Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE
TWENTY-FIRST REGULAR SESSION

Nuku'alofa, Tonga
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Proposed Minimum FAD Logbook Data Fields to be Provided by Vessel Operators

WCPFC-SC21-ST/WP-07
22 July 2025

FADMO-IWG Chair

I. PURPOSE

1. This paper presents, for SC21's review and endorsement, the proposed minimum FAD logbook data fields to be recorded by vessel operators. SC21 is invited to assess the scientific adequacy and relevance of the proposed fields to ensure they support WCPFC's scientific analyses and research needs, including stock assessments, bycatch monitoring, and evaluation of FAD impacts. SC21's feedback will assist the FADMO-IWG in finalizing the FAD logbook format for vessel operators, as tasked by WCPFC20 (para. 53c, WCPFC20 Outcomes Document) and requested by SC20 (paras. 77–78, SC20 Summary Report).

II. BACKGROUND

2. At WCPFC12 (2015), the Commission agreed that vessel operators should report data on FAD design and construction (materials, electronics, size, etc.) and FAD activity (deploying, retrieving, setting, visiting, loss, etc.). The Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA) implemented requirements for such reporting in 2022, applied to licensed purse seine vessels. In 2023, SC19 endorsed the scientific value of the proposed *Minimum Data Fields to be Recorded by WCPFC Vessel Operators* (SC20-ST-WP-06) and recommended further development of a standardized FAD logbook through the FADMO-IWG. At SC20, the Secretariat and SSP were tasked to detail the utility of proposed data fields for WCPFC's science, management, and monitoring, which was reported in TCC20-2024-18. TCC20 and the FADMO-IWG have since reviewed and refined the proposed minimum data fields.

3. Additionally, the FADMO-IWG continued to work on the refinement of the FAD logbook as part of its priority task for 2025. Progress on the FADMO-IWG discussions on FAD logbook are detailed in the Chair's Summary Report and its Attachment C (SC21-EB-WP-06).

4. Below is the summary of proposed minimum FAD logbook data fields to be provided by vessels operators. Details of these fields are in SC20-ST-WP-06 and TCC20-2024-18.

Summary Table of Proposed Minimum FAD Logbook Data Fields to be Provided by Vessel Operators

Category	Data Fields
Trip-Level Information	Vessel name, departure date
FAD Activity	Date, time, latitude, longitude; activity code/type
Buoy Information	Attached (Y/N), manufacturer serial number, make/model, type, operator, lifted (Y/N)
General FAD Info	ID or markings, origin of FAD, how FAD was found; type as found /left and end of activity, lifted (Y/N), deployment date & location
Raft Design & Materials	Raft design, main & secondary materials (%), wrapping, buoyancy devices, mesh size, floating structure dimensions, condition
Hanging Structure	Dimensions & length, type, appendages (%), attractors, weights, mesh size, condition
Species of Special Interest (SSI)	Entangled or observed (Y/N), species code, number, estimated weight
General Comments	Any additional comments

III. RECOMMENDATIONS

5. SC21 is invited to:
   a) review and endorse, from a scientific perspective, the proposed minimum FAD logbook data fields to support WCPFC's scientific analyses and research needs, including stock assessments, bycatch monitoring, and evaluation of FAD impacts.

   b) provide further feedback to the FADMO-IWG on the scientific adequacy and relevance of the proposed FAD logbook data fields, to inform finalization of the logbook format for vessel operators, if necessary.

Table 1. Proposed minimum FAD logbook data fields to be recorded by vessel operators

TRIP LEVEL INFORMATION		**OBSV**	**LOG**
Vessel Name	Record the full name of vessel (as per the main logsheet)	X	X
Departure Date	Record the UTC date the vessel departed from port (as per the main logsheet)	X	X
FAD ACTIVITY INFORMATION		**OBSV**	**LOG**
Date of new FAD activity	Record UTC date of each new FAD activity.	X	X
Time of new FAD activity	Record UTC time of each new FAD activity.	X	X
FAD Activity – **Code**	Describes the distinct activity that the boat is involved with the FAD. Refer to Table A1.	X	X
Latitude	Record Latitude where FAD activity occurred.	X	X
Longitude	Record Longitude where FAD activity occurred.	X	X
BUOY INFORMATION			
Buoy attached (Y/N)	Enter Y or N if there is a Buoy attached.		X
Buoy Manufacturers Serial No.	Enter the Buoy Manufacturers Serial No.	X	X
Buoy Make/Model	Enter the Buoy Make/Model.		X
Buoy Type – **Code**	Enter the code for the Buoy type. Refer to Table A2.		X
Buoy Operator	Enter the Buoy operator (if known).		X
Buoy lifted (Y/N)	Enter Y or N if the buoy was lifted out of the water.	X	X
GENERAL FAD INFORMATION			
FAD ID or Markings	Enter any specific FAD ID or Markings.	X	X
Origin of FAD – **Code**	Select the Origin of the FAD (how did it get to be in the water) Refer to Table A3	X	X
How FAD was found - Code	***Indicate how the FAD was found. Refer to Table A4.***		***X***
FAD Type as found – **Code**	Indicate the type of FAD, as found. Refer to Table A5	X	X
FAD Lifted (Y/N)	Enter Y or N if the FAD was lifted out of the water.	X	X
FAD Type as left – **Code**	Indicate the type of FAD, as left. Refer to Table A5	X	X
FAD deployment date	Record date when FAD deployment occurred.	X	X
FAD deployment location	Record Latitude and Longitude when FAD deployment occurred.	X	X
RAFT DESIGN INFORMATION			
Raft Design – **Code**	Indicate the code corresponding to the type of raft design (see Table A6) and referring to relevant images in ANNEX 2.		X
Raft Main (1st) Materials – **Code**	Indicate the code corresponding to the raft main material (top/1st) (see Table A7).	X	X
Raft Main (1st) Materials %[1]	Enter Raft Main Materials (top/1st) percentage (%)		X
Raft Main (2nd) Materials – **Code**	Indicate the code corresponding to the raft main material (2nd) (see Table A7).	X	X

[1] ***All % fields to be specified in 10% bins.***

Raft Main (2nd) Materials %	Enter Raft Main Materials (2nd) percentage (%)		X
Raft Wrapping – **Code**	Indicate the code corresponding to the raft wrapping/covering (see Table A8).		X
Raft Buoyancy Devices – **Code**	Indicate the code corresponding to the raft buoyancy devices (see Table A9).	X	X
Net mesh size	If nets are used in any component of the raft, indicate the mesh size in	X	X
Floating structure Width (m)	Enter the Floating structure Width in metres.	X	X
Floating structure length (m)	Enter the Floating structure Length in metres.	X	X
Condition raft	***Enter the condition of the Raft for Trial FADs*** (see Table A10)		X
HANGING STRUCTURE INFORMATION			
Hanging Structure dimensions	Enter 1–Known, 2–Unknown or 3–Estimated	X	X
Hanging structure length (m)	Enter the Hanging structure Length in metres.	X	X
Hanging Structure – **Code**	Indicate the code corresponding to the type of Hanging Structure (see Table A11) and referring to relevant images in ANNEX 3.		X
Main Appendages (1st) – **Code**	Indicate the code corresponding to the main appendages (top/1st) of the hanging structure see Table A12).	X	X
Main Appendages (1st) %	Enter Main Appendages (top/1st) percentage (%)		X
Main Appendages (2nd) – **Code**	Indicate the code corresponding to the main appendages (2nd) of the hanging structure (see Table A12).	X	X
Main Appendages (2nd) %	Enter Main Appendages (2nd) percentage (%)		X
Net mesh size	If nets are used in any component of the hanging structure, indicate the mesh size in centimetres.	X	X
Attractors – **Code**	Indicate the code corresponding to the Attractors on the hanging structure (see		X
Hanging weights – **Code**	Indicate the code corresponding to the Hanging weights used (see Table A14).		X
Hanging weight (kgs)	Enter the hanging weight in kilograms		X
Condition_Hanging	Enter the condition of the Hanging structure ***for Trial FADs*** (see Table A10)		X
GENERAL COMMENTS			
Comments	Enter any additional comments necessary	X	X
SPECIES OF SPECIAL INTEREST INFORMATION			
SSI Entangled (Y/N)	Enter Y or N if a Species of Special Interest (SSI) is entangled	X	X
SSI Entangled – Species code	Enter three-letter code (selected from FAO Species code list) for each SSI entangled	X	X
SSI Entangled – Weight (kgs)	Enter the estimated WEIGHT in kilograms of each SSI entangled	X	X
SSI Entangled – Number	Enter the NUMBER of each SSI entangled	X	X

ANNEX 1 – FAD Logsheet Reference Code Tables

Note that these codes are found in the GEN-5 form, the PS-2 form or the GEN-2 form.

Table A1. Codes for FAD Activity

Code	Description for FAD Activities
1	Investigating (no other activity listed below)
2	Fishing Set (Retrieving FAD)
3	Fishing Set (FAD left in water after set)
4-a	Deployment – New FAD
4-b	Deployment – Retrieved FAD
4-c	Deployment – A FAD without buoy
5	Retrieving (without being set on)
6	Servicing or modifying raft and/or attachment
7	Detaching Buoy found attached
8	Attaching a Buoy to
9	Retrieving Buoy only
10	Transfer a Buoy to another vessel at sea
11	Transfer a Buoy from another vessel at sea
12	Retrieving a Buoy in port
13	Other Activity (please specify in COMMENTS)

Table A2. Codes for Buoy type

Code	Description for Buoy type
1	GPS Sphere type
2	Satellite with Echo-Sounder
3	Satellite with no Echo-Sounder
4	Other Activity (please specify in COMMENTS)

Table A3 Codes for Origin of FAD

Code	Description for ORIGIN of FAD
1	Deployed by your vessel this trip
2	Deployed by your vessel previous trip
3-a	Deployed by other vessel – another purse seine vessel
3-b	Deployed by other vessel – purse seine SUPPORT vessel
3-c	Deployed by other vessel – LONGLINE vessel
3-d	Deployed by other vessel – CARRIER or BUNKER vessel
3-e	Deployed by other vessel – Other
4	Drifting and found by your vessel
5	Other origin – (please specify in COMMENTS)

Table A4. Codes for How FAD was Found

Code	Description for How FAD was Found
1	Located by Electronic Transmission data
2	Located by sighting from (the vessel/helicopter/drone/radar)

3	Anchored FAD/payao (position recorded)
4	Located using information shared by other fishers
5	Other (please specify in COMMENTS)

Table A5. Codes for FAD as Found/Left

Code	Description for FAD Types
1	Drifting FAD (person-made)
2	Non-FAD (man-made)
3	Tree or logs (natural, free floating)
4	Tree or logs (converted into FAD)
5	Debris (flotsam bunched together)
6	Dead animal(s) (specify, i.e., whale, horse, etc.)
7	Anchored raft FAD or Payao
8	Anchored tree or logs
9	Other Activity (please specify in COMMENTS)
10	Drifting FAD (person-made) changed (FAD as Left Only)

Table A6. Codes for Raft Design (refer to ANNEX 2)

Code	Description of RAFT DESIGN
1	Bamboo with Floats Design 1
2	Bamboo with Floats Design 2
3	Bamboo Design 1
4	Bamboo Design 2
5	Bamboo Design 3
6	Burrito
7	Log
8	Payao
9	Small House
10	No Raft
11	Other (please specify in COMMENTS)

Table A7. Codes for Raft Main Materials

Code	Description for RAFT Main Materials
1	Bamboo
2	Timber/ planks/ pallets/ spools
3	Metal
4	PVC/ plastic
5	Other (please specify in COMMENTS)

Table A8. Codes for Raft Wrapping/Covering

Code	Description for Raft Wrapping/Covering
1-a	Canvas and/or canvas bags and/or cloth – Synthetic fiber
1-b	Canvas and/or canvas bags and/or cloth – Natural fiber
2-a	Netting – Synthetic fiber – ***Mesh Size (cms)***
2-b	Netting – Natural fiber – ***Mesh Size (cms)***

3	Palm fronds
4	No wrapping
5	Other (please specify in COMMENTS)

Table A9. Codes for Raft Buoyancy Devices

Code	Description for Raft Buoyancy Devices
1	Plastic Buoys
2	Plastic Containers
3	Net Corks
4	Metal
5	Wood (e.g. balsa wood)
6	Other natural material (please specify)
7	No floats in addition to raft
8	Other Activity (please specify in COMMENTS)

Table A10. Codes for Condition of raft and hanging structure.

Code	Condition of raft and hanging structure
1	Excellent
2	Very Good
3	Good
4	Regular
5	Bad
6	Very Bad

Table 11. Codes for Hanging Structure Design (refer to ANNEX 3).

Code	Description for Hanging Structure Design
1	Design 1
2	Design 2
3	Design 3
4	Design 4
5	Design 5
6	Design 6
7	Design 7
8	Design 8

Table A12. Codes for Main Appendages of Hanging Structure.

Code	Description for Main Appendages of Hanging Structure
1-a	Open Net – Synthetic fiber
1-b	***Open Net – Natural fiber***
2-b	***Sheets or Panels – Natural fiber***
3-a	Cord/Rope – Synthetic fiber
3-b	Cord/Rope – Natural fiber
4	Palm fronds
5	Bamboo
6	Other wood/ pallets or spools

7	No hanging structure
8	Other (please specify in COMMENTS)

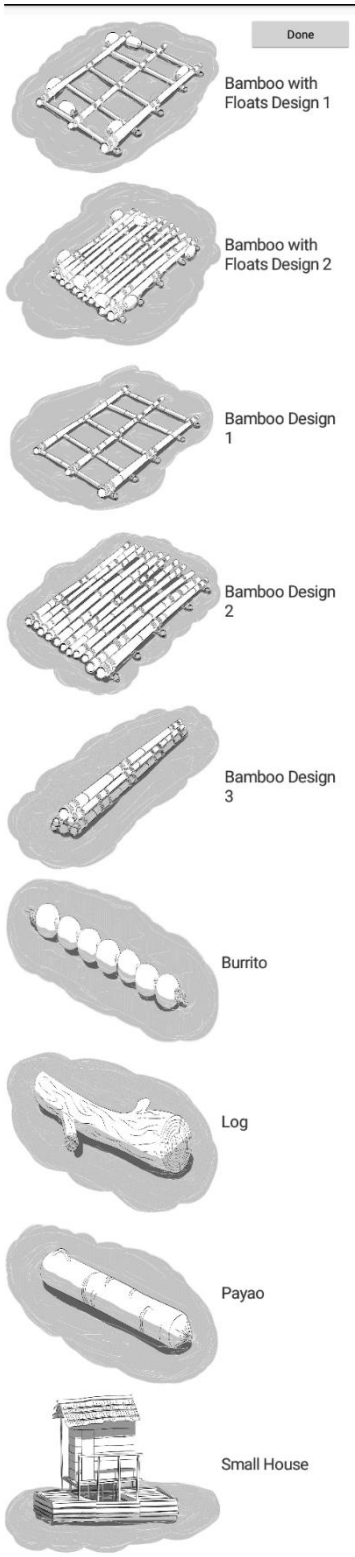
Table A13. Codes for Attractors.

Code	Description for Attractors
1-a	Canvas and/or canvas bags and/or cloth – Synthetic fiber
1-b	Canvas and/or canvas bags and/or cloth – Natural fiber
2-a	Netting – Synthetic fiber
2-b	Netting – Natural fiber
3	Palm fronds
4	No attractors
5	Other (please specify in COMMENTS)

Table A14. Codes for Hanging weights used.

Code	Description for Hanging weights used
1	Rock
2	Sand
3	Synthetic
4	Other (please specify in COMMENTS)

ANNEX 2: RAFT DESIGN



ANNEX 3: ***HANGING STRUCTURE DESIGN***