

ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL PACIFIC HALIBUT COMMISSION MEETING REPORT

The 2021 Annual Meeting of the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) was held online January 25-29, 2021. The meeting involved reports on recent survey results and current stock status, consideration of the probabilities of risks and benefits involved with specific harvest choices, and discussions focused on harvest policy and methods for distributing coastwide yield to regulatory areas. The IPHC reached agreement for 2021 Pacific halibut catch limits (Agenda Item F.1.a, IPHC Report 1). The Area 2A Total Catch Exploitable Yield (TCEY) is 1.65 million pounds, which provides for an expected Fishery Catch Exploitable Yield (FCEY) of 1.5 million pounds (Agenda Item F.1, Attachment 1). These values reflect the IPHC unanimous approval in 2019 to maintain fixed harvestable levels in Area 2A for four years (2019-2022) absent a substantive conservation concern.

Under this agenda item, Dr. David Wilson, the Director of the IPHC, will provide an overview of the Annual Meeting, stock assessment, and plans for upcoming stock assessment surveys.

Mr. Phil Anderson, the Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council's) representative to the IPHC, attended the Annual Meeting, along with numerous other interested parties from Area 2A. Mr. Anderson provided a brief summary of the discussions and results of the meeting for Council consideration (Agenda Item F.1.b, IPHC Representative Report 1). Ms. Maggie Sommer provided an update for the Council on the IPHC Management Strategy Advisory Board (MSAB) on its work underway, and future work the MSAB may investigate (Agenda Item F.1.b, IPHC Representative Report 2).

Council Action:

Discuss information relative to Area 2A Pacific halibut fisheries.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item F.1, Attachment 1. 2017-2021 Area 2A Pacific Halibut Allocation.
2. Agenda Item F.1.a, IPHC Report 1: Media Release: International Pacific Halibut Commission Completes 97th Annual Meeting.
3. Agenda Item F.1.b, IPHC Representative Report 1: Report on the 2021 International Pacific Halibut Commission Annual Meeting.
4. Agenda Item F.1.b, IPHC Representative Report 2: Update on the Management Strategy Evaluation Process for Pacific Halibut.
5. If received, Public Comments are electronic only ([see e-portal](#)).

Agenda Order:

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| F.1 | Annual International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) Meeting Report | Robin Ehlke |
| a. | IPHC Reports | David Wilson |
| b. | Council IPHC Representative Report | Phil Anderson |
| c. | Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies | |
| d. | Public Comment | |
| e. | Council Action: Consider IPHC Meeting Reports; Provide Guidance as Appropriate | |

PFMC
02/09/21