



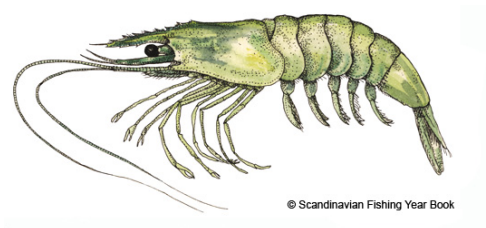


Whiteleg shrimp Sinaloa-Nayarit

 Fishery:  Sinaloa-Nayarit  Mexico Pacific industrial  Mexico  Single boat bottom otter trawls

IDENTIFICATION



SCIENTIFIC NAME

Penaeus vannamei

SPECIES NAME(S)

Whiteleg shrimp, Camarón blanco

COMMON NAMES

Camarón blanco (Spanish)

STOCK IDENTIFICATION

The genetic structure of whiteleg shrimp in the Eastern Pacific is not fully understood, but the information available suggests that this species forms several genetically differentiated populations along the Central American coastline, one of which in the Gulf of California (Valles-Jimenez et al., 2005). Within it, the whiteleg shrimp is only commercially important in the Sinaloa-Nayarit area which is one of the assessment areas defined by INAPESCA. (*INAPESCA 2016*). Another assessment area is defined in the Gulf of Tehuantepec (*INAPESCA 2016*).



RELATED LINKS:

- [Mexican Secretary of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries and Food \(SAGARPA\)](#) , [Mexico National Commission of Aquaculture and Fisheries \(CONAPESCA\)](#)

ASSESSMENT

Strengths

- Shrimp species captured in the Mexican Pacific are short-lived species, with high fecundity and highly resilient to fishing mortality.
- The fishery is regulated by a Mexican Official Standard since 1993 which has been updated in 2013.
- There is a temporal fishing ban every year aimed at protecting the reproduction and growth of the species.
- Turtle excluder devices and Bycatch reduction devices are mandatory for all industrial vessels.
- Relative abundance indices are provided in an annual basis by SAGARPA and INAPESCA.
- It has been observed an effort to improve the compliance: control documents in place and policy changes to increase transparency.

Weaknesses

- A Total Allowable Catch system is not in place yet.
- A recent stock assessment for this resource has not been recently conducted.
- A management plan was developed but has not been formally implemented yet.
- Relative abundance has been decreasing in the last four years (2014-2017) and it is now below the long-term median.
- High levels of bycatch, including of ETP species have been reported (e.g., Pacific seahorse *Hippocampus ingens* and totoaba *Totoaba macdonald*).
- Illegal fishing has been officially recognized as a problem for Sinaloa fisheries.

Options

- Develop useful reference points and harvest control rule, taking into account regularly available scientific indicators (e.g. CPUE limit, target, egg-bearing female proportion reference points, etc.) if stock assessments will not likely be feasible in a regular base.
- Improve enforcement to avoid illegal fishing, as it has been recognized as a major problem for Sinaloa fisheries.
- Improve understanding of the environmental impact of trawls in the areas where this fisheries operates

SCORES

Management Quality:

Management Strategy	Managers Compliance	Fishers Compliance
≥ 6	≥ 6	< 6

Stock Health:

Current Health	Future Health
< 6	≥ 6

FIPS

- Mexican Pacific shrimp - bottom trawl:

Stage 5 , Progress Rating B , Type: Fip , Evaluation Start Date: 15 Oct 2017

MSC

No related MSC fisheries

RECOMMENDATIONS

RETAILERS & SUPPLY CHAIN

- Ensure the use of BRDs during all of the fishing season and organize meetings among skippers to analyze the BRDs functioning.
- Encourage vessels to cooperate with the government mandated observer program to generate the information required to evaluate the bycatch-related performance indicators in the MSC Principle II; ensure the government publishes the bycatch information.
- Establish third-party auditable control documents between producers and importers to verify compliance with the fishery regulations.
- Encourage the adoption of traceability programs to document fishing operations and increase accountability and transparency to the control documents.
- Request that your supply chain joins SFP's Gulf of California Shrimp Supplier Roundtable (www.sustainablefish.org/fisheries-improvement/shrimp-and-lobster/goc-shrimp-supplier-roundtable).

- Encourage the National Commission for Aquaculture and Fisheries (CONAPESCA) to finalize and publish the fishery management plan.