



IPHC Engagement with Agencies and Councils

**Agenda Item 8
IPHC-2016-IM092-12a**

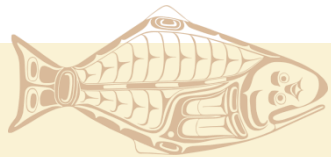
Agencies



- No updates



- Gulf of Alaska pot gear rulemaking
- Electronic monitoring
 - *Area 2A - Proposed implementation for 2017 on fixed gear vessels in Shorebased IFQ Program*
 - *Grant proposal to study DMRs associated with different release techniques → create profiles of injury levels for each release technique & associated DMRs*
- Marine Mammal Protection Act
Letter of Authorization application
for setline survey



Councils



Pacific Fishery Management Council

- Spatial Data Request
 - Providing for June 2017 meeting
 1. *survey data broken out by state boundaries, including Columbia River shared area*
 2. *New spatial-temporal modeling information with caveats that less precise on smaller spatial scales than regulatory area.*
- Electronic Monitoring

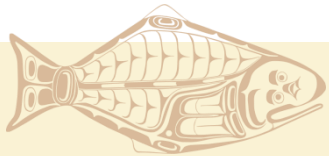


Councils



North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC)

- Electronic Monitoring
- Halibut Management Framework
- Halibut Management Committee
- Bycatch
 - *Deck-sorting exempted fishing permit*
 - *Discard mortality rates*
 - *Abundance-based management*



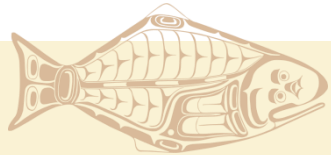
NPFMC - Discard Mortality Rates (DMRs)

- IPHC part of Council's working group initially to address transfer of calculations from IPHC to NMFS Alaska Region in 2015
- Scope widened to revisit methods and address additional aspects of DMRs
 - Capturing operational differences (CVs vs. CPs)
 - Reflecting the observer program sampling design for halibut (improved for 2016 to be consistent with other species sampling)
 - Closing historical inconsistencies
 - e.g., Shoreside deliveries with 10% survival



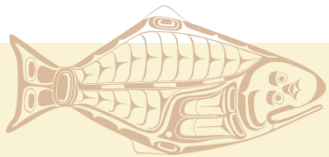
NPFMC - DMRs - Future

- Potential adoption of revised rates by NPFMC in December
- Likely annual revision of the specific methods
 - As revised observer sampling produces more and better data
 - As additional analyses become available
- Note: DMRs for the Council remain predictions for use in management and are not equivalent to estimates derived by the IPHC for describing historical mortality.



NPFMC - Abundance-based Management

- Prohibited Species Catch (PSC) of Pacific halibut mortality is a constraint in Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands groundfish fisheries
- As halibut declines
 - PSC is a larger proportion of the total removals
- As halibut increases
 - PSC constrains other fisheries
- Abundance-based PSC priority for NPFMC
 - Working group formed to develop an index



NPFMC – ABM - Purpose and need

Objectives

- Link PSC limits to a measure of abundance
- Others related to biomass, fisheries, and stability of PSC

Directives

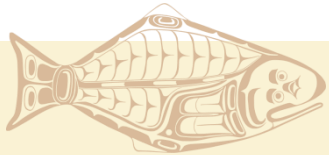
- Develop an index of abundance
- Present potential control rules
 - how PSC limit changes with the index
- Discuss management implications

Identify alternatives to analyze



NPFMC - ABM progress

- A working paper was presented at the October NPFMC meeting
- Working group developed a simple index incorporating
 - Coast-wide status of spawning biomass
 - Local abundance in the Bering Sea
 - Potential incoming recruitment (Bering Sea & Gulf of Alaska)
- Working group also provided examples of control rules



NPFMC - October motion

- Develop performance metrics and tools to evaluate trade-offs between conflicting objectives
- Continue investigation into index and control rules



Future work at IPHC related to ABM

- Potentially, the future MSE models can help evaluate ABM in the BSAI
- The MSAB is focused on the directed fishery
- Current plan is to treat “bycatch” as a scenario in the operating model
 - Not a specific management procedure
- This will integrate over a range of possible bycatch limits to develop a harvest policy robust to various PSC scenarios

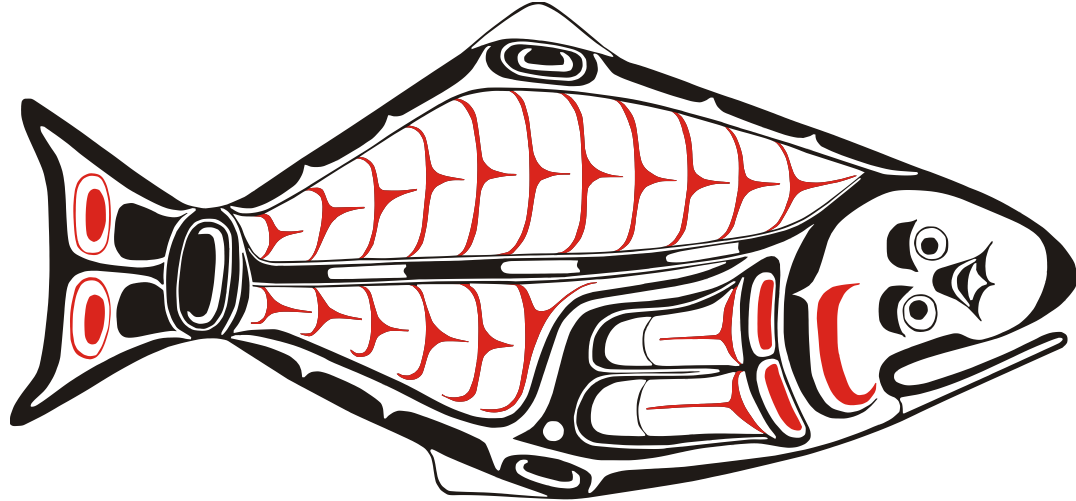


RECOMMENDATION/S

That the Commission:

- 1) **NOTE** paper IPHC-2016-IM092-12a which provided the Commission with an update on IPHC engagement with Agencies and Fishery Management Councils over 2016.
- 2) **REQUEST** any additional engagement by IPHC staff, as deem necessary.





Questions?

