

# IATTC Ad hoc Working Group on FADs.

Summary of 1st year of activities



# Mandate

- **Collect and compile information** on FADs in the EPO;
- **Review** FAD data collection requirements;
- Develop **data reporting formats** and definitions of terms related to FAD fishing;
- **Compile information** regarding developments in other tuna-RFMOs
- **Compile information** on the latest scientific information on FADs, including on non-entangling FADs and identify priorities for research;
- Prepare **annual reports** for the SAC, including specific recommendations;
- Identify and review possible **FAD management measures**, in coordination with the scientific staff and the SAC, and make recommendations to the Commission

# 2016 activities

- Electronically: Basecamp



- Face to face meeting:

**1st meeting**, 2 sessions: 15 May & 26 June

# 2016 activities

1. Summary of the collection and compilation of information on FADs in the EPO; **identification of information gaps**
2. Progress regarding the **most recent scientific information on FADs**, including information on non-entangling FADs
3. Review of the data-collection requirements established in Resolution C-15- 03; proposal for **standard forms**
4. Progress regarding management of FADs in **other tuna RFMOs**
5. Identification of **potential management measures** for FADs: pros and cons

# 1. Identification of information gaps

The Group analyzed ....

- Information that is currently being collected on FADs in the EPO
- Gaps in data collection related to the fishery on FADs
- What additional information would be necessary; viable ways of obtaining it to improve the management advice

# 1. Identification of information gaps

- FAD inventory and activity
- Importance of providing the trajectory of each FAD, from deployment to recovery, with a time lag to be determined in order to protect confidentiality.

*Still under discussion*

## 2. Recent scientific information on FADs

**BIBLIOGRAPHY OF RELEVANT REFERENCES TO AID THE IATTC FAD WORKING GROUP (All references cited are available as PDFs at the following link):**

<https://www.iattc.org/Misc/IATTC-FAD-WG-Bibliography.htm>

SAC-07 INF C(f) 1 Acoustic discrimination at FADs

SAC-07 INF C(g) 2 Acoustic discrimination at FADs

SAC-07 INF C(h) BIOFAD

SAC-07 INF C(i) Review of the Spanish FAD plan

SAC-07 INF C(j) Towards a Tropical Tuna Buoy derived Abundance index

### 3. FAD data-collection form

- Proposal for the FAD inventory and activity form that vessels should carry so that owners and operators maintain and notify the required information to the appropriate national authorities
- Review the proposal and compare it to the current data collection system, identifying similarities and differences.
- Agree a standard format to propose to the Commission for use by the fleet concerned as of 1 January 2017.



## 4. FADs management in other tRFMOs

- Follow the results and progress of Working Groups on FADs in other RFMOs.
- Evaluate such progress and its relevance to the work of the Group
- Identification of future synergies if considered necessary.

## 4. FADs management in other tRFMOs

- Establish a dialogue with WCPFC on FAD research and management.
- Liaise with other tuna RFMOs which have their own FAD working groups to organize a joint meeting in 2017.

## 5. Management measures for FADs

- [“Management options for Fish-Aggregating Devices or FADs”](#) prepared by IATTC staff.
- Initiate the development of a comprehensive list of the technical elements that would have to be taken into account when defining and putting into action a FADs management program.

# 2016-2017 Work Plan

- Continue making progress on the **compilation of information** on FADs in the EPO;
- Monitor the activities in other tRFMOs including the outcomes of the FAD working groups.
- **Keep updated** the developments on the latest scientific information on FADs, including information on non-entangling FADs; and
- Prepare a **preliminary report** for the SAC, including specific recommendations.

# 2016-2017 Work Plan

- *Propose **definitions** of terms related to FAD fishing, particularly those that could potentially be considered in FAD management regulations (non-entangling, biodegradable, active buoy, operational buoy, ...)*
- *Identify and review possible **management measures** on FADs*
- *Prepare a **FAD Research Plan** for the EPO.*

# 2016-2017 Work Plan

- Electronically: Basecamp



- Face to face meeting:

**2nd meeting**, 2 sessions: (SAC) May & (COM) June