

GLADERY FISHING, INCORPORATED
FAD MANAGEMENT POLICY
ISSF Conservation Measure 3.7

GLADERY FISHING, INC., an environmentally responsible company, hereby publicly states the following best practices for FAD management, identified in ISSF Technical Report 2019-11, “Recommended Best Practices for FAD management in Tropical Tuna Purse Seine Fisheries”, shall be implemented:

a) Comply with flag state and RFMO reporting requirements for fisheries statistics by set type.

The company commits to:

- Filling out completely and accurately the logbooks, including FAD logbook information, by set type required by the flag state and submitting them by electronic reporting to the required authority and/or tRFMO.
- Maintaining best-practice minimum standards developed by ISSF, such as 100% observer coverage, even if not required by the tRFMO, and voluntary Electronic Monitoring (EM).
- Collecting data on the number of active FADs and FAD activity (deployments, visits, sets and loss) as required by tRFMO and submitting them to the required authority and tRFMO.

b) Voluntarily report additional FAD buoy data for use by RFMO-associated science bodies.

The company commits to:

- Report FAD buoy daily position data to the relevant RFMO science bodies and/or national scientific institutions and/or flag State, with a maximum time lag of 90 days. Data submissions must include the vessel name and IMO number (if available). Deployments should be identified in the data submissions when possible. And, if reporting to national scientific institution or flag state, we shall request that these data be made available to the relevant RFMO for scientific purposes.
- Provide FAD buoy echo-sounder acoustic biomass data to the relevant RFMO science bodies and/or national scientific institutions and/or flag State, with a maximum time lag of 90 days. Data submissions must include the vessel name and IMO number (if available). And, if reporting to national scientific institution or flag state, we shall request that these data be made available to the relevant RFMO for scientific purposes.

c) Support science-based limits on the overall number of FADs used per vessel and/or FAD sets made.

The company commits to:

- Abiding by the limit of active number of FADs adopted by tRFMOs.
- Managing the activation and deactivation of buoys considering the corresponding tRFMO's measures.
- Abiding by the time area closure (including FAD area closures) established by the corresponding RFMO.

d) Use only non-entangling FADs to reduce ghost fishing.

The company commits to:

- Only deploying or redeploying FADs that are completely non-entangling (i.e., without any netting), even when is not a requirement of the tRFMO, according to the ISSF Guide for Non-Entangling FADs.
- Not deploying any "high entanglement risk" FAD according to the ISSF Guide for Non-Entangling FADs (i.e., those using large open netting either in the raft or in the underneath part of the FADs: >2.5 inches or 7 cm mesh).
- Retrieving from the water and modifying the design of "high entanglement risk" FADs according to the ISSF Guide for Non-Entangling FADs that are reused by the fleet, to make them non-entangling as per the ISSF classification.

e) Mitigate other environmental impacts due to FAD loss including through the use of biodegradable FADs and FAD recovery policies

The company commits to:

- Studying the feasibility of using FADs with only biodegradable material in their construction except the floatation structure of the raft.
- Participating in tests of locally sourced biodegradable materials in collaboration with AZTI, ISSF or any other scientific institution.
- Studying the feasibility of deploying simpler and smaller FADs.
- Participating in trials of biodegradable FAD designs and tests with the participation of tRFMO science bodies and/or CPCs or ISSF scientist.
- Endorsing risk and feasibility research programs aimed to determine deployment areas that are highly likely to result in stranding, in countries where FAD recovery policies could be put in place.
- Participating in cooperative efforts, such as the FAD-Watch in the Seychelles, to remove stranded FADs, in the case the fleet operates in the determined area(s).

- Gradually replacing FAD components with biodegradable materials as soon as such are proven efficient.
- Not disposing of any FAD component at sea, unless it is proven biodegradable: should a FAD be mended and/or any component replaced, the remainder material must be reused or disposed at port
- Whenever possible, use supply vessels to recover FADs that might be in risk of sinking or stranding.
- Promoting the use of bio-based material to make FADs.
- Promoting a definition of BIODEGRADABLE materials applicable to marine environment.

f) Implement further mitigation efforts for Bycatch

The company commits to:

- Applying Best Practices for safe handling and release of sharks and rays brought onboard.
- Participating/supporting studies to evaluate the contribution of purse seine fisheries to catches of sharks and rays, and the impact of implementation of the Good Practices on post-release survival.
- Participating in projects aiming to develop and test new tools to release sharks and moulids in tuna purse seiners, that maximize their survival and are practical to use onboard.

This policy was adopted on June 01, 2024.