

UNLIKE THE SWEET FRUIT OF THE SAME NAME
THIS NEWSLETTER COMES TWICE A YEAR
(APRIL AND OCTOBER)
HAVING INFORMATION OF THE FOUR SEEDS
THAT SPREAD OUR WORK FOR THE CONSERVATION
OF SUDCALIFORNIA'S NATURE.

PRESENTATION

We are glad to share with you our second newsletter of this year, with hope that you will enjoy reading it and be happy to participate in our NEXT EVENT.

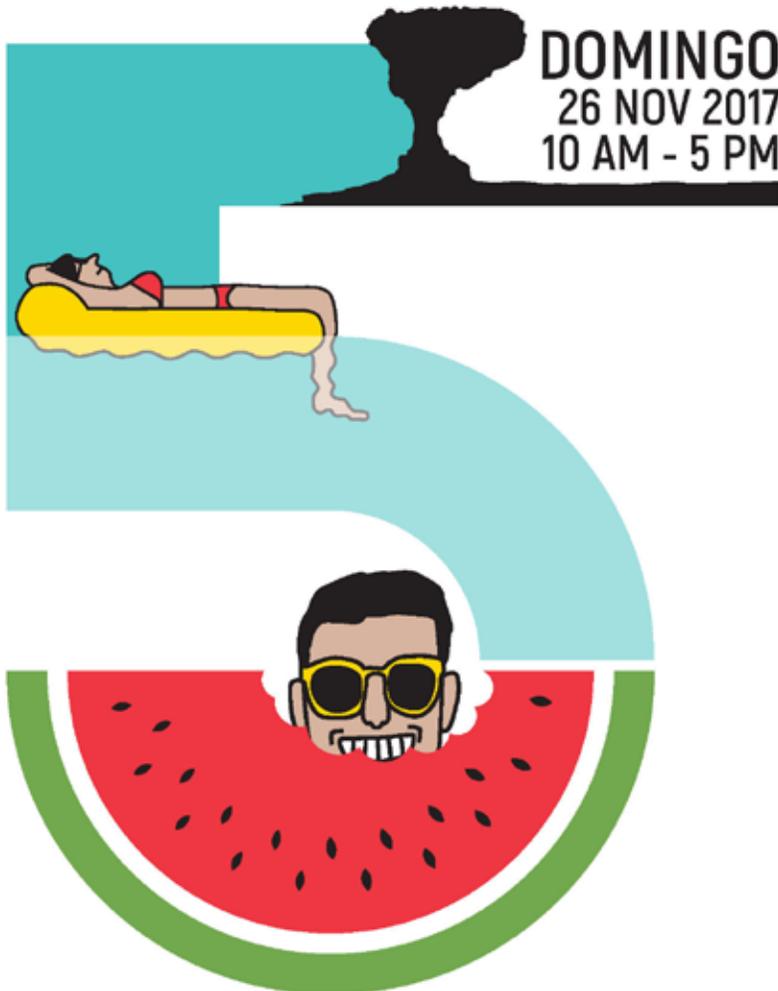
From the Sierras to the coast, we work with a great commitment to conserve our natural patrimony and promote the sustainable development of the region.

In this edition, we share stories that show that our well-being depends on a healthy environment.

Thank you for being a part of these initiatives.



NEXT EVENT



ANIVERSARIO

ÁREA DE PROTECCIÓN DE FLORA Y FAUNA

BALANDRA

**PASEOS
GUIADOS**

**ACTIVIDADES
DEPORTIVAS**

**ACTIVIDADES
CULTURALES**

**ACTIVIDADES
INFANTILES**

Evento gratuito y familiar. Transporte gratuito en la explanada de los cocos del malecón. Salida: 9AM, 11AM Y 1PM Regreso: 12PM, 2PM y 4PM.
Lleva traje de baño, bloqueador solar, sombrero o gorra y ropa cómoda

www.balandraesnuestra.org

 [colectivo.balandra](https://www.facebook.com/colectivo.balandra)

 [@BalandraNuestra](https://twitter.com/BalandraNuestra)

contacto@balandraesnuestra.org

5th anniversary of Balandra as a Flora and Fauna Protected Area:

Since our favourite beach was decreed #ProtectedArea each year we celebrate with an educational and fun fair completely free to know more about this ecosystem, the scope of its protection and our citizen responsibility in its preservation.

Don't miss it!

Date: Sunday November
26th 2017

Hour: 9am to 3pm

Place: parking lot of Bal-
andra beach

El Portezuelo Natural Reserve
Conserving habitats and emblematic landscapes of Baja California Sur



**LAND
CONSERVATION**

In Niparajá we buy land to conserve habitats, wildlife and ecological priority processes. To achieve our goal, we manage the RNP through actions such as exclusion of livestock from fragile sites, monitoring of emblematic fauna, work of linking with neighbors, and surveillance tours to prevent poaching and the opening of new roads.

Our goal is to acquire strategic portions of land to ensure the integrity of the Corridor in the long term.

In this context, we acquire lands when they comply with at least some of the following requirements: to be already in the real estate market, to be in good state of conservation, to have access to roads or road, to have beach front and to be fauna habitat priority.

The Natural Reserve El Portezuelo is certified by the National Commission of Natural Protected Areas as "Voluntarily Destined Area for Conservation". Therefore, the Management Program specifies that the area can only be used for conservation purposes, so it is forbidden to divide or subdivide and sell, and to build new infrastructure.

We work with the neighbours of our lands so that conservation measures are mutually beneficial, we extend our monitoring activities to prevent poaching in areas where this activity represents a source of income when it is legally practiced. In the long term, we guarantee to the neighbours that these lands will be destined exclusively to conservation and research actions.

We do community work with the neighbouring properties, mainly with the Ejido Tepentú. In addition to the environmental services provided by the RNP, we extend our surveillance activities to neighbouring sites to prevent illegal hunting, which is an important source of income for the Ejido.

One of the activities we enjoy the most is the monitoring of emblematic species of fauna, such as bighorn sheep and deer, through the placement of sensor cameras at strategic points, such as aguajes. Thus, we can know the dynamics of these species and determine if there has been an increase since the reserve was created.

Recently, we performed a drone monitoring, which allows us to be more efficient and obtain very useful information for the management.



Drone flight over El Portezuelo Natural Reserve

**Reclaiming our favorite beach
Impact of collective action**



MARINE CONSERVATION

Balandra beach as well as the hills and mangroves surrounding it were declared a Natural Protected Area under the category of Flora and Fauna Protection Area of Balandra on November 30, 2012 (SEMARNAT, 2012). This decree was made possible through collective and participatory action by the community as well as civil society organizations, researchers and local opinion leaders.

The decree and publication of its Management Program in 2015 are fundamental tools for guiding and evaluating conservation and management actions. However, protected areas always have new challenges that must be addressed as pressure builds and non-regulated activities emerge.

Balandra is and has been a beach widely visited by local, national and foreign visitors. After being decreed as a protected area, it began to receive much more attention at national and international level. This promotion achieved that during 2016 Balandra was selected as one of the 10 most popular beaches in Mexico by Trip Advisor and the best beach in Mexico by USA Today.

With the increase in demand, the supply of services in the area increased considerably, which caused two local companies to hoard the place with umbrellas to be rented. In addition, it increased the presence of street vendors. This generated a general discontent in the citizens, who through social networks began to demand the intervention of the authorities.

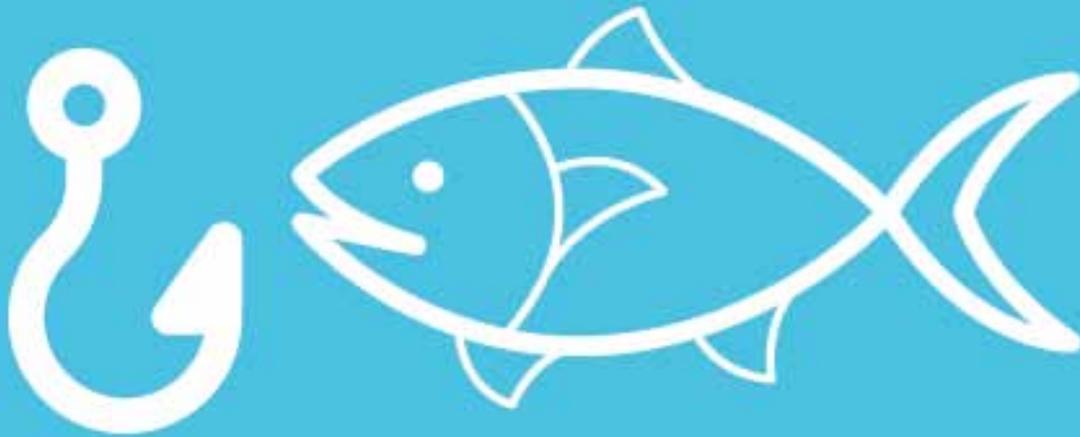
In response, the Balandra Collective requested the removal of service providers. Through journalistic notes, publications in social networks and mass mailing of an e-mail addressed to the competent authority and signed by more than 500 people, immediate action was demanded for the benefit of the citizens and the protected area. On this occasion the Collective was supported by the Advisory Council of the protected area which was in favor of the request.

Just two months into the collective action, the municipal, state and federal authorities acted to remove all street vendors from the site and other service providers. As a result of these actions the beach is again free from daily on and off vendors and service providers. This simple activity, generated a smaller presence of visitors to the area and therefore, a greater enjoyment site.

On behalf of the hundreds of people who expressed themselves to request the action of the authorities, we thank the National Commission of Natural Protected Areas for their intervention and coordination to maintain Balandra as an exceptional beach.



Fishermen meeting from México and Perú: September 2017



SUSTAINABLE
FISHERIES

Last September, members of our Sustainable Fishing Program, along with representatives of some of the Baja California fishing communities, were invited to the 1st Fishermen's Encounter (Interpes) organized by WWF Peru's Marine Program.

This meeting was developed inspired by the event that on 4 occasions we have organized together with COBI AC titled "From fisherman to fisherman".

In this forum we have gathered more than 100 Mexican coastal fishermen and some international guests, in an open space and free expression, to exchange information and experiences among them on a particular subject related to the fishing activity previously defined. For example, the last edition of this forum was entitled "The KEY is organization" and was held in April 2015. You can find more information on these forums in: www.pescadorapescador.net



The Interpes meeting was held on September 5th and 6th in the communities of La Isilla and La Tortuga, with the aim of encouraging the exchange of ideas and information among fishermen on cooperative and associative work. Since it seeks to strengthen organization in the region of Piura, promoting the development of cooperatives as companies: strengthening its management and integration of its members.

With the participation of 3 invited countries: Mexico, Chile and Peru, a space was created for the fishermen of each country to have the opportunity to share their experience, challenges and goals in their fishing organizations. They created moments of dialogue in which the different realities provoked an exchange of doubts, suggestions and ideas.

Particularly for the Mexican team it was satisfactory to know that there are cooperatives in which there is a tangible progress in aspects of cooperative work, as in the case of SCPP Ensenada SCL who shared part of its history and successes. This motivated us to continue the work that is done. However, there are shared challenges between countries that have to do with fisheries regulations and public policies, for which we saw opportunities to continue the exchange of experiences that could serve to advance those obstacles.

As representatives of our country and with tangible results in fisheries management, WWF-Peru encouraged us to participate in an International Congress entitled: obstacles and challenges in artisanal fishing in Latin America. This Congress was organized by the National Fund for Fisheries Development (FONDEPES) and took place on September 7 and 8 in Paita, Piura region, Peru.



Fotografía: Sol Acuña. WWF Perú

With the purpose of knowing and discussing the voluntary guidelines of the FAO to socialize the dispositions contained in them and to support their application in the country.

We participated with 1 presentation, where we shared with the participants the form and processes in which the FAO guidelines in our region have been applied in three levels: national, from the civil organizations and at the local level. The exhibition was shared between Niparajá and the SCCP of Ensenada. The cooperative members explained how they have integrated some guidelines into their work and operation of their organization. The exhibition was very participative because the Peruvian fishermen had many doubts and requested the contacts of all of us to continue distance communication.

Although not planned, our participation in this Congress proved to be very beneficial and productive for the fishermen of both countries, we hope that the invitation will be reiterated in future occasions.



We published the first vegetable palette for BCS



WATER AND CITY

After three years of research, we published the first Vegetable Palette designed for Baja California Sur. This Palette is a catalog which graphically presents information of about 100 plants native or adapted to the region that are optimal for reforesting public spaces or growing in our garden.

For each species, the Palette contains common and scientific name, potential uses, main characteristics, requirements of sun, water, substrate, protection category, planting sites, advantages and disadvantages. It was done through interviews with specialists and the dedication and experience of Dr. Alfonso Medel from CIBNOR.

The role of vegetation in cities is essential and its benefits are visible:

- Areas with more plants and trees have lower temperatures
- Provide spaces for wildlife
- Purify air
- Reduce water pollution
- Embellish our surroundings

These benefits increase when the vegetation is native or adapted to the local climate, because it consumes less water, is resistant to sun and hurricanes and therefore is easier to maintain healthy.

Baja California Sur is the state where it rains the least in Mexico and is also one of the warmest, reason why its citizens need more green areas but with a moderate consumption of water. By promoting the use of the plants included in this Palette, we can all be part of the local solutions that also embellish our environment and improve our quality of life.

With this publication we seek to promote knowledge about native plants, favor their use, reduce the consumption of drinking water in irrigation and strengthen the regional identity through landscapes of the region.

We hope you enjoy it and that you are an active part of the efforts to beautify our city using native plants. You can download the publication at the following link:
<http://elaguaenlapaz.mx/paleta-vegetal/>



Niparajá is a civil association from Baja California Sur dedicated to conserve the natural heritage and promote sustainable development in the region.