



## **POLICY REGARDING MANAGEMENT OF FISH AGGREGATING DEVICES (FADS)**

Effective 01 May 2021, FRABELLE PNG LIMITED requires onboard its vessels the use of 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*":

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

We commit to:

- ✓ Filling out completely and accurately the logbooks, including FAD logbook information, by set type required by Flag State and Regional Fisheries Management Organization (RFMO) and submitting them by electronic reporting to the required authority.

We commit to:

- ✓ Achieving the observer coverage required by the Flag State and RFMO.

We also commit to:

- ✓ Authorizing satellite data buoy provider to provide the Flag state buoy daily position data on a non-real time basis to estimate the number of active FADs.

### **b) Voluntarily report additional FAD buoy data for use by RFMO science bodies**

We commit to:

- ✓ Provide daily position with time-lag and echo-sounder data when required by RFMO.

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

We commit to:

- ✓ Abiding by the limit of active number of FADs adopted by the RFMO.

We commit to:

- ✓ Deploying only FADs with satellite tracking buoys; and/or
- ✓ Providing information on the buoy position at least once per day with time-lag while they are in the water.

We also commit to:

- ✓ Abiding by the FAD closure established by the RFMO.

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

We commit to:

- ✓ Deploying only FADs that are compliant with the ISSF FADs design.

We also commit to:

- ✓ 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).

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

We commit to:

- ✓ Studying the feasibility of using FADs with only biodegradable material in their construction except the floatation structure of the raft; and/or
- ✓ Participating in tests of locally-sourced biodegradable materials.

We commit to:

- ✓ Studying the feasibility of deploying simpler and smaller FADs.

We commit to:

- ✓ Participating in research to determine FAD deployment areas that have high risk of stranding, by providing historical track data to Flag State.

**f) For silky sharks (the main bycatch issue in FAD sets) implement further mitigation efforts**

We commit to:

- ✓ Applying Best Practices for safe handling and release of sharks and rays brought onboard.

This policy was adopted on 01 May 2021