

Mexico Baja California Sur blue and brown shrimp – bottom trawl/cast net

Overview

FIP Description

The Magdalena Bay shrimp FIP started in 2010 in collaboration with Tai Foong USA and the Sustainable Fisheries Partnership (SFP). The project leadership was transferred to Northern Chef in January 2014.

The Pacific Ocean is the most productive fishing area in Mexico, providing approximately 75 percent of seafood catch by volume, and accounting for most of the country's seafood exports by value. Shrimp in the northwest Pacific coast of Mexico is the most important fishery in Mexico. It has the highest economic value of landings, averaging \$260 million. It is also the highest-ranked fishery in terms of the number of vessels (750 bottom trawlers and about 18,000 small-scale vessels) and the number of direct jobs (37,000 direct jobs as well as 75,000 indirect ones). It places third in terms of volume with annual captures of approximately 50,000 tons during the fishing season which begins in September and runs through March.

The Magdalena Bay shrimp fishery generates annual landings of 3 million pounds with a value of \$15 million USD. Seventy percent of the total landings are brown shrimp and 30 percent are Pacific blue shrimp. The fishery operates with 27-foot-long vessels equipped with outboard motors. In the case of brown shrimp, the vessels are equipped with a 35-foot head rope bottom trawl. For blue shrimp, the gear utilized is the Suripera, a modified cast net. In both cases, the fishing unit is operated by two fishermen who conduct daily trips, usually nocturnal for brown shrimp and diurnal for blue shrimp.

The fishery is regulated by the Mexican Official Standard NOM-002-SAG/PESC-2013 which establishes access controls (fishing licenses and concessions) and fishing gear and fishing grounds restrictions. CONAPESCA opens and closes the fishing season according to the scientific advice provided by INAPESCA which has a continuing monitoring program on shrimp stocks. The most recent abundance estimates indicate that both stocks yields are above the historic averages which confirm the recovery trends.

In October 2017, the Monterey Bay Aquarium Seafood Watch Program published a new report and recommendations on Mexican wild shrimp, giving the fishery a Good Alternative recommendation. The new recommendations for blue shrimp (*Litopenaeus stylirostris*) can be found [here](#) and for the brown shrimp (*Penaeus californiensis*) can be found [here](#).

How is this FIP Doing?

Current Status:



% of Indicators Tracked Basic FIPs may focus their workplans on a subset of the indicators. This shows the proportion of total indicators the FIP is working on.



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%	30%	70%	0%

FIP Progress Rating



FIP Objective(s)

General Objective:

By the end of 2027, the FIP aims to comply with the MSC indicators for sustainable fisheries fully.

This FIP is also working towards completing the following objectives:

- By the end of 2025, the fishery's short and long-term management objectives are clearly identified.
- By the end of 2026, the fishery's bycatch mortality is known.
- By the end of 2027, the fishery's impact on the habitat and on the ecosystem will be understood.

FIP Type

Basic

FIP Stage

Stage 4: Improvements in Fishing Practices or Fishery Management

Start and Projected End Dates

September, 2010 -
June, 2027

Species**Common Name**

Brown Shrimp

Scientific Name

Penaeus californiensis

Common Name

Blue Shrimp

Scientific Name

Penaeus stylirostris

Gear Type

[Bottom Trawl](#)

[Cast Net](#)

Location**FAO Major Fishing Area**

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

Exclusive Economic Zones**Country**

Mexico

Geographic Scope

Bahia Magdalena-Almejas system Southern Baja California

Estimated Total FIP Landings

99 metric tons

FIP Leads

Organization Name

Tai Foong USA

Organization Type

Industry

Primary Contact

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Organization Name

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Organization Type

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