



**Update on actions arising from the 100th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM100),
14th Special Session (SS014), and 2024 intersessional decisions**

PREPARED BY: IPHC SECRETARIAT (D. WILSON; 9 DECEMBER 2024)

PURPOSE

To provide the Commission with an opportunity to consider the progress made during the inter-sessional period in relation to the direct requests for action by the Commission.

BACKGROUND

At the 100th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM100), Contracting Parties agreed on a series of actions to be taken by Commissioners, subsidiary bodies, and the IPHC Secretariat on a range of issues as detailed in [Appendix A](#).

In addition, the Commission held the 14th Special Session (SS014), and made a number of intersessional decisions, as detailed in [Appendix B](#).

DISCUSSION

Noting that best practice governance requires the prompt delivery of core tasks assigned to the IPHC Secretariat by the Commission, at each session of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies, any recommendations for action are carefully constructed so that each contains the following elements:

- 1) a specific action to be undertaken (deliverable);
- 2) clear responsibility for the action to be undertaken (i.e. a specific Contracting Party, the IPHC Secretariat staff, a subsidiary body of the Commission, or the Commission itself);
- 3) a desired time frame for delivery of the action (i.e. by the next session of a subsidiary body, or other date).

This involves numbering and tracking all action items from the Commission, as well as including clear progress updates and document reference numbers.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the Commission **NOTE** paper IPHC-2025-AM101-03, which provided the Commission with an opportunity to consider the progress made during the inter-sessional period, in relation to the direct requests for action by the Commission.

APPENDICES

[Appendix A](#): Update on actions arising from the 100th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM100: January 2024)

[Appendix B](#): Update on actions arising from the 14th Special Session (SS014), and 2024 intersessional decisions of the Commission

APPENDIX A

Update on actions arising from the 100th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM100: January 2024)

100 th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM100)		
Action No.	Description	Update
RECOMMENDATIONS		
Nil	Nil	Nil
REQUESTS		
AM100– Req.01 (para. 8)	Statement on Climate Change The Commission ADOPTED the Statement on Climate change and REQUESTED that the IPHC Secretariat publish the statement on the website. The Secretariat will provide annual updates to the Commission on how the Statement is being implemented.	Lead: IPHC Secretariat (D. Wilson) Status/Plan: Completed Published on the IPHC website 26 January 2024: IPHC-2024-PP-05
AM100– Req.02 (para. 116)	IPHC Financial Regulations (2024) The Commission ADOPTED the International Pacific Halibut Commission Financial Regulations (2024), as provided in IPHC-2024-FAC100-08 , by consensus, and REQUESTED that the IPHC Secretariat finalise and publish them accordingly.	Lead: IPHC Secretariat (D. Wilson) Status/Plan: Completed Published on the IPHC website 23 January 2024: IPHC-2024-FR24
AM100– Req.03 (para. 117)	IPHC Rules of Procedure (2024) The Commission ADOPTED the IPHC Rules of Procedure (2024), as provided in IPHC-2024-FAC100-09 , by consensus, and REQUESTED that the IPHC Secretariat finalise and publish them accordingly.	Lead: IPHC Secretariat (D. Wilson) Status/Plan: Completed Published on the IPHC website 23 January 2024: IPHC-2024-ROP24
AM100– Req.04 (para. 126)	Review of the draft and adoption of the report of the 100th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM100) The Commission REQUESTED that the IPHC Secretariat finalise and publish the IPHC <i>Pacific Halibut Fishery Regulations (2024)</i> as soon as possible, NOTING that only minor editorial and formatting changes are permitted beyond the decisions made by the Commission at the AM100.	Lead: IPHC Secretariat (D. Wilson) Status/Plan: Completed Published on the IPHC website 05 February 2024: IPHC-2024-FISHR24

APPENDIX B

Update on actions arising from 15th Special Session of the Commission and Intersessional Decisions of the Commission

<i>14th Special Session of the Commission (SS014)</i>		
SS014-Req.01 (para. 5)	<p>2025 AND 2026-29 FISS DESIGNS</p> <p>The Commission REQUESTED the Secretariat provide an intersessional decision paper no later than 7 November 2024, containing the following elements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A 2025 FISS design the combines Options 2 and 3 from paper IPHC-2024-SS014-03 (Table 3; 2A(1), 2B(1), 2C(1), 3A(2), 3B(2), 4A/4B(1)); A budget deficit for the FISS in FY2025 of approximately US\$1.2 m, while also seeking to reduce FISS costs; A proposed decision for the Commission on the movement of funds from Fund 50 – Reserve, to Fund 40 – FISS, for FY2025. 	<p>Lead: IPHC Secretariat (D. Wilson)</p> <p>Status/Plan: Completed</p> <p>See IPHC-2024-CR-030 and IPHC-2024-CR031</p>
SS014-Req.02 (para. 6)	<p>The Commission REQUESTED the Secretariat consider other savings in the IPHC budget for consideration by the Commission at FAC101.</p>	<p>Lead: IPHC Secretariat (D. Wilson)</p> <p>Status/Plan: Completed</p> <p>See paper IPHC-2025-FAC101-06 and IPHC-2025-FAC101-07</p>

<i>Intersessional Decisions (ID)</i>																																			
IPHC-2024-ID001	<p>2024 Fishery-Independent Setline Survey</p> <p>The Commission:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> ENDORSED a 2024 FISS design as follows (map provided at Appendix I): <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>IPHC Regulatory Area</th> <th>IPHC Charter Region</th> <th>No. of Stations</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2B</td> <td>St James</td> <td>60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2B</td> <td>Charlotte</td> <td>89</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2C</td> <td>Ketchikan</td> <td>43</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2C</td> <td>Ommaney</td> <td>52</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2C</td> <td>Sitka</td> <td>52</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3A</td> <td>Albatross</td> <td>49</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3A</td> <td>Shelikof</td> <td>64</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3B</td> <td>Trinity</td> <td>56</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4CDE</td> <td>4CDE South</td> <td>60</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Total number of stations for the 2024 FISS</td> <td>525</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	IPHC Regulatory Area	IPHC Charter Region	No. of Stations	2B	St James	60	2B	Charlotte	89	2C	Ketchikan	43	2C	Ommaney	52	2C	Sitka	52	3A	Albatross	49	3A	Shelikof	64	3B	Trinity	56	4CDE	4CDE South	60	Total number of stations for the 2024 FISS		525	<p>Lead: IPHC Secretariat (D. Wilson)</p> <p>Status/Plan: Completed</p> <p>The 2024 FISS was successfully implemented from May-September</p>
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	<p>b) AGREED that no oceanographic monitoring will occur in 2024;</p> <p>c) AGREED that no Setline Survey Specialists (SSS) will be deployed on the NOAA trawl surveys in 2024</p>	
IPHC-2024-ID002	<p>MSAB membership</p> <p>The Commission ENDORSED the appointment of the following new MSAB members for a four (4) year term commencing on the date of this Circular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commercial harvesters: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ USA: Linda Behnken, Michelle Conrad • Recreational/Sport fisheries: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Canada: Michael Fowler 	<p>Lead: IPHC Secretariat (D. Wilson)</p> <p>Status/Plan: Completed</p> <p>The new MSAB members were notified of their appointments, and 1st term commencement.</p> <p>https://www.iphc.int/about/structure-of-the-commission/</p>
IPHC-2024-ID003	<p>MSE Program of Work</p> <p>The Commission RECOMMENDED that:</p> <p>a) the Secretariat work with the MSAB and SRB to explore a potential new coastwide objective that uses spawning biomass and/or fishery catch-rates to indicate the status of the resource, potentially replacing the current B_{36%} objective;</p> <p>b) an ad-hoc working group of the MSAB, to be selected by each Contracting Party, meet in July or August 2024 for this purpose (ref a);</p> <p>c) the MSAB020 be held virtually in October 2024.</p>	<p>Lead: IPHC Secretariat (A. Hicks)</p> <p>Status/Plan: Completed</p> <p>The Secretariat discussed this with the MSAB and SRB at MSAB020 and SRB025. Recommendations are provided in document IPHC-2025-AM101-12 and will be presented at AM101.</p>
IPHC-2024-ID004	<p>The Commission RECOMMENDED that the Secretariat evaluate the following management procedures (MPs) in 2024:</p> <p>a) Multi-year management procedures along with fishing intensity and multiple empirical rules for non-assessment years;</p> <p>b) additional management procedures, such as constraints on the interannual change in the TCEY.</p>	<p>Lead: IPHC Secretariat (A. Hicks)</p> <p>Status/Plan: Completed</p> <p>These MPs have been evaluated with the assistance of the SRB and MSAB. Results are provided in document IPHC-2025-AM101-12 and will be presented at AM101.</p>
IPHC-2024-ID005	<p>The Commission RECOMMENDED that the Secretariat work with the SRB to:</p> <p>a) define exceptional circumstances (events) using information such as FISS observations, biological observations, and new research;</p> <p>b) recommend the actions to take when an exceptional circumstance occurs;</p> <p>c) incorporate these elements into the draft harvest strategy policy.</p>	<p>Lead: IPHC Secretariat (A. Hicks)</p> <p>Status/Plan: Completed</p> <p>Following recommendations from SRB024 and SRB025, exceptional circumstances have been updated and incorporated into the draft harvest strategy policy.</p>

<p>IPHC-2024-ID006</p>	<p>The Commission RECOMMENDED that the Secretariat draft a revised harvest strategy policy document that will be reviewed at the IPHC Work Meeting in September 2024 (WM2024):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> incorporating the outcomes of ID003, ID004 and ID005 for Commission review; clearly identifying the distribution of the TCEY as a component of the decision-making process and not an output of the management procedure. 	<p>Lead: IPHC Secretariat (A. Hicks) Status/Plan: Completed</p> <p>A draft harvest strategy policy was made available for Commission review at WM2024. The draft has been updated following recommendations from the Commission and is available at AM101.</p>
<p>IPHC-2024-ID007</p>	<p>NOTING that the investigation of FISS design scenarios:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> is an additional activity of the MSE work; is independent of the harvest strategy policy development; will extend into 2025; will be useful to inform the Commission on management outcomes if implementing reduced FISS designs in the future. <p>the Commission RECOMMENDED that the Secretariat evaluate FISS design scenarios using the MSE framework, as recommended by the SRB.</p>	<p>Lead: IPHC Secretariat (A. Hicks) Status/Plan: Completed</p> <p>Results of FISS design scenarios provided in document IPHC-2025-AM101-12 and will be presented at AM101.</p>
<p>PHC-2024-ID008</p>	<p>The Commission:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> NOTED paper IPHC-2024-ID008 that provided the budget estimates for FY2025 (1 October 2024 to 30 September 2025) for approval, and for FY2026 and FY2027 for provisional endorsement (1 October 2025 to 30 September 2026, & 1 October 2026 to 30 September 2027, respectively). ADOPTED the FY2025 budget (1 October 2024 to 30 September 2025) as detailed in Appendix II [of IPHC-2024-ID008], including the contributions from the Contracting Parties to the General Fund for FY2025 as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Canada: Contribution to the General Fund: US\$970,606.61 (Canada). U.S.A.: Contribution to the General Fund: US\$4,421,652.32 (subject to appropriations). U.S.A.: Contribution to the headquarters building lease and maintenance costs: US\$458,608.60. NOTED the optional extra-budgetary (IFCP Fund deficit) contributions from each Contracting Party for FY2024 as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Canada: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50% Contribution to the IFCP Fund deficit (former staff pension plan): US\$150,573 U.S.A.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50% Contribution to the IFCP Fund deficit (former staff pension plan): US\$150,573 	<p>Lead: IPHC Secretariat (D. Wilson) Status/Plan: Completed</p> <p>See Circular 2024-019</p>

	<p>4) Provisionally ENDORSED the budgets for FY2026 and FY2027 (1 October 2025 to 30 September 2026, & 1 October 2026 to 30 September 2027, as detailed in Appendix IV and Appendix V [of IPHC-2024-ID008], respectively, that should be used by each Contracting Party for their internal planning and budgeting processes.</p>	
<p>IPHC-2024-ID009</p>	<p>The Commission RECOMMENDED the 2025 FISS design as shown in Figure 1 (of IPHC-Circular 2024-30, Appendix I), involving sampling 517 stations in four (4) biological regions, seven (7) IPHC Regulatory Areas, and ten (10) charter regions.</p>	<p>Lead: IPHC Secretariat (D. Wilson) Status/Plan: In progress Request for Tenders were send out in mid-December 2024 and will be evaluated in early February 2025.</p>
<p>IPHC-2024-ID010</p>	<p>The Commission APPROVED the transfer of US\$1,000,000 from IPHC Fund 50 – Reserve, to IPHC Fund 40 – FISS for use in FY2025.</p>	<p>Lead: IPHC Secretariat (D. Wilson) Status/Plan: In progress The fund transfer will occur prior to the 2025 FISS (~April 2025).</p>