



INTERNATIONAL PACIFIC
HALIBUT COMMISSION

Navigating the IPHC Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting proceedings can be confusing to people who are new to the process or those who only attend occasionally. All sessions throughout the week are open to the public, except for a few selected financial and executive sessions of the Commission. In addition, all public sessions are webcast. An outline of the IPHC Annual Meeting sequence is provided below, and a table of the week's open sessions is on the back side of this handout.

Overview of the week's sessions

This year's meeting begins Monday morning, when the Commission's advisory bodies – the Conference Board (CB), composed of harvesters, and the Processor Advisory Group (PAG), whose members purchase much of the commercial catch – meet to discuss the ongoing Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) with the co-chairs of the Management Strategy Advisory Board (MSAB).

The Commission's public sessions begin Monday afternoon, when the Commission staff presents data from the 2015 fishery, the results of the stock assessment, regulatory proposals, and the harvest decision table for the 2016 fishery. The Commission takes comments from the public and discusses the day's information. Following the public session, the national delegations meet to provide an opportunity for dialogue between the halibut industry members and their Commissioners.

Tuesday opens with a public session featuring Commission staff reports on current research and other matters, followed by an opportunity for additional public comment and Commission discussion. After the public session, the Commission begins a series of administrative sessions to receive reports from U.S. and Canadian agencies and discuss research plans. All of these sessions except those dealing with finance are open to the public.

Following the public session on Tuesday and continuing through Wednesday, the CB and PAG meet separately to discuss their recommendations for catch limits and other regulatory proposals. The CB and PAG sessions are open to the public.

Thursday opens with a joint session of the advisory bodies with the Commission, when the CB and PAG provide their recommendations to the Commission. Following comment and discussion, the Commission returns to open administrative sessions to discuss the recommendations, other industry proposals, and other unfinished business.

Friday is the final day, and in a public session the Commission makes its decisions on fishery catch limits and all other regulatory matters. This session typically concludes by late morning.

Note that all open IPHC sessions are also webcast and can be accessed daily through the links found on the IPHC Annual Meeting webpage: <http://www.iphc.int/meetings-and-events/annual-meeting.html>.

Navigating the 2016 IPHC Annual Meeting

A list of all sessions open to the public

Day	Time and room	Name of session	Who is meeting	Who can attend *	What's being discussed
Monday Jan. 25	9:00-10:30 – Sheffield I	CB and PAG meet with MSAB Co-Chairs	CB, PAG, & MSAB	Open	Management Strategy Evaluation
	10:30-noon – Egan	Seabird Bycatch Avoidance Workshop	Open to all interested	Open	Seabird bycatch avoidance methods
	1-5 – Sheffield I	IPHC Public Session I	Commission and public	Open *	Fishery results, stock assessment, harvest decision table, regulatory proposals
	5-7 – Egan	Canadian Delegation meeting	Canadian commissioners with Canadian attendees	Any Canadian attendees	Issues of interest to the Canadian industry
	5-7 – Sheffield I	U.S. Delegation meeting	U.S. commissioners with U.S. attendees	Any U.S. attendees	Issues of interest to the U.S. industry
Tues. Jan. 26	8:30-10:00 – Sheffield I	IPHC Public Session II	Commission and public	Open *	Staff reports, bycatch topics
	10:30-noon – Sheffield II	IPHC Admin Session I	Commission	Open *	NPFMC halibut management framework
	12:30-5 – Sheffield III	CB Session I	Halibut harvesters	Open	Advice to Commission
	12:30-5 – Hickel	PAG Session I	Halibut processors	Open	Advice to Commission
	1:30-5 – Sheffield II	IPHC Admin Session II	Commission	Open *	Areas 2A and 2B agency reports
	7-9:30 – Convention Center	IPHC Reception	Open to all	Open	Halibut!
Wed. Jan. 27	8-noon – Sheffield III	CB Session II	Halibut harvesters	Open	Advice to Commission
	8-noon – Hickel	PAG Session II	Halibut processors	Open	Advice to Commission
	8:30-noon – Sheffield II	IPHC Admin Session III	Commission	Open *	Areas 2C/3/4 agency reports, SRB
	1-5 – Sheffield III	CB Session III	Halibut harvesters	Open	Advice to Commission
	1-5 – Hickel	PAG Session III	Halibut processors	Open	Advice to Commission
	1:30-3:30 – Sheffield II	IPHC Admin Session IV	Commission	Open *	IPHC research program
Thurs. Jan. 28	9-10:30 – Sheffield I	IPHC, CB, PAG Joint Public Session	Commission with CB and PAG	Open *	CB and PAG recommendations, MSAB report
	10:30-noon – Sheffield I	IPHC Admin Session V	Commission	Open *	Harvest decision table, regulatory proposals
	1:30-tbd – Sheffield I	IPHC Admin Session VI	Commission	Open *	Unfinished business
Friday Jan. 29	9-noon – Sheffield I	IPHC Public Session III	Commission and public	Open *	FINAL DECISIONS on catch limits and regulations

* All open sessions with the Commission are webcast. Links to the webcasts can be found on the IPHC Annual Meeting webpage: <http://www.iphc.int/meetings-and-events/annual-meeting.html>.

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