



**TECHNICAL AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE
TWENTY-SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

23-29 September 2026

Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia (Hybrid)

Progress of the FADMO-IWG Priority Tasks for 2026 And SC22 Outcomes

WCPFC-TCC22-2026-27

25 August 2026

Submitted by the FADMO-IWG Chair

Purpose

1. The FAD Management Options Intersessional Working Group (FADMO-IWG) paper **“Progress of the FADMO-IWG Priority Tasks for 2026”**¹ (Annex 1), which was submitted to the Twenty-Second Regular Session of the Scientific Committee (SC22). The paper provides an update on the FADMO-IWG’s priority work relating to satellite buoy data transmission requirements, FAD recovery programs/strategies, the FAD logbook, biodegradable FADs, and dFAD deployment.
2. The FADMO-IWG workplan provides for the IWG to report progress to SC22 and TCC22 and, taking into account advice from these bodies, to develop recommendations on its priority tasks for consideration by WCPFC23.
3. This paper summarizes the relevant outcomes of SC22 and identifies matters on which advice from TCC22 may assist the FADMO-IWG in progressing its remaining work in 2026.

Relevant SC22 Outcomes

4. SC22 considered the FADMO-IWG update under Agenda Item 6.3.3 and adopted the following outcomes:
 - SC22 noted the update from the FADMO-IWG and supported the proposed workplan.
 - SC22 noted that further analysis of the effectiveness of the current limit of 350 active dFAD buoys per purse seine vessel is a low priority and supported revisiting the issue once updated SPC analysis of dFAD deployments and trends is available, as part of the scheduled 2027 review of the Tropical Tuna Measure.
 - SC22 recommended that the SSP develop, for consideration by SC23, a set of FAD fishery indicators to support ongoing monitoring of trends in active dFAD buoys monitored per vessel in the WCPO FAD fishery, including, as appropriate, FAD catches and sets, dFAD buoy deployments and activity,

¹ Submitted to SC22 as [WCPFC-SC22-2026-EB-WP04](#)

apparent losses and strandings, and relevant observer data, including entanglements, and FAD logsheet data.

5. Considering these outcomes, the FADMO-IWG Chair considers that TCC22 consideration would usefully complement the scientific advice provided by SC22 by focusing on the implementation, monitoring, reporting, data-access and compliance aspects of the remaining FADMO-IWG priority tasks.

TCC22 Consideration

A. Satellite buoy data transmission requirements

6. FADMO-IWG discussions identified broad support for improving the efficiency of satellite buoy data reporting and reducing duplication, with increasing support for direct transmission of FAD tracking data from buoy service providers to the SSP. Outstanding matters include transmission pathways, access to relevant data by flag CCMs, and the development of appropriate event-based reporting requirements, including the extent to which such reporting can be automated.
7. TCC22 may therefore wish to consider the practical implementation aspects of future satellite buoy data transmission arrangements, including:
 - transmission pathways for satellite buoy data;
 - appropriate access by relevant flag CCMs to data relating to their vessels;
 - approaches to streamline reporting arrangements and reduce duplication; appropriate timeframes and reporting mechanisms for event-based reporting; and
 - the extent to which event-based information can be identified and transmitted automatically.

B. FAD logbook

8. The Commission has endorsed the proposed FAD logbook data fields as a sound basis for implementation and requested the FADMO-IWG to continue considering approaches to streamline reporting arrangements, including data submission mechanisms, validation and alignment with other reporting systems.
9. FADMO-IWG discussions have also highlighted the importance of avoiding duplicate reporting, harmonizing WCPFC requirements with existing regional reporting systems where appropriate and addressing event-level information that may occur outside a vessel trip reporting window.
10. TCC22 may therefore wish to provide advice on practical implementation of the FAD logbook, including:
 - data submission mechanisms and validation processes;
 - approaches to align with existing regional reporting systems, where appropriate, to minimize duplicate reporting and unnecessary reporting burden; and
 - how event-level information occurring outside a vessel trip reporting window should be accommodated, including whether through the FAD logbook or a separate reporting mechanism.

C. Biodegradable FADs

11. The FADMO-IWG is considering the stepwise introduction of biodegradable FADs. Discussions have noted that effective implementation would depend on appropriate monitoring and reporting arrangements, including FAD logbook and observer information, and that consideration may be required as to whether existing data collection arrangements are sufficient to monitor FAD materials and designs.
12. TCC22 may therefore wish to advise on the monitoring, reporting and verification arrangements that would be necessary to support the practical implementation of any future requirements for the stepwise introduction of biodegradable FADs.

D. FAD recovery programs/strategies

13. The FADMO-IWG has noted that development of practical FAD recovery programs and strategies would benefit from consideration of their operational, logistical and economic feasibility.
14. TCC22 may wish to provide any relevant advice on the implementation of practical, effective and economically viable FAD recovery programs and strategies.

E. dFAD Deployment

15. SC22 advised that further analysis of the effectiveness of the current limit of 350 active dFAD buoys per purse seine vessel is a low priority and supported revisiting the matter when updated SPC analysis of dFAD deployments and trends becomes available as part of the scheduled 2027 review of the Tropical Tuna Measure.
16. Accordingly, TCC22 is not requested to undertake substantive consideration of the effectiveness of the current limit at this stage. Consistent with the advice of SC22, this matter would be revisited once updated SPC analysis of dFAD deployments and trends is available, as part of the scheduled 2027 review of the Tropical Tuna Measure.

Recommendations

17. TCC22 is invited to:
 - **note** the FADMO-IWG progress report and the relevant outcomes of SC22;
 - **provide advice** on practical implementation considerations relevant to the FADMO-IWG's ongoing work on satellite buoy data transmission requirements, the FAD logbook, biodegradable FADs, and FAD recovery programs/strategies; and
 - **note** SC22's advice that further consideration of the effectiveness of the current limit of 350 active dFAD buoys per purse seine vessel should be revisited once updated SPC analysis is available as part of the scheduled 2027 review of the Tropical Tuna Measure.