

Mexico Baja California Sur blue and brown
shrimp – bottom trawl/cast net]
Fishery Improvement Project (FIP)

**Action 3. Evaluate the impact of fishery on
the habitat and on the ecosystem.**

Six-Month Progress Report

June 2025

Task 1. Gather the essential data for evaluating the impact on both the habitat and ecosystem.

Task 2. Assess how fishing gear affects the habitat using a Productivity-Susceptibility Analysis.

Task 3. Determine the impact of fishing on the habitat using a Consequence Spatial Analysis.

Task 4. Evaluate the effects of the fishery on the ecosystem through a Scale Intensity Consequence Analysis.

As outlined in the annual report submitted in October 2024, efforts to collect spatial data continue to identify key fishing areas and assess the potential impact of fishing gear on the habitat. In support of this initiative, funding was recently secured through the Marine Stewardship Council to hire a consultant who will lead the project titled: *Assessment of the Habitat Impact of Artisanal Shrimp Trawling in Bahía Magdalena, Baja California Sur, Mexico*.

The table below presents the planned schedule of activities and the expected outcomes of this assessment.

Table 1. Activity schedule and expected outcomes.

Month	Activities	Outputs
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Review of specialized literature ii. Selection of study areas iii. Interviews with fishers and experts 	Technical document with validated fishing zone boundaries.
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Collection of fishing effort data ii. Fishing gear characterization 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Georeferenced database of fishing effort Technical profiles of the fishing gear
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. GIS analysis of benthic habitats ii. Review of associated bycatch 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Habitat map Ecological description of benthic fauna
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Parameterization of the Benthic Impact Tool (BIT) model ii. Integration of input data (effort, substrate, gear, fauna) 	Interim report on model setup with preliminary simulations

Month	Activities	Outputs
5	i. Analysis of results: Relative Benthic Status (RBS), depletion rates, and recovery rates	Spatial impact atlas MSC score for each habitat (Indicator 2.3.1a of the MSC Standard v3.1)
6	i. Final technical report ii. Draft paper writing	Final report Scientific publication draft

The consultant signed the contract this June and will be working on the project over the next six months. Upon submission of the final report, all tasks will be formally completed, thereby finalizing Activity 3.