Report of the 23rd Session of the IPHC Processor Advisory Board (PAB023)

Portland, Oregon, United States of America, 23-24 January 2018

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ACRONYMS

FCEY  Fishery Constant Exploitation Yield
IPHC  International Pacific Halibut Commission
PAB  Processor Advisory Board
SPR  Spawning Potential Ratio
TCEY  Total Constant Exploitation Yield

HOW TO INTERPRET TERMINOLOGY CONTAINED IN THIS REPORT

This Report has been written using the following terms and associated definitions so as to remove ambiguity surrounding how particular paragraphs should be interpreted.

Level 1:  **RECOMMENDED; RECOMMENDATION** (formal); **REQUESTED** (informal): A conclusion for an action to be undertaken, by a Contracting Party, a subsidiary (advisory) body of the Commission and/or the IPHC Secretariat.

Level 2:  **AGREED**: Any point of discussion from a meeting which the Commission considers to be an agreed course of action covered by its mandate, which has not already been dealt with under Level 1 above; a general point of agreement among delegations/participants of a meeting which does not need to be elevated in the Commission’s reporting structure.

Level 3:  **NOTED/NOTING; CONSIDERED; URGED; ACKNOWLEDGED**: General terms to be used for consistency. Any point of discussion from a meeting which the Commission considers to be important enough to record in a meeting report for future reference. Any other term may be used to highlight to the reader of an IPHC report, the importance of the relevant paragraph. Other terms may be used but will be considered for explanatory/informational purposes only and shall have no higher rating within the reporting terminology hierarchy than Level 3.
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 23rd Session of the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) Processor Advisory Board (PAB023) was held in Portland, Oregon, U.S.A. from 23-24 January 2018. A total of 20 members attended the Session from the two (2) Contracting Parties.

The following are a subset of the complete recommendations and requests for action from the PAB023, which are provided at Appendix IV.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Fishing periods: season opening and closing dates

PAB023-Rec.01 (para. 10) The PAB RECOMMENDED the following fishing period dates for the 2018 season:

- Opening: 24 March
- Closing: 1 November

Catch limits

PAB023-Rec.02 (para. 14) The PAB RECOMMENDED the following TCEY catch limits for the 2018 fishing period as provided in Table 1, which translate to the mortality estimates by sector (as provided by the IPHC Secretariat) provided in Appendix III and an SPR of 42%.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IPHC Regulatory Area</th>
<th>Catch limit (TCEY) (mlbs)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2A</td>
<td>1.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2B</td>
<td>6.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2C</td>
<td>6.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3A</td>
<td>12.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3B</td>
<td>3.27</td>
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<tr>
<td>4A</td>
<td>1.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4B</td>
<td>1.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4CDE</td>
<td>3.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total (IPHC Convention Area)</td>
<td>35.89</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Minimum size limit review

PAB023-Rec.17 (para. 41) The PAB RECOMMENDED that the Commission not pursue lowering the size limit because of the potentially extreme marketing and therefore, harvesting implications (i.e. high-grading).
1. OPENING OF THE SESSION

1. The 23rd Session of the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) Processor Advisory Board (PAB023) was held in Portland, Oregon, U.S.A. from 23-24 January 2018. A total of 20 members attended the Session from the two (2) Contracting Parties. The list of participants is provided at Appendix I. The meeting was opened by the President and Vice-President of HANA, Mr Blake Tipton, and Mr John Woodruff respectively, who welcomed participants to Portland.

2. In accordance with Appendix VI, Section III of the IPHC Rules of Procedure (2017), the PAB NOTED the requirement to elect a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson of the PAB until the opening of the next PAB meeting in 2019.

3. The PAB CALLED for nominations for the position of Chairperson of the PAB until the opening of the next session in 2019. Mr John Woodruff was nominated, seconded and elected as Chairperson.

4. The PAB CALLED for nominations for the position of Vice-Chairperson of the PAB until the opening of the next session in 2019. Mr Robert Fraumeni was nominated, seconded and elected as Vice-Chairperson.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION

5. The PAB ADOPTED the Agenda as provided at Appendix II. The documents provided to the PAB023 are those submitted for the 94th Session of the Annual Meeting.

3. FISHING PERIODS: SEASON OPENING AND CLOSING DATES

6. The PAB AGREED that an earlier closing date of 1 November is preferable due to the substantial drop in market interest at the end of the season. Deterioration of the weather in most areas, increased problems with quality, and the need for the IPHC Secretariat to collect and process data for the stock assessment in a timely manner, these are all compelling evidence to support an earlier closure date.

7. The PAB AGREED that a Saturday opening was optimal from a market standpoint, so that fresh fish can arrive in the market timely for next week sales.

8. The PAB NOTED regulatory proposal IPHC-2018-AM094-PropA2 which proposed establishing fixed fishing periods for the commercial Pacific halibut fisheries.

9. The PAB AGREED the closing date should be fixed to the specific date of 1 November subject to periodic review, but the opening date should remain flexible and be determined at each session of the IPHC Annual Meeting based on advice from stakeholders and depending on the amount of frozen product in inventory, the timing of the Boston Seafood Show, regional tides, and potential weather concerns.

Recommendation

10. The PAB RECOMMENDED the following fishing period dates for the 2018 season:

   a) Opening: 24 March
   b) Closing: 1 November
   c) IPHC Regulatory Area 2A Directed Commercial: 27 June, 11 July, 25 July, 8 August, 22 August, 5 September, and 19 September

4. CATCH LIMITS


12. The PAB AGREED that the coastwide total for 2018 would be no less than 50% down from the reference level. With this as a template, the PAB NOTED the following:
a) Area 2A: The PAB AGREED the conditions during the survey in IPHC Regulatory Area 2A resulted in less representative survey results and there’s very little movement north out of 2A and thus much less risk to the coastwide resource.

b) Area 2B: PAB NOTED a great deal of discussion and several iterations of proposed TCEYs. In the end, the PAB by a split vote, AGREED to a TCEY that is 50% of the difference between last year’s adopted TCEY and this year’s referenced TCEY. Those who supported the motion CONSIDERED this the best option given all the information. See paragraph 13 below for the minority report.

c) Areas 2C, 3B, 4A, 4B, 4CDE: The PAB NOTED these recommended catch limits are 50% of the difference between last year’s adopted TCEY and this year’s referenced TCEY.

d) Area 3A: The PAB NOTED the recommended TCEY reflects the 2018 reference TCEY.

13. The PAB ACKNOWLEDGED on the catch limit motion passed by PAB, the six Canadian members with a dissenting opinion AGREED with the goal of stepping down the harvest over a two-year period. This would be achieved by establishing the 2018 TCEY at 88% of the adopted coast wide 2017 TCEY of 40.74 million pounds. Since 2006, Canada has never agreed to the apportionment methodology to distribute TCEY and the approved motion presumes inherent apportionment. Therefore, the Canadian PAB members could not vote in favour of this motion. Canada remains committed to the protection of the resource and is willing to take a 12% decrease in Area 2B from the 2017 adopted TCEY which would result in a TCEY for IPHC Regulatory Area 2B of 7.32 million pounds.

Recommendation

14. The PAB RECOMMENDED the following TCEY catch limits for the 2018 fishing period as provided in Table 1, which translate to the mortality estimates by sector (as provided by the IPHC Secretariat) provided in Appendix III and an SPR of 42%.

Table 1. Processor Advisory Board (PAB) recommended TCEY catch limits for 2018 [in favour=10; against=0; abstain=1]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IPHC Regulatory Area</th>
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5. REGULATORY PROPOSALS FOR 2018

5.1 IPHC Secretariat regulatory proposals

5.1.1 IPHC Closed Area (Sect. 10)

15. The PAB NOTED paper IPHC-2018-AM094-PropA1 which considered the intent and purpose of the IPHC Closed Area, as defined in IPHC Fishery Regulations (2017) Section 10, which currently excludes directed Pacific “halibut fishing” (i.e. the longline fleet), with the intent of protecting juveniles from extraction.

16. The PAB RECOMMENDED that the Commission take no action on PropA1. [in favour=14; against=0; abstain=3]
5.1.2 Commercial fishing periods (Sect. 8)
17. The PAB NOTED paper IPHC-2018-IM093-PropA2 which proposed establishing fixed fishing periods for the commercial Pacific halibut fisheries. See Section 3 above.

5.1.3 Removal of exemption for Vessel Monitoring System requirement for IPHC Regulatory Area 4 clearances (Sect. 15)
18. The PAB NOTED paper IPHC-2018-AM094-PropA3 which proposed streamlining regulatory requirements and improve monitoring for IPHC Regulatory Area 4 by requiring vessel monitoring systems (VMS) instead of an IPHC Clearance.
19. The PAB RECOMMENDED that the Commission adopt the IPHC Secretariat Regulatory Proposal A3. [in favour=18; against=0; abstain=0]

5.1.4 IPHC Fishery Regulations: minor amendments
20. The PAB NOTED paper IPHC-2018-AM094-PropA4 which proposed amendments to ensure clarity and consistency in the IPHC Fishery Regulations.
21. The PAB RECOMMENDED that the Commission adopt the Contracting Party Regulatory Proposal B2 regarding regulatory edits to section 17 paragraphs 5 and 6 and regulatory edits to section 17 paragraph 9 in IPHC Secretariat regulatory proposal A4 and all other amendments contained within Proposal A4. [in favour=18; against=0; abstain=0]

5.1.5 Discussion paper: Frozen-at-sea exemption for head-on requirement (Sect. 13)
22. The PAB NOTED paper IPHC-2018-AM094-PropA5 which proposed a discussion on retaining or removing the frozen-at-sea head-on exemption into the future.
23. The PAB RECOMMENDED that the Commission support the IPHC Secretariat and its continuing review. [in favour=18; against=0; abstain=0]

5.2 Contracting Party (by agency) regulatory proposals

5.2.1 Alaska CDQ Leasing in IPHC Regulatory Area 4
24. The PAB NOTED paper IPHC-2018-AM094-PropB1 Rev_1 which proposed IPHC Regulation changes to allow the use of leased Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) by Community Development Quota (CDQ) organizations in IPHC Regulatory Areas 4B, 4C, 4D and 4E.
25. The PAB RECOMMENDED that the Commission adopt Contracting Party regulatory proposal B1. [in favour=14; against=0; abstain=1]

5.2.2 Clarify Alaska Sport Fishery Regulations
26. The PAB NOTED paper IPHC-2018-AM094-PropB2 which proposed a clarification to the IPHC Regulations regarding retention of Pacific halibut caught in the recreational charter fisheries in IPHC Regulatory Areas 2C and 3A.
27. The PAB RECOMMENDED that the Commission adopt Contracting Party regulatory proposal B2. [in favour=18; against=0; abstain=0]

5.2.3 Clarify Head-On Weight Requirement in Alaska Commercial Fisheries
28. The PAB NOTED paper IPHC-2018-AM094-PropB3 which proposed clarifications to the IPHC Regulations regarding the landing of Pacific halibut with the head on.
29. The PAB RECOMMENDED that the Commission adopt the Contracting Party regulatory proposal B2 regarding regulatory edits to section 17 paragraphs 5 and 6 and regulatory edits to section 17 paragraph 9 in IPHC Secretariat proposal A4. [in favour=17; against=0; abstain=0]
5.3 Stakeholder regulatory proposals

5.3.1 Commercial Catch Limits (Sect. 11): Proposals

30. The PAB NOTED paper IPHC-2018-AM094-PropC1 which summarises catch limit proposals received from stakeholders. Entries in the table reflect the individual proposals, and unless otherwise noted, proposals are expressed as TCEY (with values in millions of pounds) for particular IPHC Regulatory Areas or as a total for the whole coast. See Section 4 above.

5.3.2 Other stakeholder regulatory proposals

31. The PAB NOTED papers IPHC-2018-AM094-PropC2-17 which detailed 16 regulatory proposals from various stakeholders, for potential adoption and implementation in the 2018 fishing season, as detailed below:

- IPHC-2018-AM094-PropC2 Preserving catch on private live-aboard vessels (A. Cooper)
- IPHC-2018-AM094-PropC3 For unguided sport fishing (P. Phillips)
- IPHC-2018-AM094-PropC4 Sport Fishing for Halibut - Cleaning Regulations (S. Riehemann)
- IPHC-2018-AM094-PropC5 Elimination of skin-on regulation (J. Shirk)
- IPHC-2018-AM094-PropC6 Live-aboard processing exemption (D. Robertson)
- IPHC-2018-AM094-PropC7 Eliminate the requirement for a CHP (S. Riehemann)
- IPHC-2018-AM094-PropC8 Allow shellfish pots on board (ALFA)
- IPHC-2018-AM094-PropC9 Processing halibut greater than four filets (M. Cowart)
- IPHC-2018-AM094-PropC10 Halibut length measurement method (R. Yamada)
- IPHC-2018-AM094-PropC11 Long term storage aboard pleasure vessels (L. Thompson)
- IPHC-2018-AM094-PropC12 Long term storage on cruising vessels (W. Cornell)
- IPHC-2018-AM094-PropC13 Halibut in Bering Sea pots (J. Kauffman)
- IPHC-2018-AM094-PropC14 Status Quo Harvest Measures for Guided Anglers in Area 3A (R. Yamada)
- IPHC-2018-AM094-PropC15 Trawler Halibut Bycatch Tender boat program (J. Kearns)
- IPHC-2018-AM094-PropC16 Recreational Bag Limit 2C and 3A in times of low abundance (M. Grove)
- IPHC-2018-AM094-PropC17 Recreational sportfishing only allocation (J. Kearns)

32. The PAB RECOMMENDED that the Commission follow IPHC Secretariat suggested actions for Stakeholder regulatory proposal C2, C4, C6, C9, C11, and C12 as documented in IPHC-2018-AM094-23. [in favour=19; against=0; abstain=0]

33. The PAB RECOMMENDED that the Commission refer the proponents to the appropriate contracting party agencies for Stakeholder regulatory proposals C3, C7, C14, C16, and C17. [in favour=19; against=0; abstain=0]

34. The PAB RECOMMENDED that the Commission follow IPHC Secretariat suggested actions for Stakeholder regulatory proposal C8 as documented in IPHC-2018-AM094-23. [in favour=19; against=0; abstain=0]

35. The PAB RECOMMENDED that the Commission follow IPHC Secretariat suggested actions for Stakeholder regulatory proposal C5 as documented in IPHC-2018-AM094-23. [in favour=18; against=0; abstain=1]

36. The PAB RECOMMENDED that the Commission follow IPHC Secretariat suggested actions for Stakeholder regulatory proposal C10 as documented in IPHC-2018-AM094-23 and direct the IPHC Secretariat to provide a clear profile image for inclusion in the 2018 IPHC Pacific Halibut Fishery Regulations. [in favour=16; against=0; abstain=0]

37. The PAB NOTED that the proponent withdrew Stakeholder regulatory proposal C14.
38. The PAB **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission follow IPHC Secretariat suggested actions for Stakeholder regulatory proposal C13 as documented in IPHC-2018-AM094-23. [in favour=17; against=0; abstain=0]

39. The PAB **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission oppose Stakeholder regulatory proposal C15 and not allow any tender boat to take any trawl bycatch. [in favour=18; against=0; abstain=0]

6. **RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COMMISSION**

40. The PAB **NOTED** paper IPHC-2018-AM094-14 which provided a response to the Commission request made during the 2016 Interim Meeting (IPHC 2016): IM092–Req.07 (para. 73) “The Commission REQUESTED that a review of the analysis of the effectiveness of size limits be undertaken by the IPHC Staff throughout 2017, for consideration by the Commission at its annual meeting in 2018.”

41. The PAB **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission not pursue lowering the size limit because of the potentially extreme marketing and therefore, harvesting implications (i.e. high-grading).

7. **OTHER BUSINESS**

42. The PAB **NOTED** the need for greater written information and requests in particular, a written blue book for the 024 meeting of the PAB.

43. The PAB **NOTED** its appreciation for the IPHC Secretariat assistance and for presentations by Chris Woodley, Mark Fina, and Robert Jones as well as input from the IPHC Secretariat and Rachel Baker of NOAA-Fisheries.


44. The report of the 23\(^{\text{rd}}\) Session of the IPHC Processor Advisory Board (IPHC-2018-PAB023-R) was **ADOPTED** on 24 January 2018, including the consolidated set of recommendations and requests arising from PAB023, provided at Appendix IV.
# APPENDIX I

## LIST OF PARTICIPANTS FOR THE 23RD SESSION OF THE IPHC PROCESSOR ADVISORY BOARD (PAB023)

### Officers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chairperson</th>
<th>Vice-Chairperson</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr. John Woodruff (United States of America)</td>
<td>Mr. Robert Fraumeni (Canada)</td>
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<tr>
<td>HANA Executive Director: Ms Peggy Parker</td>
<td><a href="mailto:peggparker616@gmail.com">peggparker616@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### PAB Members

#### Canada

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member</th>
<th>Representative</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>7 Seas Fish</td>
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</tr>
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#### United States of America

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member</th>
<th>Representative</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Icicle Seafoods</td>
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<td>Icicle Seafoods</td>
<td>Will Rogers <a href="mailto:williamr@icicleseafoods.com">williamr@icicleseafoods.com</a></td>
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<td>Jeff Berger <a href="mailto:jeffb@eefoods.com">jeffb@eefoods.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Bellingham Cold Storage</td>
<td>Jose Roques</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Seafoods</td>
<td>John Sevier</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### IPHC Secretariat

Ms Lara Erikson: lara@iphc.int
Mr. Jay Walker
APPENDIX II
AGENDA FOR THE 23RD SESSION OF THE IPHC PROCESSOR ADVISORY BOARD (PAB023)

Date: 23–24 January 2018
Location: Portland, Oregon, U.S.A.
Venue: Grand Ballroom II, Hilton Portland & Executive Tower
Time: 23rd: 13:30-17:00; 24th: 09:00-17:00
Chairperson: John Woodruff (United States of America)
Vice-Chairperson: Robert Fraumeni (Canada)

1. OPENING OF THE SESSION

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION

3. FISHING PERIODS: SEASON OPENING AND CLOSING DATES

4. CATCH LIMITS

5. REGULATORY PROPOSALS FOR 2018
   5.1 IPHC Secretariat regulatory proposals
   5.2 Contracting Party (by agency) regulatory proposals
   5.3 Other Stakeholder regulatory proposals

6. RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COMMISSION

7. OTHER BUSINESS

APPENDIX III

PACIFIC HALIBUT MORTALITY PROJECTED FOR 2018 BASED ON THE PAB RECOMMENDED TCEY CATCH LIMITS

Note: All values reported in millions of net pounds. Provided by the IPHC Secretariat based on the PAB 2018 TCEY recommendations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IPHC Regulatory Area</th>
<th>2A</th>
<th>2B</th>
<th>2C</th>
<th>3A</th>
<th>3B</th>
<th>4A</th>
<th>4B</th>
<th>4CDE</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>O26 Non-FCEY</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial discards</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.12</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>0.18</td>
<td>0.06</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bycatch</td>
<td>0.11</td>
<td>0.23</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>1.01</td>
<td>0.45</td>
<td>0.29</td>
<td>0.20</td>
<td>1.96</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recreational (+ discards)</td>
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<td>NA</td>
<td>1.43</td>
<td>1.86</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subsistence</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>0.41</td>
<td>0.44</td>
<td>0.22</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>1.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Non-FCEY</strong></td>
<td>0.13</td>
<td>0.76</td>
<td>1.89</td>
<td>3.09</td>
<td>0.65</td>
<td>0.37</td>
<td>0.23</td>
<td>2.04</td>
<td>9.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>O26 FCEY</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial discard</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>0.07</td>
<td>0.30</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>0.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational (+ discards)</td>
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<td>0.82</td>
<td>0.82</td>
<td>1.70</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
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<td>3.87</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subsistence</td>
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<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>0.03</td>
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<tr>
<td>Commercial Landings</td>
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<td>4.51</td>
<td>3.58</td>
<td>6.99</td>
<td>2.62</td>
<td>1.38</td>
<td>1.05</td>
<td>1.58</td>
<td>22.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total FCEY</strong></td>
<td>1.34</td>
<td>5.32</td>
<td>4.46</td>
<td>8.98</td>
<td>2.62</td>
<td>1.38</td>
<td>1.05</td>
<td>1.58</td>
<td>26.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TCEY</strong></td>
<td>1.47</td>
<td>6.08</td>
<td>6.35</td>
<td>12.07</td>
<td>3.27</td>
<td>1.75</td>
<td>1.28</td>
<td>3.62</td>
<td>35.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>U26</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial discards</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bycatch</td>
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<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.42</td>
<td>0.44</td>
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<td>0.46</td>
<td>0.12</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.79</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Mortality</strong></td>
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<td>6.11</td>
<td>6.35</td>
<td>12.50</td>
<td>3.73</td>
<td>1.87</td>
<td>1.29</td>
<td>4.41</td>
<td>37.72</td>
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APPENDIX IV
CONSOLIDATED SET OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND REQUESTS OF THE 23RD SESSION OF THE
IPHC PROCESSOR ADVISORY BOARD (PAB023) (23-24 JANUARY 2018)

RECOMMENDATIONS

Fishing periods: season opening and closing dates
PAB023-Rec.01 (para. 10) The PAB RECOMMENDED the following fishing period dates for the 2018 season:
   a) Opening: 24 March
   b) Closing: 1 November

Catch limits
PAB023-Rec.02 (para. 14) The PAB RECOMMENDED the following TCEY catch limits for the 2018 fishing period as provided in Table 1, which translate to the mortality estimates by sector (as provided by the IPHC Secretariat) provided in Appendix III and an SPR of 42%.

Table 1. Processor Advisory Board (PAB) recommended TCEY catch limits for 2018 [in favour=10; against=7; abstain=1]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IPHC Regulatory Area</th>
<th>Catch limit (TCEY) (mlbs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2A</td>
<td>1.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2B</td>
<td>6.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2C</td>
<td>6.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3A</td>
<td>12.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3B</td>
<td>3.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4A</td>
<td>1.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4B</td>
<td>1.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4CDE</td>
<td>3.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total (IPHC Convention Area)</td>
<td>35.89</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IPHC Secretariat regulatory proposals

IPHC Closed Area (Sect. 10)
PAB023-Rec.03 (para. 16) The PAB RECOMMENDED that the Commission take no action on PropA1. [in favour=14; against=0; abstain=3]

Removal of exemption for Vessel Monitoring System requirement for IPHC Regulatory Area 4 clearances (Sect. 15)
PAB023-Rec.04 (para. 19) The PAB RECOMMENDED that the Commission adopt the IPHC Secretariat Regulatory Proposal A3. [in favour=18; against=0; abstain=0]

IPHC Fishery Regulations: minor amendments
PAB023-Rec.05 (para. 21) The PAB RECOMMENDED that the Commission adopt the Contracting Party Regulatory Proposal B2 regarding regulatory edits to section 17 paragraphs 5 and 6 and regulatory edits to section 17 paragraph 9 in IPHC Secretariat regulatory proposal A4 and all other amendments contained within Proposal A4. [in favour=18; against=0; abstain=0]

Discussion paper: Frozen-at-sea exemption for head-on requirement (Sect. 13)
PAB023-Rec.06 (para. 23) The PAB RECOMMENDED that the Commission support the IPHC Secretariat and its continuing review. [in favour=18; against=0; abstain=0]
Contracting Party (by agency) regulatory proposals

Alaska CDQ Leasing in IPHC Regulatory Area 4

PAB023-Rec.07 (para. 25) The PAB RECOMMENDED that the Commission adopt Contracting Party regulatory proposal B1. [in favour=14; against=0; abstain=1]

Clarify Alaska Sport Fishery Regulations

PAB023-Rec.08 (para. 27) The PAB RECOMMENDED that the Commission adopt Contracting Party regulatory proposal B2. [in favour=18; against=0; abstain=0]

Clarify Head-On Weight Requirement in Alaska Commercial Fisheries

PAB023-Rec.08 (para. 29) The PAB RECOMMENDED that the Commission adopt the Contracting Party regulatory proposal B2 regarding regulatory edits to section 17 paragraphs 5 and 6 and regulatory edits to section 17 paragraph 9 in IPHC Secretariat proposal A4. [in favour=17; against=0; abstain=0]

Stakeholder regulatory proposals

PAB023-Rec.10 (para. 32) The PAB RECOMMENDED that the Commission follow IPHC Secretariat suggested actions for Stakeholder regulatory proposal C2, C4, C6, C9, C11, and C12 as documented in IPHC-2018-AM094-23. [in favour=19; against=0; abstain=0]

PAB023-Rec.11 (para. 33) The PAB RECOMMENDED that the Commission refer the proponents to the appropriate contracting party agencies for Stakeholder regulatory proposals C3, C7, C14, C16, and C17. [in favour=19; against=0; abstain=0]

PAB023-Rec.12 (para. 34) The PAB RECOMMENDED that the Commission follow IPHC Secretariat suggested actions for Stakeholder regulatory proposal C8 as documented in IPHC-2018-AM094-23. [in favour=19; against=0; abstain=0]

PAB023-Rec.13 (para. 35) The PAB RECOMMENDED that the Commission follow IPHC Secretariat suggested actions for Stakeholder regulatory proposal C5 as documented in IPHC-2018-AM094-23. [in favour=18; against=0; abstain=1]

PAB023-Rec.14 (para. 36) The PAB RECOMMENDED that the Commission follow IPHC Secretariat suggested actions for Stakeholder regulatory proposal C10 as documented in IPHC-2018-AM094-23 and direct the IPHC Secretariat to provide a clear profile image for inclusion in the 2018 IPHC Pacific Halibut Fishery Regulations. [in favour=16; against=0; abstain=0]

PAB023-Rec.15 (para. 38) The PAB RECOMMENDED that the Commission follow IPHC Secretariat suggested actions for Stakeholder regulatory proposal C13 as documented in IPHC-2018-AM094-23. [in favour=17; against=0; abstain=0]

PAB023-Rec.16 (para. 39) The PAB RECOMMENDED that the Commission oppose Stakeholder regulatory proposal C15 and not allow any tender boat to take any trawl bycatch. [in favour=18; against=0; abstain=0]

Minimum size limit review

PAB023-Rec.17 (para. 41) The PAB RECOMMENDED that the Commission not pursue lowering the size limit because of the potentially extreme marketing and therefore, harvesting implications (i.e. high-grading).

REQUESTS

Nil