

REPORTING ON FADs IN ACCORDANCE WITH IATTC RESOLUTION C-17-02 DURING 2018

Document prepared by the chair of the *Ad hoc*
Permanent Working Group on FADs

1. BACKGROUND

During the 92nd meeting of the IATTC in July 2017, a new resolution ([C-17-02](#)) on conservation measures for tropical tunas was adopted that includes new measures for the fishery on fish-aggregating devices (FADs), including limits on the number of active FADs per vessel. Paragraph 11 of the resolution requires CPCs to “*report, or require their vessels to report, daily information on all active FADs to the Secretariat*”, at monthly intervals, “*with a time delay of at least 60 days, but no longer than 90 days*”, and paragraph 12 tasks the IATTC scientific staff and the *Ad Hoc* Permanent Working Group on FADs with developing, “*at the latest by 30 November 2017, guidance on the reporting of FAD data in accordance with Paragraphs 10 and 11 of this Resolution, including the format and specific data to be reported*”.

On November 25, 2017, the chair and several members of the ad hoc Working Group of FADs, together with the scientific staff of the IATTC, presented a document with the guidelines on FAD data reporting. However, there are still several doubts to clarify and they will be analyzed by the Group, the SAC and the Commission during 2018. Meanwhile, **this document aims to provide a basic guide to address the data collection established in resolution C-17-02 on a transitional basis during 2018.**

2. NATURE AND FORMAT OF DATA TO BE PROVIDED TO CPCs ¹

The basic information used to monitor the number of active FADs (as defined in the resolution) will be provided by the buoy provider company directly to the designated verification body of each CPC, on a monthly basis, with a two-month delay; *i.e.* the **data received in APRIL 2018 corresponds to JANUARY 2018.**

Data should be received in csv files named “X-YYYY-MM-ZZZZZZ.csv” where X is the code of the buoy manufacturer (M, S, T, Z, for Marine Instruments, Satlink, Thalos, and Zunibal, respectively), YYYY is the year, MM the month, and ZZZZZZ the purse-seine vessel’s IATTC registry number. Each file should contain the daily records of all the active FADs managed by each individual vessel in month MM of year YYYY. The information included in these csv files should be: date [YYYY/MM/DD], time [hh:mm], buoy identifier code, latitude and longitude [expressed in degrees and minutes in decimal values] and speed [knots].

In order to identify records that do not correspond to active FADs, as defined in the resolution, the data must be filtered to eliminate:

- a. Records outside the EPO (from position data).
- b. Records on land (from position and FAD speed (= 0 knots) data).
- c. Records of FADs aboard the vessel before deployment (from FAD speed data (> 4 knots) and/or VMS information).

¹ The basic information used to monitor the number of active FADs should be provided by the buoy provider company directly to the CPC and/or to the IATTC staff if so requested by the CPC.

3. INFORMATION TO BE REPORTED TO THE SECRETARIAT

In accordance with paragraph 11 of resolution C-17-02, "... CPCs shall report, or require their vessels to report, daily information on all active FADs to the Secretariat, ...".

3.1. Daily information to be reported to the Secretariat [INF 1]

Variable	Description
Date	YYYY/MM/DD
Vessel	IATTC registry number
No. active	Number of active FADs on that date

Below is an example of the daily information to be provided:

Date	Vessel	No. active
2018/04/01	9003421	345
2018/04/02	9003421	342
2018/04/03	9003421	340
...

3.2. Monthly information to be reported to the Secretariat [INF 2 - PRELIMINARY]

The type of information to be included in the monthly summaries for science purposes will be discussed during the meetings of the FAD Working Group and the SAC in May 2018. The following proposal, at this stage, can be considered as preliminary until a new format is agreed.

Variable	Description
Year	Year of activity
Month	Month of activity
CPC	Name of the CPC
Vessels	Number of vessels
Lat	Latitude of the 1-degree square grid [square center]
Lon	Longitude of the 1-degree square grid [square center]
Average no. active FADs	Average number of active FADs belonging to the vessels of the CPC over the month (by summing up the total number of active beacons recorded per day over the entire month and dividing by the total number of days)

Below is an example of the monthly summaries to be provided:

Year	Month	CPC	Vessels	Lat	Lon	Average no. active FADs
2018	1	xxx	6	10.5	-132.5	1.93
2018	1	xxx	6	9.5	-132.5	0.84
2018	1	xxx	6	8.5	-132.5	2.32
...

Appendix 1

Flow chart of the process of reporting of FAD data by CPCs in accordance with Resolution [C-17-02](#)

