

Atlantic Ocean purse seine tuna fishery (CAPSEN S.A.)

Fishing Gear and General Waste Management Policy

Version 1.0

May 2025

Globally, millions of tons of waste enter the sea each year, the majority of which comprises oil, fishing gear, packaging, raw plastics, and convenience items. On fishing vessels, waste does not include fresh fish or parts of fresh fish that are left over from processing catch. Plastic fishing gear can cause marine animals to become entangled and either suffocate or drown. Larger plastic items, including oil containers, food packaging and bottles can break down in the ocean and produce microplastics. These tiny plastic pieces can be mistaken as prey items for smaller marine organisms and can be ingested. Once inside the body, it is possible that the plastic leaches out toxins and chemicals into the organism's bloodstream, poisoning it and the humans who eat it. Alternatively, ingested plastics can cause false satiation in the animal, which prevents it from eating and causes starvation. This can also detrimentally affect the stock size of fish populations and cause the CPUE of fishing vessels to decrease. A decrease in fish abundance, as well as quality, will also lead to a decline in economic compensation for the fish catch.

CAPSEN S.A. owns four purse seine vessels that operate within the Capsen and Grand Bleu Atlantic Ocean purse seine tuna fishery. The company endeavours to minimise the fishery's impact on the ecosystem by complying with this policy. In accordance with MARPOL Annex 5, the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), the Global Ghost Gear Initiative (GGGI), the International Seafood Sustainability Foundation (ISSF) Conservation Measure (CM) 3.7, and CAPSEN S.A., the vessels must comply with the following:

MARPOL Annex 5:

- All noxious liquids, including oil and petrol are to be kept onboard and disposed of in the port upon docking.
- Plastics may not be discharged into the ocean anywhere at any time. This includes items that have any plastic component, and can include synthetic fishing gear, which must be collected onboard and only disposed of in a designated disposal facility at/near the port, upon docking.
- Paper and cardboard, although generally biodegradable, will not be discarded overboard, but either burnt in the onboard incinerator or, failing this, brought to port upon docking for appropriate disposal.
- All other garbage including plastics, synthetic ropes, fishing gear, plastic garbage bags, incinerator ashes, clinkers, cooking oil, floating dunnage, lining and packing materials, paper, rags, glass, metal, bottles, crockery and similar refuse are prohibited to be discarded overboard.
- Only when outside 12 nautical miles from land, organic matter/material is permitted to be discarded into the sea.

International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)

- Comply with ICCAT **Recommendation 19-11** on abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear (ALDFG).

- All fishing vessels are prohibited from abandoning and discarding fishing gear, except for safety reasons.
- All vessels ≥ 12 m must have equipment onboard to retrieve lost fishing gear; and
- Make every reasonable attempt to retrieve it as soon as possible.
- If the lost fishing gear cannot be retrieved, the master of the vessel shall notify the flag CPC within 24 hours, or within 24 hours of returning to port when at-sea reporting is not possible, of the following:
 - a) the name and call sign of the vessel;
 - b) the type of lost fishing gear;
 - c) the quantity of fishing gear lost;
 - d) the date and time when the fishing gear was lost;
 - e) the position where the fishing gear was lost; and
 - f) the measures taken by the vessel to retrieve the lost fishing gear.
- Following retrieval of lost fishing gear, the master of the vessel shall notify the flag CPC within 24 hours, or within 24 hours of returning to port when at-sea reporting is not possible, of the following:
 - a) the name and call sign of the vessel that has retrieved the fishing gear;
 - b) the name and call sign of the vessel that lost the fishing gear (if known);
 - c) the type of fishing gear retrieved;
 - d) the quantity of fishing gear retrieved;
 - e) the date and time when the fishing gear was retrieved; and
 - f) the position where the fishing gear was retrieved.

Global Ghost Gear Initiative (GGGI):

Following the GGGI Best Practice Framework for the Management of Fishing Gear, including:

- Ensure all fishing gear is marked in accordance with FAO Expert Consultation on the Marking of Fishing Gear (FAO, 2016), including on both surface and subsurface elements of the gears.
- Ensure that disposal facilities are available in port and are utilized by the vessels to ensure the safe and efficient disposal of waste from onboard the vessels.
- Report all lost, abandoned, and found fishing gear, in compliance with ICCAT Resolution 19-11, subsections 4 and 5.
- Where possible, the recovery of said found fishing gear.

International Seafood Sustainability Foundation (ISSF):

- All Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs) will be constructed with zero mesh or net materials and be fully non-entangling (NEFAD), as defined by the ISSF CM 3.7
- Where practicable, the purse seine vessels and supply vessels should retrieve any encountered pre-existing non-fully NEFAD (whether a set is done or not) which is not in compliance with this measure.

CAPSEN S.A.:

- All areas, especially the deck, are to be kept as clear of trash as possible to avoid it being washed overboard and placed in designated spaces
- Crew members are to be made responsible for ensuring that the waste collected onboard the vessel is disposed of appropriately.

- All waste collected onboard must be appropriately disposed of in port upon landing or recycled where possible.

Signed

Company name: CAPSEN S.A.

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Appendix 1

NON-Entangling FADs

RAFT

- Do not cover with netting.
- If covered, cover with canvas, tarpaulin, shade cloth, or non-entangling materials.

TAIL

- Subsurface structure is made with ropes, canvas or nylon sheets, or other non-entangling materials.

More detail on the previous page.

No netting is used in any components (raft and tail)

These FADs are expected to have no risk of causing entanglement.