



FIRMS Technical Working Group Meeting
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FIRMS INFORMATION MANAGEMENT POLICY: STANDARD CONVENTION FOR MARINE RESOURCE TITLE (from FSC2)
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For the sake of clarity in FIRMS system, in order to have a homogeneous presentation or to facilitate search, the naming of Marine Resources and Fisheries has to follow some conventions. At the same time, data owners have their own naming conventions, which they want to be reflected within FIRMS. Where the concept of Marine Resource is quite simple and always defined with the two same components, the concept of Fishery is broader, which makes more difficult the establishment of naming conventions.

*The purpose of this document is to present the criteria to be used as FIRMS naming convention for **Marine Resources**. This presentation is based on the English name but it is assumed that it is applicable to the 5 official FAO languages.*

In this document, **the words or sections over yellow background** highlight the slight modifications as requested by FSC2 which otherwise endorsed the standard convention for Marine resource title.

1. Objective

In FIRMS system, each **Marine** Resource is represented by one FIGIS Reference Object, and by the FIRMS Observation object(s) attached to each Reference Object.

The naming attributes proposed for a reference object are:

- FIRMS name in English
- FIRMS name in French
- FIRMS name in Spanish

- A local name selected by the data owner. This local name might be in any language.

The naming attributes proposed for a FIRMS observation object are:

- FIRMS name in the 5 Official FAO languages: English, French, Spanish, Arabic and Chinese.
- Local name in different languages.

2. Marine Resources

2.1 Concept

The term "**Marine** Resource" represents a fishery biological concept which covers all types of association between a species (or a group of species) and an area. The term stock is more restrictive. It delimits in space distinct breeding populations. According to these definitions, a stock is a particular example of **Marine** Resource.

2.2 Rules for naming convention

- The name of a **Marine** Resource should show off both its biotic component and its area component.
- The biotic component of the **Marine** Resource name should be based on common name used by international classifications (e.g. ASFIS for taxonomic names). If the biotic component includes more than one names, the comma (“,”) is used as separator.
- The area component should be the name used for the area, which means that the use of codes or acronyms should be avoided, or put at the end in parenthesis. The name of the area should **refer to standard** international or regional naming classifications and conventions (country names, Oceans and seas names, etc...), **either from the ASFIS list of geographical terms or from CWP handbook. Consistency with the naming convention would also imply that, for contributions from partners other than FAO, the statistical area used by the partner would take precedence over the reference to FAO statistical areas.** When the area component includes more than one name, they are separated by a comma (“,”).
- The biotic component and the area component are separated by the symbol “ – “.

Examples:

Source	Local Name	FIRMS English name
CECAF	Sparidés dans la région nord ouest africaine	Seabreams - Northwest Africa
CECAF	Pageot (<i>Pagellus bellottii</i>) au Maroc, Mauritanie, Sénégal, Gambie 35° 45"-12°18"	Red pandora - Morocco, Mauritania, Senegal and Gambia
ICES	North-East Arctic haddock (Sub-areas I and II)	Haddock - Barents Sea, Norwegian Sea, Spitzbergen and Bear Island
ICES	Nephrops in Division IVa, West of 2°E, excluding Management Area F (Management Area G)	Norway lobster - North Sea (Fladen)

2.3 Some particular cases

Species for which there is only one stock

When there is only one single stock for a species, the common name of the species includes sometimes the name of the area delimitating the stock. In that case, when referring to the whole stock, it is useless to include in the name a specific component for the area. Or sometimes, the name of the species, even if not including the area name is used by authors to designate the whole stock (e.g Southern Bluefin tuna, Pacific Bluefin tuna).

Example:

Source	Local Name	FIRMS English name
IATC-SPC	Pacific bluefin tuna	Pacific bluefin tuna

Resources at global scale

When referring to all the stocks of a species (or a group of species), the term “global” is used as area component of the resource name.

Example:

Source	Local Name	FIRMS English name
FAO	All Bluefin tuna species	Bluefin tuna species - Global

Different stocks of the same species within the same area

Different populations of the same species may be located in the same area at different season. In that case, the biotic component must include an additional qualifier in order to make the name of each stock unique.

Example:

Source	Local Name	FIRMS English name
ICES	Herring in Sub-divisions 22-24 and Division IIIa (spring spawners)	Spring Spawning Herring - Skagerrak and Kattegat
ICES	Herring in Sub-area IV Division VIIId and Division IIIa (autumn spawners)	Autumn Spawning Herring - North Sea, Eastern Channel, Skagerrak