

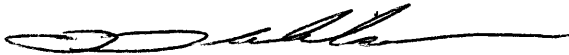


We appreciate the comparison of the mortality rates resulting from the proposed EM-DMR methodology to the observed rates in 2016 (under “Request 1” of the SSC on page 5 of Agenda Item F.11, GMT Report 1, Nov 2017) for in-season bycatch management. The IPHC is working with the Observer Program to better understand the magnitude of these changes.

Lastly, we note the discussion (under “Request 4,” follow-on action, on page 7 of Agenda Item F.11, GMT Report 1, Nov 2017) pertaining to review of less than 100% of the EM imagery. The IPHC Attachment 1 that review rates less than 100% will necessitate an analysis to identify levels of review that ensure 100% compliance as well as the effect of subsampling on the precision and accuracy of time-on-deck estimates.

The IPHC thanks the PFMC, Observer Program, GMT, and GEMPAC/GEMTAC for their ongoing collaboration on Pacific halibut bycatch management efforts.

Sincerely,



David T. Wilson, Ph.D.  
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cc: IPHC Commissioners  
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