

## Mexico Baja California Peninsula finfish - trap/handline

### Overview

#### FIP Description

The Cooperative Ensenada is located on the west coast of the state of Baja California (BC) and has been active since 1940. Currently, this cooperative has 84 members and 159 people employed in the processing plant (129 men and 30 women) and has two concessions: abalone and red lobster. This cooperative serves the local and global market, under social responsibility (with the members of the Cooperative, their families and the rural community of El Rosario) and a deep commitment to the species they sell, respecting the closures and quotas. Likewise, the members of this cooperative are leaders in the repopulation and conservation programs of banks of particular species, operating with an adequate combination of performance and value. The cooperative Ensenada has 3 main fishing fields: Punta Baja, La Lobera and Faro de San Jose.

The Productores Nacionales de Abulón Cooperative has been active since 1936. This fishing cooperative captures fishing resources from clean and rich waters that surround Cedros Island and the San Benito Islands, located in the Pacific Ocean, off the Baja California Peninsula.

The cooperative California de San Ignacio was established on April 6, 1939, with an initial register of 45 members. It is located in Bahia Asuncion, Baja California Sur, where they capture and process several marine species among the ocean whitefish captured with handlines. They will participate in the FIP only with this species. Its mission is fundamentally based on teamwork, the best quality in seafood, development and effort by its members and the community, care for the environment; the strengthening of our social organization, activities, and attitudes that are always present in our cooperative society.

The finfish fisheries are multi-specific and use multiple gears the most used are handlines and traps. Two of the most selective fishing gears that have a minimal impact on the habitats where it is used, however, this fishery can target a wide variety of fish, with very different life-history characteristics. The fishers from both cooperatives are aware of the high pressure being exerted to the main species captured Ocean whitefish (*C. princeps*), California sheephead (*Semicossyphus pulcher*), barred sand bass (*P. nebulifer*), starry rockfish (*Sebastes constellatus*) and vermilion rockfish (*S. miniatus*), in the BC peninsula in the last years and they are interested in developing a sustainable fishery to set an example in the region. Commercial harvest for these groups of fishes is conducted in small vessels using different fishing gears, hook and lines with live bait (sardine and mackerel)

and traps in open seas and areas near the coast.

Unfortunately, there is a lack of biological and fishery information for this fishery in Mexico. In the National Fishery Chart (INAPESCA, 2010) the above-mentioned species are classified as coastal finfish. This group is composed of a large diversity of species, with different life cycles, including those that inhabit the coast and lagoons up to the border of the external continental shelf which can reach near 200 meters depth. This group is managed without short and long-term species-specific objectives. For this reason, the cooperative Ensenada approached Comunidad y Biodiversidad, A. C. (COBI) to ask for guidance on how to reach international fishery standards, in order to continue with the good practices applied and the sustainable use of the marine resources.

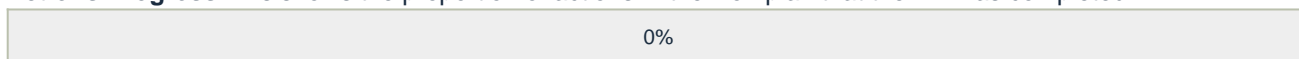
This FIP is going to a Comprehensive (2020-2024).

## 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%	100%	0%	0%

**Red Indicator Progress** This shows the proportion of actions specifically addressing red indicators that are behind schedule, on track, completed, or not yet started. This helps users understand the progress the FIP is making on the biggest challenges in the fishery.

Behind	On Track	Complete	Future
0%	100%	0%	0%

### FIP Progress Rating



### FIP Objective(s)

The objective of this FIP is to generate biological and population information of the five species of this FIP: Ocean whitefish, California sheephead, Barred sand bass, and Starry and Vermilion rockfish, to propose management strategies to transform the management of artisanal trap and handline fishery in El Rosario, Baja

California, through the implementation of all 28 indicators of the sustainable fishing standard MSC, and achieve certification of this fishery by 2024.

Specifically, the FIP aims to achieve the following by 2024:

- Generate basic information of the fishery by monitoring the fishing logbooks (January-December, 2020-2024).
- Generate information of the population of the five FIP species (stock assessment, fishery reference points, ECOPATH analysis, PSA, reproductive cycle) (January 2020-December 2021).
- Promote the development of regulations of specific harvest strategies in the species of the finfish fishery (January 2022- December 2024).
- Create a route (process paths) of action to promote the generation and/or mobilization of legal instruments (FMP, NOM, regulations, etc.) to generate political changes (April 2021-December 2024).
- Design and promote a monitor compliance system in the fishing cooperative (October 2022-December 2024).

**FIP Type**

Comprehensive

**FIP Stage**

Stage 5: Improvements on the Water

**Start and Projected End Dates**

December, 2017 -

December, 2024

**Species**

**Common Name**

Ocean Whitefish

**Scientific Name**

Caulolatilus princeps

**Common Name**

California Sheephead

**Scientific Name**

Semicossyphus pulcher

**Common Name**

Barred Sand Bass

**Scientific Name**

Paralabrax nebulifer

**Common Name**

Vermillion Rockfish

**Scientific Name**

Sebastes miniatus

**Common Name**

Red Rockfish

**Scientific Name**

Sebastes constellatus

**Gear Type**

[Handline](#)

[Pot/Trap](#)

**Location**

**FAO Major Fishing Area**

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

**Exclusive Economic Zones**

**Country**

Mexico

**Geographic Scope**

El Rosario (Baja California)

**Country**

Mexico

**Geographic Scope**

Isla de Cedros

**Country**

Mexico

**Geographic Scope**

Bahia Asuncion, Baja California Sur.

**Estimated Total FIP Landings**

302 metric tons

**FIP Leads****Organization Name**

Comunidad y Biodiversidad, A.C.

**Organization Type**

NGO

**Primary Contact**

Alesa Flores

**Email**

[aflores@cobi.org.mx](mailto:aflores@cobi.org.mx)

**Phone**

+52 622 222 49 90

**Website Name**

[COBI](#)

© Fishery Progress. All Rights Reserved.

**Source URL:** <https://fisheryprogress.org/fip-profile/el-rosario-baja-california-ocean-whitefish-handlinetrap>