

Comisión Interamericana del Atún Tropical Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission



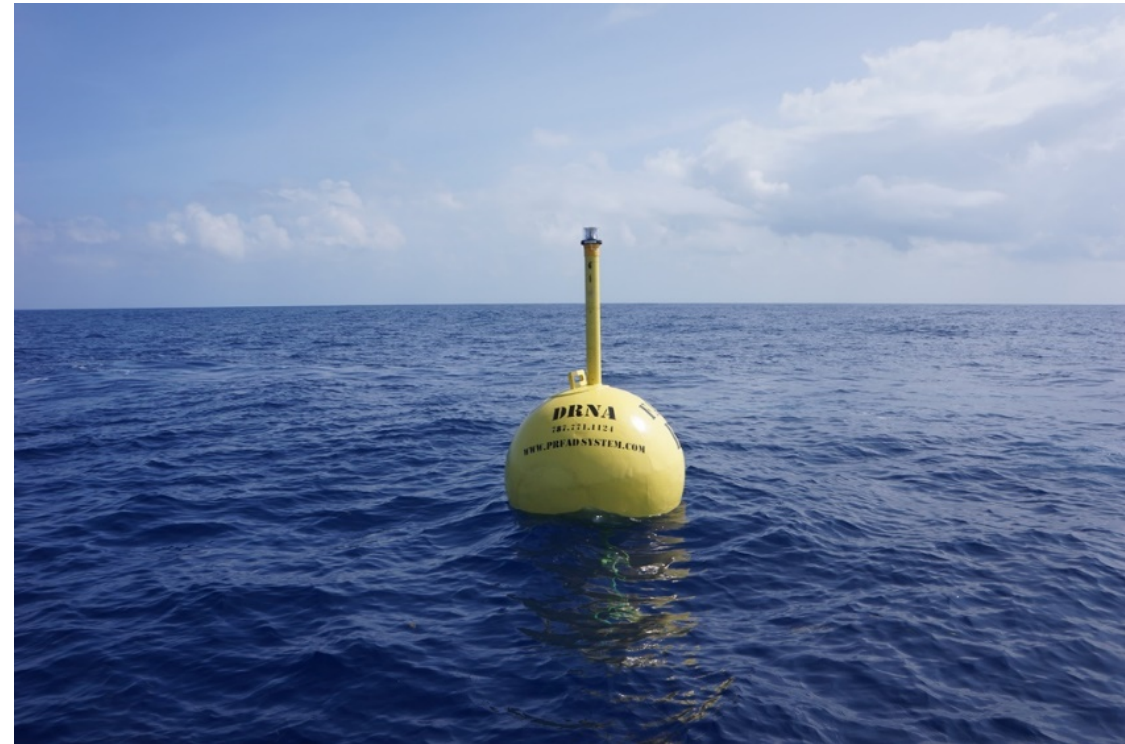
MONITORING AND TRACKING

Tony Beeching

2ª Reunión del Grupo de Trabajo conjunto de las OROP atuneras sobre plantados
2nd Meeting of the Joint Tuna RFMOs Working Group on FADs
San Diego, California USA, 08-10 May 2019

A short introductory presentation covering.....

- The need to monitor and track FADs
- Administration
- Data rules - who owns the data
- Sharing data
- RFMO Progress



Compliance

Enforcement

- e.g. dFAD Closures and FAD limits.
- FAD numbers per vessel



Lost/Abandoned

- A potential for marine pollution and ghost fishing

Beaching events

- Responsibility/Liability
[interception – mitigation]



Economic

Revenue

- Possibility of FAD Day Scheme



Fishery economic consequences

- It has been suggested that high FAD densities may impact CPUE with the possibility that the effect may extend beyond FAD fishing, to free schools.

[This highlights the need for more research based on good FAD data]

Environmental Impacts

- Costs not just economic



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Scientific Data



Understanding FAD Fishing

- Tracking FADs helps analysts and ultimately managers gain a better understanding of FAD fishing dynamics and identify any changes in operational behaviour.
- FAD disposition/density shows fishing activity by season and with oceanographic changes e.g. southern oscillation

Acoustics

- IF FAD acoustic information is made available for analysis, spatial info may be linked with data on fish spp, size and abundance.
[not just target spp.]



Administration

One possible mechanism would be analogous to a Vessel Monitoring System and a Register of Fishing Vessels

- dFAD Registration [this is public information for Fishing Vessels]
- dFAD Tracking may be regional/global but release of tracking/monitoring data would depend upon permissions
- dFAD specific logbooks which characterize FADs when a set is made.



Data ownership and management

IF the previous analogy of the VMS is accepted, then whatever rules apply in that case may apply to dFAD data.

In the WCPO for example in zone VMS data is opaque to the Commission except in those cases where the state in question has authorized release of the data.

Some states have alternative monitoring systems operating in parallel with the Commission VMS – the same may apply re FADs



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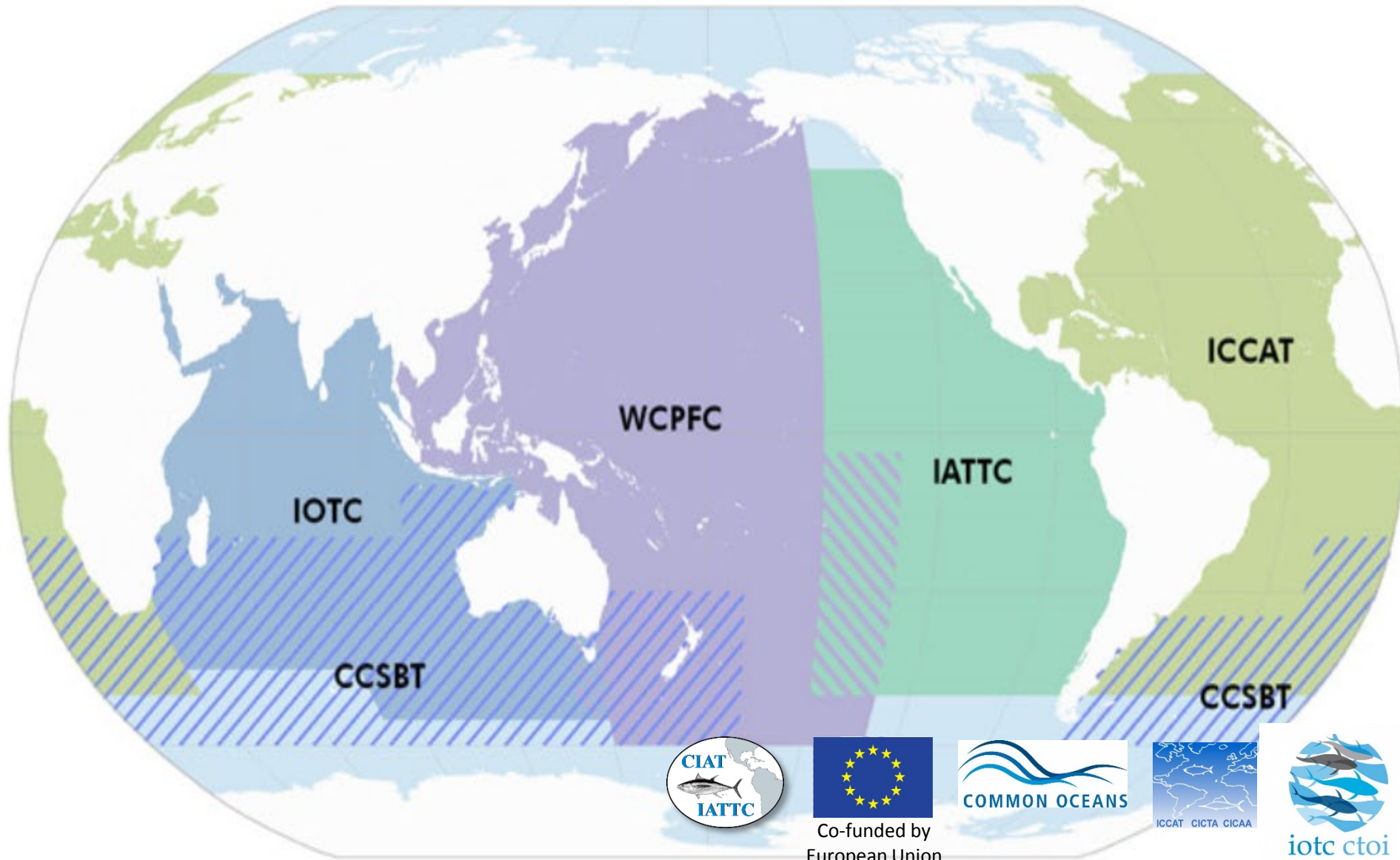


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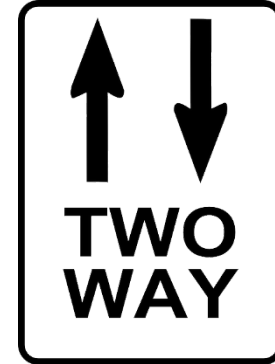
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Five Tuna RFMOs - 4 with major FAD fisheries



Sharing information

Examples of when you might want to share information
[noting that sharing is a two way street]



- When a beaching event is imminent
- When a dFAD moves into another jurisdiction or an area that is closed to FAD fishing
- When a dFAD moves into an area where the construction and design of FADs is legislated
- ‘Lost’ FADs may be ghost fishing
- Larger data sets for scientific analysis



Where are we now

Monitoring and Tracking (Status)	WCPFC	IATTC	IOTC	ICCAT
FAD registration	NO [PNA IN DEVELOPMENT]	NO	NO	NO
FAD Logbook	NO [PNA IN DEVELOPMENT]	YES	YES	YES
All dFADs must have buoys with a clearly marked reference number attached on deployment	YES	YES	YES	NO
All buoys on dFADs must be activated exclusively on board the vessel before deployment	YES	YES	YES	NO
Purse Seiners have 100% observer coverage with specific FAD reporting data fields	YES	YES [1]	NO	NO
Is there agreed ownership of Data	NO	YES [2]	NO	NO
Is there a policy for Data Sharing	NO	NO [3]	NO	NO
Tracking data provided for compliance purposes	NO [PNA YES]	SOME	NO [4]	NO
Tracking data provided for scientific analysis	NO [PNA YES]	SOME	NO [5]	YES [6]
Echosounder data [biomass etc] provided for scientific analysis	NO	NO	NO [5]	YES [6]
FAD data visible to the RFMO	NO [PNA YES]	YES	YES	NO

1. For Cass 6 Vessels
2. With confidentiality rules
3. There are guidelines/regulations for sharing within the RFMO and under confidentiality rules
4. Not at Commission Level but at CPC level in EU
5. Available to some country level scientist [EU]
6. Partial, not mandatory, reported by some fishing authorities



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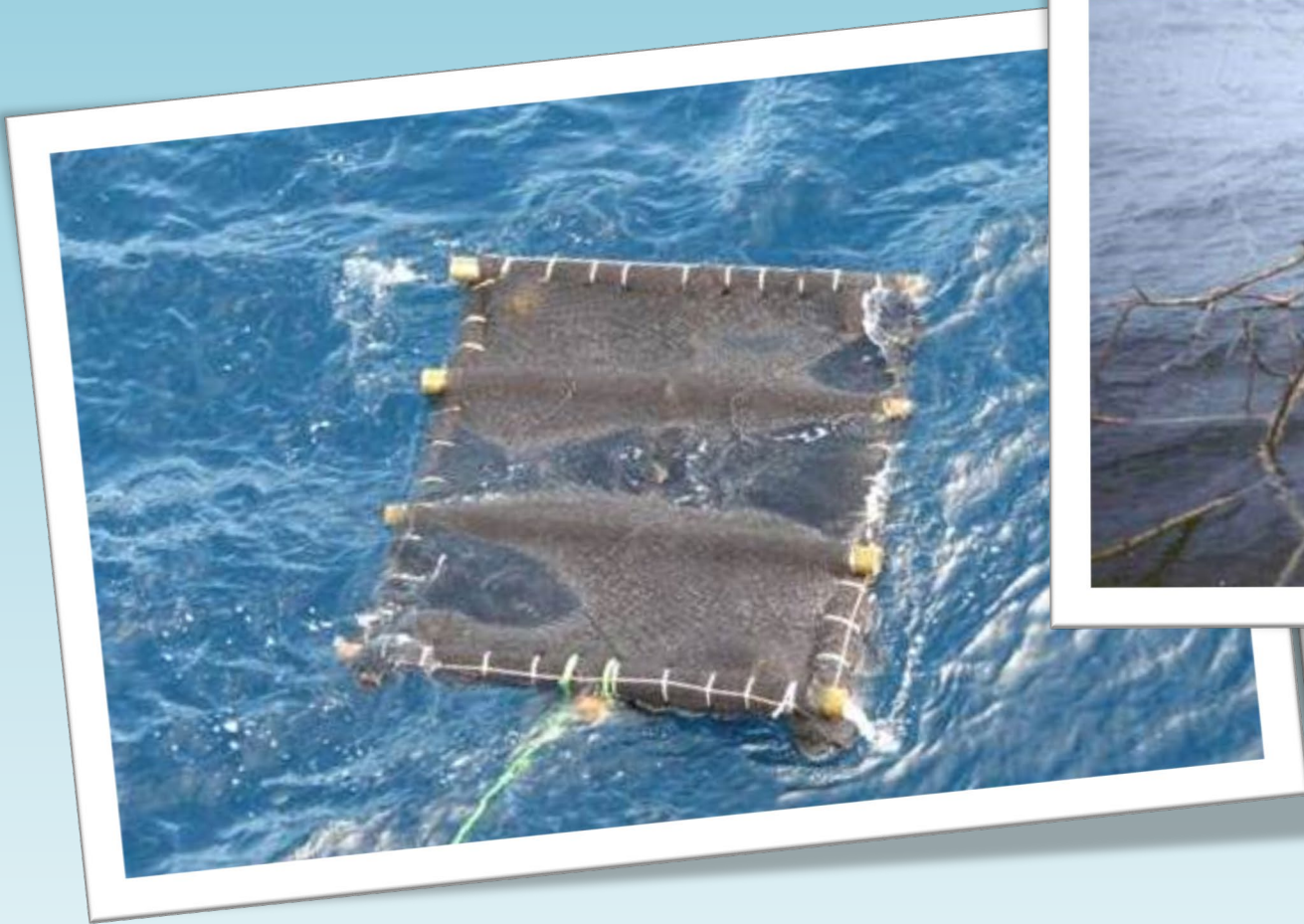


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This session - Presentations

- Escalle L. - Recently available dFAD tracking data in the WCPO: challenges, new research areas and potential useful tool to guide management.
- Kaplan D. - Global analysis of beaching events in French dFAD trajectory data for impacts on sensitive habitats and proximity to ports.
- Baske A. - Options for improving dFAD recovery and accountability to minimize coastal habitat damage and marine litter.





Questions