
Agenda Item 4
IPHС-2020-AM096-04
PURPOSE

To provide the Commission with an update on the activities of the IPHC Secretariat in 2019, not already contained within other papers before the Commission.
### Staffing Improvements:
#### Regular Full-Time Positions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FT Arrivals</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Hire Date</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Position Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ms Monica Mocaer</td>
<td>Regular full-time</td>
<td>18 Nov 2019</td>
<td>Active</td>
<td>Setline Survey Specialist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Kamala Carroll</td>
<td>Regular full-time</td>
<td>8 Aug 2019</td>
<td>Active</td>
<td>Fisheries Data Specialist (Field Staff Supervisor)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Kimberly Sawyer</td>
<td>Regular full-time</td>
<td>22 Jul 2019</td>
<td>Active</td>
<td>Fisheries Data Specialist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Kayla Ualesi</td>
<td>Regular full-time</td>
<td>2 Dec 2019</td>
<td>Active</td>
<td>Setline Survey Coordinator</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Staffing Improvements:

**Temporary Full-time Positions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FT Arrivals</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Hire Date</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Position Title</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr Barbara Hutniczak</td>
<td>Temporary full-time</td>
<td>1 Nov 2019</td>
<td>2-yr contract ending 31 October 2021</td>
<td>Fisheries Economist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Andy Jasonowicz</td>
<td>Temporary full-time</td>
<td>26 Aug 2019</td>
<td>1-yr contract ending in Aug 2020</td>
<td>Research Biologist (Genetics)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Piera Carpi</td>
<td>Temporary full-time</td>
<td>1 Apr 2019</td>
<td>2-yr contract ending in March 2021</td>
<td>MSE Researcher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Colin Jones</td>
<td>Temporary full-time</td>
<td>14 Jan 2019</td>
<td>2-yr contract ending in January 2021</td>
<td>Setline Survey Specialist</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**IPHC Internship Program: 2019**

Ms Kennedy Bolstad
14 May – 21 August 2019
University of Victoria, BC, Canada

Genotyping efforts to assist in determining the sex ratio in the commercial fishery:
DNA purification from fin clips.

Reproductive assessment project:
Identification and characterisation of reproductive markers in female Pacific halibut.
The IPHC funds several Merit Scholarships to support university, technical college, and other post-secondary education for students from Canada and the USA who are connected to the Pacific halibut fishery.

The next call for expressions of interest/application will occur in early 2020.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
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<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2022</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ysabel Echeverio (Stevensville, MT, USA)</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaia Dahl (Petersburg, AK, USA)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
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<tr>
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<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
</tr>
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In 2019, the Commission adopted three (3) fishery regulations in accordance with Article III of the Convention, as follows:

1) IPHC Pacific halibut fishery regulations, Section 4. Fishery Limits
2) IPHC Pacific halibut fishery regulations, Section 9. Commercial fishing periods
3) Charter management measures in IPHC Regulatory Areas 2C and 3A
At the 95th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM095), the Commission deferred action on a number of IPHC Secretariat and stakeholder regulatory proposals and tasked the IPHC Secretariat as follows:

**Fishery Limits (Sect. 4)**

Para. 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.

Para 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.
At the 95th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM095), the Commission deferred action on a number of IPHC Secretariat and stakeholder regulatory proposals and tasked the IPHC Secretariat as follows:

**IPHC Fishery Regulations: minor amendments**

Para. 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.

**IPHC Regulatory Area 2A Quota Proposal**

Para. 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).
CONTRACTING PARTY REPORTS

At AM095, the Commission agreed to pursue a modified format for annual Contracting Party reports to the IPHC:

IPHC-2019-AM095-R, para. 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.
INTERACTIONS WITH CONTRACTING PARTIES

CANADA

- Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)
  - Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and the 2018 IPHC FISS
- Halibut Advisory Board (HAB)
  - Supported and participated in HAB meetings
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

- NOAA Fisheries (NMFS)
- North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC)
  - Monitored and supported the NPFMC’s Abundance-Based Management Working Group
- Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC)
  - Collaborated with state and federal agencies to conduct in-season management for IPHC Regulatory Area 2A fisheries
  - Continued discussion with PFMC and state and federal agencies on the transition of IPHC Regulatory Area 2A Pacific halibut fisheries to domestic management
IPHC COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH

IPHC Website

• Significant enhancement of data availability and visualization

Annual Report

• Annual Report 2019 on track for publication at the end of Feb 2020

IPHC Circulars and Media Releases

• Fully electronic information distribution as of 1 Aug 2019
• Media Releases now the primary informal communication for stakeholders
There is a considerable amount of effort put into public outreach, attending conferences and meetings that enhance knowledge, contributing expertise to the broader scientific community through participation on boards and committees, and seeking further education and training.
Committees and external organisation appointments

North America:
1) **Technical Subcommittee (TSC) of the Canada-United States Groundfish Committee** - Dr. Josep Planas & Ms. Lara Erikson

Canada:
1) **Halibut Advisory Board (Canada)** - Dr. David Wilson
2) **Canadian Science Advisory Secretariat Regional Peer Review Meeting for the Widow Rockfish Stock Assessment, 18-19 June 2019, Nanaimo, BC** - Dr. Allan Hicks
IPHC COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH

Committees and external organisation appointments

United States of America:

1) Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Plan Team - Dr. Allan Hicks
2) Bering Sea Fishery Ecosystem Plan Team - Dr. Ian Stewart
3) North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) Abundance-based Management Working Group – Dr. Allan Hicks
4) NPFMC Scientific and Statistical Committee - Dr. Ian Stewart
5) NPFMC Trawl Electronic Monitoring Committee – Ms. Huyen Tran
6) North Pacific Research Board Science Panel - Dr. Josep Planas
7) Observer Science Committee (NOAA-Alaska) – Dr. Ray Webster
8) Interagency electronic reporting system for commercial fishery landings in Alaska (eLandings) Steering Committee – Ms. Lara Erikson and Ms. Huyen Tran
9) Interagency electronic reporting system for commercial fishery landings in Alaska (eLandings) IT Steering Committee – Mr. Afshin Taheri
10) Western Groundfish Conference Committee – Mr. Edward Henry, Mr. Claude Dykstra
Conferences and symposia (chronological order)

1) Science Talk '19, 4-5 April 2019, Portland, OR, USA – Ed Henry
2) 2019 Bevan Symposium, 16-18 April, Seattle, WA, USA – Ms. Lauri Sadorus
3) 2019 Wakefield Symposium, 7-10 May, Anchorage, AK, USA – Dr. Josep Planas
4) AFSC workshop on Integrating ecosystem and socioeconomic information into the groundfish/crab stock assessments Ecosystem and Socioeconomic Profiles, 29-31 May, Seattle, WA – Dr. Ian Stewart
5) 54th European Marine Biology Symposium, 25-29 August, Dublin, Ireland – Dr. Tim Loher
6) 149th AFS Annual Meeting 29 Sept- 3 Oct, Reno, NV, U.S.A – Mr. Edward Henry
7) **2019 PICES Annual Meeting and Pacific halibut Workshop**, 18-24 October, Victoria, B.C., Canada - Dr. David Wilson, Dr. Ian Stewart, Dr. Allan Hicks, Dr. Josep Planas, Dr. Tim Loher, Ms. Lauri Sadorus, Ms. Joan Forsberg, Ms. Anna Simeon, Mr. Andy Jasonowicz, Ms. Dana Rudy, Mr. Claude Dykstra
8) CAPAM Next Generation Stock Assessment Models, 4-8 November 2019, Wellington, NZ – Dr. Allan Hicks, Dr. Piera Carpi
Outreach

1) Booth at the Pacific Northwest Sportsman's Show, 5-10 February, Portland, OR, USA – Stephen Keith, Edward Henry, Lauri Sadorus, Ian Stewart, Caroline Robinson, Lara Erikson, Collin Winkowski

2) Booth at ComFish Alaska, 29-30 March, Kodiak, AK – Dr. Ian Stewart, Ms. Lara Erikson

4) Booths (x2) at the Fisherman's Fall Festival, 21 September, Seattle, WA, USA – David Wilson, Caroline Robinson, Piera Carpi, Jay Walker, Tamara Briggie, Dana Rudy, Huyen Tran, Edward Henry, Kimberly Sawyer, Abby Carrigan, Chris Johnson, Kamala Carroll, Josep Planas, Lara Erikson, Collin Winkowski, Keith Jernigan, Lauri Sadorus

For this event, 15 staff volunteered and prepared and served 1,165 portions of panko crusted Pacific halibut. Pacific halibut donated by:

- Pacific seafood (USA)
- Aero Trading Co Ltd (CAN)

We raised almost **US$5,900** which went directly to the Fishermen’s Memorial Fund.
Academic affiliations

**Affiliate Faculty:**
1) Dr. Allan Hicks - University of Washington School of Aquatic and Fishery Sciences, Seattle, WA, USA
2) Dr. Ian Stewart - University of Washington School of Aquatic and Fishery Sciences, Seattle, WA, USA
3) Dr. Josep Planas - Alaska Pacific University, Anchorage, AK, USA

**Graduate student committee member:**
1) Dr. Allan Hicks - University of Massachusetts School for Marine Science & Technology, Dartmouth, MA, USA
2) Dr. Allan Hicks - University of Washington School of Aquatic & Fishery Sciences, Seattle, WA, USA
3) Dr. Ian Stewart - Alaska Pacific University, Anchorage, AK, USA
4) Dr. Ian Stewart - University of Washington School of Aquatic & Fishery Sciences, Seattle, WA, USA
5) Dr. Josep Planas - Alaska Pacific University, Anchorage, AK, USA
6) Dr. Tim Loher - University of Alaska Fairbanks, Juneau, AK, USA
IPHC PUBLICATIONS IN 2019

Published peer-reviewed journal articles x 4


International Pacific Halibut Commission
In press peer-reviewed journal articles x 1


Published 2020

Submitted peer-review journal articles – In revision x 4


Forrest RE, Stewart IJ, Monnahan CC, Bannar-Martin KH, Lacko LC (In review). Evidence for rapid avoidance of rockfish habitat under reduced quota and comprehensive at-sea monitoring in the British Columbia Pacific Halibut fishery.
In preparation peer-reviewed journal articles x 10 (for 2020)


Loher T (In preparation). Dispersal and seasonal movements of Pacific halibut (*Hippoglossus stenolepis*) in the eastern Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands, as inferred from satellite-transmitting archival tags.

Webster RA, Sadorus LL (In preparation). Environmental conditions on the Pacific halibut (*Hippoglossus stenolepis*) fishing grounds attained from a decade of coastwide oceanographic monitoring, and practical applications of the data in a spatio-temporal assessment model.
In preparation peer-reviewed journal articles x 10 (for 2020)


Loher T, Dykstra C, Stewart IJ, Hicks A, Wolf N, Harris B, Planas JV (In preparation). Survival estimates of discarded Pacific halibut from the directed fishery as assessed by accelerometer satellite tags.
ACTION

That the Commission NOTE paper IPHC-2020-AM096-04 which provides the Commission with a draft update on activities of the IPHC Secretariat in 2019, not detailed in other papers before the Commission.