



## CONVENTION ON MIGRATORY SPECIES

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FOURTH MEETING OF THE SIGNATORIES TO  
THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR  
THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS AND THEIR  
HABITATS IN THE PACIFIC ISLANDS REGION

5-6 August 2021, *Online*

### **ABSTRACT: FISH AGGREGATING DEVICES [FADS] AND CETACEANS IN THE PNA PURSE SEINE FISHERY**

PNA are 8 of the smallest island nations and economies globally but are all “large island nations “, who collectively manage 14.3 million KM<sup>2</sup> of EEZ, an area from New York to Moscow, and Greenland to Morocco. This is the largest and by far the healthiest tuna purse seiner tuna fishery globally accounting for > 50% of global catch of skipjack for canning.

Unlike in other oceans, FADs associated fishing is typically <50% of the fishing effort in the purse seine fishery, so the environmental impacts of FADs are significantly less than other oceans and PNA takes the hard management decisions.

Direct FAD interactions with Cetaceans are unknown, and in the tuna purse seine fishery whilst there are a few non target interactions each year, [eg a whale jumping into the net,] in such cases observers record the application of rigid protocols on board to mitigate adverse interactions and any mortality is considered extremely rare. This contrasts significantly with other fisheries around the globe eg gill net, trawl, and longline and their associated buoy lines, etc, where interactions with cetaceans are far more common place.

PNA peoples consider maintaining biological and economic sustainability and participation in the fishery as non negotiable. It is our future, thus we put a lot into management of the resource and the fishery ecosystem.

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## **Maurice Brownjohn OBE (PNA) Commercial Manager**

Maurice Brownjohn OBE was born in England on September 4<sup>th</sup>, 1959. Growing up in the UK inshore fishing industry, Maurice holds an Honours degree in fishery science and moved to Papua New Guinea (PNG) in 1981 to work in community fisheries development. In 1987, he moved back into the private sector to establish a major net rigging company and the leading long line operation in PNG. Maurice established and chaired the PNG fishing Industry association in 1991. Deputy chair of PITIA the regional tuna industry body and a founding director of the NFA in 1995, Maurice has continued his high profile role in the sector in PNG and globally. Citizen of PNG since 1989, he was awarded a OBE for services to the PNG fishing industry in HM the Queen's New Years honours list in 1998.



Since January 2010, Maurice has taken on the broader regional role as the Commercial Manager to the 8 island governments [and territory of Tokelau] under the Parties of the Nauru Agreement (PNA) Office, based in Majuro. His responsibilities include advising the region on a range of commercial issues and investment opportunities in tuna, MSC certificate and Pacifical C.V marketing sustainable MSC tuna from the PNA people.. He is also responsible for the oversight of the company FIMS Inc and observer programmes under the POA contract. Maurice has a global reputation and has assumed high profile positions in Pacific issues for the last 4 decades, and is at the forefront of fishery development in areas ranging from product branding and world tuna day to bycatch utilisation, food security, and FAD management.