



2022 IATTC Position Statement

GLOBAL TUNA ALLIANCE

TOP LEVEL ASKS

Harvest Strategies

Adopt a comprehensive, precautionary harvest strategy for North Pacific Albacore

Better Fish Aggregating Device (FAD) Management

Adopt the measures on biodegradable FADs, FAD marking and non-entangling FADs identified in the GTA's position on better FAD Management.

Port State Measures Agreement (PSMA)

- Members to opt into the PSM measure by designating ports.
- Support the implementation of the assistance mechanism for developing States.

Electronic Monitoring

Adopt minimum standards for an electronic monitoring program in 2022.

Transshipment

- Adopt 100% observer coverage requirement (human and/or electronic) on all vessels engaged in at sea transshipment, by 2024.
- Adopt amendments to existing transshipment regulations to bring in line with best practices.

HARVEST STRATEGIES

What is the issue?

- Harvest strategies (or management procedures) provide a pre-agreed framework to facilitate efficient, science-based decision-making to achieve a long-term vision for the stock and fishery.
- Although the IATTC has been progressing the development of management procedures, it has not yet agreed on complete management objectives for bigeye or North Pacific albacore.

What are we calling for?

- Adopt a comprehensive, precautionary harvest strategy for North Pacific albacore.



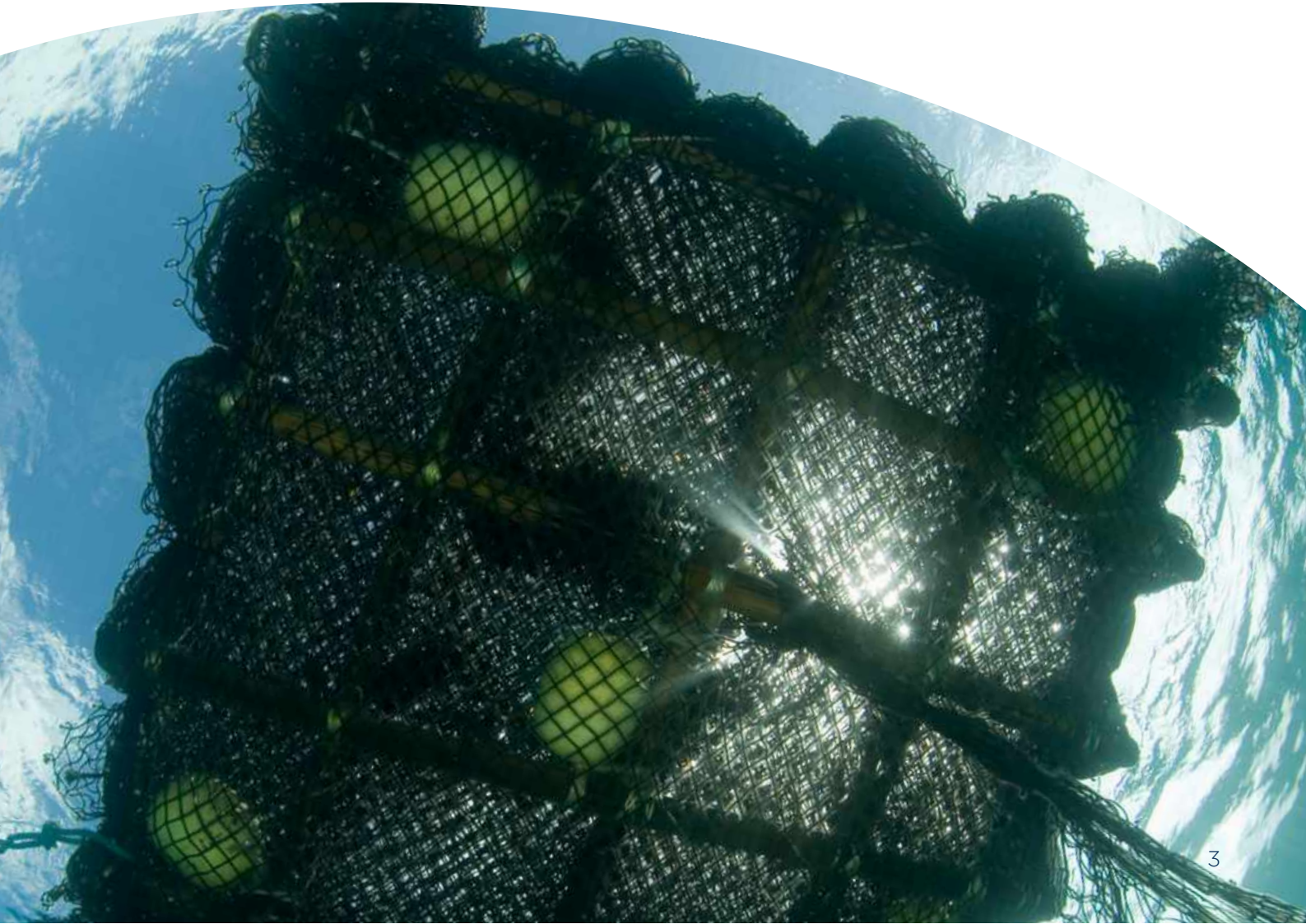
FISH AGGREGATING DEVICE MANAGEMENT

What is the issue?

- There is a concern for the ecological impacts of using FADs. Because FADs attract a variety of fish, often other species and juvenile fish are caught incidentally.

What are we calling for?

- Adopt measure on biodegradable FADs, FAD marking and non-entangling FADs identified in the GTA's position on better FAD Management.



PORT STATE MEASURES AGREEMENT

What is the issue?

- The PSMA, adopted in 2009 by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), requires parties to place tighter controls on foreign-flagged vessels seeking to enter and use their ports to land or transship fish.
- Tuna RFMOs also regulate member nations' port State controls as part of their management measures. This ensures that these governments have minimum standards in place, regardless of whether they are a party to the PSMA.
- The IATTC adopted a Resolution on Port State Measures in 2021, and some CPCs already opt in.

What are we calling for?

- All Members to opt into the PSM measure by designating ports.
- Support the implementation of the assistance mechanism for developing States.



ELECTRONIC MONITORING

What is the issue?

- Comprehensive observer coverage or electronic monitoring is critical to effective fisheries management, compliance monitoring, and independent verification of catch, effort, and species interactions.
- Low levels of monitoring coverage limits the availability of independent catch and operational data, reducing the accuracy of stock assessments and effectiveness of conservation management measures.
- The IATTC currently requires only 5% observer coverage for longline vessels larger than 20 meters operating within the Convention Area.

What are we calling for?

- Adopt minimum standards for an electronic monitoring program in 2022.



TRANSSHIPMENT

What is the issue?

- At-sea transshipment of catch between vessels plays a large and important role in the global commercial fishing industry.
- However, there is not enough independent data, shared appropriately and timely, nor are other regulations up to date, to allow for effective monitoring and compliance. These gaps create risks for labour and human rights abuses, can reduce observer safety, and create opportunities for illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing activities, fraud, and catch laundering.
- Insufficient monitoring can also undermine traceability, the provision of required data collection, and effective implementation of bycatch mitigation measures.

What are we calling for?

- Adopt 100% observer coverage requirement (human and/or electronic) on all vessels engaged in at sea transshipment, by 2024.
- Adopt amendments to existing transshipment regulations to bring in line with best practices.





CONTACT

Albert Arias Arthur
Director of Outreach
albert@globaltunaalliance.com

Dr. Tom Pickerell
Executive Director
tom@globaltunaalliance.com

Brought to you by
Mindfully Wired Communications