Comisión Interamericana del Atún Tropical
Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission

CIAT
IATTC

Workplan for minimizing FAD loss/abandonment and promoting recovery

Request from CPCs at IATTC's July 2017 meeting 'A study on the feasibility of FAD retrieval'

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Ad-Hoc Permanent Working Group on FADS. La Jolla, California USA, 11-12 May 2018

Why?

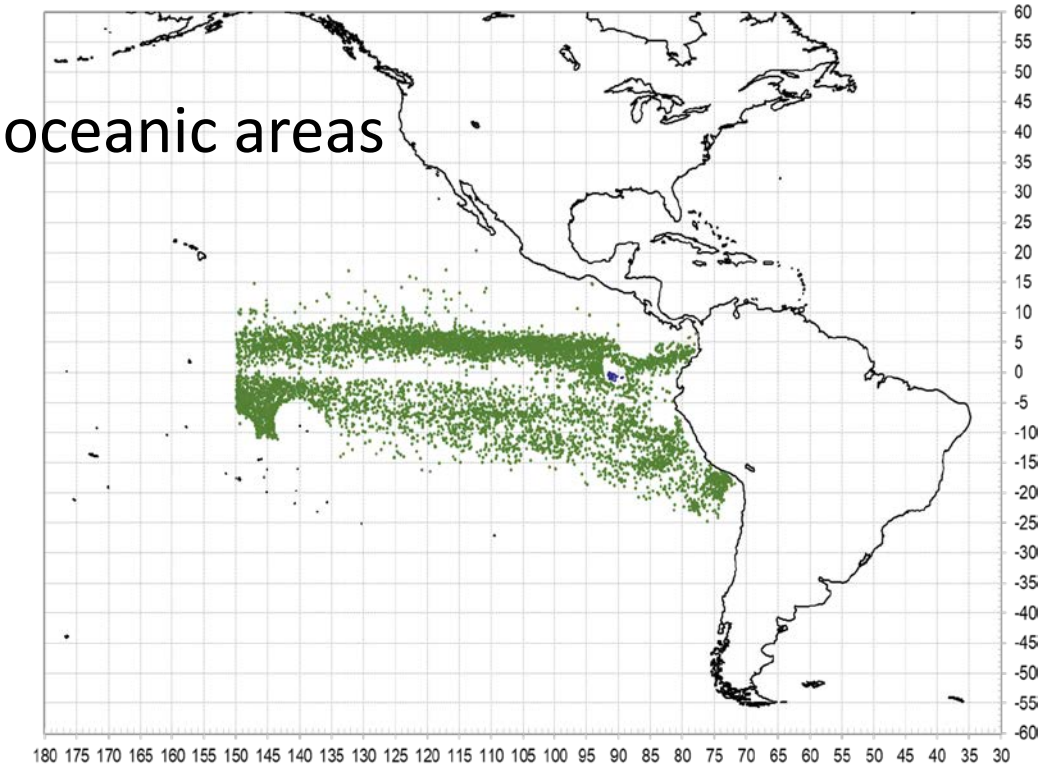
Article VII of the Convention (Functions of the Commission)

(g) adopt appropriate measures to avoid, reduce and minimize waste, discards, catch by lost or discarded gear…

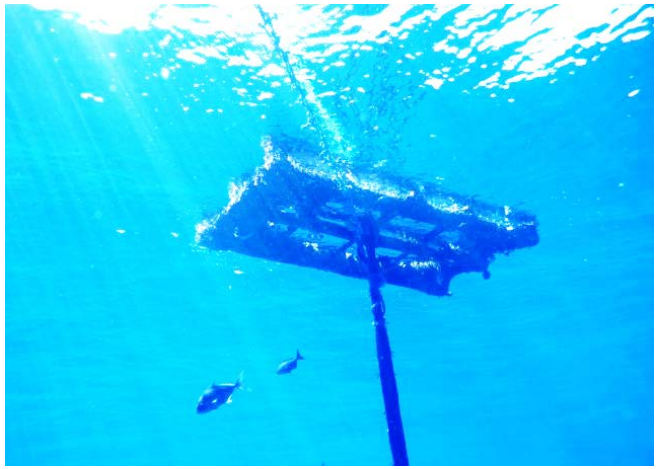
1. Reduce debris on beaches
   - Effect on habitat (nesting beaches, reef damage)
   - Effect on economic sensitve areas
2. Reduce debris in the ocean
3. Effect on small-scale fisheries
4. Possible ‘ghost’ fishing

Goals

1. Evaluation of extent of the problem
   a) Magnitude of loss and/or abandonment (LOA) of FADs
2. Evaluate impact
   a) Magnitude of impacts in coastal and oceanic areas
3. Develop strategies
   a) Mitigation
   b) Recovering
   c) Management



Goal 1: Evaluation of problem



Objective: Identification

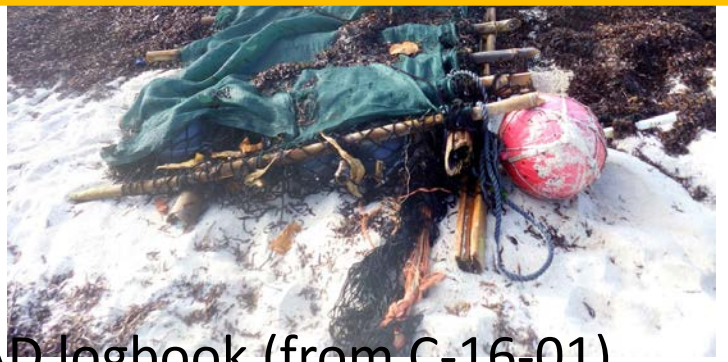
a) Magnitude of loss and/or abandonment (LOA) of FADs

Surveys

- Operators
  - ✓ Proportion of lost FADs. Malfunction, 'borrowed' by others, separated from its beacon
  - ✓ Proportion of abandoned FADs. Due to fast currents, change of fishing area or strategy

- CPC or relevant organizations designed by CPC (GOs and NGOs)
  - ✓ Estimation of strandings (anecdotal)
  - ✓ Removal procedures or strategies already in place
  - ✓ Identification of areas affected

Goal 2: Evaluation of impact



Objective: Identification

Impacts of LOA FADs in coastal and oceanic areas

Data Analysis

- Identification of the magnitude, using observer data and FAD logbook (from C-16-01). Identify deployment/retrieval to determine lost/abandoned FADs (previous preliminary analysis done)
- Proportion of abandoned FADs. Due to fast currents, change of fishing area or strategy
- Ocean circulation modelling to forecast areas of impact
- Assessment of 'sensitivity' (economic, social, environmental)
- Obtain data from providers of FAD trajectories for the past years (not in real-time)
- Information of procurement of buoys by vessel/company.

Goal 3: Development of strategies

Objectives:

Mitigation, recovery and management

Identification of required data

- ‘Marking’. Census

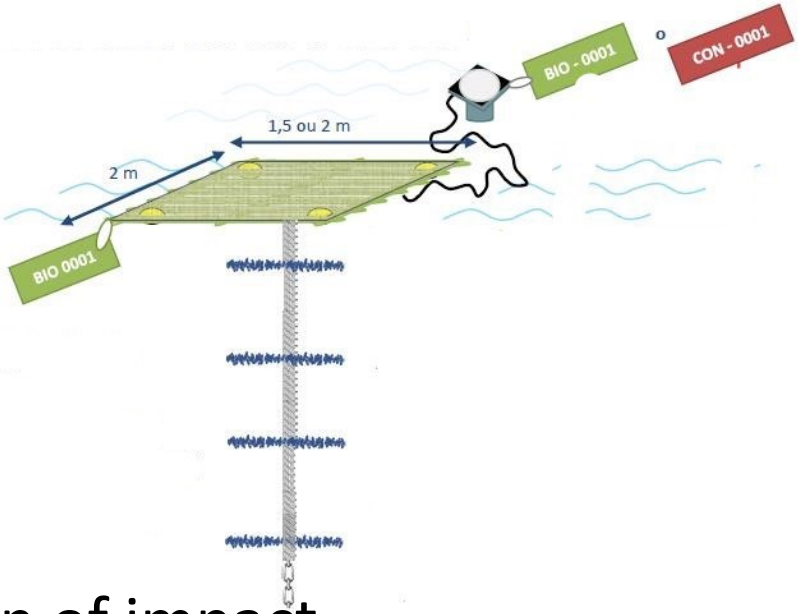
  Needed for accurate analysis of FAD density.

- FAD 'ownership' identification

  To develop strategies for collection, reduction of impact

- Real-time (or near r-t) data location (specific areas)

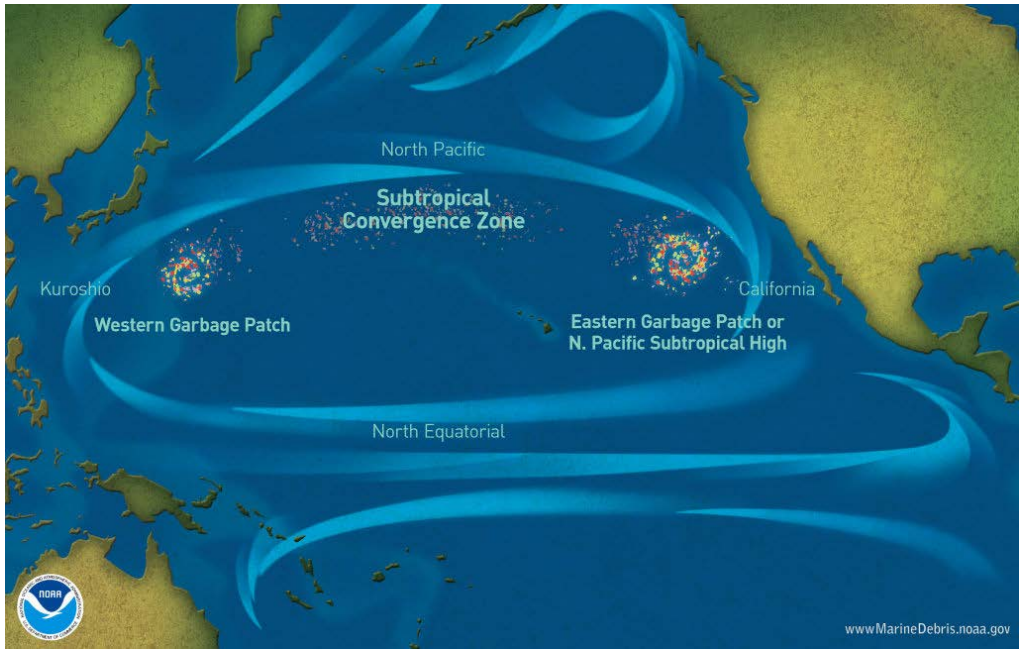
  Develop strategies for prevention of strandings



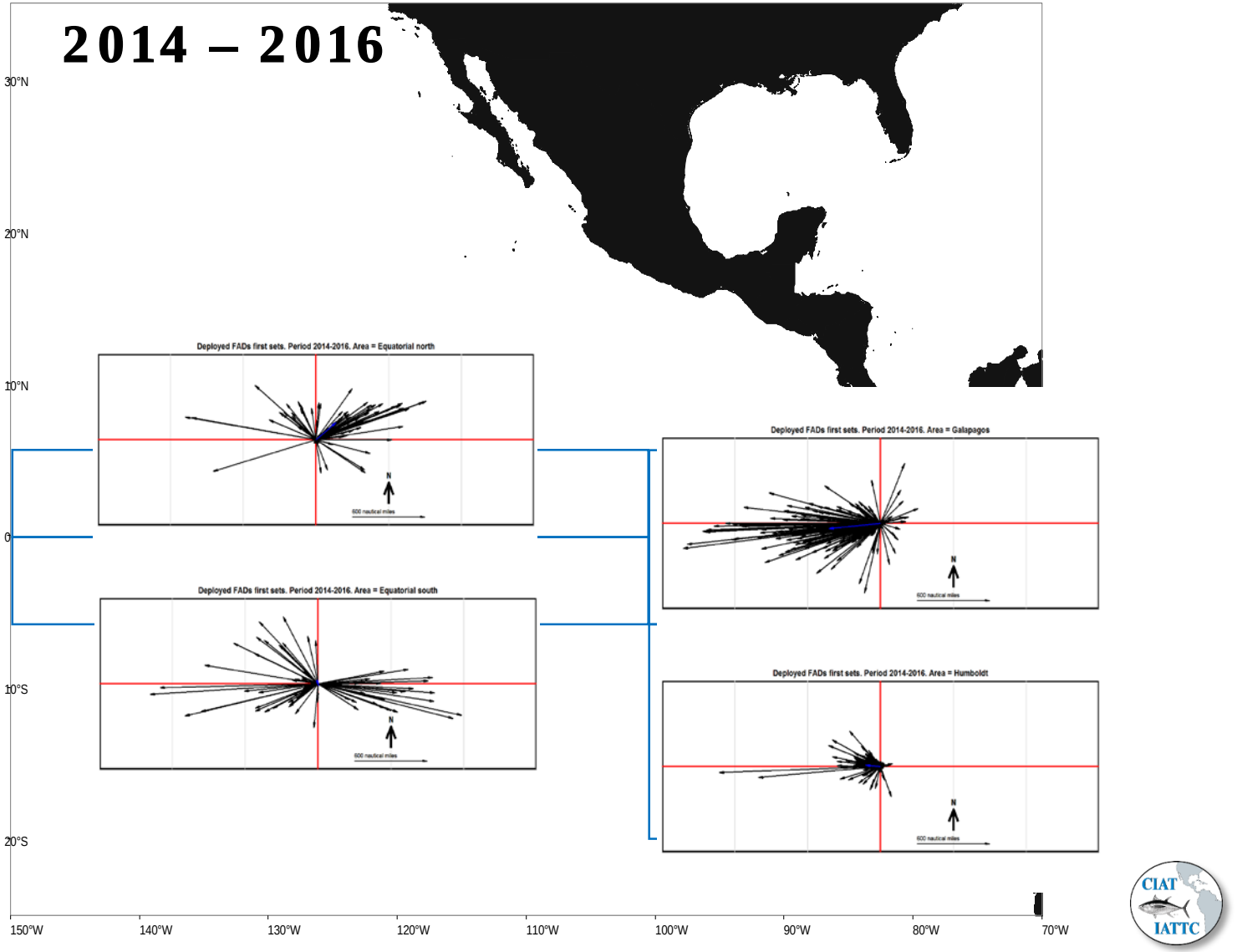
Goal 3: Development of strategies (ex.)

Examples of management strategies:

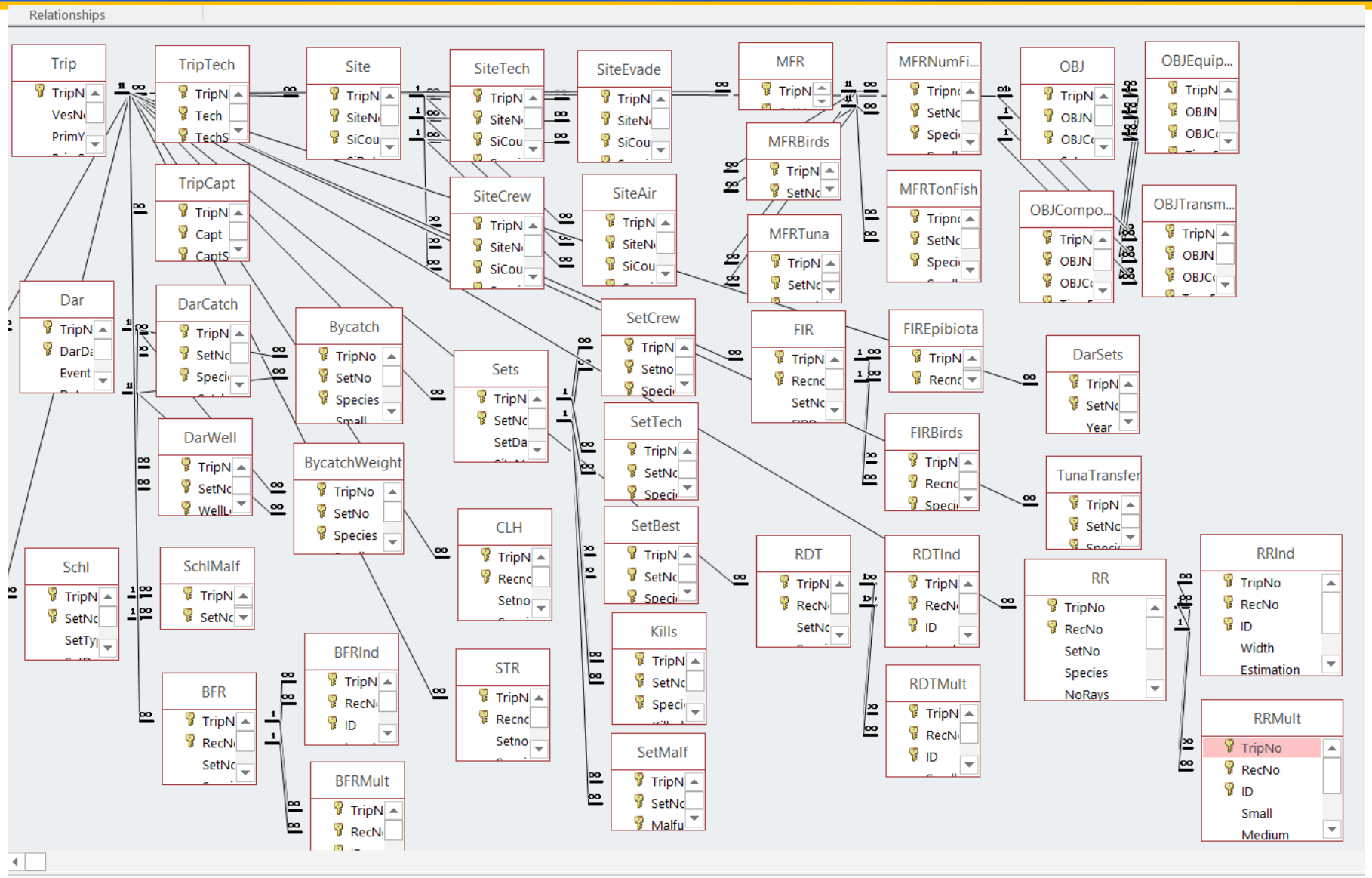
- Identification of ‘hot spots’
  - Oceanic concentrations of LOA FADs
    - Carbon footprint
- Coastal prevention of strandings (ex. Seychelles)
  - Requires provision of real-time data
- Identification of stakeholders
  - Include buoys manufacturers?
- Recycling/recovery fee/reward
- Registry of ‘licensed’ FADs



Goal 3: Development of strategies (ex.)



Questions?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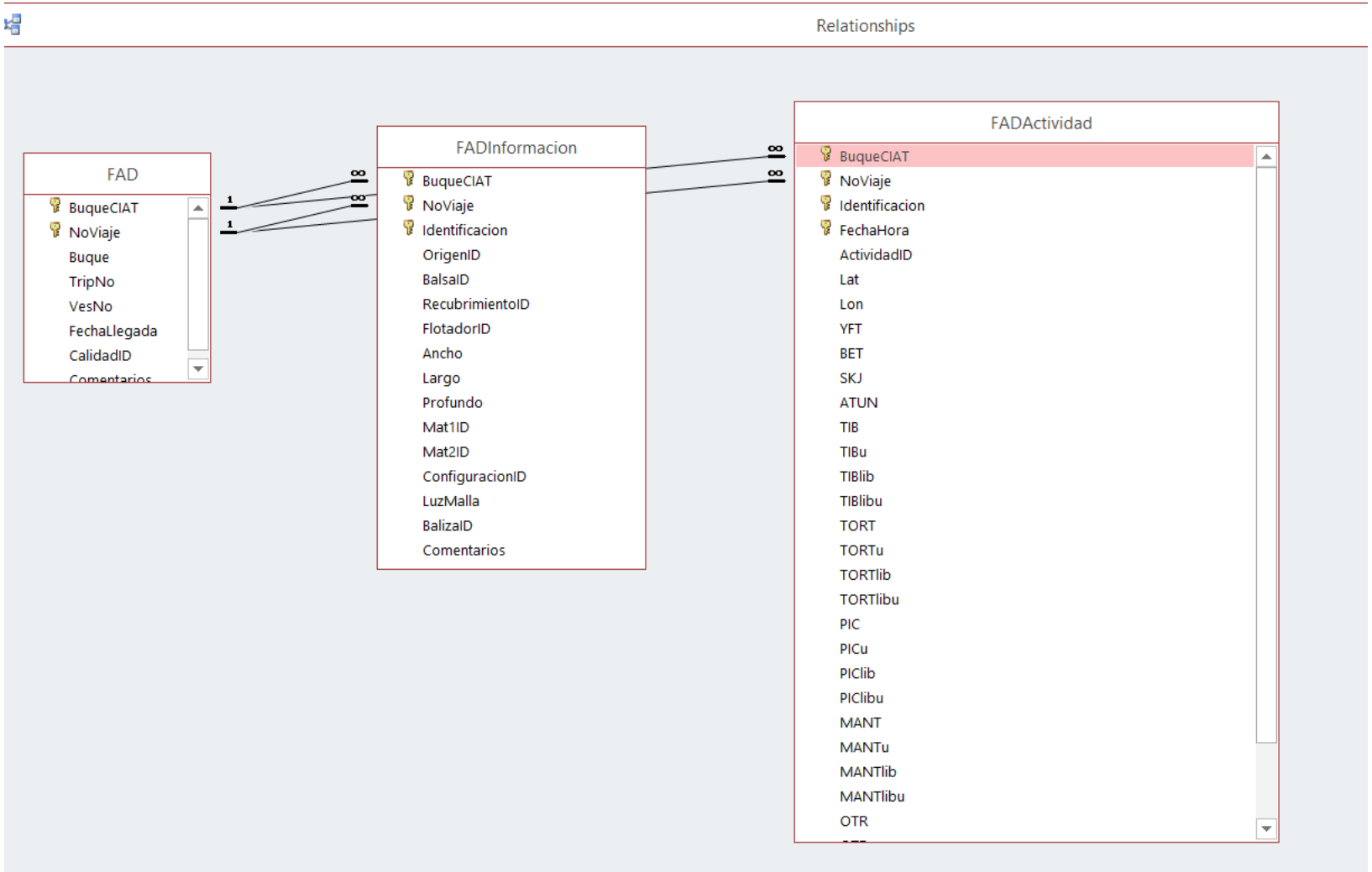
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