

Progress of FADMO-IWG Priority Tasks for 2026

SC22 Scientific Committee

Apia, Samoa | 11 –19 August 2026

Presented by: FADMO-IWG Chair

WCPFC-SC22-2026-EB-WP04 (A3.1.5.1 and A6.3.3)

Agenda 3.1.5.1

FAD data reporting (FAD logbook and satellite buoy data transmission)

FADMO- IWG13 Discussion

- Email communication: 24 April – 10 July 2026
- Topics
 - i. Satellite Buoy Data Transmission Requirements
 - ii. FAD Recovery Programs/Strategies
 - iii. FAD logbook
 - iv. Biodegradable FADs
 - v. DFAD Deployment

Purpose and Progress On Satellite Buoy Data Transmission Requirements

- The Commission tasked the FADMO-IWG to streamline satellite buoy reporting, reduce duplication and develop event-based reporting options.
- Satellite buoy data support analysis of dFAD deployment, density, loss, abandonment, stranding and echosounder-derived biomass.
- Broad agreement has been reached on the required data fields.

Emerging approach and outstanding issues

- Increasing support for direct transmission from buoy service providers to SSP, based on completeness, standardization and operational efficiency.
- Existing PNA arrangements should be recognized to avoid duplicate reporting.
- Outstanding issues concern:
 - transmission pathways;
 - access for relevant flag CCMs;
 - confidentiality and data-sharing arrangements; and
 - event-based reporting methods and timeframes, including what can be automated.

Advice sought from SC22

SC22 is invited to advise on:

- the timeliness, completeness and quality of buoy data needed for scientific analysis and monitoring;
- which event-based information is scientifically important and can feasibly be reported automatically; and
- the scientific and practical suitability of the suggested three-day threshold for reporting loss of communication and the proposed 72-hour threshold for identifying potential stranding events.

Status of the WCPFC FAD Logbook

- The Commission endorsed the Annex II FAD logbook data fields as a sound basis for implementation.
- The agreed fields cover:
 - trip and FAD activity information;
 - buoy and general FAD information;
 - raft and hanging-structure design and materials;
 - species-of-special-interest entanglements.
- Further refinement remains possible, particularly for FAD design and material classifications.
- The Commission requested the FADMO-IWG to consider streamlined reporting, validation and alignment with existing systems.

Main implementation issues identified

- **Trip-level versus event-level reporting:**
 - Some buoy-related events may occur outside a fishing trip or be managed ashore, such as buoy transfer, port retrieval or deactivation.
 - Consideration may therefore be needed to allow out-of-trip entries or report these events through a separate mechanism.
- **Simplification of activity codes:** Suggestions include consolidating similar vessel activities, such as:
 - investigating, visiting and servicing a FAD;
 - detaching and retrieving a buoy.
- **Avoiding duplication:** Existing systems, including PNA iFIMS, could be recognized where they provide the required WCPFC data.
- **Implementation stability:** Provide sufficient certainty in the requirements before updating national and multilingual reporting systems.

Advice sought from SC22

SC22 is invited to advise on:

- Scientifically essential FAD activities and event-level information.
- Implications of simplifying the activity codes.
- Appropriate reporting and data-validation arrangements.
- Avoiding duplicate reporting while maintaining complete, consistent and scientifically useful data.

Thank you

- [WCPFC-SC22-2026-EB-WP04](#): *Progress of the FADMO-IWG Priority Tasks for 2026*

