

SEMARNAT

SECRETARÍA DE
MEDIO AMBIENTE
Y RECURSOS NATURALES



**XXIII Meeting of the Canada/Mexico/USA Trilateral
Committee for Wildlife and Ecosystem Conservation
and Management**

**Shepherdstown, West Virginia, U.S.
April 9-12, 2018**

**Country Update
Mexico**

Legislation:

Totoaba

- In **August 2017**, the Official Mexican Official Standard NOM-EM-169-SEMARNAT-2017, which establishes the marking specifications for the specimens, parts and derivatives of totoaba (*Totoaba macdonaldi*), was published in the Official Gazette of the Federation (DOF.) from the Management Units for the Conservation of Wildlife (UMA). In February 2018, an extension was published for six months.

- In **March 2018**, the Official Mexican Standard Project PROY-NOM-169-SEMARNAT-2018 was published in the DOF, which establishes the marking specifications for the specimens, parts and derivatives of totoaba (*Totoaba macdonaldi*), from UMA, which will come into force in May 2018.



Vaquita marina / Totoaba

- April 2013: Expansion of the protection polygon in the Upper Gulf of California.
- April 2015-2018: Agreement for the temporary suspension of fishing in the Upper Gulf of California.
- April 2015-2018: Application of the Social Compensation Program for the temporary suspension of fishing, has delivered more than 1,100 MDP= **61 million USD**
- 2015-2018: Development and implementation of new fishing gears for fisheries associated with the marine Vaquita ecosystem.

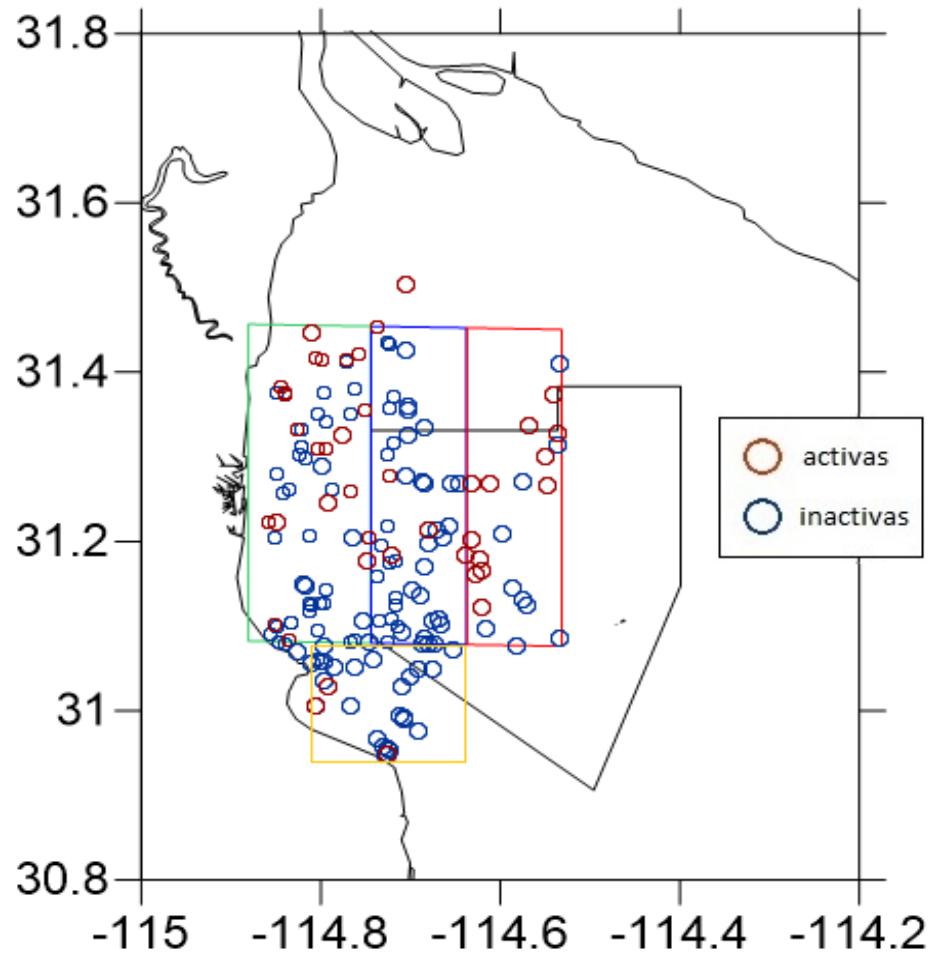


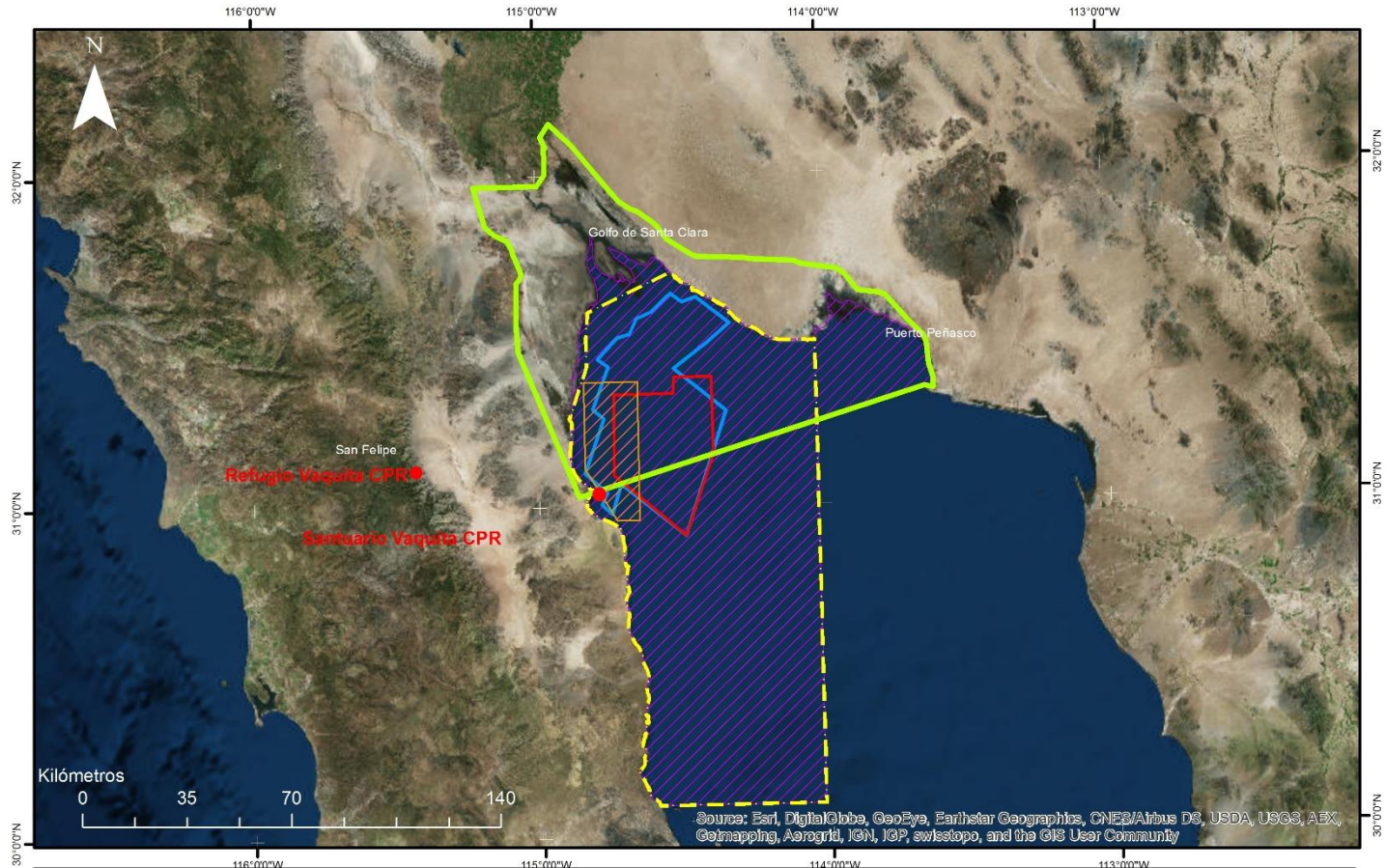
Vaquita marina / Totoaba

- 2015-2018: Development and implementation of the Inspection and Surveillance Program.
- December 2016: Publication in the Official Gazette of the guidelines that create programs to provide incentives to those who recover ghost networks.
- July 2016-2018: Operation of unmanned aircraft to support inspection and surveillance.
- August 2016-2018: Implementation of the ghost network retirement program.
- April 2017: Modification to the Federal Law of Organized Crime and the Federal Code of Criminal Procedures to criminalize the possession, transfer or commercialization of products and byproducts of wildlife with some protection status.
- June 2017: DiCaprio-Slim-Mexican Government Memorandum of Understanding
- July 2017: Entry into force of the Agreement for the definitive suspension of gillnets in the UGC.
- November-December 2017: Operation of the Vaquita CPR Program.
- 2017-2018: Incorporation of the Environmental Gendarmerie to the tasks of inspection and surveillance in the UGC.



GHOST NETWORK RETIREMENT PROGRAM





Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Geomapping, AeroGRID, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community

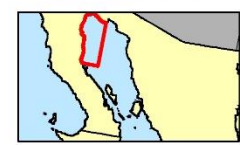
Estrategia Integral para la Protección de la Vaquita Marina

Fuente de Información Cartográfica INEGI y ESRI
Datum horizontal GCS WGS84
Escala: 1:1,750,000
Escala Gráfica: kilómetros

Simbología

- Santuario Vaquita CPR
- Zona de Exclusión Recomendada-2018, Superficie: 744.5 Km²
- ANP, Alto Golfo de California y DRC-1993, Superficie: 9,347 Km²
- Refugio Vaquita Marina-2005, Superficie: 1,272 km²
- Suspensión Temporal de Pesca - 2015-2017, Superficie: 11,521 km²
- Boyas e Hidróforos - 2015, Superficie: 2,353 km²
Superficie: 12,912 km²
- Suspensión definitiva de redes agalleras SEMARNAT-SAGARPA - 2017

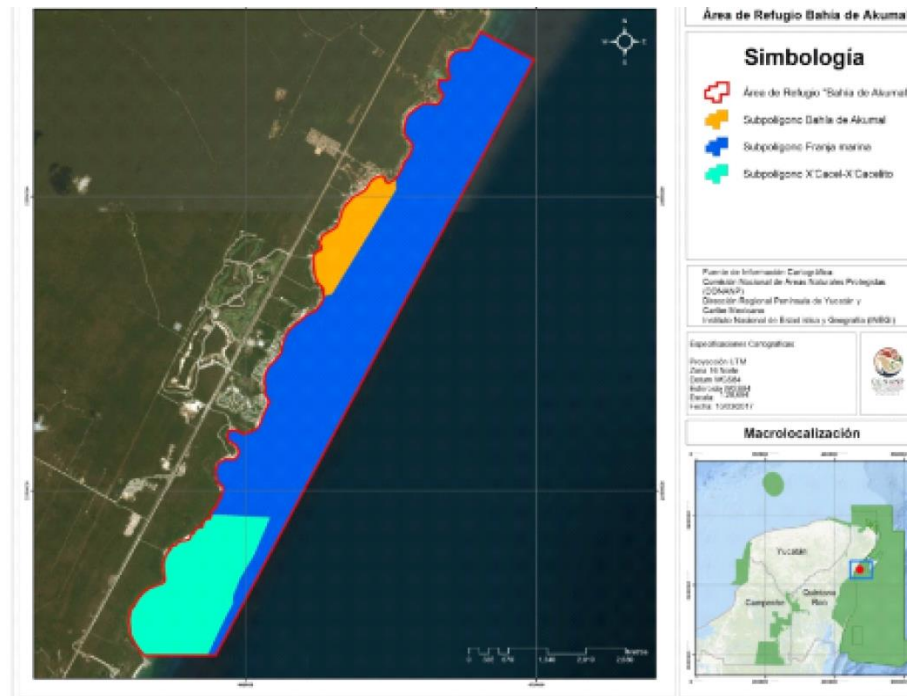
MACROLOCALIZACIÓN



Legislation:

Areas of refuge.

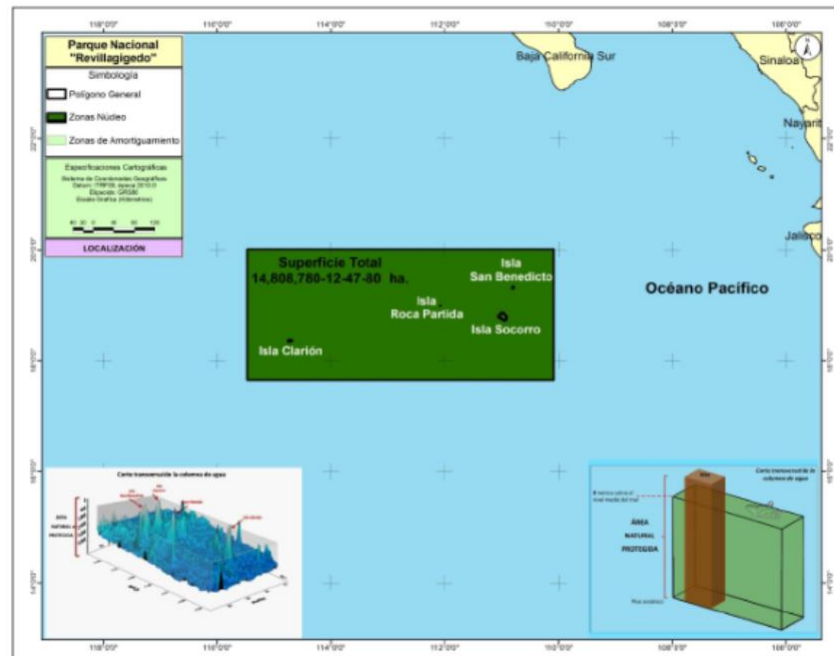
- In **October 2017**, the Agreement announcing the Protection Program of the Refuge Area for the **Protection of Marine Species** called **Akumal Bay**, created by Agreement published on March 7 2016, was published in the Official Gazette of the Federation.



Legislation:

Areas of refuge.

- In **November of 2017**, the was published in the Official Gazette of the Federation DECREE declaring as a natural protected area, with the character of a **national park**, the region known as **Revillagigedo**, located in the Mexican Pacific, with more than 14 million hectares.



Superficie insular
(15,518-22-15.26 hectáreas)

La superficie de **15,518-22-15.26 hectáreas** (QUINCE MIL QUINIENTAS DIECIOCHO HECTÁREAS, VEINTIDÓS ÁREAS, QUINCE PUNTO VEINTISÉIS CENTIÁREAS) corresponde a la superficie insular total que está conformada por la suma de la parte terrestre de los siguientes elementos insulares:

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION: TOTOABA (*TOTOABA MACDONALDI*)

TRILATERAL CHINA / UNITED STATES / MEXICO MEETING ON COMBAT TRAFFIC AND DEMAND

Meeting held from August 23 to 25, 2017 in Ensenada B. C., Mexico.

Participants:

- **China** (CITES, State Administration of Industry and Commerce, Customs and Fisheries Offices, Ministry of Agriculture).
- **USA** (NOAA, Fishing and Wildlife Services).
- **Mexico** (SEMARNAT, SEMAR, SAGARPA, PROFEPA, CONABIO, PGR, CONANP).
- **INTERPOL**
- **Guests:** CITES, UNESCO and IUCN

Agreements:

- I. Create a trilateral contact group (strengthening of cooperation and coordination).
- II. Formalization of international collaboration (cooperation instrument).
- III. Comprehensive training programs (three countries).
- IV. Trilateral education and public awareness strategies.
- V. Joint international operations.



INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION: TOTOABA (*TOTOABA MACDONALDI*)**EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION BETWEEN THE
US AND MEXICO ON ILLEGAL TRAFFIC**

As part of the agreements taken at the XXIII Annual Meeting of the Trilateral Committee in 2017, Mexico through the PGR has provided the US with information on trafficking in totoaba illegally in our country, in order to provide information and perform coordinated actions to combat illegal trade in this species.



INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION:

PEPINO DE MAR (*ISOSTICHOPUS FUSCUS*)

ATTENTION OF HEARING IN SAN DIEGO CALIFORNIA, USA

Mexico through PROFEPA participated in the Hearing held from February 5 to 7, 2018.

Theme:

Mexican regulation on the use, transport and export of the species of sea cucumber (*Isostichopus fuscus*).

Case:

Three US citizens introduced to their country an approximate of 6 thousand copies or pieces of sea cucumber, from Mexico, without proving the legal provenance.

This as part of the close cooperation in application of the Law



INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION:**AGAVE BATS:**

México and the US have made tremendous progress in the conservation of these pollinator species

1. The bat friendly tequila and mezcal program continues to grow steadily.
2. Monitoring of both species continues and informs policy. All roosts have stable or growing populations
3. One species has been delisted in Mexico and is proposed to be delisted in the US. Conclusion: April 2018
4. Research on these species in Mexico is leader at the world level. These bats can fly 200 km per night and are capable to cross the Sea of Cortez

We will continue working on the recovery of these species studying, documenting, promoting and mainstreaming the ecosystem services they provide



INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION:

2015: A LETTER OF INTENT DETERMINING THAT BAT CONSERVATION IS A PRIORITY FOR THE THREE COUNTRIES WAS SIGNED IN SAN DIEGO

NABCA is created: North American Bat Conservation Alliance.
RESULTS until today:

The NABCA Steering Committee is active and productive

We have a functional wiki in our website working for the prioritization and attention of 21 threats to bats

Mexico has identified over 30 AICOMs (Areas of Importance for the Conservation of Bats). 30% of which are already incorporated into existing protected areas

In the new Law of Biodiversity caves and caverns are fully protected

Working with the wind energy to make it bat-friendly

We are monitoring the possible presence of the fungus that causes the White Nose Syndrome in hibernating bats in Mexico



INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION:

How did we get from nothing to an MOU?

- For several years the momentum to recognize bats as a continental priority had grown
- In 2014 a Letter of Intent was prepared and submitted to Trilateral, outlining the relevance and urgency to implement a continent-wide strategy for bats. Signed in San Diego, 2015
- Today the letter of intent, a bit vague and in need of specific goals, objectives and stronger commitment, is deemed insufficient.
- Time to instruct the Co-Chairs of the North American Bat Conservation Alliance NABCA to prepare and flesh-in an MOU that strengthens and clearly defines the mechanisms, actions, and goals for a robust North American Bat Conservation Strategy



INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION:

NEXT STEPS:

The Trilateral Committee could instruct NABCA's three coordinators: Jeremy Coleman (USA), Charles Francis (Canada), and Rodrigo Medellín (Mexico) to prepare a **Memorandum of Understanding** to strengthen and secure the conditions for the necessary work to protect bats across North America.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Extinction risk assessment of all 150+ bat species in North America by Ecoregion, Ecosystems, Ecology (hibernating, migratory, etc),
1. Continue strengthening the bat monitoring in the three countries. México has implemented its SIMMA monitoring protocol in over 30 protected areas
1. Continue advancing in the analysis, prioritization, and attention of the threats to bats
1. Work with all stakeholders to mitigate mortality caused by wind turbines



Main results within the framework of the CITES 2017 Committees

Meeting	Results
30th Animals Committee (AC30, July 2017)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Presentation of the draft guide for identification of arboreal lizards of the genus <i>Abronia</i>. 2. Mexico volunteered to develop periodic reviews of three Appendix I species (the Guadalupe fur seal, the prairie dog, and the Cuatro Ciénegas turtle), and an Appendix II species (Mexican pink tarantula).
23rd Plants Committee (PC24, July 2017)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mexico led updates on collaboration between CITES and the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation. 2. Mexico volunteered to develop the periodic review of two Appendix I species (one cactus and one cycad). 3. Mexico chaired two working groups: Periodic Review and species of Appendix II of <i>Dalbergia</i>.
69th Standing Committee (SC69, November 2017)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mexico, China and the USA presented advances in the implementation of the Totoaba Decisions, and Mexico committed to developing a high-level mission on Vaquita and Totoaba in the course of 2018. 2. Mexico chairs two intersessional groups, to present results in SC70 (Sochi, 2018): synthetic DNA and traceability.

Cooperation between North America CITES and the Commission for Environmental Cooperation



- 1) **"Strengthening conservation and sustainable use of species listed in Appendix II of CITES in North America (2015-2016)" - *Concluded***

Within the framework of the XXII Trilateral (Ensenada, 2017), action plans were published for the 5 groups of priority species: timber, tarantulas, sharks, turtles and parakeets.

Cooperation between North America CITES and the Commission for Environmental Cooperation



2) Project "Support for sustainable trade of species listed in CITES (2017-2018)" -In process

Grupo	Principales actividades/resultados 2018
Tarantulas <i>Concluded</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consultancies for the development of the evaluation guide and IUCN evaluations. 2. Workshop on trade and law enforcement (Guadalajara, February 27-March 2, 2018).
Sharks <i>In process</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consulting to compile species-specific information and guide NDFs. 2. Law enforcement workshop (Vancouver, 9-13 July 2018).
Turtles <i>In process</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consulting to compile information prior to the workshop. 2. Multi-sectoral workshop to establish management objectives, and develop priority turtle conservation policies (USA, date and venue to be defined).
Timbers <i>In process</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consultancy to establish guidelines for NDFs and commercial plantations of Dalbergia and mahogany. 2. Law enforcement workshop (Mexico, date and venue to be defined).

MÉXICO
PRESIDENCIA DE LA REPÚBLICA



JOSÉ LUIS PEDRO FUNES IZAGUIRRE
DIRECTOR GENERAL OF WILDLIFE
JOSEL.FUNES@SEMARNAT.GOB.MX