

Mexico Baja California red sea urchin - diver-caught

Overview

FIP Description

The Mexico Baja California North Pacific red sea urchin - diver-caught FIP is being implemented to obtain the certification for MSC Fisheries Standard. The interest of implementing this FIP arose from the project [Fish for Good](#) of the MSC, whose results identified the potential of the red sea urchin fishery on the west coast of Baja California, Mexico to enter in a process of fishery improvement. As part of the initial stages of this FIP, the fishery is also entering the ITM (In Transition to MSC Certification) program of the MSC.

The target stock is distributed along the western coast of the Baja California Peninsula from the Coronado Islands to Cedros Island in Baja California. The fleet is licensed and registered fishermen in Baja California, operating small vessels with hookah-equipment, organized mainly in fishing cooperatives.

The FIP stakeholders are these fishermen, federal and state governments, an academic institution and an NGO. The stakeholders developed a work plan to meet the improvement recommendations from the MSC pre-assessment to achieve a sustainable fishery status by the end of 2027.

El FIP de erizo rojo está siendo implementado para obtener la certificación para pesquerías sostenibles del MSC. El interés de implementar este FIP surgió del proyecto denominado [Fish for Good](#) del MSC, en cuyos resultados se identificó el potencial de la pesquería de erizo rojo en la costa occidental de Baja California, México para entrar en un proceso de mejora pesquera. Como parte de las etapas iniciales de este FIP, la pesquería además está entrando en el programa ITM (*In Transition to MSC certification*) del MSC.

El stock objetivo se distribuye a lo largo de la costa occidental de la Península de Baja California desde las Islas Coronado hasta Isla de Cedros en Baja California. La flota cuenta con pescadores autorizados y registrados en Baja California, operando embarcaciones pequeñas con equipo de *hookah*, organizados principalmente en cooperativas pesqueras.

Los participantes del FIP son estos pescadores, gobiernos federal y estatal, academia y OSC. Quienes desarrollaron un plan de trabajo para cumplir con las recomendaciones de mejoras como resultado de la preevaluación del MSC, para lograr un estatus de pesquería sostenible para fines de 2027.

How is this FIP Doing?

Current Status:



Actions Progress This shows the proportion of actions in the workplan that the FIP has completed.



Actions Overview This shows the proportion of actions that are behind schedule, on track, completed, or not yet started.

Behind	On Track	Complete	Future
0%	91%	9%	0%

FIP Progress Rating

C - Some Recent Progress

FIP Objective(s)

Improve key aspects of the red sea urchin fishery in Baja California to achieve an adequate level of sustainability, allowing for MSC certification by December 2027

By the project's target end date, the FIP aims to achieve the following:

- Improve the sustainability of the Red Sea Urchin fishery by ensuring all Performance Indicators (PIs) reach a score of at least 60, with the Overall BMT Index achieving 0.8 or higher by December 2027.
- Protect the biomass and promote sustainable stock exploitation by developing and implementing a robust Harvest Strategy, including Harvest Control Rules (HCR), an effective Information and Monitoring System, and periodic assessments of stock status by December 2027.
- Build capacity and promote collaboration by organizing training programs, strengthening cooperation among cooperatives, organizations, and institutions, and establishing a consultative committee for the fishery by December 2026.
- Enhance market incentives and improve the fishery value chain by promoting good practices throughout the production chain, leveraging market tools and incentives such as fair trade business models and engaging buyers committed to sustainable fishing by December 2027.

FIP Type

Comprehensive

FIP Stage

Stage 5: Improvements on the Water

Start and Projected End Dates

January, 2020 -
December, 2027

Species

Common Name

Red Sea Urchin

Scientific Name

Mesocentrotus franciscanus

Gear Type

[Diver-Caught](#)

Location

FAO Major Fishing Area

[Area 77 \(Pacific, Eastern Central\)](#)

Exclusive Economic Zones**Country**

Mexico

Geographic Scope

Baja California state west coast

Estimated Total FIP Landings

198 metric tons

FIP Leads

Organization Name

Pronatura Noroeste A.C.

Organization Type

NGO

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