IPHC Fishery Regulations: minor amendments

PREPARED BY: IPHC SECRETARIAT (13 OCTOBER 2020)

PURPOSE
To improve clarity and consistency in the IPHC Fishery Regulations.

BACKGROUND
This proposal would make minor amendments to the IPHC Regulations. These revisions to the regulations may include:

- Updating and clarifying existing fishery regulations;
- Reordering regulations for clarity and emphasis.

DISCUSSION
Periodically, regulations should be reviewed to ensure they are clear, concise, consistent, and current. These proposed revisions to the IPHC Fishery Regulations are a result of a holistic review. The primary revisions resulting from this review are described below, and will be provided for the 97th Session of the IPHC Annual Meeting (AM097) in detail:

- Updating and clarifying fishery regulations
  1. Section 3, Definitions, (1)(a) would include IPHC Secretariat.
  2. Section 22, Supervision of Unloading and Weighing, would be expanded to include access for sampling or inspecting.
  3. Minor edits would be made throughout for stylistic consistency among Sections.

- Reordering fishery regulations for clarity and emphasis
  1. No reordering is necessary at this time.

Benefits/Drawbacks: The benefit is clearer and more consistent regulations that are easier to use. No known drawback.

Sectors Affected: This proposal affects all sectors of the Pacific halibut fishery.

RECOMMENDATIONS:
That the Commission:

1) **NOTE** regulatory proposal IPHC-2020-AM096-PropA3, which recommends changes to improve the clarity and transparency of the IPHC Fishery Regulations.

2) **ADOPT** the recommended changes to the IPHC Fishery Regulations as provided in
Appendix A.

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION / REFERENCES
None

APPENDICES:

APPENDIX A: Suggest regulatory language
APPENDIX A
SUGGESTED REGULATORY LANGUAGE

1. Section 3, Definitions, (1)(a) would include IPHC Secretariat.

   3. Definitions
      
      (1) In these Regulations,

      (a) “authorized officer” means any State, Federal, or Provincial officer authorized to enforce these Regulations
      including, but not limited to, the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) Secretariat, National Marine
      Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries), Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO), Alaska Wildlife Troopers (AWT),
      United States Coast Guard (USCG), Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), Oregon State Police
      (OSP), and California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW);

2. Section 22, Supervision of Unloading and Weighing, would be expanded to include
   access for sampling or inspecting.

   22. Supervision of Unloading and Weighing
      
      The unloading and weighing of Pacific halibut may be subject to the supervision of authorized officers to assure the
      fulfillment of the provisions of these Regulations and to the IPHC Secretariat for inspection and sampling.

2. Minor edits throughout for stylistic consistency among Sections.