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INTERNATIONAL PACIFIC HALIBUT COMMISSION

ESTABLISHED BY A CONVENTION BETWEEN CANADA
AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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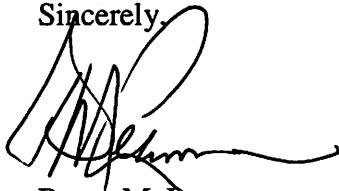
January 25, 2000

Dr. Alex Bychkov, Executive Secretary
North Pacific Marine Science Organization
c/o Institute of Ocean Sciences
PO Box 6000
Sydney BC
Canada V8L 4B2

Dear Alex,

Enclosed is the Memorandum of Understanding between our two commissions, signed by Steven Pennoyer, our 1999 Chair. The Commissioners viewed this as a positive step, although there were some queries about the need for a formal MOU. Skip did a good job of selling its value to them and I anticipate this may be helpful for joint activities in the future.

Sincerely,



Bruce M. Leaman
Executive Director

encl

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN
THE NORTH PACIFIC MARINE SCIENCE ORGANIZATION AND
THE INTERNATIONAL PACIFIC HALIBUT COMMISSION**

Recognizing that the North Pacific Marine Science Organization, (PICES), hereinafter called "the Organization", exists to (a) promote and coordinate marine scientific research in order to advance scientific knowledge of the area concerned and of its living resources, including but not necessarily limited to research with respect to the ocean environment and its interactions with land and atmosphere, its role in and response to global weather and climate change, its flora, fauna, and ecosystems, its uses and resources, and impacts upon it from human activities; and (b) promote the collection and exchange of information and data related to marine scientific research in the area concerned. In order to further enhance its institutional capabilities, the Organization seeks, *inter alia*, to establish and maintain mutually agreed working arrangements with other international organizations that have related objectives.

Recognizing that the International Pacific Halibut Commission, hereinafter called "the Commission", was established by a Convention between Canada and the United States of America to: (a) conduct research on the biology of Pacific halibut, (b) assess the stock structure, abundance, and biomass in the North Pacific Ocean and the Bering Sea, (c) regulate commercial and recreational fisheries for Pacific halibut within 200 mile limits of Canada and the United States, (d) publish or otherwise disseminate the results of this work, and (e) provide scientific information and advice to the Governments for the purpose of developing the stocks of halibut to levels which will permit optimum yield from that fishery, and of maintaining stocks at those levels. In order to carry out these tasks appropriately and efficiently, the Commission seeks, *inter alia*, to establish and maintain mutually agreed working arrangements with other international organizations which have related objectives.

The Organization and the Commission, hereinafter called "the Parties", have therefore agreed to the following:

1. To maintain reciprocal consultations and regular contacts between the Parties on matters of common interest in the field of marine scientific research and related activities;
2. To regularly exchange information, documents, and publications relating to programmes and project plans and to the results of activities agreed to be of mutual interest, joint or otherwise;

3. To invite each other to be represented, in an observer capacity, at meetings of common interest, to the extent that this is possible within their respective working procedures;

4. To undertake joint activities, as appropriate, including when required, the establishment of joint subsidiary bodies or other suitable arrangements, to study and report on matters of common interest, including the support of those activities that concern them both;


5. To consult regularly on ways in which co-operation between them can be further improved and extended. Specific joint programmes and activities may be defined through addenda to this Understanding;

6. The terms of this Understanding may be revised by the Parties if they both agree. The Understanding shall continue on the basis of the existing terms until new terms have been agreed;

7. Either Party may withdraw from the Understanding at any time subject to giving one year's written notice to the other Party;

8. Any agreement, arrangement or joint activity entered into in consequence of this Memorandum of Understanding which involves a financial commitment will be covered by an annex to this Memorandum governing the provision of funds;

9. Recognizing and fully respecting their various mandates, policies and priorities, the Parties agree that this Understanding shall enter into force upon signature and shall remain in force unless either Party withdraws pursuant to Paragraph 7 above.


International Pacific Halibut
Commission (IPHC)

Date: 1/12/00


North Pacific Marine Science Organization
(PICES)

Date: 3/24/00