Paul Ryall (Canada) is due to expire at the closing of the current Session, and as per Rule 9 of the IPHC Rules of Procedure (2017) the Commission is required to elect a new Chairperson for the next year.



147. **NOTING** Rule 9 of the IPHC Rules of Procedure (2017), the Commission **CALLED** for nominations for the newly vacated position of Chairperson of the IPHC for the next year. Mr Chris Oliver (U.S.A.) was nominated, seconded, and **ELECTED** as Chairperson of the IPHC for the next year.
148. The Commission **NOTED** that the term of the current Vice-Chairperson, Mr Chris Oliver (U.S.A.) is due to expire at the closing of the current Session, and as per Rule 9 of the IPHC Rules of Procedure (2017) the Commission is required to elect a new Vice-Chairperson for the next year.
149. **NOTING** Rule 9 of the Rules of Procedure (2017), the Commission **CALLED** for nominations for the newly vacated position of Vice-Chairperson of the IPHC for the next year. Mr Paul Ryall (Canada) was nominated, seconded, and **ELECTED** as Vice-Chairperson of the IPHC for the next year.

18. REVIEW OF THE DRAFT AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE 95TH SESSION OF THE IPHC ANNUAL MEETING (AM095)

150. The Commission **REQUESTED** that the IPHC Secretariat finalise and publish the IPHC *Pacific Halibut Fishery Regulations (2019)* no later than 28 February 2019, **NOTING** that only minor editorial and formatting changes are permitted beyond the decisions made by the Commission at the AM095.
151. The Report of the 95th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (IPHC-2019-AM095-R) was **ADOPTED** on 01 February 2019, including the consolidated set of recommendations and requests arising from AM094, provided at [Appendix IX](#).



APPENDIX I

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS FOR THE 95TH SESSION OF THE IPHC ANNUAL MEETING (AM095)

Commission Officers

Chairperson	Vice-Chairperson
Mr Paul Ryall (Canada)	Mr Chris Oliver (United States of America)

Commissioners

Canada	United States of America
Mr Paul Ryall	Mr Chris Oliver
Mr Neil Davis	Mr Robert Alverson
Mr Peter DeGreef	Mr Richard Yamada

Advisors/experts

Ms Anne-Marie Huang – Scientific Advisor	Dr Jim Balsiger – Policy Advisor
Mr Adam Keizer – Policy Advisor	Mr Drew Lawler – Policy Advisor
Mr Shane Petersen – Policy Advisor	Mr John Lepore – Legal Advisor
	Ms Staci MacCorkle – Financial Advisor
	Dr Carey McGilliard – Scientific Advisor
	Mr Glenn Merrill – Technical Advisor

Observers

Participant	Organisation	Email
Lyle Almond	Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe	Lyle.almond@elwha.org
Matt Alward	Alward Fisheries LLC	Matt@bulletproofnets.com
Phil Anderson	Pacific Fishery Management Council	Pmand001@comcast.net
Chuck Ashcroft	Sport Fishing Advisory Board	Chuckashcroft@telus.net
Clifford Atleo	Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council	C.atleo71@shaw.ca
Dan Averill	Marine Stewardship Council	Dan.averill@msc.org
John Beath	Puget Sound Anglers	Jbeath@gmail.com
Linda Behnken	Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association	Alfafish@acsalaska.net
Jeff Berger	E&E Foods	Jeffb@EEFoods.com
Owen Bird	Sport Fishing Institute of BC	Birdo@sportfishing.bc.ca
Kathryn Blair	NOAA Fisheries - West Coast Region	Kathryn.blair@noaa.gov
Christopher Bos	South Vancouver Island Anglers Coalition	Chris@anglerscoalition.com
Doug Bowen	Alaska Boats & Permits, Inc.	Office@alaskaboat.com
David Boyes	Arbegar Fishing co. Ltd	Mcboyes@icloud.com
Tiare Boyes	Arbegar Fishing Co. Ltd	Tiareboyes@gmail.com
Forrest Braden	Southeast Alaska Guides Organization	Truenorthsportfishing@gmail.com
Ted Brookman	BC Wildlife Federation	Tedbrookman6@gmail.com
Aaron Brooks	Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe	Abrooks@jamestowntribe.org
Blake Burkholder	Buck and Ann Fisheries	Blake.burkholder@gmail.com
Bernie Burkholder	F/V Northern Endurance, LLC	Bernieburkholder@gmail.com
Ron Burkholder	Buck and Ann Fisheries LLC.	Burkholder.ron@gmail.com
Ann Bussell	Fisheries & Oceans Canada	Ann.Bussell@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
Russell Cameron	UFAWU	Rubblefish@shaw.ca
Alan Carl	Northern Halibut Producers	Cfvkarmsund@gmail.com
Barron Carswell	Martech	Barron.Carsell@gmail.com



Gary Caton	Esquimalt Anglers Association	Gcaton@shaw.ca
Paul Clampitt	Edmonds Veteran Independent Longliners	pfishcl@gmail.com
Gary Cline	Bristol Bay Economic Development Corporation	Gary@bbedc.com
Thomas Cole	ACS Amalgamated Conservation Society	Ttbc@shaw.ca
Beth Concepcion	Alaska Seafood Cooperative	Daudistel@seanet.com
William Shawn Cowpar	Council of the Haida Nation	Shawn.cowpar@haidanation.com
David Croonquist	Coastal Conservation Association	Dcroonquist@gmail.com
John Crowley	Fishing Vessel Owners' Association	Pacificseadancer@gmail.com
Mary Crowley	Fishing Vessel Owners' Association	Pacificseadancer@gmail.com
Michele Culver	Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife	Michele.Culver@dfw.wa.gov
Matt Damiano	Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission	Mdamiano@nwifc.org
Douglas Daugert	Sport Fishing Advisory Board	Kumdisisland2@yahoo.ca
James DeGreef	SeafoodX	James.degreef@gmail.com
Patrick Depoe	Makah Tribe	Patrick.depoe@makah.com
Lu Dochtermann	Kodiak Longliners Association	Dochtermann.ludger@gmail.com
Angel Drobnica	APICDA	Adrobnica@apicda.com
Kit Durnil	Pacific Seafood Group	Kdurnil@paseafood.com
Phillip Edgar	Ditidaht First Nation	Nro@ditidaht.ca
Carl Edgar Jr.	Island Marine Aquatic Working Group	Smorin.imawg@gmail.com
Greg Elwood	F/V Western Freedom	Elgreg2002@yahoo.com
Garrett Elwood	Next Generation	Gelwood15@gmail.com
Craig Evens	Petersburg Vessel Owner's Association	Halibut@gci.net
Duncan Fields	Cape Barnabas	Dfields@ptialaska.net
Mark Fina	United States Seafoods, LLC	Mfina@usseafoods.net
Mike Flores	Homer Charter Association	Fishnihilchik@icloud.com
Dave Fraser	Adak Community Development Corporation	Dfraser@olympus.net
Robert Fraumeni	FAS Seafood Producers, Ltd.	Rghf@fasseafood.com
Nicole Frederickson	Island Marine Aquatic Working Group	Nfrederickson.imawg@gmail.com
Yongwen Gao	Makah Fisheries Management	Gaoy@olypen.com
Lindsay Gardner	Fisheries & Oceans Canada	Lindsay.gardner@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
Marlene Geils	Visit Anchorage	Mgeils@anchorage.net
Jason Gobin	Tulalip Tribes	Jasongobin@tulaliptribes-nsn.gov
Tyler Goodnight	Northport Fisheries	Tyler@northportfisheries.com
Tyler Gross	Quileute Indian Tribe	Tyler.gross@quileutenation.org
Angus Grout	Gulf Troll Association	Rommel@telus.net
Jennifer Hagen	Quileute Indian Tribe	Jennifer.hagen@quileutenation.org
Heather Hall	Department of Fish & Wildlife Washington	Heather.hall@dfw.wa.gov
Randy Harder	Point No Point Treaty Council	Rhander@pnptc.org
Joel Harvey	Bellingham Cold Storage	Joel.harvey@bellcold.com
James Hasbrouck	Alaska Department of Fish & Game	James.hasbrouck@alaska.gov
Shaun Haugan	North Troll Association	Arnason@hotmail.com
Robert Hauknes	HAB	Robert_hauknes@hotmail.com



Kurtis Hayne	Marine Stewardship Council	Kurtis.hayne@msc.org
Henry Heggelund	Fishermen	Hheggelunda@shaw.ca
Nick Heras	7 Seas Fish Co	Nheras@7seas.ca
Leonard Herzog	Arctic Packer LLC	Herzog.lennyh@gmail.com
Duff Hoyt	Icicle Seafoods, Inc.	Duffh@icicleseafoods.com
James Carter Hughes	Seafood Producers Cooperative	Carterhughes@hotmail.com
Greg Indreland	Yakutat Seafoods	Gregyak@yahoo.com
Lorne Iverson	BC Halibut Longliners Association	Lorneiverson@telus.net
Gerald James	Lummi Natural Resources	Geraldj@lummi-nsn.gov
Peter Jankiewicz	Archipelago Marine Research	Jankiep@shaw.ca
Ed Johnson	Huu-ay-aht First Nations	Edjohnson.northstar@gmail.com
James Johnson	Deep Sea Fishermen's Union	Jj.deepseafishermensunion@gmail.com
Steve Joner	Makah Tribe	Gofish@olypen.com
Rob Jones	Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission	Rjones@nwifc.org
Jeff Kauffman	St. Paul Fishing Company	Jeff@spfishco.com
Jessie Keplinger	Icicle Seafoods, Inc.	Jessiek@icicleseafoods.com
Richard Koso	ACDC	Rrk@mooseak.com
Gerry Kristianson	Sport Fishing Advisory Board	Gerrykr@telus.net
Garrett Lambert	Homer Charter Association	Montana06@gmail.com
Jim Lane	Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council	Jim.lane@nuuchahnulth.org
Donald Lane	Sea Lanes Inc.	Donlane71@gmail.com
Robin Lane	Sea Lanes Inc.	Donlane71@gmail.com
Arne Lee	Fishing Vessel Owners' Association	Arnelee@embarqmail.com
John Lepore	NOAA General Counsel	John.lepore@noaa.gov
Phillip Lestenkof	Central Bering Sea Fishermen's Association	Plestenkof@cbsfa.com
Maddie Lightsey	Alaska Boats & Permits, Inc.	Maddie@alaskaboat.com
Layton Lockett	City of Adak	Llockett@adak-ak.gov
Frank Lockhart	NOAA – West Coast Region	Frank.lockhart@noaa.gov
Lorraine Loomis	Swinomish Tribe	Lloomis@skagitcorps.org
Cody Lightsey	Alaska Boats & Permits, Inc.	Cody@alaskaboat.com
Grant MacPherson	Sidney Anglers' Association	Bigbass@shaw.ca
Mary Marking	Humboldt Area Saltwater Anglers	Ma5marking@gmail.com
Thomas Marking	Humboldt Area Saltwater Anglers	Tmmarking@sbcglobal.net
Jim Martin	Alaska Charter Association	Flatland@mcn.org
Lynn Mattes	Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife	Lynn.mattes@state.or.us
Larry Mayes	Adak Community Development Corporation	Lmayes@adaktu.net
Scott Mazzone	Quinault Indian Nation	Smazzone@quinault.org
Heather McCarty	Central Bering Sea Fishermen's Association	Hdmccarty@gmail.com
Brad McLean	French Creek Seafood Ltd.	Brad@frenchcreek.ca
Shawn McManus	Deep Sea Fishermen's Union	Shawn.mcmanus@yahoo.com
Maria Melovidov	F/V Inlet Quest	Chamorritalady@hotmail.com
Ray Melovidov	Central Bering Sea Fishermen's Association	Raymelovidov@cbsfa.com
Myron Melovidov	Central Bering Sea Fishermen's Association	Mmelovidov@cbsfa.com
Ricardo Merculief	F/V Safe Haven	Aleutsurfer@gmail.com



Malcolm Milne	North Pacific Fisheries Association	Milnemarine@yahoo.com
Steven Minor	Ocean2Table Alaska	Steve@wafro.com
Brad Mirau	Aero Trading Co Ltd	Brad@aerotrading.ca
Joe Morelli	Seafood Producers Cooperative	Jmorelli@spcsales.com
Larry Neilson	Government of BC	Larry.neilson@gov.bc.ca
Carl Nordmann	S.M. Products (B.C.) Ltd	Carl@halibut.ca
Nicolle Nordmann	S.M. Products (B.C.) Ltd	Carl@halibut.ca
Per Odegaard	Fishing Vessel Owners' Association	Vanseeodegaard@hotmail.com
Mike Okoniewski	Pacific Seafood	Mokoniewski@paseafood.com
Megan O'Neil	Petersburg Vessel Owner's Association	Meganoneil7@yahoo.com
Martin Paish	Sport Fishing Institute of BC	Martinpaish1@gmail.com
Jeongseok Park	North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission	Jpark@npafc.org
Melanie Parker	California Department of Fish & Wildlife	Melanie.parker@wildlife.ca.gov
Peggy Parker	Halibut Association of North America	Pegyparker616@gmail.com
Mateo Paz-Soldan	DTB Associates LLP	Cpaz-soldan@dtbassociates.com
Jeff Peterson	Deep Sea Fishermen's Union	Jeffjms@gmail.com
John Pettersen	Icicle Seafoods	Johnp@icicleseafoods.com
Lyle Pierce	Snowdrift Fishing Ltd	Lyle_p@shaw.ca
Landry Price	Yukon Delta Fisheries Development Association	Landry.ydfda@gmail.com
Steve Ricci	APICDA	Sricci@apicda.com
Jason Roberts	F/V Pender Isle	Globalroberts@hotmail.com
Bernice Robinson	Observer	Bernicebadine@hotmail.com
Matt Robinson	Bristol Bay Economic Development Corporation	Matt@bbedc.com
Kevin Romanin	Province of BC	Kevin.Romanin@gov.bc.ca
Christa Rusel	A-TLEGAY Fisheries Society	Christarusel@shawcable.com
Esther Sample	Fisherman	Esthersample@gmail.com
Quinton Sample	Fisherman	Quintonsample@gmail.com
Joe Schumacker	Quinault Indian Nation	Jschumacker@quinault.org
Chad See	Freezer Longline Coalition	Chadsee@freezerlongline.biz
John Sevier	International Seafoods of Alaska	John.sevier@isa-ak.com
William Shaw	Westcoast fishing guides Association	Bill@wfms.ca
Rebeccaq Skinner	Alaska Whitefish Trawlers Association	Execdir@alaskawhitefishtrawlers.org
Maggie Smith	NOAA – General Counsel	Maggie.smith@noaa.gov
Miles Smith	Dana F Besecker Company	Miles@dfbcompany.com
Cody Smith	S.M. Products (B.C.) Ltd	Cody@halibut.ca
Steven Solomon	Lummi Nation	Stevensolomon74@gmail.com
Maggie Sommer	Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife	Maggie.sommer@state.or.us
Donald Spigelmyre	Icicle Seafoods, Inc.	Dons@icicleseafoods.com
Chris Sporer	Pacific Halibut Management Association of BC	Chris.sporer@phma.ca
Rob St Louis	French Creek Seafood Ltd.	Brad@frenchcreek.ca
Jan Standaert	Deep Sea Fishermen's Union	J_standard@hotmail.com
Robert Stanley	Canfisco	Rubblefish@shaw.ca
Shawn Stebbins	Archipelago	Shawns@archipelago.ca
Liam Stockwell	Aero Trading	Liam@aerotrading.ca
William Sullivan	Kachemak Bay Seafood's	Freshhalibut@gmail.com



Russell Svec	Makah Tribe	Russell.svec@makah.com
Simeon Swetozof	Aleut Community of St. Paul Island	Swetozof@hotmail.com
Clem Tillion	Atka Fishermen's Association	Tillionc@xyz.net
Blake Tipton	S.M. Products (B.C.) Ltd	Blake@halibut.ca
David Travia	Ministry of Agriculture	David.travia@gov.bc.ca
Mike Turner	B.C. Ministry of Agriculture	Michael.r.turner@gov.bc.ca
Bruce Turris	CGRCS	Bruceturris@shaw.ca
Clarinda Underwood	Quinault Indian Nation	Punderwood@quinault.org
Sarah Webster	Alaska Department of Fish & Game	Sarah.webster@alaska.gov
Andrew Webster	Ahousat Fishing Corporation	Bigmak.housat@gmail.com
Abigail Welch	Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe	Awelch@pgst.nsn.us
James Whitethorn	West Brothers	Kiviok4@aol.com
Tandy Wilbur	Swinomish Tribe	Tandywilbur@swinomish.nsn.us
Gary Williamson	PHMA	Riverone@telus.net
Lisa Wilson	Lummi Natural Resources	Lisaw@lummi-nsn.gov
Ken Wing	Fisherman	Kwing@dccnet.com
David Witherell	NPFMC	David.witherell@noaa.gov
William Woodbury	FAS Seafood	Wwoodbury@fasseafood.com
Chris Woodley	Groundfish Forum	Chris@seanet.com
Ryan Wulff	NOAA – West Coast Region	Ryan.wulff@noaa.gov
Phillip Wyman	Sitka Black Cod & Halibut Marketing Association	Philwyman@hotmail.com
Phil Young	Canfisco	Phil.young@canfisco.com

IPHC Secretariat

Participant	Title	Email
Dr David Wilson	Executive Director	david.wilson@iphc.int
Mr Stephen Keith	Assistant Director	stephen.keith@iphc.int
	Branch Managers	
Ms Lara Erikson	Branch Manager – Fisheries Statistics & Services Branch	lara.erikson@iphc.int
Mr Keith Jernigan	Information Technology and Database Services Branch/ Chief Information Officer	keith.jernigan@iphc.int
Mr Michael Larsen	Administrative Services Branch/ Chief Financial Officer	michael.larsen@iphc.int
Dr Josep Planas	Branch Manager – Biological & Ecosystem Sciences Branch	josep.planas@iphc.int
	Support staff	
Ms Kelly Chapman	Front Office Assistant	kelly.chapman@iphc.int
Mr Claude Dykstra	Research Biologist	claudedykstra@iphc.int
Ms Tracee Geernaert	Survey Manager	tracee.geernaert@iphc.int
Mr Ed Henry	Fisheries Data Specialist	edward.henry@iphc.int
Dr Allan Hicks	Quantitative Scientist	allan.hicks@iphc.int
Mr Tom Kong	Fisheries Data Specialist	thomas.kong@iphc.int
Mr Eric Soderlund	FISS Specialist	eric.soderlund@iphc.int
Dr Ian Stewart	Quantitative Scientist	ian.stewart@iphc.int
Mr Afshin Taheri	Programmer	afshin.taheri@iphc.int
Mr Jay Walker	Computer Systems Administrator	jay.walker@iphc.int
Dr Ray Webster	Biometrician	ray.webster@iphc.int



APPENDIX II

AGENDA FOR THE 95TH SESSION OF THE IPHC ANNUAL MEETING (AM095)

Date: 28 January to 01 February 2019

Location: Victoria, B.C., Canada

Venue: Fairmont Empress

Time: 28th: 12:30-17:30; 29-30: 09:00-17:00 daily

Chairperson: Mr. Paul Ryall (Canada)

Vice-Chairperson: Mr Chris Oliver (U.S.A.)

- 1. OPENING OF THE SESSION**
- 2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION**
- 3. UPDATE ON ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE 94th SESSION OF THE IPHC ANNUAL MEETING (AM094) AND THE 94th SESSION OF THE IPHC INTERIM MEETING (IM094)**
- 4. REPORT OF THE IPHC SECRETARIAT (2018)**
- 5. FISHERY STATISTICS (2018)**
- 6. STOCK STATUS OF PACIFIC HALIBUT (2018) & HARVEST DECISION TABLE (2019)**
 - 6.1 Fishery-Independent Setline Survey (FISS) design and implementation in 2018, including current and future expansions
 - 6.2 Space-time modelling of survey data (WPUE; FISS expansion results, etc.)
 - 6.3 Data overview and Stock assessment (2018), and draft harvest decision table (2019)
 - 6.4 Pacific halibut mortality projections – Using the IPHC mortality projection tool
- 7. IPHC 5-YEAR RESEARCH PROGRAM**
 - 7.1 IPHC 5-year Biological & Ecosystem Sciences research program: update
- 8. REPORT OF THE 19TH SESSION OF THE IPHC RESEARCH ADVISORY BOARD (RAB019)**
- 9. REPORT OF THE 13TH SESSION OF THE IPHC SCIENTIFIC REVIEW BOARD (SRB013)**
- 10. MANAGEMENT STRATEGY EVALUATION**
 - 10.1 IPHC Management Strategy Evaluation: update
 - 10.2 Report of the 12th Session of the IPHC Management Strategy Advisory Board (MSAB012)
- 11. REGULATORY PROPOSALS FOR 2019**
 - 11.1 IPHC Secretariat regulatory proposals
 - 11.2 Contracting Party regulatory proposals
 - 11.3 Other Stakeholder regulatory proposals
 - 11.4 Stakeholder statements
- 12. CONTRACTING PARTY (BY AGENCY) REPORTS**
 - 12.1 Regulatory Area 2A (U.S.A.: West coast)
 - 12.2 Regulatory Area 2B (Canada: British Columbia)
 - 12.3 Regulatory Areas 2C/3/4 (U.S.A.: Alaska)



12.4 IPHC Contracting Party Report Template

13. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

13.1 Financial Statement for FY2018

13.2 Annual independent auditor's report (2017 & 2018)

13.3 Budget estimates for FY2020 (for approval), and tentatively for FY2021

13.4 Draft: IPHC Financial Regulations (2019)

13.5 Draft: IPHC Rules of Procedure (2019)

14. IPHC PERFORMANCE REVIEW

14.1 2nd IPHC Performance Review: update

14.2 Peer review process for IPHC science products

15. REPORT OF THE 24th SESSION OF THE IPHC PROCESSOR ADVISORY BOARD (PAB024)

16. REPORT OF THE 89th SESSION OF THE IPHC CONFERENCE BOARD (CB089)

17. OTHER BUSINESS

17.1 IPHC meetings calendar (2019-21)

17.2 News release

17.3 Election of a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson

18. REVIEW OF THE DRAFT AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE 95th SESSION OF THE IPHC ANNUAL MEETING (AM095)



APPENDIX III

LIST OF DOCUMENTS FOR THE 95TH SESSION OF THE IPHC ANNUAL MEETING (AM095)

Meeting documents	Title	Availability
IPHC-2019-AM095-01	Agenda & Schedule for the 95 th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM095)	✓ 29 Oct 2018 ✓ 29 Dec 2018 ✓ 18 Jan 2019
IPHC-2019-AM095-02	List of Documents for the 95 th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM095)	✓ 29 Oct 2018 ✓ 10 Jan 2019 ✓ 18 Jan 2019
IPHC-2019-AM095-03	Update on actions arising from the 94 th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM094), and the 94 th Session of the IPHC Interim Meeting (IM094) (IPHC Secretariat)	✓ 12 Dec 2018
IPHC-2019-AM095-04	Report of the IPHC Secretariat (2018) (IPHC Secretariat)	✓ 18 Dec 2018
IPHC-2019-AM095-05	Fishery statistics (2018) (L. Erikson)	✓ 19 Dec 2018
IPHC-2019-AM095-06	Fishery-Independent Setline Survey (FISS) design and implementation in 2018, including current and future expansions (L. Erikson, E. Soderlund, & T. Geernaert)	✓ 21 Dec 2018
IPHC-2019-AM095-07	Space-time modelling of survey data (R. Webster)	✓ 12 Dec 2018
IPHC-2019-AM095-08	Overview of data sources for the Pacific halibut stock assessment, harvest policy, and related analyses (I. Stewart & R. Webster)	✓ 20 Dec 2018
IPHC-2019-AM095-09	Assessment of the Pacific halibut (<i>Hippoglossus stenolepis</i>) stock at the end of 2018 (I. Stewart & A. Hicks)	✓ 17 Dec 2018
IPHC-2019-AM095-10	Draft: IPHC Fishery Status Report 2018, Pacific halibut (<i>Hippoglossus stenolepis</i>) (IPHC Secretariat)	✓ 21 Dec 2018
IPHC-2019-AM095-11	Mortality projections – Using the IPHC mortality projection tool (I. Stewart & D. Wilson)	✓ 17 Dec 2018
IPHC-2019-AM095-12	IPHC Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE): update (A. Hicks & I. Stewart)	✓ 19 Dec 2018
IPHC-2019-AM095-13 Rev_1	Implementation notes: 2019 Regulatory proposals (IPHC Secretariat)	✓ 21 Dec 2018 ✓ 29 Dec 2018
IPHC-2019-AM095-14	IPHC 5-year Biological and Ecosystem Sciences research program: update (J. Planas)	✓ 13 Dec 2018
IPHC-2019-AM095-15	Peer review process for IPHC science products (D. Wilson, J. Planas, A. Hicks & I. Stewart)	✓ 19 Dec 2018



IPHC-2019-AM095-16	Financial Statement for FY2018 (M. Larsen & D. Wilson)	✓ 27 Dec 2018
IPHC-2019-AM095-17	Independent auditor's report (FY2017 & FY2018) (M. Larsen & D. Wilson)	✓ 21 Dec 2018
IPHC-2019-AM095-18	Budget estimates for FY2020 (for approval) and tentatively for FY2021 (M. Larsen & D. Wilson)	✓ 28 Dec 2018
IPHC-2019-AM095-19	Draft: IPHC Financial Regulations (2019) (M. Larsen, S. Keith & D. Wilson)	✓ 13 Dec 2018
IPHC-2019-AM095-20	Draft: IPHC Rules of Procedure (2019) (D. Wilson)	✓ 19 Dec 2018
IPHC-2019-AM095-21	2 nd IPHC Performance Review: Update (D. Wilson & S. Keith)	✓ 17 Dec 2018
IPHC-2019-AM095-22	IPHC meetings calendar (2019-21) (IPHC Secretariat)	✓ 14 Dec 2018
<i>Contracting Party (by agency) reports</i>		
IPHC-2019-AM095-AR01	USA - Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) report to the IPHC	✓ 19 Dec 2018
IPHC-2019-AM095-AR02	USA - NMFS Report: Report on the 2018 Pacific halibut fisheries in Area 2a	✓ 31 Dec 2018
IPHC-2019-AM095-AR03	USA - U.S. Coast Guard enforcement Report (IPHC Areas 2A, 2C, 3A, 3B, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D and 4E) to the International Pacific Halibut Commission (11 th , 13 th and 17 th Districts)	✓ 04 Jan 2019
IPHC-2019-AM095-AR04	USA - NOAA-NMFS Office of Law Enforcement (OLE) - West coast enforcement division report to the International Pacific Halibut Commission	✓ 21 Dec 2018
IPHC-2019-AM095-AR05	USA - Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW): Summary of Washington Pacific Halibut fisheries management in 2018	✓ 18 Dec 2018
IPHC-2019-AM095-AR06	USA - Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW): Report: Summary of Oregon Recreational and Commercial Pacific Halibut Fisheries in 2018	✓ 10 Dec 2018
IPHC-2019-AM095-AR07	USA - Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife Division: Halibut Enforcement Summary 2018	✓ 03 Dec 2018
IPHC-2019-AM095-AR08	USA - 2018 California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) report to the International Pacific Halibut Commission	✓ 31 Dec 2018
IPHC-2019-AM095-AR09	Canada - Canada National Report 2018 - Fisheries and Oceans Canada	✓ 27 Dec 2018
IPHC-2019-AM095-AR10	Canada - Province of British Columbia Report	✓ 21 Dec 2018
IPHC-2019-AM095-AR11	Withdrawn	



IPHC-2019-AM095-AR12	USA - North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) Report to the IPHC	✓ 21 Dec 2018
IPHC-2019-AM095-AR13	USA - Report to the International Pacific Halibut Commission 2019 Annual Meeting - Alaska Region, National Marine Fisheries Service	✓ 21 Dec 2018
IPHC-2019-AM095-AR14	USA - Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG) – Division of sport fish (recreational)	✓ 19 Dec 2018
IPHC-2019-AM095-AR15	USA - Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG) Subsistence Report	✓ 14 Dec 2018
IPHC-2019-AM095-AR16	USA - NOAA Fisheries Office of Law Enforcement (OLE): Alaska enforcement division report to the International Pacific Halibut Commission	✓ 28 Dec 2018
Regulatory proposals for 2019		
IPHC Secretariat regulatory proposals for 2019		
IPHC-2019-AM095-PropA1	Fishery Limits (Sect. 4) (IPHC Secretariat)	✓ 18 Dec 2018
IPHC-2019-AM095-PropA2	Fishing Periods (Sect. 9) (IPHC Secretariat)	✓ 21 Dec 2018
IPHC-2019-AM095-PropA3	IPHC Fishery Regulations: minor amendments (IPHC Secretariat)	✓ 19 Dec 2018
Contracting Party (by agency) regulatory proposals for 2019		
IPHC-2019-AM095-PropB1	Charter management measures in IPHC Regulatory Areas 2c and 3a (NOAA-Fisheries)	✓ 21 Dec 2018
Other Stakeholder regulatory proposals for 2019		
IPHC-2019-AM095-PropC1 Rev_1	IPHC Regulatory Area 2A TCEY (P. DePoe)	✓ 21 Dec 2018 ✓ 09 Jan 2019
IPHC-2019-AM095-PropC2	IPHC Regulatory Area 2A quota proposal (M. Pettis)	✓ 20 Dec 2018
Reports from IPHC subsidiary bodies (2018/19)		
IPHC-2018-RAB019-R	Report of the 19 th Session of the IPHC Research Advisory Board (RAB019)	✓ 11 Mar 2018
IPHC-2018-SRB012-R	Report of the 12 th Session of the IPHC Scientific Review Board (SRB012)	✓ 21 Jun 2018
IPHC-2018-SRB013-R	Report of the 13 th Session of the IPHC Scientific Review Board (SRB013)	✓ 27 Sept 2018
IPHC-2018-MSAB011-R	Report of the 11 th Session of the IPHC Management Strategy Advisory Board (MSAB011)	✓ 10 May 2018
IPHC-2018-MSAB012-R	Report of the 12 th Session of the IPHC Management Strategy Advisory Board (MSAB012)	✓ 26 Oct 2018



IPHC-2018-IM094-R	Report of the 94 th Session of the IPHC Interim Meeting (IM094)	✓ 29 Nov 2018
IPHC-2019-CB089-R	Report of the 89 th Session of the IPHC Conference Board (CB089)	✓ 31 Jan 2019
IPHC-2019-PAB024-R	Report of the 24 th Session of the IPHC Processor Advisory Board (PAB024)	✓ 31 Jan 2019
<i>Information papers</i>		
IPHC-2019-AM095-INF01 Rev_2	Stakeholder statements on regulatory proposals for 2019 (IPHC Secretariat)	✓ 21 Dec 2018 ✓ 18 Jan 2019 ✓ 28 Jan 2019
IPHC-2019-AM095-INF02	Draft: IPHC Contracting Party (by domestic agency) Report Template	✓ 21 Dec 2018
IPHC-2019-AM095-INF03	Draft: IPHC Harvest Strategy Policy (IPHC Secretariat)	✓ 21 Dec 2018
IPHC-2019-AM095-INF04	Report of Assessment and Research Activities: 2019 (IPHC Secretariat)	✓ 21 Dec 2018
IPHC-2019-AM095-INF05	Alaska Seafood Cooperative Halibut Bycatch Performance Report to the International Pacific Halibut Commission January 2019 (Anon)	✓ 02 Jan 2019
IPHC-2019-AM095-INF06	Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission: 2018 Treaty Halibut Summary	✓ 21 Dec 2018
IPHC-2019-AM095-INF07	Treatment and effects of Pacific halibut discard mortality (bycatch) in non-directed fisheries projected for 2019 (IPHC Secretariat)	✓ 28 Dec 2018
IPHC-2019-AM095-INF08	Additional Harvest Decision Tables, Treatment and effects of Pacific halibut discard mortality (bycatch) projected for 2020 and 2021, and time series of bycatch and discard mortality (IPHC Secretariat)	✓ 28 Dec 2018



APPENDIX IV
MORTALITY TABLE PROJECTED FOR THE 2019 MORTALITY LIMITS BY IPHC REGULATORY AREA

(All values reported in millions of net pounds)

Sector	IPHC Regulatory Area								
	2A	2B	2C	3A	3B	4A	4B	4CDE	Total
Commercial discard mortality	0.02	0.13	NA	NA	0.19	0.09	0.02	0.04	0.50
O26 Bycatch	0.13	0.27	0.03	1.28	0.36	0.18	0.22	1.87	4.33
Non-CSP Recreational (+ discards)	NA	0.08	1.38	1.74	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	3.21
Subsistence	NA	0.41	0.44	0.22	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.06	1.14
Total Non-FCEY	0.15	0.88	1.85	3.24	0.57	0.29	0.24	1.96	9.18
Commercial discard mortality	NA	NA	0.06	0.31	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.37
CSP Recreational (+ discards)	0.60	0.84	0.82	1.89	NA	NA	NA	NA	4.16
Subsistence	0.03	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.03
Commercial Landings	0.86	5.10	3.61	8.06	2.33	1.65	1.21	2.04	24.88
Total FCEY	1.50	5.95	4.49	10.26	2.33	1.65	1.21	2.04	29.43
TCEY	1.65	6.83	6.34	13.50	2.90	1.94	1.45	4.00	38.61
U26 Bycatch	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.37	0.11	0.10	0.01	1.12	1.73
Total Mortality	1.65	6.85	6.34	13.87	3.01	2.04	1.46	5.12	40.34



APPENDIX V
FY2019 BUDGET
(1 Oct. 2018 to 30 Sept. 2019)

General Account

Income

Contributions		
United States	\$4,400,000	^{1,2}
Canada	\$959,970	¹
Other Income		
Grants & Contracts	\$660,271	
Interest Income	\$5,000	
Misc. Income	\$0	

Expenses

Core IPHC Activities	
Administration	\$2,357,002
Scientific	\$3,474,342
Port Sampling	\$625,276
Research Activities	
Field Research	\$0
Research	\$734,220
FISS Program Cost Recovery	(\$378,425)

General Account Total	\$6,025,241	General Account Total	\$6,812,415
General Account - Gain/Loss	(\$787,174)	Year-end Carryover	\$1,194,712

Supplemental Account

Income

Fish Sales Income		
FISS Program	\$6,167,162	
Other Research	\$46,400	
Other Income		
Interest	\$1,125	
Rollover from Reserve Account	\$10,000	

Expenses

Survey Expenses	
FISS Program	\$6,145,706
FISS Program Cost Recovery	\$378,425

Supplemental Account Total	\$6,224,687	Supplemental Account Total	\$6,524,131
Supplemental Account - Gain/Loss	(\$299,445)	Year-end Carryover	\$533,689

Combined General/Supplemental Accounts

Combined Gain/Loss	(\$1,086,619)	Year-end Combined Balance	\$641,862
---------------------------	----------------------	----------------------------------	------------------

Notes: ¹ - Includes Pension Funding Payment
² - Includes Headquarters Lease Payments



APPENDIX VI
FY2020 PROPOSED BUDGET
(1 Oct. 2019 to 30 Sept. 2020)

General Account

Income

Contributions		
United States	\$4,532,000	^{1,2}
Canada	\$985,432	¹
Other Income		
Grants & Contracts	\$449,562	
Interest Income	\$5,000	
Misc. Income	\$0	

Expenses

Core IPHC Activities	
Administration	\$2,288,847
Scientific	\$3,652,199
Catch Sampling	\$638,132
Research Activities	
Field Research	\$0
Other Research	\$550,000
FISS Program Cost Recovery	(\$397,346)

<u>General Account Total</u>	\$5,971,994	<u>General Account Total</u>	\$6,731,832
<u>General Account - Gain/Loss</u>	(\$759,838)	<u>Year-end Carryover</u>	\$434,954

Supplemental Account

Income

Fish Sales Income		
FISS Program	\$4,904,582	
Other Research	\$46,400	
Other Income		
Interest	\$1,125	
Rollover from Reserve Account	\$10,000	

Expenses

Survey Expenses	
FISS Program	\$4,539,501
FISS Program Cost Recovery	\$397,346

<u>Supplemental Account Total</u>	\$4,962,106	<u>Supplemental Account Total</u>	\$4,936,847
<u>Supplemental Account - Gain/Loss</u>	\$25,260	<u>Year-end Carryover</u>	\$558,949

Combined General/Supplemental Accounts

<u>Combined Gain/Loss</u>	(\$734,578)	<u>Year-end Combined Balance</u>	\$993,903
----------------------------------	--------------------	---	------------------

Notes: ¹ - Includes Pension Funding Payment
² - Includes Headquarters Lease Payments



APPENDIX VII
FY2021 PROPOSED BUDGET
(1 Oct. 2020 to 30 Sept. 2021)

General Account

Income

Contributions		
United States	\$4,767,960	^{1,2}
Canada	\$1,011,657	¹
Other Income		
Grants & Contracts	\$478,599	
Interest Income	\$5,000	
Misc. Income	\$0	

Expenses

Core IPHC Activities	
Administration	\$2,402,610
Scientific	\$3,427,938
Catch Sampling	\$646,945
Research Activities	
Field Research	\$0
Other Research	\$575,000
FISS Program Cost Recovery	(\$417,214)

<u>General Account Total</u>	\$6,263,216	<u>General Account Total</u>	\$6,635,279
<u>General Account - Gain/Loss</u>	(\$372,063)	<u>Year-end Carryover</u>	\$62,891

Supplemental Account

Income

Fish Sales Income		
FISS Program	\$5,010,798	
Other Research	\$46,400	
Other Income		
Interest	\$1,125	
Rollover from Reserve Account	\$25,000	

Expenses

Survey Expenses	
FISS Program	\$4,608,624
FISS Program Cost Recovery	\$417,214

<u>Supplemental Account Total</u>	\$5,083,323	<u>Supplemental Account Total</u>	\$5,025,838
<u>Supplemental Account - Gain/Loss</u>	\$57,485	<u>Year-end Carryover</u>	\$673,921

Combined General/Supplemental Accounts

<u>Combined Gain/Loss</u>	(\$314,578)	<u>Year-end Combined Balance</u>	\$736,812
----------------------------------	--------------------	---	------------------

Notes: ¹ - Includes Pension Funding Payment
² - Includes Headquarters Lease Payments



APPENDIX VIII
IPHC MEETINGS CALENDAR (2019-21)

Meeting	2019			2020			2021		
	No.	Date	Location	No.	Date	Location	No.	Proposed	Location
Finance and Administration Committee (FAC)	95 th	28 Jan	Victoria, Canada	96 th	27 Jan	Anchorage, USA	97 th	25 Jan	Victoria, Canada
Annual Meeting (AM)	95th	28 Jan-1 Feb	Victoria, Canada	96th	27-31 Jan	Anchorage, USA	97th	25-29 Jan	Victoria, Canada
Conference Board (CB)	89 th	29-30 Jan	Victoria, Canada	90 th	28-29 Jan	Anchorage, USA	91 st	26-27 Jan	Victoria, Canada
Processor Advisory Board (PAB)	24 th	29-30 Jan	Victoria, Canada	25 th	28-29 Jan	Anchorage, USA	26 th	26-27 Jan	Victoria, Canada
Research Advisory Board (RAB)	20 th	27 Feb	Seattle, USA	21 st	26 Feb	Seattle, USA	22 nd	24 Feb	Seattle, USA
Management Strategy Advisory Board (MSAB)	13 th	6-9 May	Sitka, USA	15 th	11-14 May	Port Hardy, Canada	17 th	TBD if necessary	TBD if necessary
	14 th	21-24 Oct	Seattle, USA	16 th	19-22 Oct	Seattle, USA	18 th	TBD if necessary	TBD if necessary
Scientific Review Board (SRB)	14 th	25-27 June	Seattle, USA	16 th	23-25 June	Seattle, USA	18 th	22-24 June	Seattle, USA
	15 th	24-26 Sept	Seattle, USA	17 th	22-24 Sept	Seattle, USA	19 th	21-23 Sept	Seattle, USA
Work Meeting (WM)	--	18-19 Sept	Bellingham, USA	--	16-17 Sept	Bellingham, USA	--	15-16 Sept	Bellingham, USA
Interim Meeting (IM)	95th	25-26 Nov	Seattle, USA	96th	1-2 Dec	Seattle, USA	97th	30 Nov-1 Dec	Seattle, USA



APPENDIX IX

**CONSOLIDATED SET OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND REQUESTS OF THE 95TH SESSION OF THE
IPHC ANNUAL MEETING (AM095) (28 JANUARY TO 01 FEBRUARY 2019)**

RECOMMENDATIONS

IPHC Management Strategy Evaluation

AM095–Rec.01 ([para. 59c](#)) The Commission **RECOMMENDED** the MSAB develop the following additional objective, as well as prioritize this objective in the evaluation of management procedures, for the Commission’s consideration.

- i. A conservation objective that meets a spawning biomass target.

Report of the 12th Session of the IPHC Management Strategy Advisory Board (MSAB012)

AM095–Rec.02 ([para. 62](#)) The Commission **RECOMMENDED** that the MSAB and IPHC Secretariat continue its program of work on the Management Procedure for the Scale portion of the harvest strategy, **NOTING** that Scale and Distribution components will be evaluated and presented no later than at AM097 in 2021, for potential adoption and subsequent implementation as a harvest strategy. The management procedure that best meets the primary objectives for coastwide scale is:

- c) A target SPR of 40% with a fishery trigger of 30% and a fishery limit of 20% in the control rule;
- d) An annual constraint of 15% from the previous year’s mortality limit.

Fishery Limits (Sect. 4)

AM095–Rec.03 ([para. 65](#)) The Commission **RECOMMENDED** that Contracting Parties undertake a detailed review of the amendments to the IPHC Fishery Regulations contained in IPHC-2019-AM095-PropA1, and to provide initial feedback at the 95th Session of the IPHC Interim Meeting (IM095) on whether agreement could be reached to adopt the amendments at the subsequent 96th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM096) in January 2020.

AM095–Rec.04 ([para. 66](#)) The Commission **RECOMMENDED** evaluating and redefining TCEY to include the U26 component of discard mortalities, including bycatch, as steps towards more comprehensive and responsible management of the resource, in coordination with the IPHC Secretariat and Contracting Parties. The intent is that each Contracting Party to the Treaty would be responsible for counting its U26 mortalities against its collective TCEY. This change would be intended to take effect for TCEYs established at the 2020 Annual Meeting.

AM095–Rec.05 ([para. 67](#)) The Commission **RECOMMENDED** that the IPHC Secretariat expand upon the analysis completed in IPHC-2019-AM095-INF08 “*Treatment and effects of Pacific halibut discard mortality (bycatch) in non-directed fisheries projected for 2019*”, to be reviewed by the SRB at its next meeting. The objective of this work is to estimate lost yield from bycatch of Pacific halibut in non-directed fisheries for the years of 1991-2018.

AM095–Rec.06 ([para. 71](#)) The Commission **RECOMMENDED** that the IPHC Secretariat continue to report out annually on Regulatory Area mortality against the TCEY adopted for each Regulatory Area.

AM095–Rec.07 ([para. 72](#)) The Commission **RECOMMENDED** that the IPHC Secretariat develop options for accounting for Pacific halibut mortalities associated with the FISS and their other research projects in the definition of the coastwide TCEY.



IPHC Regulatory Area 2A Non-Tribal Directed Commercial Fishery

AM095–Rec.08 ([para. 78](#)) **NOTING** the indication made to the PFMC in a letter dated 25 January 2019, that the IPHC Secretariat would welcome the opportunity to further address the safety concerns in the fishery, and to examine other potential management options for the fishery such as an IFQ or limited entry, as well as its management responsibilities, the Commission **RECOMMENDED** that this workshop take place, given the desire for the IPHC to move full management of the fishery from the IPHC (an international fisheries management body) to the relevant domestic agencies.

IPHC Fishery Regulations: minor amendments

AM095–Rec.09 ([para. 82](#)) Commission **RECOMMENDED** that Contracting Parties undertake a detailed review of the amendments to the IPHC Fishery Regulations contained in IPHC-2019-AM095-PropA3 Rev_1, and to provide initial feedback at the 95th Session of the IPHC Interim Meeting (IM095) on whether agreement could be reached to adopt the amendments at the subsequent 96th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM096) in January 2020.

Peer review process for IPHC science products

AM095–Rec.10 ([para. 129](#)) The Commission **RECOMMENDED** that the IPHC Secretariat develop terms of reference for a consultant to undertake a peer review of the IPHC Pacific halibut stock assessment, for implementation in early 2019. The terms of reference and budget shall be endorsed by the Commission inter-sessionally.

AM095–Rec.11 ([para. 130](#)) The Commission **RECOMMENDED** that the IPHC Secretariat finalise terms of reference for a expert/consultant to undertake a peer review of the IPHC Pacific halibut MSE, for implementation in early November 2019 and July 2020. The terms of reference and budget shall be endorsed by the Commission inter-sessionally.

REQUESTS

Report of the IPHC Secretariat (2018)

AM095–Req.01 ([para. 06](#)) The Commission **NOTED** the new functionality added to the IPHC website in 2018, and **REQUESTED** that these initiatives continue to be enhanced, with the overall aim of further improving the transparency of the IPHC’s operations and data collected (<http://iphc.int/>):

- k) [Fishery-Independent Setline Survey \(FISS\) data interactive](#)
- l) [Regulations portal](#), including the online [regulatory proposal submission form](#)
- m) [Landings Report](#)
- n) [Mortality projection tool](#)
- o) Commercial Fisheries data interactive ([in development](#))

Fishery statistics (2018)

AM095–Req.02 ([para. 12](#)) **NOTING** the uncertainty associated with various estimates of removals, as listed below, the Commission **REQUESTED** each Contracting Party address these uncertainties in a report to the Commission at its next Session. The intention is to provide greater detail on how each removal category is quantified, and verified:

Canada

- a) self-reporting of lodges for recreational estimates in Canada;



- b) subsistence estimates in Canada;

United States of America

- c) self-reporting of lodges for recreational estimates in the U.S.A. (Alaska);
d) recreational discard mortality estimates for U.S.A. (IPHC Regulatory Area 2A);
e) subsistence estimates in the U.S.A.;
f) estimates for the Pacific halibut commercial fishery discard mortality in U.S.A. (Alaska) due to the estimates calculated by the IPHC Secretariat differing from those provided by NMFS, due primarily to the way coverage is measured (by fish weight caught, versus fishing trip);
g) the estimates for Pacific halibut bycatch mortality in other fisheries in the U.S.A, for the same reasons identified in the previous point.

Space-time modelling of survey data (WPUE; FISS expansion results, etc.)

AM095–Req.03 ([para. 23](#)) **NOTING** that more FISS stations in the disputed area between Regulatory Areas 2B and 2C appear to be assigned to Regulatory Area 2C, and that the IPHC Secretariat indicated that this assignment is based on a ‘compromise’ boundary line previously developed, the Commission **REQUESTED** that this separation line be clarified and clearly marked on any future IPHC map to avoid confusion. The IPHC Secretariat shall develop such maps and distribute to the Commission in the coming weeks.

Contracting Party (by Agency) reports - Regulatory Area 2A (U.S.A.: West coast)

AM095–Req.04 ([para. 91](#)) **NOTING** a lack of clarity regarding the accounting for Pacific halibut caught recreationally in British Columbia waters (Canada) and landed in Washington ports (U.S.A.), the Commission **REQUESTED** continued liaison between the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and Fisheries and Oceans Canada on the subject.

Budget estimates for FY2020 (for approval), and tentatively for FY2021

AM095–Req.05 ([para. 117](#)) The Commission **REQUESTED** that the IPHC Secretariat continue to develop a proposal for a potential Life History Modeller to join the IPHC Secretariat and for this to be provided to the Commission for consideration inter-sessionally.

IPHC Financial Regulations (2019)

AM095–Req.06 ([para. 120](#)) The Commission **ADOPTED** the revised IPHC Financial Regulations (2019) by consensus, and **REQUESTED** that the IPHC Secretariat finalise and publish them accordingly.

IPHC Rules of Procedure (2019)

AM095–Req.07 ([para. 124](#)) The Commission **ADOPTED** the revised IPHC Rules of Procedure (2019) by consensus, and **REQUESTED** that the IPHC Secretariat finalise and publish them accordingly.

Review of the draft and adoption of the report of the 95th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM095)

AM095–Req.08 ([para. 150](#)) The Commission **REQUESTED** that the IPHC Secretariat finalise and publish the IPHC *Pacific Halibut Fishery Regulations (2019)* no later than 28 February 2019, **NOTING** that only minor editorial and formatting changes are permitted beyond the decisions made by the Commission at the AM095.