

# Mexico Puerto Peñasco & Puerto Lobos swimming crab - pot/trap

## Overview

### FIP Description

The blue swimming crab (*Callinectes bellicosus*) fishery from the Puerto Peñasco – Puerto Lobos coastal corridor (Sonora, Mexico; 399 boats and 207 official fishing permits) produces on average 1.2 thousand tons/year, with metallic mesh Chesapeake traps (typically 90 traps/boat).

In its present condition and according to the Marine Stewardship Council Standard, **48 percent of the performance indicators for the fishery are “GREEN”** (stock rebuilding capacity; information and monitoring for management; stock assessment; ETP species; habitat information and management; ecosystem information and outcome; legal framework; and consultation, roles and responsibilities). **36 percent of its indicators are “YELLOW”** because: i) stock assessment should yet recognize extractions from illegal fishing effort (as big as the legal effort at the present) and mortality induced by industrial shrimp trawling; ii) fisheries ordination opportunities and fisheries refuges must be operative for reducing present mortality levels by 10 percent; iii) the management plan must recognize stock reference points; iv) responsible fishing operations and low bycatch rates must be endorsed by onboard observers; vi) impacts of biomass removals of snail, sand bass and triggerfish as bycatch of the swimming crab fishery must be dimensioned; vii) ghost fishing related to lost and abandoned crab traps must be assessed and eliminated. **16 percent of the fishery indicators are “RED”** because: i) the fishery management plan lacks management objectives, population reference points, action plan, as well as agreed evaluation mechanisms and decision-making processes; ii) surveillance programs deterring poaching are missing.

During the first year, CEDO will implement a technical work plan for improving the commercial fishing operations of [S.C.P.P. Ejidal Bahía San Jorge](#). [CEDO and the Rillito Park Heirloom Farmers Market will collaborate prospecting](#) and addressing additional funding for the FIP development. The core group will communicate and promote improvements to the official management plan among INAPESCA, CONAPESCA, and other local and regional organized fishers.

The technical work plan consists of: i) the operation of a season-round (2019-2020) and community-based fishery monitoring program; ii) the operation of onboard and land-based swimming crab fishery bycatch monitoring programs; iii) the undertaking of catch efficiency and selectivity trials with different baits; iv) the mitigation of ghost fishing by derelict swimming crab traps; v) the undertaking of cost-benefit assessments for the

use of degradable clips in the construction of swimming crab traps; vi) the design and implementation of a wastes management and re-use plan for the swimming crab fishery; vii) the undertaking of biologic monitoring and detailed physical characterization of potential fishery refuges and viii) the continuous promotion of the FIP among INAPESCA, CONAPESCA and other local and regional organized fishers. Catch traceability options for the fishery will be additionally prospected. This work plan aims for the improvement of all 13 fishery performance indicators scored as yellow and red and implies the direct investment of USD \$44,571 during the first year.

## 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%	71%	29%	0%

### FIP Progress Rating



### FIP Objective(s)

- Generate updated information useful for improving recent and local swimming crab **stock assessments** by October 2023.
- Update the **bycatch characterization** of the local swimming crab fishery by October 2023.
- Assess catch efficiency and **selectivity with different baits** (season-round and endorsed and validated by the national fisheries authority) by October 2023.
- Dimension and characterize **ghost fishing** caused by derelict swimming crab traps and other fishing gears at the main fishing areas by March 2021.
- Assess advantages (constructions costs, catch efficiency, bycatch rates and operative easiness) of using **degradable clips** in the construction of swimming crab traps by April 2023.

- Dimension and characterize the generation of **solid and liquid wastes** by the fishery by March 2021.
- Monitor (according to a specific National Official Standard) the effectiveness of **fishery refuges** for the restoration of local stocks, by March 2022.
- Analyze and interpret a five-year series of ecosystem health **indicator** species data and achieve a sixth year of data by March 2021.
- Promote the utility of the FIP among fisheries authorities and other local and regional organized fishers and trigger the improvement of the fishery **management plan** by October 2023.

#### FIP Type

Basic

#### FIP Stage

Stage 5: Improvements on the Water

#### Start and Projected End Dates

April, 2019 -  
October, 2024

#### Species

##### Common Name

Cortez Swimming Crab

##### Scientific Name

Callinectes bellicosus

#### Gear Type

[Pot/Trap](#)

#### Location

##### FAO Major Fishing Area

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

##### Exclusive Economic Zones

##### Country

Mexico

##### Geographic Scope

Northern Gulf of California

**Estimated Total FIP Landings**

158 metric tons

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

Intercultural Center for the Study of Deserts and Oceans (CEDO)

**Organization Type**

NGO

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