



INCENTIVE MODEL

Background

Our FIA PNG tuna fleet is equipped with fishing vessels with technology and electronic equipment to avoid setting nets on ETP. Also, our FIA PNG tuna fleet follows the Strategic Plan for Mitigating Bycatch and Shark Conservation V3.0

Objective

An incentive model with several tiers has been developed and implemented to discourage fishing vessels from setting nets on whale sharks and ETP. This document does not intend to replace WCPFC CMM, NFA compliance and enforcement. Here are the tiers:

Tier 1 – Comply with WCPFC CMM

FIA PNG tuna fleet shall comply and follow the WCPFC CMM to maintain the good standing for fishing license status and avoid to be listed at the WCPFC

Tier 2 - Education and Awareness:

The FIA PNG office will annually provide educational materials and training sessions to fishing crews on the importance of protecting whale sharks and other vulnerable marine species.

INCENTIVE: A certificate of attendance for crews that complete training programs on Marine litter & Fishing gear, ETP best practices and best fishing practices.

Tier 3 - Reporting and Monitoring:

The FIA PNG office Implemented a reporting system where fishing vessels will be informed and warned by email when the FIA PNG office receives reports on INTENTIONAL setting nets on ETP like whale sharks and other protected species.

INCENTIVE: A top performance list per fishing company or fishing vessel to be published on an annual basis to reward vessels that have no reports on Intentional ETP.

Tier 4 – Access to Scientific Information and use of it:

The FIA PNG office invested in research to understand the tuna fishery and fishing practices. We encourages fishing company members to follow the recommendations obtained in the research carried out by Safina Center in 2023 – 2024 with observer data analysis. The findings identified areas within existing core fishing grounds where hotspots for silky sharks, rays, and whale sharks could be avoided without affecting target catch and areas outside of the core fishing grounds where there are higher tuna catch rates that would reduce the overlap with hotspots for these same at-risk species.

INCENTIVE: Real-time fleet communication and move-on rules, and avoiding sets on dolphin schools, might be effective approaches to mitigate odontocete, and ETP bycatch by avoiding setting nets or fishing in the identified warmspots

Tier 5 – Financial and market:

In cases where a fishing vessel has relapsed or set nets intentionally on an ETP or SS-P, the FIA PNG office will not authorise that fishing vessel for the next FIA PNG MSC batch trip number. The fishing vessel will be affected by not having access to their catches being under the FIA PNG MSC tuna certificate.

INCENTIVE: Financial incentive to stop fishing vessel access to FIA PNG MSC unique batch number and certificate, it aims to decrease the intentional sets on ETP and SS-P

**ETP: endangered, Treated, and Protected Species listed in the SCS Global – FIA PNG MSC tuna Fishery Assessment Report, May 2020*



FIA PNG office aims:

Create market incentives by promoting sustainably caught seafood products from vessels that commit to ETP protection measures, attracting environmentally conscious consumers.

By implementing this multi-tiered incentive model, fishing vessels can be encouraged to adopt responsible fishing practices that minimize the risk of harming ETP. The incentives provided at each tier aim to promote a culture of marine stewardship and conservation while also supporting the livelihoods of fishing communities.