

Comisión Interamericana del Atún Tropical
Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission



Current global management measures on FADs

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2ª Reunión del Grupo de Trabajo conjunto de las OROP atuneras sobre plantados
2nd Meeting of the Joint Tuna RFMOs Working Group on FADs
San Diego, California USA, 08-10 May 2019

Outline

1. Background on FADs
2. Purse seine measures in RFMOs
3. Specific FAD measures in RFMOs
4. Future FAD measures

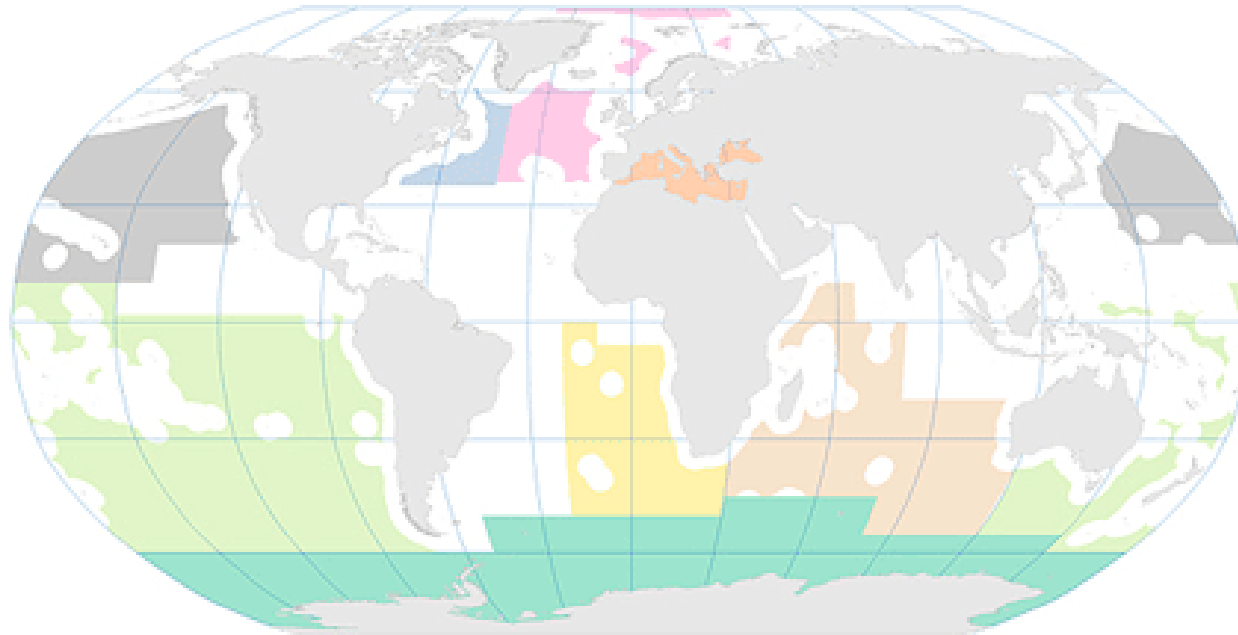


Background

- **Use of FADs increasing in tuna fisheries**
 - Since 1990s with use of GPS
- **Types of FADs**
 - Artificial and natural
 - Anchored and drifting
 - Buoys and echosounders

Background

- **All RFMOS have purse seine catch & effort measures**
 - These also regulate fishing on FADs, by controlling fishing
- **Variation in between RFMOs**



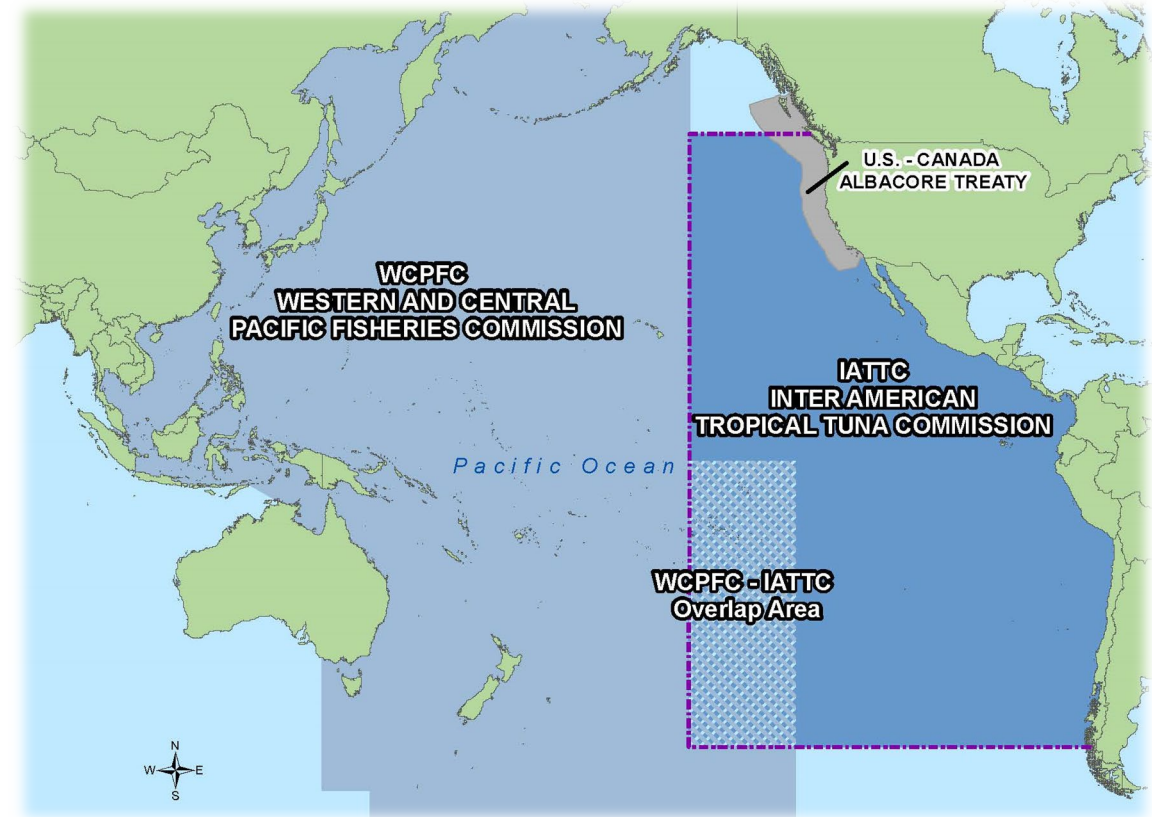
IATTC

- **FAD types**
 - Only drifting FADs
 - Most have buoys
- **Purse seine effort measures**
 - Fleet capacity limits
 - 72-day fishing closure all areas
 - 31 day time/area closure “corralito”



WCPFC

- **FAD types**
 - Most drifting FADs
 - Some anchored
 - Most have buoys
- **Purse seine effort measures**
 - 3 month FAD closure all areas
 - 2 month closure high seas
 - Limits on days fished



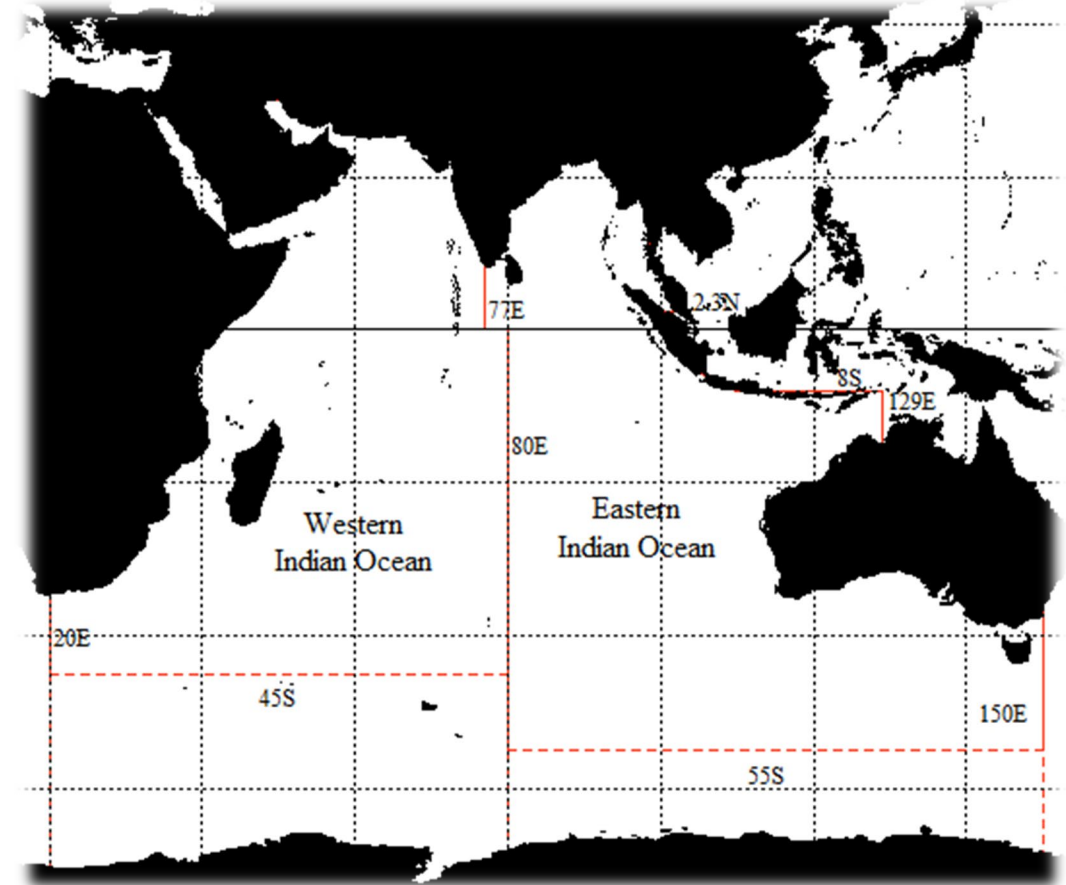
ICCAT

- **FAD types**
 - Most drifting
 - Some anchored - traditionally used in Caribbean & West Africa
- **Purse seine effort measures**
 - 2 month time/area closure on FADs
 - Applies to natural & man-made objects



IOTC

- **FAD types**
 - Drifting & anchored
 - Radio buoys phased out by 2017
- **Purse seine effort measures**
 - Currently no closures



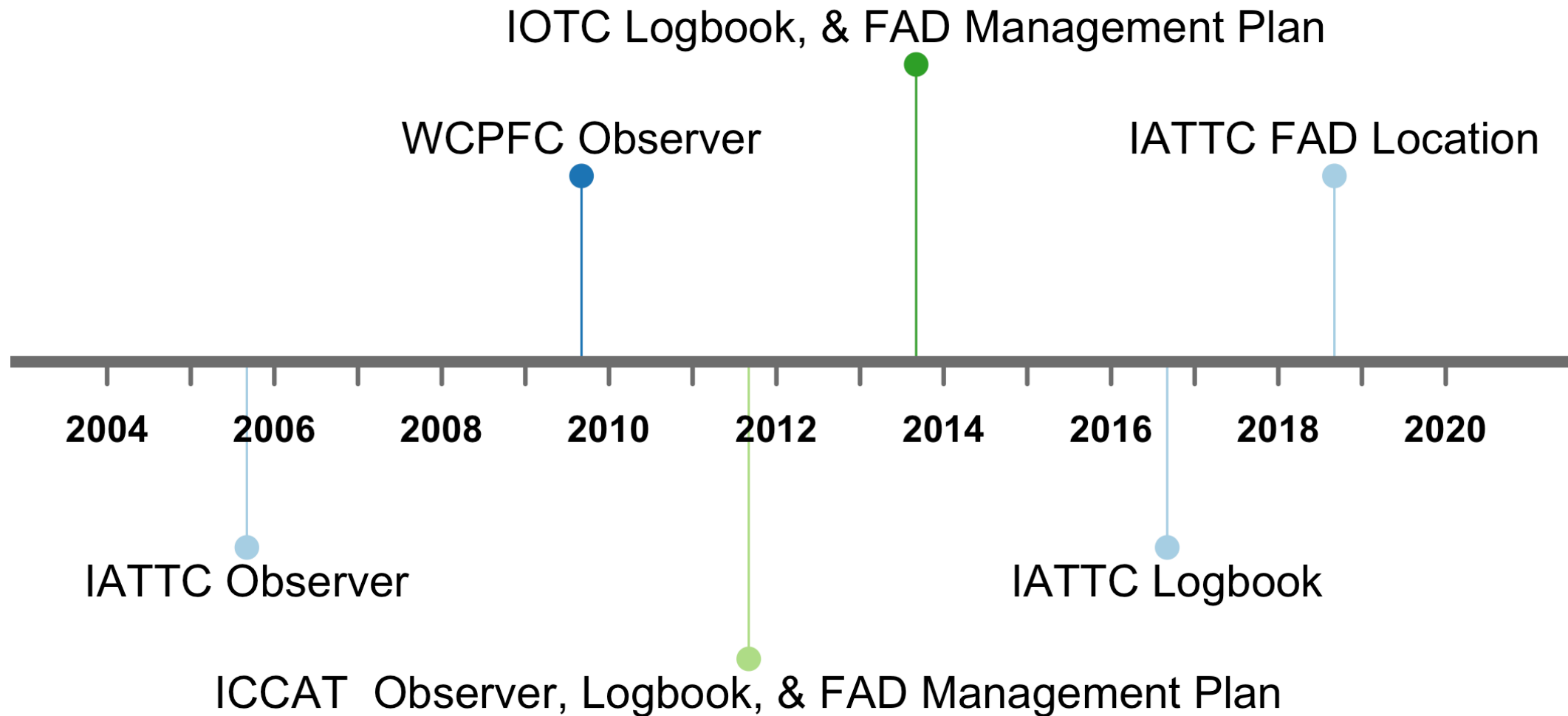
More recent FAD measures



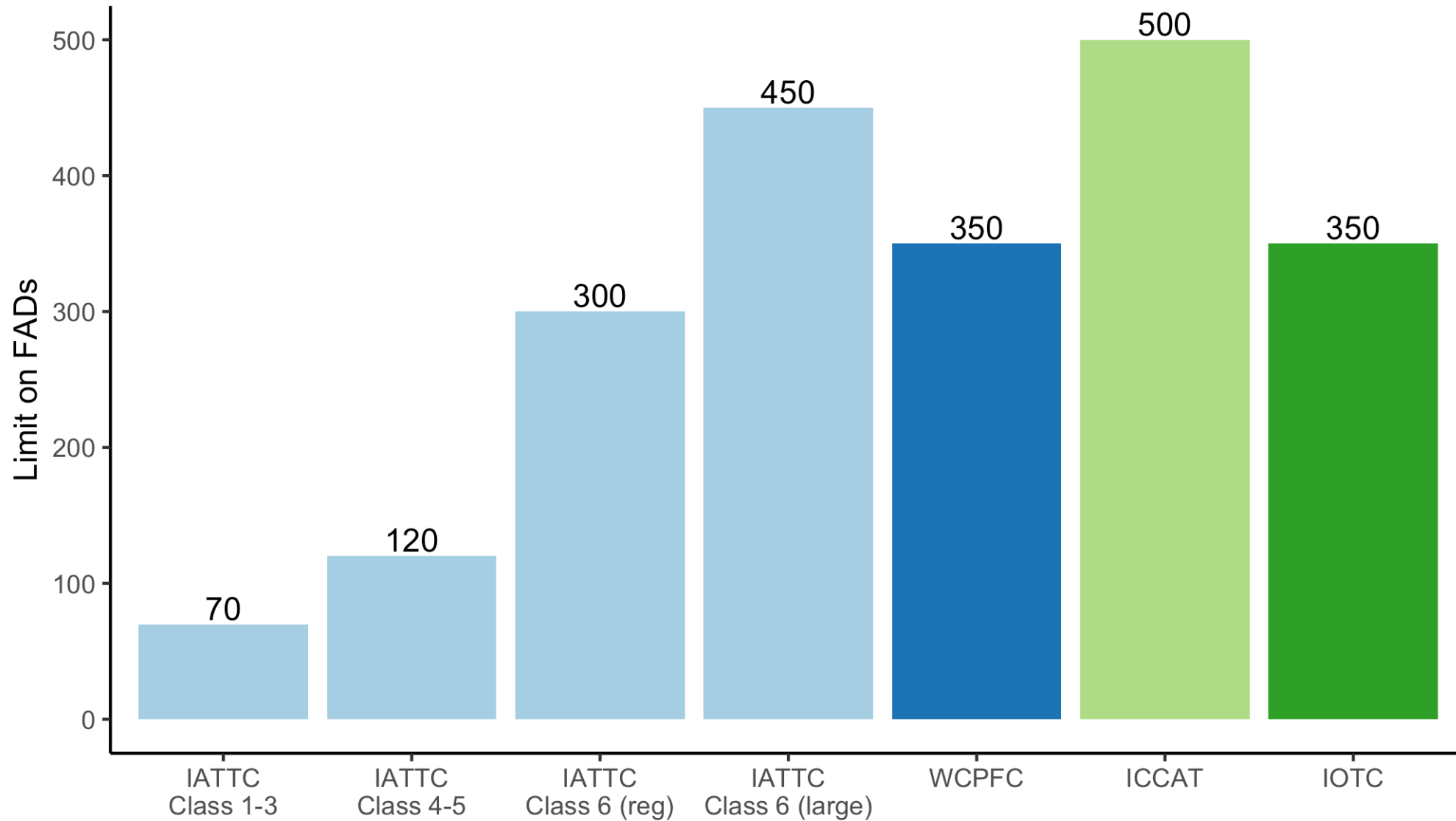
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FAD data reporting



Limits on active buoys/FADs



Marking requirements

- **IATTC (2016)**
 - Requires FADs be marked
 - Either manufacturer ID or
 - alphanumeric codes from IATTC



FAD designs

- **IATTC & WCPFC**
 - Biodegradable recommendations
 - Less-entangling requirements
- **ICCAT**
 - Non-entangling requirements
- **IOTC**
 - Non-entangling recommendations



Comparison of FAD measures

RFMO	Closures	Data reporting	Marking	Active limits	less/non-entangling	Biodegradable (recommendations)
IATTC	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
WCPFC	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
ICCAT	✓	✓		✓	✓	
IOTC		✓		✓		

Future measures

- **Limits on FAD deployments**
- **Tracking and monitoring**
- **Options for FAD retrievals**
- **Biodegradable or non-plastic materials**
- **Use of technology to avoid bycatch**

Thank you U.S. delegation

- **Melanie King**
- **Rini Ghosh**
- **Alex Kahl**
- **David O'Brien**
- **Valerie Post**



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Questions