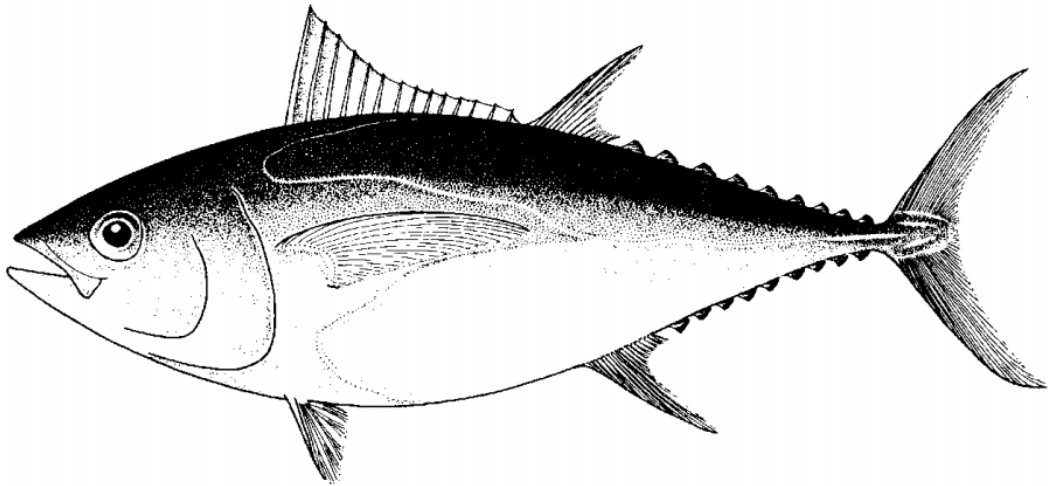ELEVENTH MEETING OF THE TUNA FISHERY DATA COLLECTION COMMITTEE
20-24 AUGUST 2018, BRISBANE AUSTRALIA

WORKING PAPER DCC11-WP05 – agenda item 7

PROPOSED AMMENDMENTS TO OBSERVER DATA FORMS

Prepared by the Oceanic Fisheries Programme of the Pacific Community (SPC)

Pacific Community   Forum Fisheries Agency

Background
There are less changes to consider under the Observer Data Forms agenda item than in the past meetings owing to the work done at DCC10.

Prior to DCC10 a mini-DCC on Observer Data forms was held attached to a PIRFO Trainers workshop. The purpose was to allow a group of regional and national observer data collectors to assess the changes from a practical perspective, and then provide outcomes to the main DCC10. This was meant to reduce the time required to the laborious field by field review by the main DCC as had happened in the past.

Also in 2016, ER and EM data standards workshops had been held and the outcomes provided for the DCC10 consideration, this fitted the DCC Strategy develop the role of the DCC to set data standards in these new monitoring environments. Because of this work the formats for most of the Observer data fields are now established and the forms have been significantly updated. Therefore at DCC11 there are fewer changes to be considered of observer forms. The changes proposed here are driven by recent assessments and requirements for WCPFC Scientific Committee that impact on the data protocols and application of protocols to collect it. Hence, the shorter time requirement for Observer Data at DCC11.

This proposal highlights two main areas of change in the observer data fields.
1. To improve FAD buoy identification to allow better geographic and among-boat tracking of beacons and hence FAD use..
2. Improve detail of SSI condition for both SSIs landed and SSIs interacting with primary gear. The DCC forms incorporated SSI interactions to be included on LL-4 with landings. But for SSIs landed 'condition' codes are used for life status before and after landing but or SSIs that interact with gear but are not landed 'interaction' codes indicate where hooked but not life status before and after interactions. The two field capture slightly different information on the survivability and effects of mitigation measure, however with some changes to their protocols so that both fields are used for both landed and interactions with SSIs will for their use better detail on the impacts of gear and capture of SSIs.

Proposal 1.
Change observer instructions on the GEN-5 form to put a priority on recording the dFAD serial number on the GEN-5 buoy number field rather than other markings, e.g., changing the instructions to have observers record the serial number and, only if not possible, to record any other identifying information in as much detail as possible.

Context
In SC paper MI-WP-09 on the PNA's FAD tracking data, Table 2 highlights that for all dFAD deployments:
- observers recorded 18,744 FAD deployments in total;
- of those, they recorded some form of buoy ID for 2,958 deployments;

- and of those 2,958 buoy IDs, 831 were recorded in the same format as the full buoy serial number provided by the manufacturer, and is therefore cross-matchable with the ID in FIMS)? (In practice, I assume the comparison being made is between the FIMS ID (i.e. buoy serial number) and the 'buoy number' field on GEN-5 forms?); and
- of those 831 deployments, 185 were able to matched with the buoy track in FIMS.

One of the objectives of the PNA FAD tracking program was to link FAD life histories with info in vessel logbooks and observer reports, which is obviously somewhat challenging if we're not able to trace individual FADs/buoys. This proposal is intended to improve data available for matching.

Proposal 2.
DCC10 decided to move the recording of SSIs primary gear interactions from GEN-2 to LL-4. The 'interaction' codes were added to LL-4 for SSIs that interact with primary gear but are not landed they describe where the animal was hooked or how entangled. Condition codes are also used for the life status of the SSI prior to and immediately after release, as well as for SSIs landed and discarded. However interaction codes are currently not used for landed SSIs, as was the case on the GEN-2. Thus a change in the protocol and instructions on LL-4 to use the interaction codes for all SSIs, including those landed will allow this important information to be recorded.

Context
The USA has a proposal at SC14to amend the minimum data standards for the ROP. This includes condition codes for SSI interactions before and after release. This is already covere by the SPC/FFA forms though not the location o hooking etc.

Proposed form modification details		DCC10 agreed updates			
Person proposing change	Proposed addition/modification	Record of discussions	New Remove Edit (Form/Field/Code)	ER standards Table field	WCPFC field recommendation
• FORM GEN-5 FAD / PAYAO and FLOATING OBJECTS INFORMATION RECORD					
Data Field : **Buoy Number** Form Type and Section: GEN-5					
Lauriane Escalle, SPC. **WCPFC-SC14-2018/ MI-WP-09**	*Issue* Observers are recording any script that is painted on buoy as identification. This frequently has no association with the registration of the buoy. This paper gave low 'good format' reporting rates of the field **Buoy number** as the number recoded by observers from the Buoy had no connection on the FAD register to the serial number. It is suggested that if the painted ID can be collected then the serial number may be collected as it will have been on board Change the field to **Buoy Serial Number** and instructions to clarify this.		Edit field		
Data Field : **FAD/Payao No. and or markings** Form Type and Section: GEN-5					
Lauriane Escalle, SPC.	*Issue*		Edit field and instructions		

WCPFC-SC14-2018/ MI-WP-09	To accommodate observers current practice of recording marking on the buoy as **buoy number** and due to the change of **Buoy number** to **Buoy Serial Number** It was suggested that **FAD/Payao No. and or markings** be modified to add Beacon to be **Beacon or FAD ID Marking** (indicate) Modify field to **Beacon / FAD ID markings**			
Data Field : **FAD Lifted**				
Form Type and Section: GEN-5 FAD Details (?)				
Lauriane Escalle, SPC. **WCPFC-SC14-2018/ MI-WP-09**.	As beacons may be changed as a part of servicing or removed and replaced by competing purse seiners, there needs to be a way to capture when a beacon was replaced. Changing the FAD lifted to **Beacon/FAD Lifted**. With instructions to indicate which or both by circling? Alternatively, in comments. Also to alter the header for the instructions to use a line of entry for every 9 10D, 10R or 14D and 15R. This would separate replacement of a beacon in to a removal of a beacon and a deployment of a beacon and that way capture the serial number for either.		Edit	

				New Remove Edit (Form/Field/Code)	ER standards Table field	WCPFC field recommendation
	Instructions would also ask observers to provide buoy type in the **Comments.**					

- FORM PS-3 FAD / PAYAO and FLOATING OBJECTS INFORMATION RECORD

Data Field : **Buoy Number**
Form Type and Section: GEN-5

| Lauriane Escalle, SPC. **WCPFC-SC14-2018/ MI-WP-09** | *Issue*

Observers are recording any script that is painted on buoy as identification. This frequently has no association with the registration of the buoy.
This paper gave low 'good format' reporting rates of the field **Buoy number** as the number recoded by observers from the Buoy had no connection on the FAD register to the serial number.
It is suggested that if the painted ID can be collected then the serial number may be collected as it will have been on board
Change the field to **Buoy Serial Number** and instructions to clarify this. | | | Edit | | |

Person proposing change	Proposed addition/modification	Record of discussions	New Remove Edit (Form/Field/Code)	ER standards Table field	WCPFC field recommendation

- FORM LL-4 LONGLINE OBSERVER CATCH MONITORING

Data Field : **Condition Code**
Form Type and Section: LL-4, Catch Details

Aurelien, SPC. **US proposal to SC14**	*Issue* Prior to 2016 DCC, SSIs condition code recorded on the GEN-2 was more descriptive combining condition code (life status) with interaction codes (how captured and where hooked). With the transfer of SSI interactions and catches to LL4 according to the instructions the interaction codes (that have hooking information are currently only used for interactions not catches: *"for interactions of SSIs with the primary gear or vessel, but not landed on deck"* Thus the hooking details are not included. It is suggested that for SSIs the interactions field is used for all SSI interactions and captures landed on deck. Some of the discard codes would indicate if the animal was released prior to landing (DSO, DCF etc. perhaps a new Discarded Untangled (DUN) If the animal only interacted with the primary gear but was not hooked or entangled such as just feeding on bait, either escaped (ESC) or perhaps a new Fate code of Interacted primary gear only (IGO). This would also make the discarded protected species Fate codes for protected species would become redundant (DPA, DPD DPU), as other codes will provide more information on the treatment of the SSI such as Discarded Struck Off or Discarded Cut Free (DCF) or Discarded Dehooked		Edit instructions and codes		

	(DDH). With an additional note in the instructions to indicate in comments what length/type of gear remained attached to the SSI) Additional possible future Fate codes could include wither SSI treatment guidelines were followed.				