



**FFA**

# VESSEL DAY SCHEME (VDS)

---

**VDS Briefing for  
Fishing Parties**



**FFA**

# INTRODUCTION

- Part 1 - Background
- Part 2 - Operational Features
- Part 3 - Trial/Full Implementation
- Part 4 - Concluding Remarks



FFA

# Part 1: Background

## Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA)

- Established 1982

- Membership:

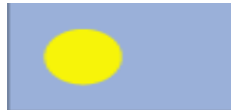
FSM



Marshall Islands



Palau



Solomon Islands



Kiribati



Nauru



PNG



Tuvalu



- Common Interest

Tuna fisheries, in particular the skipjack fishery, in the tropical zone bound between 20°N and 20°S.



**FFA**

# PNA Fisheries Arrangements

1. **Federated States of Micronesia for Regional Fisheries Access Arrangement (**FSM Arrangement**)**
  - Established 1995;
  - Deals with purse seine fishery;
  - To promote greater participation by nationals and the development of national fisheries; and
  - To establish a licensing regime which gives preferential access to Parties' purse seine fishing vessels and fishing operations that provide genuine and quantifiable economic benefits to the Parties.



FFA

# PNA Fisheries Arrangements (cont'd)

2. Palau Arrangement for the Management of the Western Pacific Purse Seine Fishery (**Palau Arrangement**)
  - Established 1995;
  - To regulate the number of purse seine vessels to be licensed by the Parties, including fishing effort; and
  - Licence limit of **205** purse seine vessels - from 1995 to date.





**FFA**

# PNA Fisheries Arrangements (cont'd)

3. **Vessel Day Scheme (VDS) – Management Scheme under the Palau Arrangement**
  - To replace the current license allocation scheme and cap of 205 purse seine vessels;
  - Adopted by PNA Ministers; and
  - Desire by Parties to promote conservation of the tuna stocks and to achieve increased economic benefits.

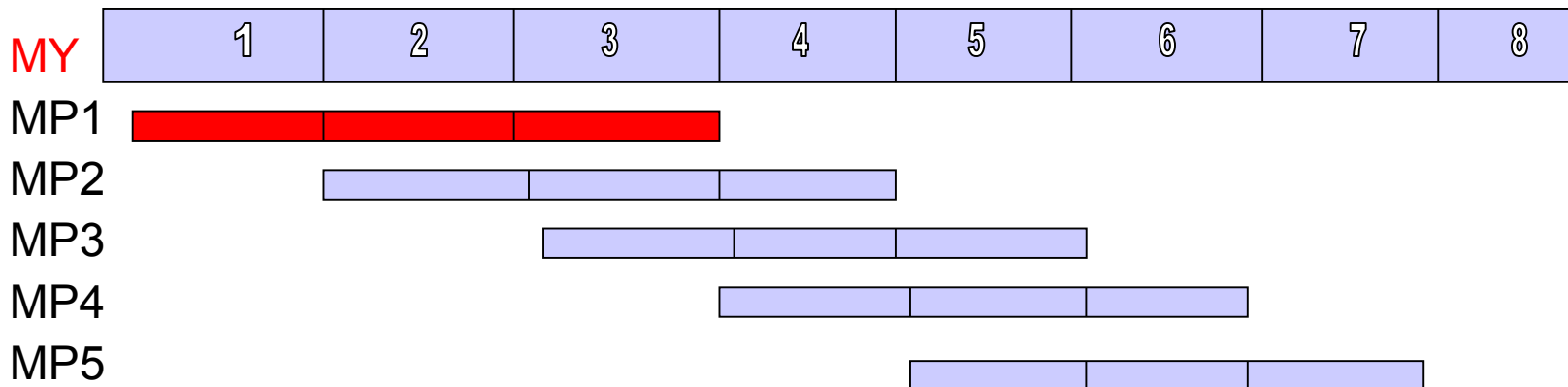


# Part 2: VDS Operational Features

## FFA

### A. MANAGEMENT PERIOD/MANAGEMENT YEARS

- Roll-over Management Period of three Management Years;
- A Management Year to be a calendar year;
- First Management Period to commence on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2008; and
- New Management Period to commence at the end of each Management Year.

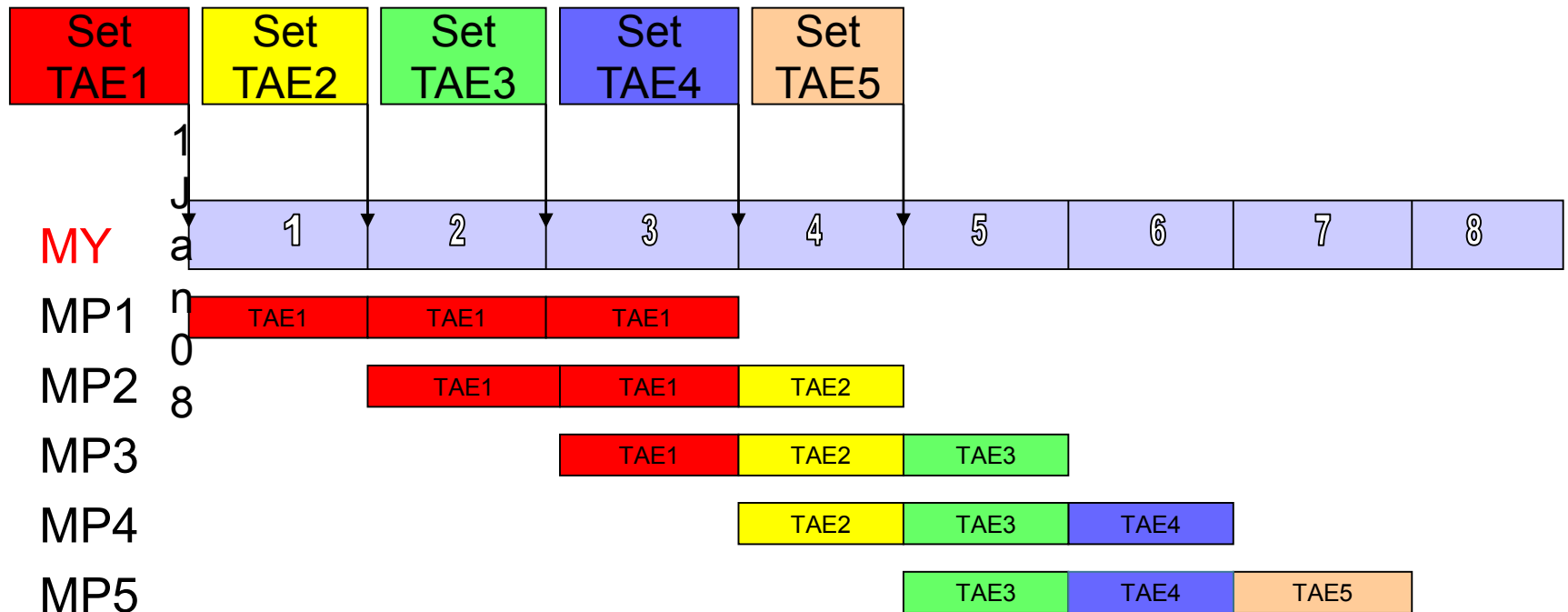




FFA

## B. TAE SETTING

- TAE1 set for each MY1, MY2 & MY3 in MP1; and
- TAE2 for MY4 set before end MY1, etc.







FFA

## B.1 Current TAE (agreed May 2006)

- PNA TAE (2004 level) = 33,856 days
- Adjusted PNA TAE (based on 2004 effort)
  - = 33,856 less UST (3,362 days\*) & FSMA days (2,025 days\*)
  - = 33,856 less 5,387
  - = 28,569 days = 28,469 days

[\* Note – 7 year averages (1998-2004)]

- Adjusted PNA TAE (based on 2004 levels) of **28,469** days is apportioned as PAEs by applying 50/50 weighting between effort (latest 7 year average) and biomass (latest 10 year average) for each Party's zone.



**FFA**

# TAE/PAEs (agreed May 2006)

PNA TAE – 2004 level (all fleets in WCPO)	33,856 days
Less UST(3,362 days) & FSMA(2,025 days) – 7 year averages (98-04)	(5,387) days
Adjusted PNA TAE – 2004 level	28,469 days
<b>Party</b>	<b>PAEs based on 2004 TAE</b>
FSM	6,253
Kiribati	6,194
Marshall Islands	2,727
Nauru	1,452
Papua New Guinea	7,907
Palau	595
Solomon Islands	2,361
Tuvalu	979
<b>Adjusted PNA TAE</b>	<b>28,469 days</b>



**FFA**

### **C. PAE Calculations**

Party	Effort % 7 yr average (99-05)	Biomass % 10 yr average (95-04)	Average% 50/50 weighting	PAEs (days)
FM	24.52	19.41	21.96	6,253
KI	16.44	27.07	21.76	6,194
MH	4.31	14.85	9.58	2,727
NR	7.81	2.39	5.10	1,452
PG	40.17	15.38	27.78	7,907
PW	0.27	3.91	2.09	595
SB	5.34	11.25	8.29	2,361
TV	1.14	5.74	3.44	979
Total	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	<b>28,469</b>



**FFA**

## **D. PAE TRANSFERS**

- Flexibility to adjust PAEs in a Management Year to take into account changing fishing patterns due to the highly migratory nature of the tuna fish stocks;
- Between Management Years within the same Management Period – up to 100% of available PAE; and
- Between Parties – up to 100% of available PAE in any Management Year.



FFA

## Demonstration – PAE Transfers by a Party (Party A)

### D.1 When no transfers between Management Years

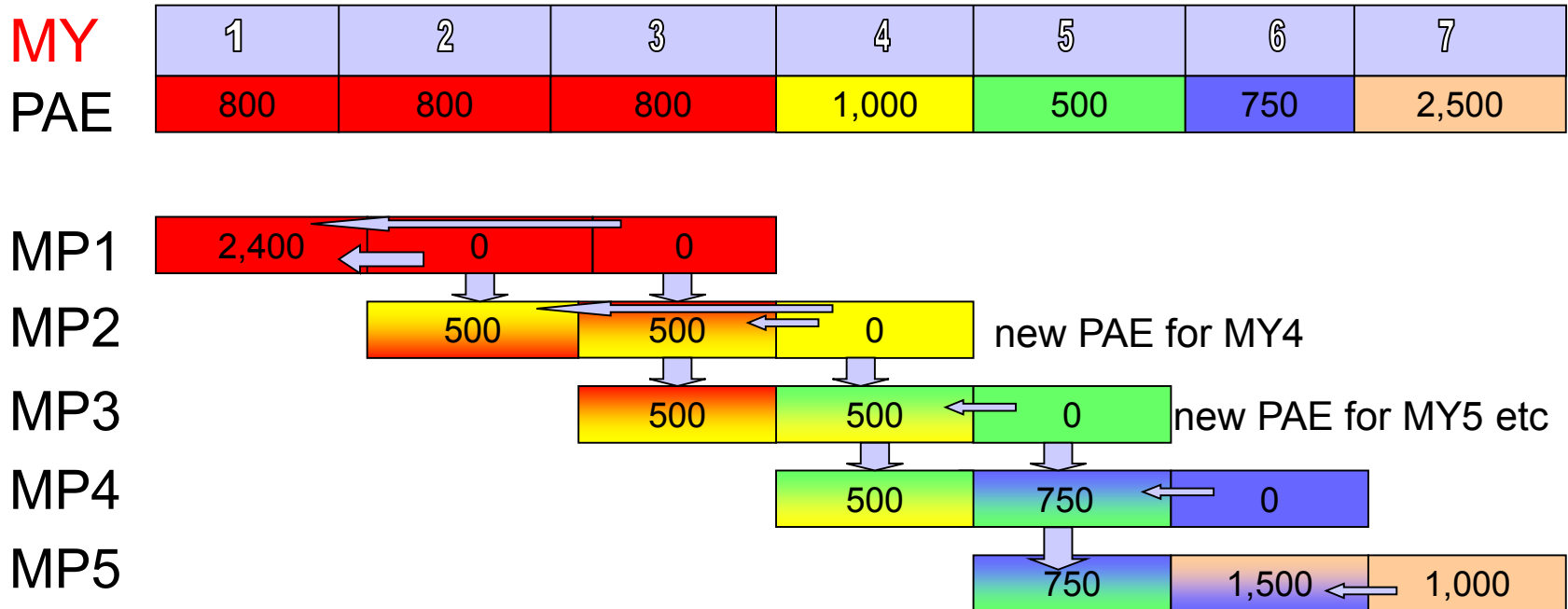
MY	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
MP1	800	800	800				
MP2		800	800	1,000	new PAE for MY4		
MP3			800	1,000	500	new PAE for MY5 etc	
MP4				1,000	500	750	
MP5					500	750	2,500



FFA

## Demonstration – PAE Transfers by Party A (cont'd)

### D.2 When transfers between Management Years







**FFA**

## **E. VDS Register Requirements**

- All purse seine vessels (domestic, locally based and foreign which undertake fishing activities in PNA waters (including EEZs, archipelagic waters, and territorial waters), except the US Treaty vessels;
- Registration period: 1 Sept – 31 August, for 3 years;
- Must be in good standing on the FFA Vessel Register;
- Must complete the VDS Register application form (Schedule 4); and
- Must pay VDS registration fee (US\$2,400 for 3 yrs per vessel):
  - (i) Lump sum of US\$2,400 for 3 yrs or instalments of US\$800 per yr,
  - (ii) Pay before start of Management Year, and
  - (iii) 10% penalty for late payment.



**FFA**

## **F. Monitoring Requirements**

- Must have FFA approved ALC type;
- ALC must operate at all times in the VDS Management Area;
- Location transmission at least every 4 hours; and
- ALC failure reporting and actions to be taken:
  - (i) Administrator to notify vessel of ALC transmission failure within 12 hours after the transmission was due,
  - (ii) Manual reporting by vessel at 4 hourly intervals (using the form in Schedule 6), and
  - (iii) If unable to comply with manual reporting, stow fishing gear and head for nearest designated port or other port as directed by the Administrator.



FFA

## G. VDS Management Area

- Area bounded between 20°N and 20°S and the eastern boundary of the WCPFC Convention Area – for ALC monitoring.
- WCPFC Measure for BE & YF – VDS effort limits (based on 2004 levels) to be applied for PNA waters

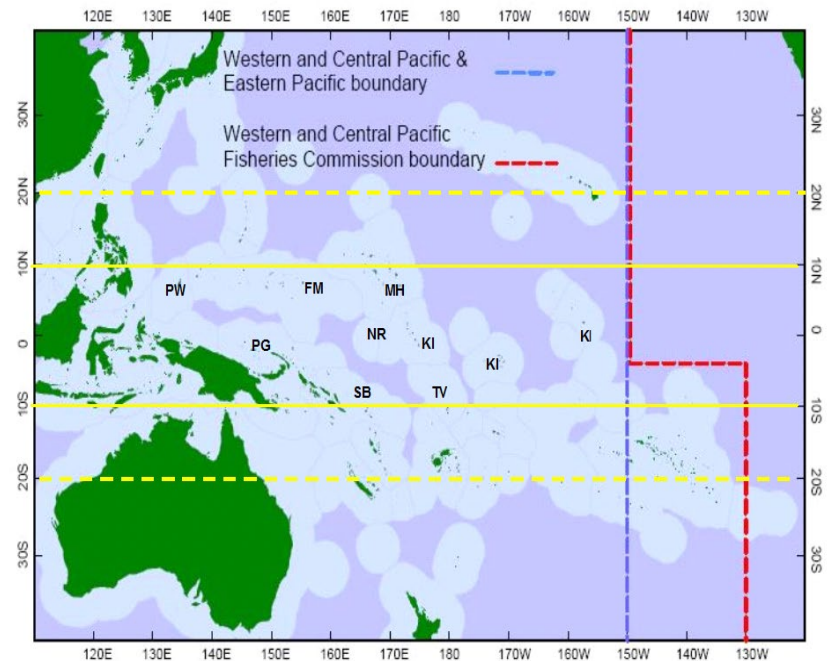


Figure 1. The western and central Pacific Ocean.



**FFA**

# Part 3: Trial/Full Implementation

## Trial Implementation

- **Period:** Start 1<sup>st</sup> December 2006 – 30<sup>th</sup> November 2007 (12 months) – may be extended by agreement of the Parties.
- **Purpose:** to trial the VDS before it becomes effective on 1 December 2007.
- **Required:** Cooperation between the fishing parties and the Parties to the Palau Arrangement.
- **Trial Activities:**
  - (i) Parties to provide list of vessels for VDS Register;
  - (ii) Parties to apply their allocated PAEs to fishing parties/vessels;
  - (iii) Licence conditions for ALC monitoring to apply
  - (iv) Transfers between Parties to be conducted through Administrator;
  - (v) Administrator to report fortnightly on adjusted PAEs for each Party; and
  - (vi) Parties to inform fishing parties/vessels of their adjusted allocations.



**FFA**

## **Full Implementation**

1. Commences on 1 December 2007;
2. Vessels should be on the FFA Vessel Register by then;
3. Vessels should be on the VDS Register by 1 September 2007 to register for 3 years (until 31 August 2010);
4. New PAE allocations for the first Management Period (1 January 2008 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2011) would have been decided in May 2007 annual meeting of Parties;
5. PAE transfers between Management Years and between Parties; and
6. Administrator provides regular reports on fishing days in each Party's EEZ and the adjusted PAE for each Party. Daily updates available upon request by a Party.





**FFA**

# Part 4: Concluding Remarks

## **The Way Forward**

1. Better understanding and appreciation of how the VDS is intended to work;
2. Willingness for all parties, as members of the WCPF Commission, to cooperate with the implementation of the VDS, initially for the trial period commencing on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2006 and subsequently for its full implementation on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2007; and
3. Support for the VDS to operate on a cost recovery basis.





**FFA**

# VESSEL DAY SCHEME

**Thank You**