



INTERNATIONAL PACIFIC
HALIBUT COMMISSION

Navigating an IPHC Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting proceedings can be confusing to people who are new to the process or those who only attend occasionally. Some basic facts about the IPHC Annual Meeting are provided below.

Overview of the week's sessions

The meeting week begins with meetings of the two national delegations with their respective commissioners. This provides an opportunity for dialogue by the halibut industry with their commissioners.

The following day starts with a morning session, in which the Commission staff presents the results of the previous year's fishery, reports on current research, results of the most recent stock assessment, and regulatory proposals for the upcoming year. These presentations take most of the morning. The session concludes with the IPHC Executive Director taking questions from the audience.

Following that session, the industry breaks into two advisory bodies to begin their deliberations: the Conference Board (CB), composed of harvesters, and the Processor Advisory Group (PAG), whose members purchase much of the commercial catch. Over the following day and a half, the CB and PAG discuss the proposals for catch limits and other regulatory issues during their respective sessions. While the CB sessions are generally open, the PAG sessions are closed. During this same time, the Commission meets with the IPHC staff and those of other agencies in closed administrative sessions, discussing research plans, the assessment results and status of the resource, and various budget/administration issues.

The CB and PAG deliberations lead up to a joint session of the advisory bodies with the Commission, which typically occurs on Thursday morning. The CB and PAG chairs present their recommendations to the Commission; copies of these reports are available to those in attendance. This session is open to everyone. Following this session, the Commission returns to its administrative discussions for the remainder of the day.

The final session of the meeting occurs on Friday morning. It is during this session that the Commission considers the advisory group and staff recommendations, and makes its decisions on all regulatory matters for the subsequent year. This decision-making session is open to the public but the Commission does not solicit public comment.

Results from the meeting are available shortly after the meeting adjournment on a special recorded announcement available by calling the IPHC office (206-634-1838). A news release is distributed the following week and posted on the IPHC web site (www.iphc.int).

International Pacific Halibut Commission

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2012 IPHC Annual Meeting – Schedule of Sessions

Day	What Time? Room?	Session Name	Who's Meeting?	Who Can Attend?	What's Being Discussed
Monday - Jan. 23	5 pm – Dillingham/Katmai	US Delegation meeting	US commissioners with US attendees	Any U.S. attendees	Issues of interest to the US industry
	6:30 pm – Aspen/Spruce	Canadian Delegation meeting	Canadian commissioners with Canadian attendees	Any Canadian attendees	Issues of interest to the Canadian industry
Tuesday - Jan. 24	7:30 am - Birch	IPHC Executive I	Commission & agencies	Closed to the public	Administrative matters
	8 am-1 pm - Denali	Public Session I	Commission and public	Open	Regs, research, & proposals
	2:30-5 pm - Birch	IPHC Admin I	Commission & agencies	Closed to the public	Administrative matters
	2:30-5 pm – Aleutian	Conference Board I	Fishing industry	Open	Regulatory proposals
	2:30-5 pm - Iliamna	Processor Adv Grp I	Halibut processors	Invitation only	Regulatory proposals
Wednesday - Jan. 25	8:30-5 pm - Birch	IPHC Executive II	Commission & agencies	Closed to the public	Administrative matters
	8:30-5 pm – Aleutian	Conference Board II	Fishing industry	Open	Regulatory proposals
	8:30-5 pm - Iliamna	Processor Adv Grp II	Halibut processors	Invitation only	Regulatory proposals
Thursday - Jan. 26	8:30-9:30 am – Aleutian	IPHC, CB, PAG joint	IPHC, CB, & PAG	Open	CB and PAG recommendations
	9:30-Noon - Birch	IPHC Executive III	Commission & agencies	Closed to the public	Administrative matters
	1:30-5 pm - Birch	IPHC Executive IV	Commission & agencies	Closed to the public	Administrative matters
Friday - Jan. 27	9 am - Denali	IPHC Meeting	The Commission	Open to the public	The Commission will be making its final DECISIONS and ANNOUNCEMENTS on regulations, including catch limits, at this session.

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