



FAD MANAGEMENT PLAN POLICY

BSK MARINE LIMITED,

Adopts this policy related to FAD management on board all its vessels, in line with but not limited to ISSF Technical Report 2019-11 – “RECOMMENDED BEST PRACTICES FOR FAD MANAGEMENT IN TROPICAL TUNA PURSE SEINE FISHERIES”:

Specifically:

- a) Compliance with Ghana, Flag State and ICCAT reporting requirements for fisheries statistics by set type**

The company:

- i. Keeps accurate and detailed fishing and FAD logbook information and provide it to competent authorities as well as to ISSF. Information in the fishing logbook should reflect the requirements from both national fishing authorities – Fisheries Commission, ICCAT and ISSF.
- ii. Continue with 100% observer coverage on all fishing trips, using human observers. For purse seine vessels, will supplement human observer coverage with Electronic Monitoring, operating in line with minimum standards developed by ISSF, or those developed by ICCAT by January 2022. For the pole and line vessels progressively install Electronic Monitoring reaching 100% coverage by the end of 2025.
- iii. Collect data on FAD activity, including the number of active FADs per vessel on a monthly basis, the total number of FADs deployed per trip, FAD visits, FAD sets, FAD losses, 3rd party FAD encounters (including description of type of FAD in case a fishing operation took place), following ICCAT, Ghana and Flag State national requirements, and ISSF. The company commits to submit this information to the competent authorities.

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

The company:

- i) Will actively engage in scientific programmes aimed at analysing FAD usage by providing all relevant information. The company commits to facilitate access to all necessary vessel operation data required to assist ICCAT scientific bodies and Ghana Fisheries Commission to improve FAD management recommendations.

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

The company:

- i) Will not have more than 200 active FADs at any given time.
- ii) Will only deploy FADs with satellite tracking buoys.

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

The company:

- i) Will only deploy non-entangling FADs in line with ISSF CM 3.5
- ii) Will deploy no less than 50% of fully non-entangling FADs (built without using any type of netting) by January 2022.
- iii) Will recover and replace own FADs built with netting materials which may constitute a risk for marine species.

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

The company:

- i) Will continue to support research into the use of biodegradable materials in the construction of FADs, aiming for a full roll out as of 1st of Jan 2024.
- ii) Will start phasing-in the use of biodegradable FADs in 2022 and having at least 30% of all FADs already constructed with biodegradable materials by the end of that year.
- iii) Will collect, bringing to shore and adequately dispose abandoned FADs found during fishing trips.

- iv) In case recovered FADs are overhauled for re-use, all repairs will be done without any type of netting materials and in accordance with the policy on the use of biodegradable component.
- v) Will participate in research to determine high risk areas for FAD deployment.

f) For ETP species implement further mitigation efforts

The company:

- i) Will complying with ICCAT resolutions related to bycatch, specifically ETP species.
- ii) Will apply best practices for safe handling and release of all ETP species, in accordance with ISSF guidance.
- iii) Will regularly participate in skipper training sessions organized by ISSF.
- iv) Will reduce the number of sets made on small tuna aggregations (i.e. estimated tuna biomass of less than 5 mt) by January 2024.

In this policy we reiterate the commitment to the ISSF Conservation Measures 3.7 that relate to the best industry practices for FAD Management. We hereby declare we will put all energy possible in ensuring the above practices are always observed and that all our staff will be fully instructed into respecting these practices and policies. Moreover, we also commit to making this policy public and published on the company's website as well as making it available on Fisheryprogress.org. This policy will be displayed on every fishing vessel owned by the company as well as available in the company main office.

**BSK MARINE
COMPANY LIMITED
TATA FISHING HARBOUR**

(John Davidson)

24th February, 2021