Vessel-based Fish Aggregating Device (FAD) Management Policy

PURPOSE
As a founding member of the International Seafood Sustainability Foundation (ISSF), Tri Marine is committed to the implementation of resolutions that support the long-term conservation and sustainable use of tuna stocks, reducing bycatch, and promoting ecosystem health. This includes compliance with ISSF Conservation Measure 3.7 regarding FAD management. Key principles of FAD management include FAD data collection and reporting including buoy data, the use of non-entangling FAD designs, promoting the development of FAD recovery policies, use of biodegradable FADs, and strategies to mitigate shark bycatch in purse seine fisheries.

DEFINITIONS
For purposes of this policy, large-scale purse seine vessels are defined as those with at least 335 m3 of fish hold volume. A policy is considered "public" if it is published on the owner or company's website or is otherwise available, when requested, to the general public.

POLICY
Beginning June 30th, 2021 for large-scale purse seine vessels and December 31, 2021 for all other purse seine vessels it is our policy to conduct transactions only with those vessels whose owners develop and make public FAD Management Policies in line with ISSF Technical Paper 2019-11 that include the activities purse seine and supply vessels are undertaking (if any) on the following elements:

(a) Comply with flag state and RFMO reporting requirements for fisheries statistics by set type;
(b) Voluntary report additional FAD buoy data for use by FROM science bodies;
(c) Support science-based limits on the overall number of FADs used per vessel and/or FAD sets made;
(d) Use only non-entangling FADs to reduce ghost fishing;
(e) Mitigate other environmental impacts due to FAD loss including through the use of biodegradable FADs and FAD recovery policies;
(f) For silky sharks (the main bycatch issue in FAD sets) implement further mitigation efforts.

With respect to the element (c) on the use of only non-entangling FADs, ISSF CM3.5 remains in force and public FAD Management Policies developed under this measure should be in accordance with ISSF CM 3.5.

Policy was updated on September 2, 2022