

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION
AD-HOC PERMANENT WORKING GROUP ON FADS

7TH MEETING

La Jolla, California (USA)
12-13 May 2022

DOCUMENT FAD-07

CHAIR'S REPORT

The 7th meeting of the *Ad Hoc* Permanent Working Group on FADs of the IATTC was held in La Jolla, California, USA, on 12-13 May 2023.

The agenda of the meeting is attached as Appendix 1.

The list of documents presented and discussed during the meeting is attached as Appendix 2. The documents can be found in on the FADs Working Group 7th meeting website as well as the corresponding presentations.

As a result of the work of the group, several recommendations were agreed and are posted on the FADs Working Group meeting website as document FAD-07-05.

The Group also discussed the mandate it received from the Commission to *“consider, and possibly recommend, clarifications or revisions to Resolution C-19-01 to facilitate the monitoring of mesh size obligations, underwater part design or responsibilities of vessels that have opportunistic interactions with non-compliant FADs.”*

The IATTC staff explained that part of the problem may be attributable to the criteria described in Annex II of the described in Annex II of the resolution, arguably subjective, which indicate that *«the design and deployment of FADs ... are based in the following principles:*

1. *In the floating component ... if covered with netting ... have a stretched mesh spacing of less than 7 cm. mesh stretched of less than 7cm...”*
2. *The design of the underwater component ... should avoid the use of netting... If netting is used... it should be tied as tightly as practicable in the form of a sausage ... of less than 7cm.”*

In addition, the staff indicated that, following discussions with the CPCs, the instructions to observers were updated in mid-2022 to provide information that would more accurately enable the analysis provided.

The Group concluded that this significantly improved the accuracy of the data. For this reason, the Group did not consider that clarifications to the current wording of Annex II of Resolution C-19-01 were necessary. On the other hand, it did consider it necessary for the Commission to revise Annex II to require the design and deployment of non-entangling FADs.

ANNEX 1

<u>ASISTENTES - ATTENDEES</u>	
<u>MIEMBROS - MEMBERS</u>	
<u>BELICE-BELIZE</u>	
VALARIE LANZA* Belize High Seas Fisheries Unit valerie.lanza@bhsfu.gov.bz	DELICE PINKARD Belize High Seas Fisheries Unit delice.pinkard@bhsfu.gov.bz
<u>CANADÁ- CANADA</u>	
JENNIFER SHAW* Fisheries and Oceans Canada jennifer.shaw@dfo-mpo.gc.ca	SARAH HAWKSHAW Fisheries and Oceans Canada sarah.hawkshaw@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
<u>CHINA</u>	
QINQIN LIN* Shanghai Ocean University qqlin@shou.edu.cn	YIQIAN SHI Shanghai Ocean University Shiyiqian_SHOU@163.com
XIAOJIE DAI Shanghai Ocean University xidai@shou.edu.cn	
<u>COLOMBIA</u>	
ANDRES ORTÍZ* Autoridad Nacional de Acuicultura y Pesca andres.ortiz@aunap.gov.co	SANDRA MUÑOZ Ministerio de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural sandra.munoz@minagricultura.gov.co
LEONEL BOHORQUEZ Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores leonel.bohorquez@cancilleria.gov.co	ENRIQUE DE LA VEGA Programa Nacional de Observadores edelavega@pescalimpia.org
JAVIER GARCÍA Ministerio de Comercio, Industria y Turismo jgarciap@mincit.gov.co	
<u>COSTA RICA</u>	
MIGUEL DURÁN* INCOPECA/ Instituto Costarricense de Pesca y Acuicultura mduran@incopesca.go.cr	JOSÉ MIGUEL CARVAJAL INCOPECA/ Instituto Costarricense de Pesca y Acuicultura jcarvajal@incopesca.go.cr
<u>ECUADOR</u>	

<p>ISIDRO ANDRADE* Ministerio de Producción, Comercio Exterior, Inversiones y Pesca jandrade@produccion.gob.ec</p> <p>LUCIANO DELGADO Ministerio de Producción, Comercio Exterior, Inversiones y Pesca ldelgados@produccion.gob.ec</p> <p>HENRY MERO Ministerio de Producción, Comercio Exterior, Inversiones y Pesca hmero@produccion.gob.ec</p> <p>JOSÉ VÉLEZ Ministerio de Producción, Comercio Exterior, Inversiones y Pesca jvelezt@produccion.gob.ec</p> <p>VIVIAN JURADO Instituto Público de Investigación de Acuicultura y Pesca vjurado@institutopesca.gob.ec</p> <p>MANUEL PERALTA Instituto Público de Investigación de Acuicultura y Pesca mperalta@institutopesca.gob.ec</p> <p>LEONARDO CAICEDO Tunacons data.observadores@tunacons.org</p> <p>JOSÉ GARCÍA Tunacons jgarcia@tunacons.org</p>	<p>MONICA MALDONADO Ceipa ceipa@ceipa.com.ec</p> <p>GUILLERMO MORÁN Tunacons gamv6731@gmail.com</p> <p>GUILLERMO MORÁN V. Industry moranbog@oregonstate.edu</p> <p>JUAN C. QUIROZ Tunacons jcquiroz@facilevisual.com</p> <p>PEDRO SANTISTEVAN Tunacons psantistevan@tunacons.org</p> <p>LUIS TORRES Probecuador probecuador@gye.satnet.net</p> <p>RAFAEL TRUJILLO Cámara Nacional de Pesquería rtrujillo@camaradepesqueria.ec</p> <p>MAYI ZAMBRANO Tunacons mzambrano@tunacons.org</p>
EL SALVADOR	
<p>ANA GALDAMÉZ* Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería ana.galdamez@mag.gob.sv</p>	
ESTADOS UNIDOS DE AMÉRICA – UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	
<p><u>RACHAEL WADSWORTH*</u> NOAA/National Marine Fisheries Service rachael.wadsworth@noaa.gov</p> <p><u>MERNA SAAD</u> U.S. Department of State saadmn@state.gov</p> <p><u>CELIA BARROSO</u> NOAA/National Marine Fisheries Service celia.barroso@noaa.gov</p> <p><u>JOSEPH FADER</u> NOAA/National Marine Fisheries Service joseph.fader@noaa.gov</p>	<p><u>ELIZABETH HELLMERS</u> California Department of Fish and Wildlife elizabeth.hellmers@wildlife.ca.gov</p> <p><u>ANDRE BOUSTANY</u> Monterey Bay Aquarium aboustany@mbayaq.org</p> <p><u>STUART CHIKAMI</u> Western Pacific Fisheries, Inc. schikami@westpacfish.com</p> <p>DAVID ITANO Tnc daveitano@gmail.com</p>

<p><u>ANJALI KUMAR</u> NOAA/National Marine Fisheries Service anjali.kumar@noaa.gov</p> <p><u>VALERIE POST</u> NOAA/National Marine Fisheries Service valerie.post@noaa.gov</p> <p><u>AMANDA MUNRO</u> NOAA/National Marine Fisheries Service amanda.munro@noaa.gov</p> <p><u>YONAT SWIMMER</u> NOAA/National Marine Fisheries Service yonat.swimmer@noaa.gov</p>	<p>MATTHEW OWENS Tri Marine mowens@trimarinegroup.com</p> <p>MICHAEL THOMPSON U.S. Commissioner thompsonmike148@gmail.com</p> <p><u>TOM SCHIFF</u> Schiff & Associates tschiffsd@aol.com</p> <p><u>JIM SOUSA</u> GS Fisheries Inc. jim.sousa@marpacifico.net</p>
FRANCIA-FRANCE	
<p>ELODIE SEZNEC* Ministère des Outre-mer elodie.sezniec@outre-mer.gouv.fr</p>	<p>THIBAUT THELLIER French Polynesia Fishery Department thibaut.thellier@administration.gouv.fr</p>
GUATEMALA	
<p>CARLOS MARTÍNEZ* Dipesca carlosmartinez41331@gmail.com</p>	<p>VASCO FRANCO Pesquera Reina de la Paz vascofrancoduran@yahoo.com</p>
JAPÓN - JAPAN	
<p>KEI OKAMOTO Fisheries Research and Education Agency okamoto_kei98@fra.go.jp</p> <p>KANNO MASAHIDE Fisheries Agency of Japan masahide_kanno210@maff.go.jp</p> <p>TAKAAKI HASEGAWA Fisheries Research and Education Agency hasegawa_takaaki53@fra.go.jp</p> <p>SHINJI HIRUMA Fisheries Agency of Japan shinji_hiruma150@maff.go.jp</p>	<p>NAOTO MATSUBARA Fisheries Research and Education Agency matsubara_naoto84@fra.go.jp</p> <p>YUICHI TSUDA Fisheries Research and Education Agency tsuda_yuichi58@fra.go.jp</p> <p>YUJI UOZUMI Japan Tuna Fisheries Co-operative Association uozumi@japantuna.or.jp</p>
MÉXICO – MEXICO	
<p>BERNARDINO MUÑOZ* Comisión Nacional de Acuacultura y Pesca bernardino.munoz@conapesca.gob.mx</p> <p>ISABEL REYES Comisión Nacional de Acuacultura y Pesca isabel.reyes@conapesca.gob.mx</p> <p>MICHEL DREYFUS Fidemar dreyfus@cicese.mx</p> <p>LUIS FLEISCHER Fidemar lfleischer21@hotmail.com</p>	<p>BERTHA SOLER Comisión Nacional de Acuacultura y Pesca berthaa.soler@gmail.com</p> <p>GUILLERMO COMPEÁN gacompean@hotmail.com</p> <p>MARTHA BETANCOURT Fidemar martha.betancourt@uabc.edu.mx</p> <p>GUILLERMO GÓMEZ Gomez-Hall Associates gomezhall@gmail.com</p>

GUSTAVO LÓPEZ Comisión Nacional de Acuicultura y Pesca gustavo.lopez@conapesca.gob.mx	
<u>NICARAGUA</u>	
RENALDY BARNUTY* Inpesca rbarnutti@inpesca.gob.ni ROBERTO CHACÓN Inpesca rchacon@inpesca.gob.ni JULIO GUEVARA Inpesca juliocgp@hotmail.com	ARMANDO SEGURA Cámara de Pesca de Nicaragua segura@ibw.com.ni KAROLA SIRIAS Industry k_27@hotmail.es
<u>PANAMÁ- PANAMA</u>	
YARKELIA VERGARA* Arap yvergara@arap.gob.pa YESURI PINO Arap yesuri.pino@arap.gob.pa MARÍA P. DÍAZ Fipesca mpdiaz@fipesca.com	RAÚL DELGADO Cámara Nacional de Pesca y Acuicultura de Panamá rdelgado@cnpa-pty.org ENRIQUE ESPINOSA Pronaob pronaob@pronaob.org
<u>PERÚ - PERU</u>	
ANA ALEGRE* Instituto del Mar del Perú palegre@imarpe.gob.pe	JOSÉ SALCEDO Instituto del Mar del Perú jsalcedo@imarpe.gob.pe
<u>TAIPEI CHINO – CHINESE TAIPEI</u>	
SHENG-PING WANG* National Taiwan Ocean University wsp@mail.ntou.edu.tw	
<u>UNIÓN EUROPEA – EUROPEAN UNION</u>	
JOSU SANTIAGO* Azti Tecnalia jsantiago@azti.es MARÍA L. RAMOS Instituto Español de Oceanografía mlourdes.ramos@ieo.csic.es MAITANE GRANDE Azti Tecnalia mgrande@azti.es	MIGUEL HERRERA Opagac miguel.herrera@opagac.org JEFFERSON MURUA Azti Tecnalia jmurua@azti.es JON URANGA Azti Tecnalia juranga@azti.es
<u>VENEZUELA</u>	
ALVIN DELGADO* Fundatun fundatunpnov@gmail.com	

ORGANIZACIONES INTERNACIONALES – INTERNACIONAL ORGANIZATIONS	
LAURIANCE ESCALLE SPC laurianee@spc.int	JENNYFER MOUROT SPC jenniferm@spc.int
ORGANIZACIONES NO GUBERNAMENTALES – NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS	
LUIGI BENINCASA Atunec luigibenincasa@gmail.com ORION CRUZ Defenders of Wildlife eddy.escarabay@sustainablefish.org MICHAEL DREXLER The Ocean Conservancy mdrexler@oceanconservancy.org TEDDY ESCARABAY Asoaman eddy.escarabay@sustainablefish.org MEGHAN FLETCHER The Nature Conservancy meghan.fletcher@tnc.org GRANTLY GALLAND The Pew Charitable Trusts ggalland@pewtrusts.org	CRAIG HEBERER The Nature Conservancy craig.heberer@tnc.org GALA MORENO International Seafood Sustainability Foundation gmoreno@iss-foundation.org GEORGE PINTO Asoaman pinto27-69@hotmail.com DANIEL PORTNOF The Ocean Conservancy dportnof@oceanconservancy.org BRIAN POWERS The Ocean Conservancy brpowers2@wisc.edu
OBSERVADORES – OBSERVER	
MARÍA LOSADA Satlink tlr@satlink.es YASMINA DÍAZ Satlink yds@satlink.es	KATHRYN GAVIRA Satlink kgo@satlink.es IRATXE ARRAIBA Satlink iratxe.arraibi@zunibal.com
SECRETARÍA – SECRETARIAT	
JEAN FRANCOIS PULVENIS, Director a.i. jpulvenis@iattc.org MARISOL AGUILAR maguilar@iattc.org ERNESTO ALTAMIRANO ealtamirano@iattc.org RICARDO BELMONTES rbelmontes@iattc.org MANUEL CORREIA manuelcorreia.a@gmail.com BARBARA CULLINGFORD bcullingford@iattc.org ALEXANDRE DA SILVA adasilva@iattc.org MONICA GALVÁN mgalvan@iattc.org	PAULINA LLANO pllano@iattc.org JEFF MORGAN jmorgan@iattc.org ALFONSO MIRANDA amiranda@iattc.org DAN OVANDO dovando@iattc.org CHRISTINE PATNODE cpatnode@iattc.org MARLON ROMAN mroman@iattc.org ROBERT SARAZEN rsarazen@iattc.org SALVADOR SIU ssiu@iattc.org

MELANIE HUTCHINSON mhutchinson@iattc.org CLERIDY LENNERT clennert@iattc.org JON LOPEZ jlopez@iattc.org	ENRIQUE UREÑA eurena@iattc.org KATYANA VERT-PRE vertpre.katyana@gmail.com BRAD WILEY bwiley@iattc.org
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*Head of Delegation-Jefe de Delegación

NOTE: IF YOUR INFORMATION IS INCORRECT, PLEASE LET US KNOW. THANKS.

NOTA: SI SU INFORMACIÓN ES INCORRECTA, POR FAVOR DEJENOS SABER. GRACIAS.

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7TH MEETING
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AGENDA REV

	Documents
1. Opening of the meeting	
2. Adoption of the agenda	
3. Review of recommendations from the 6th meeting of the FAD Working Group	
4. Advances on biodegradable FADs in the EPO <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodegradable FADs: analysis of prototype performance from buoy data • The performance on the JellyFAD in the EPO [Moreno et al.] • Clarification on the monitoring of obligations regarding the size of the mesh used in FADs 	FAD-07-02
5. FAD data reporting established in Resolution C-21-04	
6. FAD fishery indicators <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The fishery on FADs in the EPO • Updated biomass indicators from echosounder buoys • The Poseidon model [Vertpre et al.] 	FAD-07-01 FAD-07-03
7. Initiatives to reduce impacts of FADs fishing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidelines to reduce the impact of FADs on sea turtles. [Moreno et al.] • Predicted origins of drifting Fish Aggregating Devices (dFADs) as a source of plastic marine debris into environmentally sensitive habitats of Hawaii. [Royer et al.] • Preliminary analyses of the regional database of stranded drifting FADs in the Pacific Ocean [Escalle et al.] • A novel FAD tracking device tested in the Pacific Ocean. [Moreno et al.] • Acoustic discrimination of juvenile yellowfin tuna in an offshore cage [Sobradillo et al.] • ISSF Workshop on different approaches to limit the number of FADs in the oceans [Restrepo et al.] 	FAD-07-04
8. Latest scientific information on FADs and developments in other tRFMO	
9. Conclusions and recommendations	
10. Other business	
11. Adjournment	

ANNEX 3

Meeting documents

[FAD-07-01 - Floating object fishery indicators a 2022 report](#)

[FAD-07-02 - Biodegradable FADs project report](#)

[FAD-07-03 - Updated biomass index from echo-sounder buoys](#)

[FAD-07-04 - Guidelines to reduce FAD impacts on sea turtles](#)

[FAD-07-05 - Recommendations of the FADs WG](#)

Informational documents

[INF-A. Analyses of the regional database of stranded \(dFAD\) in the EPO](#)

[INF-B. Origin of FADs arriving in Hawaii](#)

Presentations

[A novel FAD tracking device tested in EPO](#)

[Biodegradable FADs project report](#)

[Biomass indicators from echosounder buoys in EPO 2023](#)

[Database on Stranded drifting fish Aggregating Devices \(dFADs\) in EPO Escalle et al.](#)

[FAD data reporting established in Resolution C-21-04](#)

[FAD Limits](#)

[Floating object fishery indicators - 2022 report](#)

[Guidelines to reduce impact of FADs on Sea turtles-Moreno et al.](#)

[IATTC 7th FAD WG meeting](#)

[IATTC JellyFAD-2023](#)

[POSEIDON](#)

[Predicted origins of drifting FADs](#)

[TS measurements of juvenile YFT - Sobradillo et al](#)

Related documents

[Acoustic discrimination of juvenile yellowfin tuna in an offshore cage](#)

[ISSF-Workshop Different Approaches Limit Number FADs Oceans](#)

[Moreno et al - The Jelly-FAD - New results on it's performance](#)

[Moreno et al - FAD marking system](#)

Background documents

[SAC-14-INF-G Poseidon](#)