

# Cape Fisheries Fish Aggregation Device (FAD) Policy – Non-Entangling Design and Retrieval

**EFFECTIVE: April 17, 2017**

## PURPOSE

To meet or exceed recommendations of the International Seafood Sustainability Foundation (ISSF) and promote the use of more environmentally friendly designs of fish aggregating devices (FADs) that reduce the chance of entanglement of sensitive species and reduce the proliferation of [marine debris](#).

## DEFINITION

A fish aggregation device (FAD) is generally described as any floating object, manmade or otherwise, used to attract and consolidate schools of tuna. For the purpose of this policy, only manmade FADs will be considered.

## POLICY

Cape Fisheries is supportive of effective FAD management for tuna conservation, and committed to using FADs that mitigate unintentional environmental impacts. To mitigate impacts, the design of all FADs used in controlled fishing operations shall comply with [ISSF Conservation Measure 3.5: Transactions with Vessels that Use Only Non-entangling FADs](#). A guide for the construction and use of non-entangling FADs is available for download online, and can be referenced below as Annex 1. All Cape Fisheries owned fishing vessels deploying FADs shall meet the minimum requirement of using only “Lower Entanglement Risk FADs” within one year of the implementation date of this policy.

The following vessels are covered under this policy:

**Cape Breton  
Cape Cod  
Cape Elizabeth III  
Cape Ferrat  
Cape Finisterre**

**Cape May  
Cape Blanco  
Ferrigno Boy  
Barbara H**

## Annex 1

