

*Mexico Oaxaca artisanal skipjack and black skipjack tuna – handline*



09 DE FEBRERO DEL 2026

# Avances del Proyecto de Mejora Pesquera (FIP) del Barrilete

EN PUERTO ÁNGEL, OAXACA



**¡Hacia una pesca más responsable,  
ordenada y sostenible!**

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### **Introduction**

Fishing is not only an economic activity but also a way of life that sustains numerous families and coastal communities. In many regions of the world, and particularly in Mexico, marine resources face pressures stemming from increased fishing effort, environmental changes, and the need to guarantee decent livelihoods for those who depend on the sea. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) indicates that a significant portion of global fish stocks require improved management strategies to ensure their long-term sustainability (FAO, 2022).

In response to this situation, Fisheries Improvement Projects (FIPs) have emerged as a tool to promote gradual and collective changes toward more responsible practices. These processes foster collaboration among fishers, civil society organizations, buyers, and authorities, with the aim of strengthening the organization, improving information about the resource, and ensuring that fishing is carried out under principles of sustainability and shared responsibility (FAO, 1995).

In the case of the skipjack tuna, a species of importance to the local economy and regional consumption, the Fisheries Improvement Project represents an opportunity to consolidate good practices, strengthen community participation and move towards a fishing model that guarantees the permanence of the resource for future generations.

The event, “Progress Report on the Barrilete Fisheries Improvement Project (FIP),” was held as a forum for meeting and dialogue, where participants shared the progress achieved, the lessons learned, and the challenges that remain. Beyond presenting results, the objective was to reaffirm the collective commitment to responsible fishing, built by and for the communities.

### **Aim**

- To present progress on the Skipjack Tuna Fisheries Improvement Project, as well as to share the results of biological monitoring, the state of the fishery and the actions being implemented to strengthen a more responsible, orderly and sustainable fishing in the region.
- Discuss possible capture strategies for the skipjack tuna fishery in Punta Sacrificio, Oaxaca

The session is aimed at local authorities, institutions, individuals involved in the fisheries value chain, fishers, and the general public interested in the sustainable development of the fisheries sector. It will be an open forum for dialogue where the project's main achievements, challenges, and opportunities will be shared, as well as the work plan for 2026.

### **1. Event Development**

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The event took place at the municipal agency of Puerto Ángel, between 11:00 am and 3:00 pm, in February 2026. There were a total of 34 attendees, including academics, state, federal, municipal representatives, civil society organizations, and fishermen.

### **2. Welcome**

#### **2.2 Presentation and integration**

With the aim of integrating the attendees, Professor Ángel Galeana began with a few words of welcome followed by an icebreaker activity that aimed to get everyone to introduce themselves.

### **3. Presentation of the progress of the Fisheries Improvement Project (FIP)**

A reminder was given about the Fisheries Improvement Project, as well as the established work plan and the importance of the biological monitoring program carried out jointly with local fishermen.

The relevance of this program for decision-making within the project was explained, as well as the main data collected during the monitoring sessions, including information on sizes, catches, and fishing effort. The active participation of fishermen and fishmongers was emphasized, as they are fundamental to strengthening the sustainable management of the resource.

Furthermore, it was emphasized that the project's focus is on strengthening and supporting sustainable fishing practices, particularly those already developed under schemes compatible with regulations and sustainability criteria, since the project prioritizes practices aligned with sustainable fishing.

The intervention generated a space for dialogue that allowed for clarifying the scope of the project and the technical and regulatory criteria that guide the actions of monitoring and supporting fishing activity.

Subsequently, the informational flyer on the results of the research entitled “*Analysis of the Population Status of the Skipjack Tuna*” was presented. This material is the result of the analysis of data from fisheries monitoring carried out between 2022 and 2025.

The document was designed as a trifold brochure, with the option to expand it into an informational poster. Its content begins with background information on the black skipjack tuna fishery in Puerto Ángel, followed by the section "Who is the black skipjack tuna?", accompanied by an image of the species. It also includes practical recommendations for fishermen, information on some bycatch species in this fishery, and data on the distribution of the black skipjack tuna, indicating the peak catch months.

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The material also includes a map showing the main fishing sites and areas with the highest catches recorded during the 2022–2025 period. It also incorporates information on the species' growth and size structure, showing the most frequent estimated ages and average sizes (in centimeters). This section emphasizes the importance of understanding growth parameters for a better comprehension of the population status and for making decisions aimed at the sustainable management of the resource. Each event participant received a flyer .

The population health of the skipjack tuna and the influence of sea surface temperatures on the variability of monthly and annual catches were also presented. The maximum allowable catch for the region was presented and discussed with the fishermen, as a maximum sustainable yield for the skipjack tuna population had been established.

Also, a preliminary project on fish waste-biprocessor was presented, with the objective of establishing a management program for fish waste from Puerto Ángel, as a sustainable management measure.

### **4. Closing**

To conclude the event, a reflection and agreement were reached on the activity, and fishermen and participants were given the opportunity to share their feelings and experiences, not only about the event, but also about their experiences throughout the fisheries improvement project.

Also discussed were possible capture strategies for the skipjack tuna fishery in Puerto Ángel, to keep the population above the maximum sustainable yield.

### **5. Equipment delivery**

As an incentive, printed materials were given to the fishermen, the flyer entitled “Artisanal Fishing of Black Skipjack ( *Euthynnus lineatus* )” was given out, the “code of conduct for responsible fishing in the artisanal skipjack fishery” on behalf of SMART FISH, buffs with a black skipjack design were given out .

### **6. Participants**

There were a total of 34 attendees from diverse backgrounds but related to the sector.

#### **• Civil society organizations**

Oaxaca Committee for Aquaculture Health and Safety AC: Biologist Celso Guerrero Villalobos, Romel Ortiz Luna

Oaxaca Fund for Conservation AC: Agustín Ruiz Gutierrez , Alicia Muñoz Ray, Stephani García Luna, Osvaldo Jimenez Rossini, Efraín Castillo Lorenzano

Smartfish AC: Yuliesky Garces Rodriguez

Wild Coast: Gabriela García Vázquez

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- **Academics**

University of the Sea, Puerto Ángel Campus: Dr. Genoveva Cerdaneres Ladrón de Guevara. -Researcher at the Population Dynamics Laboratory and the Ichthyology and Fisheries Biology Laboratory,

Technological Institute of Pochutla: Prof. Ángel Galeana, Andrea Estrella Dionisio Cirilo, Biaani Celeste Alcantara Gonzalez , Angel Adolfo Serrano Ortiz.

- **Federals**

SEFADER: Hugo Sánchez Barón, Juan Antonio Ortega Amador, Carolina Cruz Moreno, Claudia Victoria, representatives of SEFADER in the Entity

CONANP: Roxana Martinez Canseco; CONANP, Huatulco.

FIRA (Trusts Established in Relation to Agriculture) : Pedro Emmanuel Flores Montes.

- **Cooperative Societies**

Punta Sacrificio Cooperative Society

Port Reform Cooperative Society Bahía la Tijera Cooperative Society

Production Cooperative Society Mazunte- Zipolite Fishing Community

## **7. Annexes and photos**



Profesor Ángel Galeana del Tecnológico de Pochutla exponiendo

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Efraín Castillo consultor del FOCN



Yuliesky Garcés de SMART FISH presentando sobre la salud poblacional del barrilete

Oswaldo Jiménez hablando sobre el monitoreo de barrilete negro



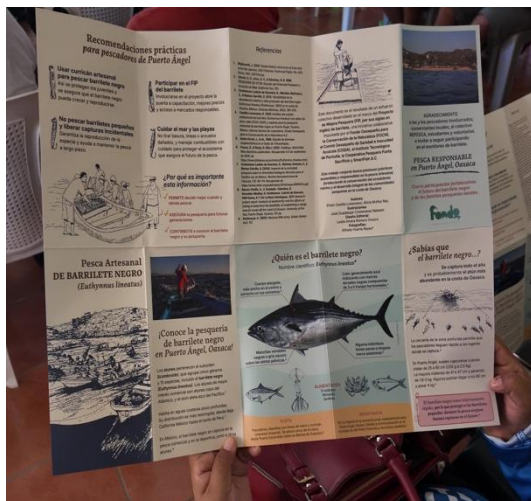
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Ingeniero Romel de COSIA hablando sobre los avances de la comercialización



Alicia coordinadora de pesca sustentable haciendo entrega de los folletos

Rifa de productos



Flyer de los resultados del monitoreo del barrilete negro

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Pescadores con su buff otorgado por SMART FISH



Foto grupal con todos los asistentes

**8. Bibliographic references**

FAO. (1995). *Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries* . Rome: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

FAO. (2022). *The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture 2022 (SOFIA)* . Rome: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.  
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