FRABELLE SUBIC CORPORATION
3/F, Room 309-A, Sancheon Bldg., Greenwoods Park Central Business District Area,
Rizal Highway, Subic Bay Freeport Zone

FRABELLE SUBIC CORPORATION requires onboard its vessel(s) the use of the following best practices for FAD management, identified in ISSF Technical Report 2023-10, which updates 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/RFMO and submitting them by electronic reporting to the required authority and/or RFMO; or
Filling out completely and accurately the logbooks, including FAD logbook information, by set type required by Flag State/RFMO and submitting them to the required authority and/or RFMO.

We commit to:

Achieving 100% observer coverage on all fishing trips through the regional observer program operated by RFMO, or
Achieving the observer coverage required by Flag State.

We also commit to:

Collecting data on the number of active FADs and FAD activity (deployments, visits, sets and loss) as required by Flag State/RFMO and submitting them to the required authority and RFMO

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

We commit 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

We commit to:

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

We commit to:

Deploying only FADs with satellite tracking buoys; and
Not reactivating remotely buoys that were previously deactivated. They will only be reactivated when the buoys are back in port.

We also commit to:

Abiding by the FAD time area closure established by Flag State authority/RFMO.

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

We commit to:

[Deploying at least half of our FADs that are completely non-entangling (i.e., without any netting), according to the ISSF Guide for Non-Entangling FADs].

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); and/or]
Removing from the water and bringing back to port all encountered "high entanglement risk " FADs 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, where practicable, any encountered pre-existing non-fully NEFAD (whether a set is done or not) which is not in compliance with this measure.

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 in collaboration with the relevant authority or scientific institution.

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 scientific institution; and/or
Participate in trials of FAD recovery programs with the participation of RFMO science bodies and/or CPCs or ISSF scientist.

We also commit to:

Removing from the water and bringing back to port all encountered FADs with non-biodegradable elements (e.g., plastic containers);

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 February 2024.