

Whale Sanctuary of El Vizcaino

1. World Heritage Property Data

1.1 - Name of World Heritage property


Whale Sanctuary of El Vizcaino

1.2 - World Heritage property details

1.3 - Geographic information table

| Name | Coordinates | Property (ha) | Buffer zone (ha) | Total (ha) | Inscription year |
|----------------------|-------------------|---------------|------------------|------------|------------------|
| Laguna Ojo de Liebre | 27.833 / -114.167 | 226914 | 0 | 226914 | |
| Laguna San Ignacio | 26.979 / -113.165 | 142717 | 0 | 142717 | |
| Total (ha) | | 369631 | 0 | 369631 | |

1.4 - Map(s)

| Title | Date | Link to source |
|---|------|---|
| Whale Sanctuary of El Vizcaino - Map of the World Heritage property | 2013 |  |

1.5 - Web and Social Media data of the property (if applicable)

- [Comisión Nacional para el Conocimiento y Uso de la Biodiversidad \(CONABIO\) \(spanish only\)](#)
- [Natural site datasheet from WCMC](#)

Comment

<https://www.gob.mx/conanp>

2. Other Conventions/Programmes under which the World Heritage property is protected (if applicable)

2.1 - Records indicate that your World Heritage property (in whole or in part) is designated and/or protected under the Conventions/programmes shown in the prefilled table below. Please check and amend as necessary.

| | | The World Heritage property (in whole or in part) <u>is</u> designated and/or protected under this convention/programme | The World Heritage property (in whole or in part) <u>is not</u> designated and/or protected under this convention/programme |
|-------|---|---|---|
| 2.1.1 | International Register of Cultural Property under Special Protection (1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict) | | ✕ |
| 2.1.2 | List of Cultural Property under Enhanced Protection (Second Protocol to the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict) | | ✕ |
| 2.1.3 | The List of Wetlands of International Importance (The Ramsar List) (Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Convention)) | ✕ | |
| 2.1.4 | World Network of Biosphere Reserves Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme | ✕ | |
| 2.1.5 | Global Geoparks Network UNESCO Global Geoparks | | ✕ |

2.2 - Please provide comments on 2.1 if necessary

No comments

2.3 - Do your national authorities intend to request the granting of Enhanced Protection (if relevant) under the Second Protocol to the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict for the World Heritage property in the next three years?

No

2.4 - Do your national authorities intend to designate whole or part of the World Heritage property for inclusion in the List of Wetlands of International Importance (The Ramsar List), if relevant, in the next three years?

Not applicable

2.5 - Do your national authorities intend to designate whole or part of the World Heritage property as a Man and Biosphere Reserve (if relevant) in the next three years?

Not applicable

2.6 - Do your national authorities intend to apply for whole or part of World Heritage property to be designated as a UNESCO Global Geopark (if relevant) in the next three years?

No

2.7 - Please indicate the level of cooperation at property level between designations under different Conventions/Programmes

| | | |
|--------------|--|---|
| 2.7.1 | 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict | |
| 2.7.1 | There is no contact with the Focal Point(s) of this designation/programme. | ✕ |
| 2.7.2 | The World Heritage Site Manager occasionally communicates with the Focal Point(s) of this designation/programme. | |
| 2.7.3 | The World Heritage Site Manager regularly communicates with the Focal Point(s) of this designation/programme. | |
| 2.7.4 | The World Heritage Site Manager also manages this designation/programme. | |
| 2.7.2 | Second Protocol to the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict | |
| 2.7.1 | There is no contact with the Focal Point(s) of this designation/programme. | ✕ |
| 2.7.2 | The World Heritage Site Manager occasionally communicates with the Focal Point(s) of this designation/programme. | |
| 2.7.3 | The World Heritage Site Manager regularly communicates with the Focal Point(s) of this designation/programme. | |
| 2.7.4 | The World Heritage Site Manager also manages this designation/programme. | |
| 2.7.3 | Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Convention) | |
| 2.7.1 | There is no contact with the Focal Point(s) of this designation/programme. | |
| 2.7.2 | The World Heritage Site Manager occasionally communicates with the Focal Point(s) of this designation/programme. | |
| 2.7.3 | The World Heritage Site Manager regularly communicates with the Focal Point(s) of this designation/programme. | |
| 2.7.4 | The World Heritage Site Manager also manages this designation/programme. | ✕ |
| 2.7.4 | Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme | |
| 2.7.1 | There is no contact with the Focal Point(s) of this designation/programme. | |
| 2.7.2 | The World Heritage Site Manager occasionally communicates with the Focal Point(s) of this designation/programme. | |
| 2.7.3 | The World Heritage Site Manager regularly communicates with the Focal Point(s) of this designation/programme. | |
| 2.7.4 | The World Heritage Site Manager also manages this designation/programme. | ✕ |
| 2.7.5 | UNESCO Global Geoparks | |
| 2.7.1 | There is no contact with the Focal Point(s) of this designation/programme. | ✕ |
| 2.7.2 | The World Heritage Site Manager occasionally communicates with the Focal Point(s) of this designation/programme. | |
| 2.7.3 | The World Heritage Site Manager regularly communicates with the Focal Point(s) of this designation/programme. | |
| 2.7.4 | The World Heritage Site Manager also manages this designation/programme. | |

2.8 - Please add any further comments on cooperation with the other designation(s)/programme(s)

The two lagoons comprised in the World Heritage site are also included under the Ramsar Convention: 1) Laguna Ojo de Liebre: Site 1339; area 36,000 ha; designation date 02-02-2004. 2) Laguna San Ignacio: Site 1341; area 17,500 ha; designation date 02-02-2004. On the other hand, the entire El Vizcaino Biosphere Reserve is part of the World Network of Biosphere Reserves, MaB Programme, area 2,546,790 ha; Designation date: 1993.

2.9 - Are you aware of any elements associated with the World Heritage property that have been inscribed on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage?

No

2.10 - Please list any elements associated with the World Heritage property inscribed under the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of which you are aware

It is not inscribed under this Convention

2.11 - Are you aware of any documentary heritage listed under the Memory of the World Programme associated with the World Heritage property?

No

2.12 - Please list any documentary heritage associated with the World Heritage property listed under the Memory of the World

Programme of which you aware.

Does not apply

3. Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

3.1 - Statement of Outstanding Universal Value for the property as adopted by the World Heritage Committee

Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

Brief Synthesis

The Whale Sanctuary of El Vizcaino is a serial property on the Pacific Coast of the central part of Mexico's Baja California Peninsula. It comprises two coastal lagoons, Laguna Ojo de Liebre and Laguna San Ignacio, and their surroundings, a complex mosaic of wetlands, marshes, halophytes, dunes and desert habitats, as well as mangroves in the transition areas. The total extent of the two components of the property is of 370,950 hectares, embedded in the much larger El Vizcaino Biosphere Reserve, Mexico's largest protected area, which in turn is contiguous with another large conservation area to the North. The lagoons are recognized as the World's most important place for the reproduction of the once endangered Eastern subpopulation of the North Pacific Grey Whale. The protection of these winter breeding grounds has been paramount in the remarkable recovery of this species after near-extinction as a result of commercial whaling, including in these very lagoons. Most of the subpopulation migrates between the lagoons and the summer feeding grounds in the Chukchi, Beaufort and Northwestern Bering Seas.

The lagoons are home to numerous other marine mammals, such as Bottlenose Dolphin, California Sea Lion and Harbor Seal. Four marine turtle species occur in the shallow waters which are also an important habitat and nursery for a large number of fish, crustaceans, and others forms of life. Countless breeding and migratory bird species, including for example a major resident osprey population and more than half of Mexico's wintering population of Brant Goose depend on the lagoons and adjacent habitats. This exceptional sanctuary conserves both marine and terrestrial ecosystems and their delicate interface. The surrounding desert, biogeographically part of the Sonoran Desert, boasts highly diverse flora and fauna.

Despite the protection status, the property is susceptible to the potential impacts of economic activities taking place in the immediate vicinity of the lagoons, in particular benthic and pelagic fisheries, large-scale salt extraction and tourism.

Criterion (x): The Whale Sanctuary of El Vizcaino contains the most important breeding grounds of the Eastern subpopulation of the North Pacific Grey Whale. Its protection is intricately linked with saving the species from extinction and recovery after near-collapse due to excessive commercial whaling. Many environmental factors, such as depth, temperature, nutrients, and salinity coincide in Ojo de Liebre and San Ignacio lagoons to make them ideal mating, breeding and calving grounds. The lagoons also provide valuable habitat for numerous other marine mammals, such as Bottlenose Dolphin, California Sea Lion and Harbor Seal. Four species of marine turtles have been recorded in the lagoons and adjacent coasts, the most important being the green and the loggerhead sea turtles. The shallow, well-protected lagoons with their mangrove stands are also highly productive nurseries for a diverse fish fauna and boast rich invertebrate fauna, and an impressive natural landscape and seascape. The surrounding wetlands attract an extraordinary diversity and abundance of resident and migratory bird species with several hundreds of thousands of wintering birds. The drier terrestrial areas belong to the Sonoran Desert, well-known for its remarkably diverse flora and fauna and a high degree of endemism.

Integrity

The boundaries of the property cover the coastal lagoons of Ojo de Liebre and San Ignacio in their entirety. Thereby they encompass a major area of sensitive Grey Whale habitat, a key conservation value of the property. The property is embedded in El Vizcaino Biosphere Reserve, Mexico's largest protected area and is also an integral part of an even larger contiguous conservation complex. The vast terrestrial protected areas serve as a terrestrial buffer for the lagoons, including as regards the maintenance of sea-land interactions. The biosphere reserve including, and surrounding, the property also comprises a marine strip of five kilometers from the coast as a buffer zone, also serving as a de facto marine buffer zone for the property.

It is important to note that the breeding Grey Whale population, an extraordinary conservation feature of global importance, only spends a relatively small part of its life cycle within the property. In this sense, the property is a telling example of both the benefits and the shortcomings of in-situ conservation. The future of the Eastern subpopulation of the North Pacific Grey Whale will no doubt depend on both the successful conservation of the property and broader international efforts beyond specific sites.

Human impacts are relatively limited. At the same time, it is remarkable that even in a remote desert human activities have been putting increasing pressure on the natural environment. While the whaling has come to a complete halt in the property, ongoing reasons for concern include but are not limited to excessive fisheries, extensive evaporation salt production and uncontrolled tourism development.

Requirements for Protection and Management

The first applicable conservation effort is the Convention for the Protection of Migratory Birds and Game Mammals, a bilateral agreement between Mexico and the United States of America ratified in 1937. Another framework is Mexico's adherence to the International Whaling Commission in 1949, which has been protecting Grey Whales from commercial whaling since its establishment. More recent federal legislation on threatened and endangered native species lists the Grey Whale as "subject to special protection."

A Federal Decree in 1971 established a marine refuge zone for whales in Laguna Ojo de Liebre, followed by another decree one year later establishing several refuges around the lagoons. Yet another decree established a refuge for cetaceans in Laguna San Ignacio in 1979. In 1988, the federal government declared El Vizcaino a biosphere reserve, encompassing today's property. El Vizcaino was recognized internationally under the UNESCO Man and the Biosphere Programme in 1993.

The Laguna Ojo de Liebre is located next to the port town of Guerrero Negro, a centre for whale-watching but also the site of industrial-scale salt extraction. Vessels transport the salt out of the lagoon to an offshore deep water dock. This vessel traffic, along with other vessel traffic along the coast and increasing numbers of tourist boats, entails risks of disturbance, contamination and even collision with marine mammals. Unlike in Laguna San Ignacio, mining exploration and exploitation are not explicitly prohibited in Ojo de Liebre, bearing a potential risk of future salt extraction at the expense of critical Grey Whale habitat.

Overfishing and illegal fishing occurs in and around both lagoons and is also a broader concern along the Pacific Coast. Besides complex impacts on the marine ecosystems in the lagoons, Grey Whales, other marine mammals and marine turtles can fatally suffer from entanglement in fishing gear. Tourism and related coastal development have a number of undesired impacts when not managed properly, for example inadequate waste management but also direct disturbance through irresponsible and excessive whale-watching. There is also uncontrolled off-road driving and poaching in the surrounding desert. The impressive natural landscape and seascape requires careful planning and management to maintain the integrity of this property.

The challenges are documented in sophisticated management programmes. The Whale Sanctuary of El Vizcaino has the potential to serve as an example of integrated management of natural resources. Beyond the conservation of an outstanding place there is room for sustainable use of natural salt, harvesting of marine resources and whale-watching. This, however, requires a permanent balancing of interests including those from local communities whose livelihoods depend on the natural resources protected in this property. It also requires skilled and motivated staff, adequate financial resources, and full support from local communities to conservation and management activities.

3.2 - Please list the key attributes of Outstanding Universal Value of your property and give an assessment of their condition. As a guideline, it is suggested to focus on approximately five key attributes (no more than 15 overall).

| | Brief identification of attribute | Preserved | Compromised | Seriously compromised | Lost |
|--------|---|-----------|-------------|-----------------------|------|
| 3.2.1 | The Whale Sanctuary protects the most important reproductive grounds of Grey whales in the world. | ✕ | | | |
| 3.2.2 | Protects a large number of other marine mammals, as California sea lions, harbor seals, Northern elephant seals, as well as four species of endangered marine turtles, and several species of sharks. | ✕ | | | |
| 3.2.3 | The surrounding wetlands attract an extraordinary diversity and abundance of resident and migratory bird species with several hundreds of thousands of wintering birds. | ✕ | | | |
| 3.2.4 | The area protects a wide variety of plant communities, such as four different types of desert scrub, halophytes, wetlands, marshes, and sand dune vegetation among others. | ✕ | | | |
| 3.2.5 | The drier terrestrial areas belong to the Sonoran Desert, with its remarkably diverse flora and fauna and a high degree of endemism. | ✕ | | | |
| 3.2.6 | | | | | |
| 3.2.7 | | | | | |
| 3.2.8 | | | | | |
| 3.2.9 | | | | | |
| 3.2.10 | | | | | |
| 3.2.11 | | | | | |
| 3.2.12 | | | | | |
| 3.2.13 | | | | | |
| 3.2.14 | | | | | |
| 3.2.15 | | | | | |

3.3 - Comments, conclusions and/or recommendations related to Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

The Whale Sanctuary of El Vizcaino maintains a very good state of conservation. The National Commission of Natural Protected Areas has carried out an evaluation of this condition, through a tool called I-Efectividad (Index of Effectiveness (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G2YxuzC2jpU>), with remarkable good results. At present, the site is under the process to be integrated in the Green List of UICN (<https://iucngreenlist.org/explore/green-list-sites/>).

4. Factors Affecting the Property

4.1. Buildings and Development

4.1.1 - Housing

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Relevant, Negative, Potential, Outside

| ✕ Relevant | | | | Not relevant | | | |
|--------------|-----------|-------------|----------|--------------|-----------------|----------|--------------|
| | Impact | | Origin | | Trend of impact | | |
| Impact | 🔴 Current | 🟡 Potential | 🟢 Inside | 🟢 Outside | 📉 Decreasing | ➡ Stable | 📈 Increasing |
| 🟢 Positive | | | | | | | |
| 🔴 Negative ✕ | | ✕ | ✕ | ✕ | | ➡ | |

4.1.2 - Commercial development

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

| | |
|----------|----------------|
| Relevant | ✕ Not relevant |
|----------|----------------|

4.1.3 - Industrial areas

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Relevant, Negative, Potential, Inside, Outside

| ✕ Relevant | | | | Not relevant | | | |
|--------------|-----------|-------------|----------|--------------|-----------------|----------|--------------|
| | Impact | | Origin | | Trend of impact | | |
| Impact | 🔴 Current | 🟡 Potential | 🟢 Inside | 🟢 Outside | 📉 Decreasing | ➡ Stable | 📈 Increasing |
| 🟢 Positive ✕ | ✕ | | ✕ | ✕ | | ➡ | |

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|
| ⊖ Negative ✕ | | ✕ | | ✕ | | → | |
|--------------|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|

4.1.4 - Major visitor accommodation and associated infrastructure

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Relevant, Positive, Current, Potential, Outside

| ✕ Relevant | | | | Not relevant | | | |
|--------------|-----------|-------------|----------|--------------|-----------------|----------|--------------|
| | Impact | | Origin | | Trend of impact | | |
| Impact | 🔴 Current | 🟡 Potential | 🟢 Inside | 🟢 Outside | ↘ Decreasing | → Stable | ↗ Increasing |
| 🟢 Positive ✕ | ✕ | | ✕ | ✕ | | → | |
| ⊖ Negative | | | | | | | |

4.1.5 - Interpretative and visitation facilities

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Relevant, Positive, Current, Potential, Inside, Outside

| ✕ Relevant | | | | Not relevant | | | |
|--------------|-----------|-------------|----------|--------------|-----------------|----------|--------------|
| | Impact | | Origin | | Trend of impact | | |
| Impact | 🔴 Current | 🟡 Potential | 🟢 Inside | 🟢 Outside | ↘ Decreasing | → Stable | ↗ Increasing |
| 🟢 Positive ✕ | ✕ | ✕ | ✕ | | | → | |
| ⊖ Negative | | | | | | | |

4.1.6 - Please comment as necessary on how the factors selected as relevant in 4.1 are affecting the property either negatively or positively

The visitor facilities are minimum currently; its impact is positive as they can help tourists to gather a good knowledge of the site and keep an appropriate behavior in the property. On the other hand, housing and industrial areas are still a potential risk, keeping their conditions stable.

4.2. Transportation Infrastructure

4.2.1 - Ground transport infrastructure

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

| | |
|----------|----------------|
| Relevant | ✕ Not relevant |
|----------|----------------|

4.2.2 - Underground transport infrastructure

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

| | |
|----------|----------------|
| Relevant | ✕ Not relevant |
|----------|----------------|

4.2.3 - Air transport infrastructure

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Relevant, Negative, Current, Inside

| | |
|----------|----------------|
| Relevant | ✕ Not relevant |
|----------|----------------|

4.2.4 - Marine transport infrastructure

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Relevant, Positive, Negative, Current, Potential, Inside

| ✕ Relevant | | | | Not relevant | | | |
|--------------|-----------|-------------|----------|--------------|-----------------|----------|--------------|
| | Impact | | Origin | | Trend of impact | | |
| Impact | 🔴 Current | 🟡 Potential | 🟢 Inside | 🟢 Outside | ↘ Decreasing | → Stable | ↗ Increasing |
| 🟢 Positive ✕ | ✕ | | ✕ | | | → | |
| ⊖ Negative | | | | | | | |

4.2.5 - Effects arising from use of transportation infrastructure

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

| | |
|----------|----------------|
| Relevant | ✕ Not relevant |
|----------|----------------|

4.2.6 - Please comment as necessary on how the factors selected as relevant in 4.2 are affecting the property either negatively or positively

Harbour infrastructure for salt transportation is minimum, but it supports conservation activities, as monitoring and surveillance.

4.3. Services Infrastructures

4.3.1 - Water infrastructure

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

Relevant

✕ Not relevant

4.3.2 - Renewable energy facilities

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Relevant, Positive, Current, Inside

Relevant

✕ Not relevant

4.3.3 - Non-renewable energy facilities

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

Relevant

✕ Not relevant

4.3.4 - Localised utilities

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

Relevant

✕ Not relevant

4.3.5 - Major linear utilities

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

Relevant

✕ Not relevant

4.3.6 - Please comment as necessary on how the factors selected as relevant in 4.3 are affecting the property either negatively or positively

4.4. Pollution

4.4.1 - Pollution of marine waters

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Relevant, Negative, Current, Potential, Inside, Outside

Relevant

✕ Not relevant

4.4.2 - Ground water pollution

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

Relevant

✕ Not relevant

4.4.3 - Surface water pollution

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

Relevant

✕ Not relevant

4.4.4 - Air pollution

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

Relevant

✕ Not relevant











4.4.5 - Solid waste

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Relevant, Negative, Current, Potential, Inside, Outside

✕ Relevant

Not relevant

| | Impact | | Origin | | Trend of impact | | |
|--|---|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| Impact |  Current |  Potential |  Inside |  Outside |  Decreasing |  Stable |  Increasing |
|  Positive | | | | | | | |
|  Negative ✕ | ✕ | | ✕ | |  | | |

4.4.6 - Input of excess energy

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

| | |
|----------|----------------|
| Relevant | ✕ Not relevant |
|----------|----------------|

4.4.7 - Please comment as necessary on how the factors selected as relevant in 4.4 are affecting the property either negatively or positively

Fishermen used to discard plastic bags into the sea; this behavior has been decreasing through environmental education programs.











4.5. Biological resource use/modification

4.5.1 - Fishing/collecting aquatic resources

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Relevant, Positive, Negative, Current, Potential, Inside, Outside

| | |
|------------|--------------|
| ✕ Relevant | Not relevant |
|------------|--------------|











| | Impact | | Origin | | Trend of impact | | |
|--|---|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| Impact |  Current |  Potential |  Inside |  Outside |  Decreasing |  Stable |  Increasing |
|  Positive | | | | | | | |
|  Negative ✕ | ✕ | | ✕ | |  | | |

4.5.2 - Aquaculture

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

| | |
|------------|--------------|
| ✕ Relevant | Not relevant |
|------------|--------------|

| | Impact | | Origin | | Trend of impact | | |
|--|---|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| Impact |  Current |  Potential |  Inside |  Outside |  Decreasing |  Stable |  Increasing |
|  Positive ✕ | ✕ | | ✕ | | |  | |
|  Negative | | | | | | | |

4.5.3 - Land conversion

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

| | |
|----------|----------------|
| Relevant | ✕ Not relevant |
|----------|----------------|

4.5.4 - Livestock farming/Grazing of domesticated animals

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

| | |
|----------|----------------|
| Relevant | ✕ Not relevant |
|----------|----------------|

4.5.5 - Crop production

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

| | |
|----------|----------------|
| Relevant | ✕ Not relevant |
|----------|----------------|

4.5.6 - Commercial wild plant collection

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

| | |
|----------|----------------|
| Relevant | ✕ Not relevant |
|----------|----------------|

4.5.7 - Subsistence wild plant collection

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

Relevant

✕ Not relevant

4.5.8 - Commercial hunting

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

Relevant

✕ Not relevant

4.5.9 - Subsistence hunting

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

Relevant

✕ Not relevant

4.5.10 - Forestry/Wood production

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

Relevant

✕ Not relevant

4.5.11 - Please comment as necessary on how the factors selected as relevant in 4.5 are affecting the property either negatively or positively

Important fisheries occur within the world heritage site. Regulations have managed over the years to control most activities. Illegal fishing has decreased.

4.6. Physical resource extraction










4.6.1 - Mining

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Relevant, Positive, Negative, Current, Potential, Inside

✕ Relevant

Not relevant

| | Impact | | Origin | | Trend of impact | | |
|--|---|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| Impact |  Current |  Potential |  Inside |  Outside |  Decreasing |  Stable |  Increasing |
|  Positive ✕ | ✕ | | ✕ | | | → | |
|  Negative ✕ | | ✕ | ✕ | ✕ | | → | |

4.6.2 - Quarrying

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

Relevant

✕ Not relevant

4.6.3 - Oil and gas

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

Relevant

✕ Not relevant

4.6.4 - Water (extraction)

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

Relevant

✕ Not relevant

4.6.5 - Please comment as necessary on how the factors selected as relevant in 4.6 are affecting the property either negatively or positively

The production of sea salt by evaporation is considered in Mexican law as mining. So far, the impact of this activity has been beneficial for the conservation of the site due to: a) Access to the site is controlled by the company, and b) The concentration and evaporation pools have created habitat for resident and migratory seabirds. However, there is a potential risk of impacts if the management of residual brines is not done carefully.

4.7. Local conditions affecting physical fabric

4.7.1 - Wind

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

Relevant

✕ Not relevant

4.7.2 - Relative humidity

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

Relevant

✕ Not relevant

4.7.3 - Temperature

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

Relevant

✕ Not relevant

4.7.4 - Radiation/Light

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

Relevant

✕ Not relevant

4.7.5 - Dust

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

Relevant

✕ Not relevant

4.7.6 - Water (rain/water table)

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

Relevant

✕ Not relevant

4.7.7 - Pests

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

Relevant

✕ Not relevant

4.7.8 - Micro-organisms

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

Relevant

✕ Not relevant

4.7.9 - Please comment as necessary on how the factors selected as relevant in 4.7 are affecting the property either negatively or positively

No comments

4.8. Social/Cultural uses of heritage

4.8.1 - Ritual/Spiritual/Religious and associative uses

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

Relevant

✕ Not relevant











4.8.2 - Society's valuing of heritage

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Relevant, Positive, Current, Potential, Inside, Outside

✕ Relevant

Not relevant

| | Impact | | Origin | | Trend of impact | | |
|--|---|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| Impact |  Current |  Potential |  Inside |  Outside |  Decreasing |  Stable |  Increasing |
|  Positive ✕ | ✕ | ✕ | ✕ | ✕ | |  | |
|  Negative | | | | | | | |

4.8.3 - Indigenous hunting, gathering and collecting

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

Relevant

✕ Not relevant

4.8.4 - Changes in traditional ways of life and knowledge system

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

Relevant

✕ Not relevant

4.8.5 - Identity, social cohesion, changes in local population and community

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

Relevant

✕ Not relevant











4.8.6 - Impacts of tourism/Visitation/Recreation

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Relevant, Positive, Negative, Current, Potential, Inside, Outside

✕ Relevant

Not relevant

| | Impact | | Origin | | Trend of impact | | |
|--|---|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| Impact |  Current |  Potential |  Inside |  Outside |  Decreasing |  Stable |  Increasing |
|  Positive ✕ | ✕ | | ✕ | | |  | |
|  Negative | | | | | | | |

4.8.7 - Please comment as necessary on how the factors selected as relevant in 4.8 are affecting the property either negatively or positively

The social evaluation of the heritage site has increased the awareness in the local population about the site, bringing a sense of pride and responsibility. On the other hand, tourism is a well-organized activity that offers economic alternatives to local people, which reduces the need for extractive activities. An added benefit is that tourism promotes awareness of conservation in both the local population and visitors.

4.9. Other human activities











4.9.1 - Illegal activities

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Relevant, Negative, Current, Potential, Inside, Outside

✕ Relevant

Not relevant

| | Impact | | Origin | | Trend of impact | | |
|--|---|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| Impact |  Current |  Potential |  Inside |  Outside |  Decreasing |  Stable |  Increasing |
|  Positive | | | | | | | |
|  Negative ✕ | ✕ | | ✕ | ✕ | |  | |

4.9.2 - Deliberate destruction of heritage

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

Relevant

✕ Not relevant

4.9.3 - Military training

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

Relevant

✕ Not relevant

4.9.4 - War

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

Relevant

✕ Not relevant

4.9.5 - Terrorism

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

| | |
|----------|----------------|
| Relevant | ✕ Not relevant |
|----------|----------------|

4.9.6 - Civil unrest

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

| | |
|----------|----------------|
| Relevant | ✕ Not relevant |
|----------|----------------|

4.9.7 - Please comment as necessary on how the factors selected as relevant in 4.9 are affecting the property either negatively or positively

As mentioned before, illegal fishing is still practiced, although it is decreasing.

4.10. Climate change and severe weather events

4.10.1 - Storms

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

| | |
|----------|----------------|
| Relevant | ✕ Not relevant |
|----------|----------------|

4.10.2 - Flooding

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

| | |
|----------|----------------|
| Relevant | ✕ Not relevant |
|----------|----------------|

4.10.3 - Drought

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

| | |
|----------|----------------|
| Relevant | ✕ Not relevant |
|----------|----------------|

4.10.4 - Desertification

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

| | |
|----------|----------------|
| Relevant | ✕ Not relevant |
|----------|----------------|

4.10.5 - Changes to oceanic waters

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Relevant, Negative, Potential, Inside

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------|-----------|-------------|----------|--------------|-----------------|----------|--------------|
| ✕ Relevant | | | | Not relevant | | | |
| | Impact | | Origin | | Trend of impact | | |
| Impact | 🔥 Current | 🔨 Potential | 📍 Inside | 🌐 Outside | 📉 Decreasing | ➡ Stable | 📈 Increasing |
| 🟢 Positive | | | | | | | |
| 🔴 Negative ✕ | | ✕ | ✕ | ✕ | | ➡ | |

4.10.6 - Temperature change

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Relevant, Negative, Potential, Inside

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------|-----------|-------------|----------|--------------|-----------------|----------|--------------|
| ✕ Relevant | | | | Not relevant | | | |
| | Impact | | Origin | | Trend of impact | | |
| Impact | 🔥 Current | 🔨 Potential | 📍 Inside | 🌐 Outside | 📉 Decreasing | ➡ Stable | 📈 Increasing |
| 🟢 Positive | | | | | | | |
| 🔴 Negative ✕ | | ✕ | ✕ | ✕ | | ➡ | |

4.10.7 - Other climate change impacts

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Relevant, Negative, Potential, Inside, Outside

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------|-----------|-------------|----------|--------------|-----------------|----------|--------------|
| ✕ Relevant | | | | Not relevant | | | |
| | Impact | | Origin | | Trend of impact | | |
| Impact | 🔥 Current | 🔨 Potential | 📍 Inside | 🌐 Outside | ↘ Decreasing | → Stable | ↗ Increasing |
| 🟢 Positive | | | | | | | |
| 🔴 Negative ✕ | ✕ | | ✕ | ✕ | | → | |

4.10.8 - Please comment as necessary on how the factors selected as relevant in 4.10 are affecting the property either negatively or positively

Sea level rise (probably due to climate change) is a threat to coastal ecosystems and human settlements. Also, changes in the characteristics of currents, wave patterns and physical and chemical characteristics of seawater can generate impacts to the marine ecosystem and economic activities.

4.11. Sudden ecological or geological events

4.11.1 - Volcanic eruption

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

| | |
|----------|----------------|
| Relevant | ✕ Not relevant |
|----------|----------------|

4.11.2 - Earthquake

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

| | |
|----------|----------------|
| Relevant | ✕ Not relevant |
|----------|----------------|

4.11.3 - Tsunami/Tidal wave

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

| | |
|----------|----------------|
| Relevant | ✕ Not relevant |
|----------|----------------|

4.11.4 - Avalanche/Landslide

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

| | |
|----------|----------------|
| Relevant | ✕ Not relevant |
|----------|----------------|

4.11.5 - Erosion and siltation/Deposition

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Relevant, Negative, Potential, Inside

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------|-----------|-------------|----------|--------------|-----------------|----------|--------------|
| ✕ Relevant | | | | Not relevant | | | |
| | Impact | | Origin | | Trend of impact | | |
| Impact | 🔥 Current | 🔨 Potential | 📍 Inside | 🌐 Outside | ↘ Decreasing | → Stable | ↗ Increasing |
| 🟢 Positive | | | | | | | |
| 🔴 Negative ✕ | | ✕ | ✕ | ✕ | | → | |

4.11.6 - Fire (wildfire)

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

| | |
|----------|----------------|
| Relevant | ✕ Not relevant |
|----------|----------------|

4.11.7 - Please comment as necessary on how the factors selected as relevant in 4.11 are affecting the property either negatively or positively

Changes in deposition can affect marine flora and fauna, changing available habitat. It also can affect navigation, fisheries, and aquaculture.

4.12. Invasive/alien species or hyper-abundant species

4.12.1 - Translocated species

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Relevant, Negative, Potential, Inside

| | | | | | | | |
|------------|--------|--|--------|--------------|-----------------|--|--|
| ✕ Relevant | | | | Not relevant | | | |
| | Impact | | Origin | | Trend of impact | | |

| Impact | 🔥 Current | 🔥 Potential | 📍 Inside | 📍 Outside | 📉 Decreasing | ➡ Stable | 📈 Increasing |
|--------------|-----------|-------------|----------|-----------|--------------|----------|--------------|
| 🟢 Positive | | | | | | | |
| 🔴 Negative ✕ | | ✕ | ✕ | | | ➡ | |

4.12.2 - Invasive/Alien terrestrial species

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

| | |
|----------|----------------|
| Relevant | ✕ Not relevant |
|----------|----------------|

4.12.3 - Invasive/Alien freshwater species

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

| | |
|----------|----------------|
| Relevant | ✕ Not relevant |
|----------|----------------|

4.12.4 - Invasive/Alien marine species

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Relevant, Negative, Potential, Inside

| | |
|------------|--------------|
| ✕ Relevant | Not relevant |
|------------|--------------|

| | Impact | | Origin | | Trend of impact | | |
|--------------|-----------|-------------|----------|-----------|-----------------|----------|--------------|
| Impact | 🔥 Current | 🔥 Potential | 📍 Inside | 📍 Outside | 📉 Decreasing | ➡ Stable | 📈 Increasing |
| 🟢 Positive | | | | | | | |
| 🔴 Negative ✕ | ✕ | ✕ | ✕ | ✕ | | ➡ | |

4.12.5 - Hyper-abundant species

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Relevant, Negative, Potential, Inside

| | |
|------------|--------------|
| ✕ Relevant | Not relevant |
|------------|--------------|

| | Impact | | Origin | | Trend of impact | | |
|--------------|-----------|-------------|----------|-----------|-----------------|----------|--------------|
| Impact | 🔥 Current | 🔥 Potential | 📍 Inside | 📍 Outside | 📉 Decreasing | ➡ Stable | 📈 Increasing |
| 🟢 Positive | | | | | | | |
| 🔴 Negative ✕ | | ✕ | ✕ | | | ➡ | |

4.12.6 - Modified genetic material

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

| | |
|----------|----------------|
| Relevant | ✕ Not relevant |
|----------|----------------|

4.12.7 - Please comment as necessary on how the factors selected as relevant in 4.12 are affecting the property either negatively or positively

Crassostrea gigas, the Pacific oyster, is the only exotic species authorized for aquaculture at the site, under the assumption that it is infertile and therefore unable to reproduce and colonize new habitats. Its impact has been, and will be, evaluated. On the other hand, there are two invasive exotic species that could displace the native species: an algae and a seagrass.

4.13. Management and institutional factors










4.13.1 - Management system/Management plan

| | |
|------------|--------------|
| ✕ Relevant | Not relevant |
|------------|--------------|

| | Impact | | Origin | | Trend of impact | | |
|--------------|-----------|-------------|----------|-----------|-----------------|----------|--------------|
| Impact | 🔥 Current | 🔥 Potential | 📍 Inside | 📍 Outside | 📉 Decreasing | ➡ Stable | 📈 Increasing |
| 🟢 Positive ✕ | ✕ | | ✕ | ✕ | | ➡ | |
| 🔴 Negative | | | | | | | |







4.13.2 - Legal framework

| | |
|------------|--------------|
| ✕ Relevant | Not relevant |
|------------|--------------|

| | Impact | | Origin | | Trend of impact | | |
|--|---|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| Impact |  Current |  Potential |  Inside |  Outside |  Decreasing |  Stable |  Increasing |
|  Positive ✕ | ✕ | | ✕ | ✕ | | → | |
|  Negative | | | | | | | |

4.13.3 - Governance

| | |
|------------|--------------|
| ✕ Relevant | Not relevant |
|------------|--------------|










| | Impact | | Origin | | Trend of impact | | |
|--|---|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| Impact |  Current |  Potential |  Inside |  Outside |  Decreasing |  Stable |  Increasing |
|  Positive ✕ | ✕ | | ✕ | | | | ↗ |
|  Negative | | | | | | | |

4.13.4 - Management activities

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):









- Relevant, Negative, Potential, Inside

| | |
|------------|--------------|
| ✕ Relevant | Not relevant |
|------------|--------------|

| | Impact | | Origin | | Trend of impact | | |
|--|---|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| Impact |  Current |  Potential |  Inside |  Outside |  Decreasing |  Stable |  Increasing |
|  Positive ✕ | ✕ | | ✕ | | | → | |
|  Negative | | | | | | | |










4.13.5 - Financial resources

| | |
|------------|--------------|
| ✕ Relevant | Not relevant |
|------------|--------------|

| | Impact | | Origin | | Trend of impact | | |
|--|---|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| Impact |  Current |  Potential |  Inside |  Outside |  Decreasing |  Stable |  Increasing |
|  Positive | | | | | | | |
|  Negative ✕ | ✕ | | ✕ | | | → | |

4.13.6 - Human resources

| | |
|------------|--------------|
| ✕ Relevant | Not relevant |
|------------|--------------|





| | Impact | | Origin | | Trend of impact | | |
|--|---|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| Impact |  Current |  Potential |  Inside |  Outside |  Decreasing |  Stable |  Increasing |
|  Positive ✕ | ✕ | | ✕ | | | → | |
|  Negative | | | | | | | |

4.13.7 - Low impact research/monitoring activities

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Relevant, Positive, Current, Inside

| | |
|------------|--------------|
| ✕ Relevant | Not relevant |
|------------|--------------|

| | Impact | | Origin | | Trend of impact | | |
|--|---|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| Impact |  Current |  Potential |  Inside |  Outside |  Decreasing |  Stable |  Increasing |
|  Positive ✕ | ✕ | | ✕ | | | → | |
|  Negative | | | | | | | |

4.13.8 - High impact research/monitoring activities

Previous answer Cycle 2 (27/07/2012):

- Not relevant

| | |
|----------|----------------|
| Relevant | ✕ Not relevant |
|----------|----------------|

4.13.9 - Please comment as necessary on how the factors selected as relevant in 4.13 are affecting the property either negatively or positively

Although budget and personnel are limited, a great part of goals are achieved through alliances with different stakeholders.

4.14. Other factor(s)

4.14.1 - Other factor(s)

Does not apply.

4.15. Factors Summary Table

4.15.1 - Factors Summary Table





| Name | Impact | | | Origin | | Trend |
|---|--------|--|--|--------|--|-------|
| 4.1 Buildings and Development | | | | | | |
| 4.1.1 Housing | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| 4.1.3 Industrial areas | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| 4.1.4 Major visitor accommodation and associated infrastructure | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| 4.1.5 Interpretative and visitation facilities | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| 4.2 Transportation Infrastructure | | | | | | |
| 4.2.4 Marine transport infrastructure | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| 4.4 Pollution | | | | | | |
| 4.4.5 Solid waste | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| 4.5 Biological resource use/modification | | | | | | |
| 4.5.1 Fishing/collecting aquatic resources | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| 4.5.2 Aquaculture | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| 4.6 Physical resource extraction | | | | | | |
| 4.6.1 Mining | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| 4.8 Social/Cultural uses of heritage | | | | | | |
| 4.8.2 Society's valuing of heritage | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| 4.8.6 Impacts of tourism/Visitation/Recreation | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| 4.9 Other human activities | | | | | | |
| 4.9.1 Illegal activities | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| 4.10 Climate change and severe weather events | | | | | | |
| 4.10.5 Changes to oceanic waters | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

| Temporal scale - Occurrence of the impact | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| | One off or rare |
| ✕ | Intermittent or sporadic |
| | Frequent |
| | On-going |
| Impact - Impact on the attributes | |
| | Insignificant |
| ✕ | Minor |
| | Significant |
| | Major |
| Management response - Capacity of management to respond | |
| | High capacity |
| ✕ | Medium capacity |
| | Low capacity |
| | No capacity and / or resources |
| Trend - Development over the last 6 years | |
| | Decreasing |
| ✕ | Static |
| | Increasing |

| Name | Impact | | | Origin | Trend |
|------------------------|--------|--|--|--------|-------|
| 4.1.3 Industrial areas | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

| Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor | |
|---|--------------------------|
| | Restricted |
| ✕ | Localised |
| | Extensive |
| | Widespread |
| Temporal scale - Occurrence of the impact | |
| | One off or rare |
| | Intermittent or sporadic |
| ✕ | Frequent |
| | On-going |
| Impact - Impact on the attributes | |
| | Insignificant |
| ✕ | Minor |
| | Significant |
| | Major |
| Management response - Capacity of management to respond | |
| ✕ | High capacity |
| | Medium capacity |
| | Low capacity |

| | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| | No capacity and / or resources |
| Trend - Development over the last 6 years | |
| | Decreasing |
| ✕ | Static |
| | Increasing |

| Name | Impact | Origin | Trend |
|---|---|---|---|
| 4.1.4 Major visitor accommodation and associated infrastructure |   |   |  |
| | | | |





| | |
|--|------------|
| Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor | |
| | Restricted |
| ✕ | Localised |
| | Extensive |
| | Widespread |

| | |
|--|--------------------------|
| Temporal scale - Occurrence of the impact | |
| | One off or rare |
| | Intermittent or sporadic |
| | Frequent |
| ✕ | On-going |

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Impact - Impact on the attributes | |
| | Insignificant |
| | Minor |
| ✕ | Significant |
| | Major |

| | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| Management response - Capacity of management to respond | |
| ✕ | High capacity |
| | Medium capacity |
| | Low capacity |
| | No capacity and / or resources |





| | |
|--|------------|
| Trend - Development over the last 6 years | |
| | Decreasing |
| ✕ | Static |
| | Increasing |

| Name | Impact | Origin | Trend |
|--|---|---|---|
| 4.1.5 Interpretative and visitation facilities |    |  |  |
| | | | |

| | |
|--|------------|
| Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor | |
| | Restricted |
| ✕ | Localised |
| | Extensive |
| | Widespread |

| Temporal scale - Occurrence of the impact | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| | One off or rare |
| | Intermittent or sporadic |
| | Frequent |
| ✕ | On-going |
| Impact - Impact on the attributes | |
| | Insignificant |
| | Minor |
| ✕ | Significant |
| | Major |
| Management response - Capacity of management to respond | |
| | High capacity |
| ✕ | Medium capacity |
| | Low capacity |
| | No capacity and / or resources |
| Trend - Development over the last 6 years | |
| | Decreasing |
| ✕ | Static |
| | Increasing |




4.2 Transportation Infrastructure

| Name | Impact | | | Origin | | Trend |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|--|---|--|---|
| 4.2.4 Marine transport infrastructure |  |  | |  | |  |
| | | | | | | |

| Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor | |
|---|--------------------------|
| | Restricted |
| ✕ | Localised |
| | Extensive |
| | Widespread |
| Temporal scale - Occurrence of the impact | |
| | One off or rare |
| ✕ | Intermittent or sporadic |
| | Frequent |
| | On-going |
| Impact - Impact on the attributes | |
| | Insignificant |
| ✕ | Minor |
| | Significant |
| | Major |
| Management response - Capacity of management to respond | |
| | High capacity |
| ✕ | Medium capacity |

| | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| | Low capacity |
| | No capacity and / or resources |
| Trend - Development over the last 6 years | |
| | Decreasing |
| ✕ | Static |
| | Increasing |

4.4 Pollution

| Name | Impact | Origin | Trend |
|-------------------|---|---|---|
| 4.4.5 Solid waste | | | |
| |   |  |  |

| | |
|--|------------|
| Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor | |
| | Restricted |
| ✕ | Localised |
| | Extensive |
| | Widespread |





| | |
|--|--------------------------|
| Temporal scale - Occurrence of the impact | |
| | One off or rare |
| ✕ | Intermittent or sporadic |
| | Frequent |
| | On-going |

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Impact - Impact on the attributes | |
| ✕ | Insignificant |
| | Minor |
| | Significant |
| | Major |

| | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| Management response - Capacity of management to respond | |
| | High capacity |
| ✕ | Medium capacity |
| | Low capacity |
| | No capacity and / or resources |




| | |
|--|------------|
| Trend - Development over the last 6 years | |
| ✕ | Decreasing |
| | Static |
| | Increasing |

4.5 Biological resource use/modification

| Name | Impact | Origin | Trend |
|--|---|---|---|
| 4.5.1 Fishing/collecting aquatic resources | | | |
| |   |  |  |

| | |
|--|--|
| Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor | |
|--|--|








| | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| | Restricted |
| | Localised |
| ✕ | Extensive |
| | Widespread |
| Temporal scale - Occurence of the impact | |
| | One off or rare |
| ✕ | Intermittent or sporadic |
| | Frequent |
| | On-going |
| Impact - Impact on the attributes | |
| | Insignificant |
| ✕ | Minor |
| | Significant |
| | Major |
| Management response - Capacity of management to respond | |
| | High capacity |
| ✕ | Medium capacity |
| | Low capacity |
| | No capacity and / or resources |
| Trend - Development over the last 6 years | |
| ✕ | Decreasing |
| | Static |
| | Increasing |

| Name | Impact | | | Origin | | Trend |
|-------------------|---|---|--|---|--|---|
| 4.5.2 Aquaculture |  |  | |  | |  |
| | | | | | | |

| | |
|---|--------------------------|
| Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor | |
| ✕ | Restricted |
| | Localised |
| | Extensive |
| | Widespread |
| Temporal scale - Occurence of the impact | |
| | One off or rare |
| | Intermittent or sporadic |
| | Frequent |
| ✕ | On-going |
| Impact - Impact on the attributes | |
| ✕ | Insignificant |
| | Minor |
| | Significant |
| | Major |

| Management response - Capacity of management to respond | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| | High capacity |
| ✕ | Medium capacity |
| | Low capacity |
| | No capacity and / or resources |
| Trend - Development over the last 6 years | |
| | Decreasing |
| ✕ | Static |
| | Increasing |

4.6 Physical resource extraction

| Name | Impact | | | Origin | | Trend |
|--------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4.6.1 Mining |  |  | |  | |  |
| |  | |  |  |  |  |

| Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor | |
|---|------------|
| | Restricted |
| ✕ | Localised |
| | Extensive |
| | Widespread |

| Temporal scale - Occurrence of the impact | |
|---|--------------------------|
| | One off or rare |
| | Intermittent or sporadic |
| ✕ | Frequent |
| | On-going |

| Impact - Impact on the attributes | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| | Insignificant |
| | Minor |
| ✕ | Significant |
| | Major |




| Management response - Capacity of management to respond | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| ✕ | High capacity |
| | Medium capacity |
| | Low capacity |
| | No capacity and / or resources |
| Trend - Development over the last 6 years | |
| | Decreasing |
| ✕ | Static |
| | Increasing |

4.8 Social/Cultural uses of heritage

| Name | Impact | | | Origin | | Trend |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4.8.2 Society's valuing of heritage |  |  |  |  |  |  |





| | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| ✕ | Significant |
| | Major |
| Management response - Capacity of management to respond | |
| ✕ | High capacity |
| | Medium capacity |
| | Low capacity |
| | No capacity and / or resources |
| Trend - Development over the last 6 years | |
| | Decreasing |
| ✕ | Static |
| | Increasing |

4.9 Other human activities






| Name | Impact | | | Origin | | Trend |
|--------------------------|---|---|--|---|---|---|
| 4.9.1 Illegal activities | | | | | | |
| |  |  | |  |  |  |

| | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor | | | | | | |
| | Restricted | | | | | |
| ✕ | Localised | | | | | |
| | Extensive | | | | | |
| | Widespread | | | | | |
| Temporal scale - Occurrence of the impact | | | | | | |
| | One off or rare | | | | | |
| ✕ | Intermittent or sporadic | | | | | |
| | Frequent | | | | | |
| | On-going | | | | | |
| Impact - Impact on the attributes | | | | | | |
| | Insignificant | | | | | |
| ✕ | Minor | | | | | |
| | Significant | | | | | |
| | Major | | | | | |
| Management response - Capacity of management to respond | | | | | | |
| | High capacity | | | | | |
| ✕ | Medium capacity | | | | | |
| | Low capacity | | | | | |
| | No capacity and / or resources | | | | | |
| Trend - Development over the last 6 years | | | | | | |
| ✕ | Decreasing | | | | | |
| | Static | | | | | |
| | Increasing | | | | | |

4.10 Climate change and severe weather events






| Name | Impact | | | Origin | | Trend |
|----------------------------------|---|--|---|---|---|---|
| 4.10.5 Changes to oceanic waters | | | | | | |
| |  | |  |  |  |  |

| Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| | Restricted |
| | Localised |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Extensive |
| | Widespread |
| Temporal scale - Occurrence of the impact | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | One off or rare |
| | Intermittent or sporadic |
| | Frequent |
| | On-going |
| Impact - Impact on the attributes | |
| | Insignificant |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Minor |
| | Significant |
| | Major |
| Management response - Capacity of management to respond | |
| | High capacity |
| | Medium capacity |
| | Low capacity |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No capacity and / or resources |
| Trend - Development over the last 6 years | |
| | Decreasing |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Static |
| | Increasing |

| Name | Impact | | | Origin | | Trend |
|---------------------------|---|--|---|---|---|---|
| 4.10.6 Temperature change | | | | | | |
| |  | |  |  |  |  |

| Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor | |
|---|--------------------------|
| | Restricted |
| | Localised |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Extensive |
| | Widespread |
| Temporal scale - Occurrence of the impact | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | One off or rare |
| | Intermittent or sporadic |




| | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| | Frequent |
| | On-going |
| Impact - Impact on the attributes | |
| | Insignificant |
| ✕ | Minor |
| | Significant |
| | Major |
| Management response - Capacity of management to respond | |
| | High capacity |
| | Medium capacity |
| | Low capacity |
| ✕ | No capacity and / or resources |
| Trend - Development over the last 6 years | |
| | Decreasing |
| ✕ | Static |
| | Increasing |

| Name | Impact | | | Origin | | Trend |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 4.10.7 Other climate change impacts | | | | | | |
| |  |  | |  |  |  |

| | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor | |
| | Restricted |
| | Localised |
| ✕ | Extensive |
| | Widespread |
| Temporal scale - Occurrence of the impact | |
| ✕ | One off or rare |
| | Intermittent or sporadic |
| | Frequent |
| | On-going |
| Impact - Impact on the attributes | |
| | Insignificant |
| ✕ | Minor |
| | Significant |
| | Major |
| Management response - Capacity of management to respond | |
| | High capacity |
| | Medium capacity |
| | Low capacity |
| ✕ | No capacity and / or resources |
| Trend - Development over the last 6 years | |
| | Decreasing |




| | |
|---|------------|
| ✕ | Static |
| | Increasing |

4.11 Sudden ecological or geological events

| Name | Impact | Origin | Trend |
|---|---|---|---|
| 4.11.5 Erosion and siltation/Deposition | | | |
| |  |  |  |






| Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| | Restricted |
| ✕ | Localised |
| | Extensive |
| | Widespread |
| Temporal scale - Occurrence of the impact | |
| ✕ | One off or rare |
| | Intermittent or sporadic |
| | Frequent |
| | On-going |
| Impact - Impact on the attributes | |
| | Insignificant |
| ✕ | Minor |
| | Significant |
| | Major |
| Management response - Capacity of management to respond | |
| | High capacity |
| | Medium capacity |
| ✕ | Low capacity |
| | No capacity and / or resources |
| Trend - Development over the last 6 years | |
| | Decreasing |
| ✕ | Static |
| | Increasing |

4.12 Invasive/alien species or hyper-abundant species

| Name | Impact | Origin | Trend |
|-----------------------------|---|---|---|
| 4.12.1 Translocated species | | | |
| |  |  |  |

| Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor | |
|---|------------|
| | Restricted |
| ✕ | Localised |
| | Extensive |
| | Widespread |

| Temporal scale - Occurrence of the impact | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | One off or rare |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Intermittent or sporadic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Frequent |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | On-going |
| Impact - Impact on the attributes | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Insignificant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Minor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Significant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Major |
| Management response - Capacity of management to respond | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | High capacity |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Medium capacity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Low capacity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | No capacity and / or resources |
| Trend - Development over the last 6 years | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Decreasing |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Static |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Increasing |

| Name | Impact | | | Origin | | Trend |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4.12.4 Invasive/Alien marine species | | | | | | |
| |  |  |  |  |  |  |

| Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Restricted |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Localised |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Extensive |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Widespread |
| Temporal scale - Occurrence of the impact | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | One off or rare |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Intermittent or sporadic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Frequent |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | On-going |
| Impact - Impact on the attributes | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Insignificant |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Minor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Significant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Major |
| Management response - Capacity of management to respond | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | High capacity |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Medium capacity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Low capacity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | No capacity and / or resources |

| Trend - Developement over the last 6 years | | | | | | |
|--|------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| | Decreasing | | | | | |
| ✕ | Static | | | | | |
| | Increasing | | | | | |

| Name | Impact | | | Origin | | Trend |
|-------------------------------|--------|--|---|--------|--|-------|
| 4.12.5 Hyper-abundant species | | | | | | |
| | ⊖ | | 📢 | 🌱 | | ➡ |

| Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor | |
|---|------------|
| | Restricted |
| ✕ | Localised |
| | Extensive |
| | Widespread |

| Temporal scale - Occurence of the impact | |
|--|--------------------------|
| | One off or rare |
| ✕ | Intermittent or sporadic |
| | Frequent |
| | On-going |

| Impact - Impact on the attributes | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| | Insignificant |
| ✕ | Minor |
| | Significant |
| | Major |

| Management response - Capacity of management to respond | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| | High capacity |
| | Medium capacity |
| ✕ | Low capacity |
| | No capacity and / or resources |





| Trend - Developement over the last 6 years | |
|--|------------|
| | Decreasing |
| ✕ | Static |
| | Increasing |

4.13 Management and institutional factors

| Name | Impact | | | Origin | | Trend |
|--|--------|---|--|--------|---|-------|
| 4.13.1 Management system/Management plan | ⊕ | 📢 | | 🌱 | 🔄 | ➡ |
| | | | | | | |





| Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor | |
|---|------------|
| | Restricted |
| | Localised |
| | Extensive |

| | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| ✕ | Widespread |
| Temporal scale - Occurrence of the impact | |
| | One off or rare |
| | Intermittent or sporadic |
| | Frequent |
| ✕ | On-going |
| Impact - Impact on the attributes | |
| | Insignificant |
| | Minor |
| | Significant |
| ✕ | Major |
| Management response - Capacity of management to respond | |
| ✕ | High capacity |
| | Medium capacity |
| | Low capacity |
| | No capacity and / or resources |
| Trend - Development over the last 6 years | |
| | Decreasing |
| | Static |
| ✕ | Increasing |

| Name | Impact | | | Origin | | Trend |
|------------------------|---|---|--|---|---|---|
| 4.13.2 Legal framework |  |  | |  |  |  |
| | | | | | | |

| | |
|--|--------------------------|
| Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor | |
| | Restricted |
| | Localised |
| | Extensive |
| ✕ | Widespread |
| Temporal scale - Occurrence of the impact | |
| | One off or rare |
| | Intermittent or sporadic |
| | Frequent |
| ✕ | On-going |
| Impact - Impact on the attributes | |
| | Insignificant |
| | Minor |
| | Significant |
| ✕ | Major |
| Management response - Capacity of management to respond | |
| ✕ | High capacity |
| | Medium capacity |

| | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| | Low capacity |
| | No capacity and / or resources |
| Trend - Development over the last 6 years | |
| | Decreasing |
| ✕ | Static |
| | Increasing |

| Name | Impact | Origin | Trend |
|-------------------|---|---|---|
| 4.13.3 Governance |   |  |  |
| | | | |





| | |
|--|------------|
| Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor | |
| | Restricted |
| | Localised |
| | Extensive |
| ✕ | Widespread |

| | |
|--|--------------------------|
| Temporal scale - Occurrence of the impact | |
| | One off or rare |
| | Intermittent or sporadic |
| | Frequent |
| ✕ | On-going |

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Impact - Impact on the attributes | |
| | Insignificant |
| | Minor |
| | Significant |
| ✕ | Major |





| | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| Management response - Capacity of management to respond | |
| | High capacity |
| ✕ | Medium capacity |
| | Low capacity |
| | No capacity and / or resources |

| | |
|--|------------|
| Trend - Development over the last 6 years | |
| | Decreasing |
| | Static |
| ✕ | Increasing |

| Name | Impact | Origin | Trend |
|------------------------------|---|---|---|
| 4.13.4 Management activities |   |  |  |
| | | | |





| | |
|--|------------|
| Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor | |
| | Restricted |
| | Localised |
| | Extensive |

| | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| ✕ | Widespread |
| Temporal scale - Occurrence of the impact | |
| | One off or rare |
| | Intermittent or sporadic |
| | Frequent |
| ✕ | On-going |
| Impact - Impact on the attributes | |
| | Insignificant |
| | Minor |
| | Significant |
| ✕ | Major |
| Management response - Capacity of management to respond | |
| ✕ | High capacity |
| | Medium capacity |
| | Low capacity |
| | No capacity and / or resources |
| Trend - Development over the last 6 years | |
| | Decreasing |
| ✕ | Static |
| | Increasing |

| Name | Impact | | | Origin | | Trend |
|----------------------------|---|---|--|---|--|---|
| 4.13.5 Financial resources | | | | | | |
| |  |  | |  | |  |

| | |
|--|--------------------------|
| Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor | |
| | Restricted |
| | Localised |
| ✕ | Extensive |
| | Widespread |
| Temporal scale - Occurrence of the impact | |
| | One off or rare |
| | Intermittent or sporadic |
| | Frequent |
| ✕ | On-going |
| Impact - Impact on the attributes | |
| | Insignificant |
| ✕ | Minor |
| | Significant |
| | Major |
| Management response - Capacity of management to respond | |
| | High capacity |
| ✕ | Medium capacity |

| | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| | Low capacity |
| | No capacity and / or resources |
| Trend - Development over the last 6 years | |
| | Decreasing |
| ✕ | Static |
| | Increasing |

| Name | Impact | Origin | Trend |
|------------------------|---|---|---|
| 4.13.6 Human resources |   |  |  |
| | | | |




| | |
|--|------------|
| Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor | |
| | Restricted |
| | Localised |
| ✕ | Extensive |
| | Widespread |

| | |
|--|--------------------------|
| Temporal scale - Occurrence of the impact | |
| | One off or rare |
| | Intermittent or sporadic |
| | Frequent |
| ✕ | On-going |

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Impact - Impact on the attributes | |
| | Insignificant |
| | Minor |
| ✕ | Significant |
| | Major |

| | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| Management response - Capacity of management to respond | |
| | High capacity |
| ✕ | Medium capacity |
| | Low capacity |
| | No capacity and / or resources |

| | |
|--|------------|
| Trend - Development over the last 6 years | |
| | Decreasing |
| ✕ | Static |
| | Increasing |

| Name | Impact | Origin | Trend |
|--|---|---|---|
| 4.13.7 Low impact research/monitoring activities |   |  |  |
| | | | |

| | |
|--|------------|
| Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor | |
| | Restricted |
| | Localised |
| ✕ | Extensive |

| | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| | Widespread |
| Temporal scale - Occurrence of the impact | |
| | One off or rare |
| | Intermittent or sporadic |
| ✕ | Frequent |
| | On-going |
| Impact - Impact on the attributes | |
| | Insignificant |
| | Minor |
| ✕ | Significant |
| | Major |
| Management response - Capacity of management to respond | |
| ✕ | High capacity |
| | Medium capacity |
| | Low capacity |
| | No capacity and / or resources |
| Trend - Development over the last 6 years | |
| | Decreasing |
| ✕ | Static |
| | Increasing |

4.17. Serial inscriptions (national or transnational)

4.17.1 - If your property is a serial inscription (national or transnational) please identify which components of the property are impacted by each factor

Yes, it is a serial property with 2 components: Ojo de Liebre Lagoon and San Ignacio Lagoon.

4.18. Prediction of the state of conservation at next cycle of Periodic Reporting.

4.18.1 - Please predict what the state of conservation of each attribute will be approximately 6 years from now (at the time of the next cycle of Periodic Reporting)

| | Attribute | Preserved | Compromised | Seriously compromised | Lost |
|----------|---|-----------|-------------|-----------------------|------|
| 4.18.1.1 | The Whale Sanctuary protects the most important reproductive grounds of Grey whales in the world. | ✕ | | | |
| 4.18.1.2 | Protects a large number of other marine mammals, as California sea lions, harbor seals, Northern elephant seals, as well as four species of endangered marine turtles, and several species of sharks. | ✕ | | | |
| 4.18.1.3 | The surrounding wetlands attract an extraordinary diversity and abundance of resident and migratory bird species with several hundreds of thousands of wintering birds. | ✕ | | | |
| 4.18.1.4 | The area protects a wide variety of plant communities, such as four different types of desert scrub, halophytes, wetlands, marshes, and sand dune vegetation among others. | ✕ | | | |
| 4.18.1.5 | The drier terrestrial areas belong to the Sonoran Desert, with its remarkably diverse flora and fauna and a high degree of endemism. | ✕ | | | |

5. Protection and Management of the Property

5.1. Boundaries and Buffer Zones

5.1.1 - Are the boundaries of the World Heritage property adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value?

The boundaries are **adequate to maintain** the property's Outstanding Universal Value

5.1.2 - Are the boundaries of the World Heritage property known and recognised?

The boundaries are **known by both** the management authority and local communities/landowners

5.1.3 - Are the buffer zone(s) of the World Heritage property adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value?

The property has **no buffer zone** and **does not need one**

5.1.4 - Are the boundaries of the buffer zones known and recognised?

The property has **no known and recognised** buffer zone

5.1.5 - Comments, conclusions and/or recommendations related to boundaries and buffer zones of the World Heritage property

The boundaries are adequate to protect the outstanding universal value of the property. A buffer zone is not needed since the Whale Sanctuary is part of the larger El Vizcaino Biosphere Reserve, which surrounds the site, and provides an ample functioning "buffer zone".

5.2. Protective Measures

5.2.1 - Protective designation (legal, regulatory, contractual, planning, institutional and/or traditional).

Par décret présidentiel de 1971, un refuge marin pour les Cétacés a été créé dans la Laguna de Ojo de Liebre. En 1972, un autre décret a établi une série de réserves et de refuges pour les oiseaux migrateurs autour des lagunes de San Ignacio et Ojo de Liebre. En 1979, un troisième décret a établi un refuge pour les Cétacés, dans la Laguna de San Ignacio. Enfin, en 1988, a été créée la Reserve nationale de la biosphère d'El Vizcaino.

Source: Evaluation des Organisations consultatives

5.2.2 - Please list any legislation and other measures (regulatory -including spatial planning- contractual, institutional or traditional) not included in 5.2.1 and indicate the category

2000 / Programa de Manejo de la Reserva de la Biosfera El Vizcaino /
https://www.conanp.gob.mx/que_hacemos/pdf/programas_manejo/vizcaino.pdf 2016 /

Programa de Manejo de la Reserva de la Biosfera Complejo Lagunar Ojo de Liebre /
https://simec.conanp.gob.mx/pdf_libro_pm/114_libro_pm.pdf 2019 / Programa de Adaptación al Cambio Climático /

5.2.3 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and/or regulation including spatial planning) adequate for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and/or Authenticity of the property?

An **adequate legal framework** for maintaining of the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and/or Integrity of the World Heritage property exists **but there are some deficiencies in implementation**

5.2.4 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and/or regulation) adequate in the buffer zone for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and/or Authenticity of the property?

The property has **no buffer zone**

5.2.5 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and/or regulation) in the broader setting of the World Heritage property adequate for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and/or Authenticity of the property?

The **legal framework** for the broader setting of the World Heritage property provides an **adequate basis for** effective management and protection of the property, contributing to the maintenance of its Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and/or Integrity

5.2.6 - Can the legal framework (i.e. legislation and/or regulation) be enforced?

There is **acceptable capacity/resources** to enforce legislation and/or regulation in the World Heritage property but some deficiencies of enforcement remain

5.2.7 - Please provide a short summary of how the legislation, including spatial planning and other regulation, works in practice

The legal framework is sufficient, although there are limitations in its application. More agents are needed to enforce the law. This is currently solved in part with community committees that help authorities in surveillance and monitoring activities in the property. Spatial planning has contributed to order activities like tourism, fishing, aquaculture, or navigation, through a basic specific zoning for each group.

5.2.8 - Comments, conclusions and/or recommendations about the information related to the measures taken to protect the World Heritage property

The site is well protected, with a good legal framework and social participation. Nevertheless, government agencies need to improve the number of staff, equipment and operating budget to enforce the law.

5.3. Management System/Management Plan

5.3.1 - Please check the box which most closely match the character of the governance and management system of the property

Public management system at national level

If 'Other', please specify

5.3.2 - Management System: Please indicate which of the various management tools listed below are used to help protect the property.

A statutory Management Plan or zoning plan for the property.

Other forms of statutory or non-statutory plans (e.g. strategic plans)

Governance mechanisms that foster and respect traditional practices, knowledge and uses of the property

Mechanisms to promote equal participation among and within groups, including different levels of authority, local communities, indigenous people, women and men, and other specific groups

A framework for inclusive economic development, including equal access and distribution of resources and opportunities arising from the protection of the property

A code of practice developed by local communities or other groups

A code of practice developed by industry

An integrated management plan combining World Heritage and any other designations

A management plan

| |
|---|
| An annual work plan or business plan |
| A disaster, climate or conflict risk management plan |
| An environmental management framework |
| A joint approach to management of cultural and natural heritage |

5.3.3 - Please give a brief description of the management system currently in place at your property

The sanctuary is part of the El Vizcaino Biosphere Reserve, which has a federal management plan, so the property is included in it. There is an active participation of diverse stakeholders such as tour operators, fishermen and aquaculturists, which contribute to regulate the activities and conserve the site.

5.3.4 - Management Documents

5.3.5 - Has any use been made of the 2011 Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape in developing policies and best practices for the protection of this property?

The 2011 Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape is **not relevant** to this property

5.3.6 - If the Historic Urban Landscape Recommendation has been used at this property, please describe briefly what has been done.

5.3.7 - Has any use been made of the Policy Document on the Impacts of Climate Change on World Heritage Properties at the property?

Some use has been made of the World Heritage Policy for Climate Change

5.3.8 - If the Climate Change policy has been used, please briefly describe what has been done along with any research on the impacts of Climate Change on the property:

a) An Advisory Sub-Committee for Climate Change and Invasive Species was established within the Advisory Committee for El Vizcaino Biosphere Reserve. This group addresses policies and actions of mitigation and adaptation to climate change. The Sanctuary is included as a priority site. b) An Adaptation Plan to Climate Change was developed for El Vizcaino Biosphere Reserve. The Sanctuary is included as a priority site. It identifies species and ecosystems most susceptible to climate change

5.3.9 - Has any use been made of the Strategy for Reducing Risks from Disasters at World Heritage Properties at the property ?

Some use has been made of the Strategy for Reducing Risks from Disasters at World Heritage Properties

5.3.10 - If the Strategy for Reducing Risks from Disasters at World Heritage Properties has been used, please briefly describe what has been done

A Risk Management Action Plan was elaborated in coordination with diverse stakeholders.

5.3.11 - Rate the coordination between the various levels of administration (i.e. national/federal; regional/provincial/state; local/municipal etc.) involved in the management of the World Heritage property

There is **coordination** between the range of administrative bodies involved in the management of the property, **but it could be improved**

5.3.12 - Is the management system/plan adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value?

The management system/plan is **fully adequate** to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value

5.3.13 - Is the management system being implemented?

The management system is being **only partially implemented**

5.3.14 - Is there an annual work/action plan and is it being implemented?

An annual work/action plan **exists and many of its activities are being implemented**

5.3.15 - Does the management system include formal mechanisms and procedures that ensure participation and contribution of the following groups, living within or near the World Heritage property and/or buffer zone in management decisions that maintain the Outstanding Universal Value of the property?

| | | Not applicable | No mechanisms for participation | Some participation | Direct participation | Transformative participation in all relevant decision processes |
|----------|---|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|---|
| 5.3.15.1 | Local communities | | | | | × |
| 5.3.15.2 | Local authorities | | | | × | |
| 5.3.15.3 | Landowners in the property and the buffer zone | | | | × | |
| 5.3.15.4 | Indigenous peoples | × | | | | |
| 5.3.15.5 | Women | | | | × | |
| 5.3.15.6 | Other specific groups | | | | × | |
| | If you selected, 'Other specific groups' please specify | Non-Governmental organizations | | | | |

5.3.16 - Please rate the cooperation/relationship between the World Heritage property managers/coordinators/staff and the following groups

| | | Not applicable | Non-existent | Poor | Fair | Good |
|-----------|---|----------------|--------------|------|------|------|
| 5.3.16.1 | Local communities | | | | | × |
| 5.3.16.2 | Local/Municipal authorities | | | | × | |
| 5.3.16.3 | Indigenous peoples | × | | | | |
| 5.3.16.4 | Landowners | | | | × | |
| 5.3.16.5 | Women | | | | | × |
| 5.3.16.6 | Youth/Children | | | | | × |
| 5.3.16.7 | Researchers | | | | | × |
| 5.3.16.8 | Local Visitors/Tourists | | | | × | |
| 5.3.16.9 | National/International tourists | | | | × | |
| 5.3.16.10 | Tourism Industry | | | | | × |
| 5.3.16.11 | Local businesses and industries | | | | | × |
| 5.3.16.12 | NGOs | | | | | × |
| 5.3.16.13 | Other specific groups | × | | | | |
| | If you selected 'Other specific groups', please specify | | | | | |

5.3.17 - Please rate the extent to which the management system of your property contributes towards achieving the objectives of the World Heritage Committee's Policy for the Integration of a Sustainable Development Perspective into the Processes of the *World Heritage Convention*

| | | Not applicable | No contribution | Limited | Significant | Full achievement |
|----------|--|----------------|-----------------|---------|-------------|------------------|
| 5.3.17.1 | The management system of the property contributes to gender equality | | | | × | |
| 5.3.17.2 | The management system of the property provides ecosystem services/benefits to the local community (e.g. fresh air, water, food, medicinal plants) | | | | × | |
| 5.3.17.3 | The management system of the property contributes to social inclusion and equity, improving opportunities for all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status | | | | × | |
| 5.3.17.4 | The management system of the property integrates a human rights-based approach | | | | | × |
| 5.3.17.5 | The management system of the property contributes to fostering inclusive local economic development, and to enhancing livelihood | | | | × | |
| 5.3.17.6 | The management system of the property contributes to conflict prevention, including respect for cultural diversity within and around the World Heritage property | | | | × | |

5.3.18 - Please provide further details on the ratings of the management system given in the table above

The management system is egalitarian and inclusive, integrating government and social participation. Financial and logistical support is offered to the development of sustainable community projects.

5.3.19 - Comments, conclusions and/or recommendations related to the management system/plan

The management system is appropriate to promote the participation of the different interest groups; however, implementation capabilities need to be improved

6. Financial and Human Resources

6.1. Funding

6.1.1 - If your funding sources do not exactly fit those shown, put the relevant amounts against the funding type that most closely represents your situation, and use the comment box below to provide more details.

| | | Project costs | Running costs |
|---------|--|---------------|---------------|
| 6.1.1.1 | Multilateral funding (GEF, World Bank, etc.) | 40 % | 70 % |
| 6.1.1.2 | Bilateral international funding | 0 % | 0 % |
| 6.1.1.3 | World Heritage Fund (International Assistance) | 0 % | 0 % |
| 6.1.1.4 | Contribution from other conventions and programmes | 10 % | 0 % |
| 6.1.1.5 | International donations (NGOs, foundations, etc.) | 0 % | 0 % |
| 6.1.1.6 | Governmental (national/federal) | 50 % | 30 % |
| 6.1.1.7 | Governmental (regional/provincial/state) | 0 % | 0 % |

| | | | |
|----------|--|-------------|-------------|
| 6.1.1.8 | Governmental (local/municipal) | 0 % | 0 % |
| 6.1.1.9 | In-country donations (NGOs, foundations, etc.) | 0 % | 0 % |
| 6.1.1.10 | Individual visitor charges (e.g. entry, toilets, parking, camping fees, etc.) | 0 % | 0 % |
| 6.1.1.11 | Commercial activities (e.g. merchandising and catering, filming permit, concessions, etc.) | 0 % | 0 % |
| 6.1.1.12 | Other | 0 % | 0 % |
| | | Total 100 % | Total 100 % |

6.1.2 - Please comment here on any other aspects of funding sources not covered in the table above

Projects funding is not a permanent source, but it depends on specific programs supported or promoted by federal government or international foundations and NGOs.

6.1.3 - Is the current budget sufficient to manage the World Heritage property effectively?

The available **budget is acceptable** but **could be further improved** to fully meet the management needs

6.1.4 - Are the existing sources of funding secure and likely to remain so?

The existing sources of funding are **secure over the medium-term** and **planning is underway to secure funding over the long-term**

6.1.5 - Comments, conclusion, and/or recommendations related to finance and infrastructure

Federal funding is quite secure; external sources of financing are subject to international and political circumstances. It is important to establish a mechanism to ensure sufficient funding in the long term.

6.1.6 - Estimate the distribution of men and women involved in the management, conservation, interpretation of the World Heritage properties and the extent to which they are drawn from local communities.

| | | From local communities % | From elsewhere % |
|---------|-------|--------------------------|------------------|
| 6.1.6.1 | Men | 60 % | 50 % |
| 6.1.6.2 | Women | 40 % | 50 % |
| | | Total 100 % | Total 100 % |

6.1.7 - Are available human resources adequate to manage the World Heritage property?

Human resources **partly meet** the management needs of the World Heritage property

6.1.8 - Considering the management needs of the World Heritage property, please rate the availability of professionals in the following disciplines

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Conservation | Fair |
| Environmental sustainability | Fair |
| Community participation and inclusion | Fair |
| Risk preparedness | Fair |
| Capacity development and education | Good |
| Administration | Good |
| Research and monitoring | Good |
| Awareness raising and public information/communication | Poor |
| Marketing and promotion | Not available |
| Interpretation | Poor |
| Visitor management/tourism | Fair |
| Enforcement (custodians, police) | Not available |

6.1.9 - Please rate the availability of training opportunities for the management of the World Heritage property in the following disciplines

| | |
|---------------------------------------|------|
| Conservation | Fair |
| Environmental sustainability | Fair |
| Community participation and inclusion | Fair |
| Risk preparedness | Fair |
| Capacity development and education | Good |
| Administration | Good |
| Research and monitoring | Good |

| | |
|--|------|
| Awareness raising and public information/communication | Fair |
| Marketing and promotion | Fair |
| Interpretation | Fair |
| Visitor management/tourism | Good |
| Enforcement (custodians, police) | Fair |

6.1.10 - Has any use been made of the World Heritage Strategy for Capacity Building at the property?

Some use has been made of the World Heritage Strategy for Capacity Building

6.1.11 - If the World Heritage Strategy for Capacity Building has been used, please briefly describe what has been done.

Two workshops were held, with the participation of local communities: a) Spatial Planning. b) Participatory identification of heritage values

6.1.12 - Are there site-specific capacity building plans or programmes that develop local expertise and that contribute to the transfer of skills for the conservation and management of the World Heritage property?

A site-based capacity building plan or programme is in place and partially implemented; some technical skills are being transferred to those managing the property locally, but most technical work is carried out by external staff

6.1.13 - Comments, conclusions and/or recommendations related to human resources, expertise and training

Staff are trained, but a consistent training program must be maintained. The size of the staff is very small for the needs of the site. The transfer of conservation and sustainable management capacities to communities must be improved. A local coach training program might be helpful.

7. Scientific Studies and Research Projects

7.1 - Is there adequate knowledge (scientific or traditional) about the values and attributes of the World Heritage property to support planning, management and decision-making to ensure that Outstanding Universal Value is maintained?

Knowledge about the values and attributes of the World Heritage property is **acceptable** for most key areas but there are gaps

7.2 - Is there a planned programme of research at the property which is directed towards management needs and/or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value?

There is **considerable research** but it is **not directed towards management needs and/or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value**

7.3 - Are results from research programmes publicly available and disseminated?

Research results **are shared with local communities and some national agencies**

7.4 - Comments, conclusions and/or recommendations related to scientific studies and research projects

Agreements have been established with individuals or research groups, but it is necessary to have a research strategy based on a legal framework to ensure the applied research that is needed.

8. Education, Information and Awareness Building

8.1 - Please rate the awareness and understanding of the existence and justification for inscription of the World Heritage property amongst the following groups

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Local communities | Fair |
| Local/municipal authorities | Poor |
| Indigenous peoples | Not applicable |
| Landowners | Fair |
| Women | Fair |
| Youth/children | Fair |
| Researchers | Good |
| Local visitors | Fair |
| National/international tourists | Poor |
| Tourism industry | Good |
| Local businesses and industries | Fair |
| NGOs | Good |
| Other specific groups | Not applicable |
| If you selected 'Other specific groups', please describe | |

8.2 - Does the property have a heritage education programme(s) for children and/or youth, that can contribute to a better understanding of heritage, promote diversity and foster intercultural dialogue?

There is a planned education and awareness programme for children and/or youth **but it only partly meets the needs**

8.3 - Who are the target audiences for education and awareness programmes at your property?

| |
|-------------------|
| Local communities |
| Landowners |
| Women |
| Youth/children |

8.4 - Please rate the adequacy of the following visitor facilities and services at the World Heritage property for education, information, interpretation and awareness building

| | |
|--|-------------------------|
| Visitor centre | Poor |
| Site museum | Not provided but needed |
| Information booths | Poor |
| Guided tours | Fair |
| Trails/routes | Fair |
| Printed information materials | Poor |
| Online (website, social media, etc.) | Fair |
| Transportation facilities | Fair |
| Other | Not needed |
| If 'Other' is selected, please specify | |

8.5 - Comments, conclusions and/or recommendations related to education, information and awareness building

There is a wide range of Education and Information activities, aimed to schools and particular groups; nonetheless, it is necessary to systematize them under a better-integrated program.

9. Visitor Management

9.1 - Please provide estimated annual visitor numbers (including national and international visitors) since the last Periodic Report

| |
|--|
| 6344 / 11234 / 19500 / 17000 / 17500 / |
|--|

9.2 - What information sources are used to collect visitor statistics?

| |
|------------------------------|
| Entry tickets and registries |
| Tourism industry |

9.3 - What is the average length stay of a visitor to the World Heritage property?

Two overnight stays

9.4 - Please provide the source of information

Tourism industry, personal communication.

9.5 - What is the approximate average daily visitor expenditure? (Please provide an estimated monetary figure in USD)

| |
|------------------------------|
| 50 / 50 / 25 / 6 / 70 / 30 / |
|------------------------------|

9.6 - Please provide the source of information

Tourism industry, personal communication.

9.7 - Does the management system/plan for the World Heritage property include a strategy with an action plan to manage visitors, tourism activity and its derived economic, socio-cultural and environmental impacts?

There is a planned and **effective strategy** to manage visitors, tourism activity and its derived impacts on the World Heritage property

9.8 - Please provide any comments relating to the answer provided above in question 9.7

The Biosphere Reserve Management Plan regulates tourism in the Sanctuary. The main tourist activity is whale watching, which is regulated by a specific federal standard. Permits are required for tour operators, transportation and camping. There are certain sighting areas and an established permit limit; there is vigilance to ensure compliance with the legislation.

9.9 - Is visitor use effectively managed to maintain the Outstanding Universal Value of the property?

Visitor use of the World Heritage property is **effectively managed** and **does not impact its Outstanding Universal Value**

9.10 - Is the effectiveness of tourism management regularly monitored?

Yes, using a different system

If a different system, please specify

Through surveillance actions carried out by the Reserve staff and law enforcement officers.

9.11 - How does the tourism industry cooperate with the site management to improve visitor experiences and maintain the Outstanding Universal Value of the World Heritage property?

There is **good cooperation** between those responsible for the World Heritage property and the tourism industry **to present the Outstanding Universal Value and increase appreciation**

9.12 - How well is the information on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property presented and interpreted?

The presentation and interpretation of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property **is acceptable but improvements could be made**

9.13 - At how many locations is the World Heritage emblem displayed at the property?

In **many locations** and **easily visible** to visitors

9.14 - How does visitor/tourism revenue (e.g. entry charges, permits) contribute to the management of the World Heritage property?

Fees are collected, and make **some contribution** to the management of the World Heritage property

9.15 - Are there locally driven sustainable tourism initiatives?

Yes

If 'Yes', please specify

Local tourism services should be provided by local operators, as established in the management plan, External tourism operators should use the services provided by locals.

9.16 - Are the benefits of tourism shared with local communities?

Yes

If 'Yes', please specify

Tourism is mostly a local industry, with ample benefits for communities.

9.17 - Comments, conclusions and/or recommendations related to visitation/tourism/public use of the World Heritage property

Regulation of tourism in the Sanctuary is sufficient to ensure its conservation, but more and better facilities are required to improve the quality of tourist services.

10. Monitoring

10.1 - Is there a monitoring programme at the property directed towards management needs and/or towards improving the understanding of the Outstanding Universal Value?

There is **considerable monitoring** but it is not directed towards management needs and/or improving the understanding of Outstanding Universal Value

10.2 - Is necessary information available in order to define key indicators for measuring the state of conservation and are they used in monitoring how the Outstanding Universal Value of the property is being maintained?

Information on the values of the World Heritage property is **adequate and key indicators have been defined but monitoring of the status of indicators could be improved**

10.3 - Are key indicators defined and in place for the following principal aspects of the property?

| | Extend of indicators | Not applicable | No indicators | Indicators have been defined but are not yet in use | Indicators are in place and in use since the last Periodic Reporting cycle |
|--------|--|----------------|---------------|---|--|
| 10.3.1 | State of conservation | | | | ✗ |
| 10.3.2 | Effectiveness of the management system | | | | ✗ |
| 10.3.3 | Character of governance | | | | ✗ |
| 10.3.4 | Appropriate synergy with other conservation designations | | ✗ | | |
| 10.3.5 | Contribution to sustainable development | | | | ✗ |
| 10.3.6 | Capacity development | | | | ✗ |

10.4 - Please provide information on relevant key indicators adopted at the property

Key species populations, marine and terrestrial surveillance, good practices in tourism, aquaculture planning, waste management actions, community productive projects support, education and outreach activities, advisory committee functioning.

10.5 - Please rate the level of involvement in monitoring of the following groups:

| | |
|--|----------------|
| World Heritage managers/coordinators and staff | Good |
| Local/municipal authorities | Non-existent |
| Local communities | Fair |
| Indigenous peoples | Not applicable |

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Landowners | Fair |
| Women | Poor |
| Researchers | Fair |
| Tourism industry | Good |
| Local businesses and industry | Poor |
| NGOs | Fair |
| Other specific groups | Not applicable |
| If you selected 'Other specific groups', please specify | |

10.6 - Has the State Party implemented relevant recommendations arising from the World Heritage Committee?

Implementation is underway

10.7 - Please provide comments relevant to the implementation of recommendations from the World Heritage Committee.

An online database of all biological monitoring was initiated, but it is still on progress. Agreements with institutions researchers and other parties have been developed. Physico-chemical parameters monitoring equipment has been installed in the Sanctuary.

10.8 - Comments, conclusions and/or recommendations related to Monitoring

More training and better equipment will be needed to stay up-to-date with monitoring needs. Also, agreements with institutions researchers and NGOs for data collection and analysis will improve the results of monitoring.

11. Identification of Priority Management Needs

11.1 - Identification of Priority Management Needs

| | | |
|--------|--|---|
| 5.1 | Boundaries and Buffer Zones | |
| 5.1.3 | The property has no buffer zone | |
| 5.1.4 | The property has no known and recognised buffer zone | |
| 5.2 | Protective Measures | |
| 5.2.3 | An adequate legal framework for maintaining of the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and/or Integrity of the World Heritage property exists but there are some deficiencies in implementation | ✗ |
| 5.2.4 | The property has no buffer zone | |
| 5.2.6 | There is acceptable capacity/resources to enforce legislation and/or regulation in the World Heritage property but some deficiencies of enforcement remain | |
| 5.3 | Management System/Management Plan | |
| 5.3.7 | Some use has been made of the Policy Document on the Impacts of Climate Change on World Heritage Properties at the property | ✗ |
| 5.3.9 | Some use has been made of the Strategy for Reducing Risks from Disasters at World Heritage Properties at the property | |
| 5.3.11 | There is coordination between the range of administrative bodies involved in the management of the property, but it could be improved | |
| 5.3.13 | The management system at the property is only being partially implemented | ✗ |
| 6.1 | Funding | |
| 6.1.3 | The available budget is acceptable but could be further improved to fully meet the management needs of the World Heritage property | ✗ |
| 6.1.7 | Human resources partly meet the management needs of the World Heritage property | ✗ |
| 6.1.10 | Some use has been made of the World Heritage Strategy for Capacity Development at the World Heritage property | |
| 6.1.12 | A site-based capacity building plan or programme is in place and partially implemented; some technical skills are being transferred to those managing the property locally, but most technical work is carried out by external staff | ✗ |
| 7 | Scientific Studies and Research Projects | |
| 7.2 | There is considerable research in the World Heritage property but it is not directed towards management needs and/or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value | ✗ |
| 8 | Education, Information and Awareness Building | |
| 8.2 | There is a planned education and awareness programme for children and/or youth but it only partly meets the needs | |
| 9 | Visitor Management | |
| 9.12 | The presentation and interpretation of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property is acceptable but improvements could be made | ✗ |
| 10 | Monitoring | |

| | | |
|------|--|---|
| 10.1 | There is considerable monitoring at the World Heritage property but it is not directed towards management needs and/or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value | ✕ |
| 10.2 | Information on the values of the World Heritage property is adequate and key indicators have been defined but monitoring of the status of indicators could be improved | ✕ |

Please select 0 more issues.

☒ Please save this question to reflect changes

12. Summary and Conclusions

12.1. Summary - Factors affecting the Property

12.1.1 - Summary - Factors affecting the Property

| | | | | | | | |
|--------|---|--|--|---|---|--|---|
| 4.1 | Buildings and Development | | | | | | |
| 4.1.3 | Industrial areas | | | | | | |
| 4.5 | Biological resource use/modification | | | | | | |
| 4.5.1 | Fishing/collecting aquatic resources | The most important asset to preserve is the conservation of the reproductive grounds of gray whales, maintaining the processes of millenary evolution in this unique ecosystem. | The conservation of the habitat of the gray whale is maintained due to a set of sustainable and well-regulated activities, including tourism, evaporative salt production, planned aquaculture and regulated fisheries. | Populations of gray whales, green turtles and seabirds are monitored, as well as physicochemical parameters in the reproductive lagoons. | There is planning with medium-term goals (5 years) and actions established in the Annual Operational Program (1 year). | El Vizcaino Biosphere Reserve, with participation of fisheries authorities, fishermen co-ops and NGOs. | Fishing has evolved on the site from a non-regulated activity to an activity in compliance with the law, quite well organized. There are still sporadic cases of overfishing or non-compliance with the minimum legal size. |
| 4.6 | Physical resource extraction | | | | | | |
| 4.6.1 | Mining | Criterion (x) Integrity of environmental elements and evolutionary processes are essential to be maintained A potential impact of salt production on ecosystem can affect the habitat of gray whales through changes in salinity and pH. | Mining is carried out in an environmentally friendly manner, in which the main elements for production are seawater, sun and wind. In almost 70 years of activities the habitat of the gray whale has been well preserved. | Staff members do technical assesments when required, surveillance, and conservation activities together with the mining company. | There is planning with medium-term goals (5 years) and actions established in the Annual Operational Program (1 year). | National Commission of Natural Protected Areas, with participation of the mining company and NGOs. | Salt production by evaporation has proved to be a sustainable activity in the site, conserving the habitat of gray whales, and creating habitat for local and migratory birds. |
| 4.10 | Climate change and severe weather events | | | | | | |
| 4.10.5 | Changes to oceanic waters | Criterion (x). Change in oceanic waters can affect the habitat of whales and other marine mammals. | Promotion and support of diversification of productive activities to improve socioeconomic resilience | Monitoring of sea level, physicochemical parameters. On the other hand, there is an evaluation of distribution and abundance of major fisheries. | There is planning with medium-term goals (5 years) and actions established in the Annual Operational Program (1 year). In addition, it is necessary to gather and evaluate long-term data to take better management measures. | National Commission of Natural Protected Areas, with participation of research center, universities and NGOs. | International agreements need to be sought to find large-scale joint solutions. |
| 4.10.6 | Temperature change | Criterion (x). The temperature changes can affect biodiversity, by displacing some species and diminishing others. | An Adaptation Plan to the Climatic Change was elaborated and physicochemical parameters are monitored. | There are temperature sensors installed in the property in order to detect changes.The data are shared with a regional network and are available to anyone, | There is planning with medium-term goals (5 years) and actions established in the Annual Operational Program (1 year). In addition, it is necessary to gather and evaluate long-term data to take better management measures. | National Commission of Natural Protected Areas, with participation of research centers, universities and NGOs. | It is important to join efforts of government, local communities and international organizations to implement mitigation and adaptation measures. |

| | | | | | | | |
|--------|--|---|--|--|---|---|---|
| 4.10.7 | Other climate change impacts | Criterion (x). Climate change could affect the wetlands that are habitat of residente and migratory sea birds. | An Adaptation Plan to the Climatic Change was elaborated and physicochemical parameters are monitored; there is support of diversification of productive activities to strengthen local communities. | Monitoring of sea level, physicochemical parameters. On the other hand, there is an evaluation of distribution and abundance of major fisheries. | There is planning with medium-term goals (5 years) and actions established in the Annual Operational Program (1 year). In addition, it is necessary to gather and evaluate long-term data to take better management measures. | National Commission of Natural Protected Areas, with participation of research centers, universities and NGOs. | It is important to join efforts of government, local communities and international organizations to implement mitigation and adaptation measures. |
| 4.11 | Sudden ecological or geological events | | | | | | |
| 4.11.5 | | Erosion and siltation/Deposition | | | | | |
| 4.12 | Invasive/alien species or hyper-abundant species | | | | | | |
| 4.12.4 | | Invasive/Alien marine species | | | | | |
| 4.12.5 | Hyper-abundant species | Criterion (x). The growth of invasive exotic species and the hyperabundance of others can affect biodiversity and ecosystem balance. | A catalog of invasive exotic species was elaborated for dissemination and education purposes. Management and control plans have been established for the main invasive exotic species. | Community surveillance and monitoring is carried out to detect the presence of invasive exotic species | There is planning with medium-term goals (5 years) and actions established in the Annual Operational Program (1 year). | National Commission of Natural Protected Areas, with participation of communities, research centers, universities and NGOs. | It is necessary to plan the management of invasive exotic species simultaneously with attention to climate change. |
| 4.13 | Management and institutional factors | | | | | | |
| 4.13.5 | Financial resources | Criterion (x). The scarcity of financial resources can affect the operation of monitoring, surveillance and sustainable development, thus impacting the integrity of the site in the long term. | Strengthen alliances with all stakeholders to achieve concurrence of resources. Look for a long-term financial instrument that ensures sufficient funds for management. | Periodically assess the financial gap. Follow up on calls for project financing. | Short-, medium- and long-term planning is necessary to carry out a fundraising strategy. | National Commission of Natural Protected Areas, with the participation of local, national and international organizations. | It is important to look for a permanent financing mechanism, such as a trust fund. |

Question not completed

12.2. Summary - Management Needs

12.2.1 - Summary - Management Needs

| | | | | | |
|-------|--|---|--|---|---|
| 5.2 | Protective Measures | | | | |
| | | Actions | Timeframe | Lead agency (and others involved) | More info / comment |
| 5.2.3 | An adequate legal framework for maintaining of the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and/or Integrity of the World Heritage property exists but there are some deficiencies in implementation | A process of updating the management program is currently underway, with the purpose of adapting it to the changing needs of the environment and society, also, periodic evaluations will be carried out to align the actions with the legislation. | The strategy includes a long-term vision, with medium- and short-term goals. | National Commission of Natural Protected Areas (CONANP), with participation of communities, authorities, academy, and NGOs. | In addition, annually the staff participates in the updating of the rules of federal programs that apply on the property. |
| 5.3 | Management System/Management Plan | | | | |

| | | | | | |
|--------|---|---|--|---|--|
| 5.3.7 | Some use has been made of the Policy Document on the Impacts of Climate Change on World Heritage Properties at the property | Establish a program of seagrass restoration, recovery of bentonic species and staff capacity building. On the other hand, education and awareness raising should be maintained. | The strategy includes a long-term vision, with medium- and short-term goals. | National Commission of Natural Protected Areas (CONANP), with participation of communities, authorities, academy, and NGOs. | Adaptation to climate change involves changing challenges, so it is necessary to maintain an adaptive management strategy. |
| 5.3.13 | The management system at the property is only being partially implemented | Strengthening staff capacity, strengthening linkages with communities, and seeking national and international funds to increase operating capacity. | The strategy includes a long-term vision, with medium- and short-term goals. | National Commission of Natural Protected Areas (CONANP), with participation of communities, authorities, academy, and NGOs. | It is necessary to increase the staff, as well as to have more vehicles and technical equipment. |

| | | | | | |
|--------|--|---|--|--|--|
| 6.1 | Funding | | | | |
| 6.1.3 | The available budget is acceptable but could be further improved to fully meet the management needs of the World Heritage property | Partnership with organizations working on the environment to increase operational capabilities in a limited budget context. | Planning has been done in the medium and short term, but a long-term strategy must be implemented to secure the necessary funds in the future. | El Vizcaino Biosphere Reserve under CONANP administration, universities, NGOs. It is necessary to expand the scope of participants. | Training in fundraising is required, as well as a greater and better partnership with international organizations. |
| 6.1.7 | Human resources partly meet the management needs of the World Heritage property | Partnership with organizations working on the environment to increase human resource capabilities | There is planning with medium-term goals (5 years) and actions established in the Annual Operational Program (1 year). | National Commission of Natural Protected Areas (CONANP), through El Vizcaino Biosphere Reserve, universities, NGOs, local organizations. | It is important to increase the workforce and improve staff capacities. Collaborating agencies carry out short- and medium-term projects, but do not secure long-term human resources. |
| 6.1.12 | A site-based capacity building plan or programme is in place and partially implemented; some technical skills are being transferred to those managing the property locally, but most technical work is carried out by external staff | Agreements with universities, research centers and government agencies so that local communities can develop activities of monitoring, recording and analysis of information. | Short and medium term. | National Commission of Natural Protected Areas (CONANP), with participation of communities, authorities, academy, and NGOs. | Local communities and groups have been involved in various conservation activities, but it is important to improve their technical and operational capacities. |

| | | | | | |
|-----|---|--|---|--|--|
| 7 | Scientific Studies and Research Projects | | | | |
| 7.2 | There is considerable research in the World Heritage property but it is not directed towards management needs and/or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value | Elaboration of an agenda of research needs applied to the solution of the management problems on the site, as well as collaboration agreements with national and international research centers to fill the gaps of knowledge. | This should be a permanent program, with short, medium and long-term goals. | El Vizcaino Biosphere Reserve administered by CONANP, universities and research centers, and NGOs, as well as the scientific and climate change sub-council of the advisory board. | It is important to establish formal agreements with research institutions. UNESCO's participation can be instrumental to get better results. |

| | | | | | |
|---|---------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| 9 | Visitor Management | | | | |
|---|---------------------------|--|--|--|--|

| | | | | | |
|------|--|---|---|---|--|
| 9.12 | The presentation and interpretation of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property is acceptable but improvements could be made | Implementation of an environmental education program for visitors and locals, as well as a signage campaign to inform and guide the public about the world heritage site and its Outstanding Universal Value. | This should be a permanent program, with short, medium and long-term goals. | National Commission of Natural Protected Areas (CONANP), with participation of communities, authorities, academy, and NGOs. | The participation of tour operators, both local and foreign, is very important to inform and sensibilize visitors. |
|------|--|---|---|---|--|

| 10 | Monitoring | | | | |
|------|--|---|---|--|--|
| 10.1 | There is considerable monitoring at the World Heritage property but it is not directed towards management needs and/or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value | Establishment of a monitoring program that responds to management needs, maintaining indicators for a process of evaluation and continuous improvement. | This should be a permanent program, with short, medium and long-term goals. | National Commission of Natural Protected Areas (CONANP), with participation of communities, academy, and NGOs. | It is important to maintain the link with the research institutions so that the data generated in the monitoring have both an applied use and a scientific analysis, |
| 10.2 | Information on the values of the World Heritage property is adequate and key indicators have been defined but monitoring of the status of indicators could be improved | Updating of the outreach and education program, incorporating an evaluation and monitoring component. | This should be a permanent program, with short, medium and long-term goals. | National Commission of Natural Protected Areas (CONANP), with participation of communities and NGOs. | It will seek to monitor indicators of both information and behavior. |

Summary - Management Needs completed

12.3. Conclusions on the State of Conservation of the Property

12.3.1 - Following the analysis undertaken for this report, what is the current state of Authenticity of the World Heritage property?

Not applicable (sites inscribed exclusively under criteria vii to x (natural World Heritage properties))

12.3.2 - Following the analysis undertaken for this report, what is the current state of Integrity of the World Heritage property?

The Integrity of the World Heritage property is **intact**

12.3.3 - Following the analysis undertaken for this report, what is the current state of the World Heritage property's Outstanding Universal Value?

The World Heritage property's Outstanding Universal Value has been **maintained**.

12.3.4 - What is the current state of the property's other values?

Other important cultural and/or natural values are being **partially degraded** but the state of conservation of the World Heritage property has **not been significantly impacted**

12.3.5 - Comments, conclusions and/or recommendations related to the state of conservation of the property.

The Whale Sanctuary is an isolated site, with a low population, and with productive activities that fortunately have been regulated over the years. These activities have not degraded its integrity nor its outstanding universal value.

13. Impact of World Heritage Status

13.1 - Please rate the impacts of World Heritage status of the property in relation to the following areas

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Conservation | Very positive |
| Research and monitoring | Positive |
| Management effectiveness | Positive |
| Quality of life for local communities and indigenous peoples | Positive |
| Recognition | No impact |

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Education | No impact |
| Infrastructure development | No impact |
| Funding for the property | No impact |
| International cooperation | No impact |
| Political support for conservation | No impact |
| Legal/Policy framework | Positive |
| Advocacy | No impact |
| Institutional coordination | No impact |
| Security | Positive |
| Gender equality | Positive |
| Provision of ecosystem services/ benefits to local communities | No impact |
| Social inclusion and equity, and improvement of opportunities for all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, ethnicity, origin, religion, or economic or other status | No impact |
| Fostering inclusive local economic development and enhancing livelihood | No impact |
| Contributing to conflict prevention, including respect for cultural diversity within and around heritage properties | Not applicable |
| Other | Not applicable |
| If 'Other', please specify | |

13.2 - Comments, conclusions and/or recommendations related to World Heritage status and its impacts

Conservation status is good, although there are opportunities to improve it. The future could bring natural and anthropogenic impacts. The most important factor, perhaps, is climate change, which can produce impacts in ecosystems and species, including species of economic importance. Also, derived from socio-economic issues, pressure on resource use could grow, out and in the site. So, permanent monitoring and evaluation should be implemented.

14. Good Practice in the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention

14.1 - Example of good practice in World Heritage protection, identification, conservation or management at the property level

THE CONSERVATION OF GRAY WHALE NURSERIES The gray whale (*Eschrichtius robustus*) was on the brink of extinction due to the intense hunting it was subjected to. The species was decimated very significantly during the 19th and early 20th centuries, mainly by American, Norwegian, English and Russian whalers. The appearance of factory ships of the modern era allowed that after a considerable decrease in the hunting of gray whales in the late nineteenth century, this activity was reactivated in Baja California, especially at the hands of the Norwegians. In 1931 Mexico took the first measures for the conservation of whales in its international waters, then in 1946 Mexico joined the International Whaling Commission, established to protect the whales that were hunted in different parts of the world, and in 1972 the lagoons where the gray whale reproduces as Whale and Whale Refuges by Mexican legislation. In 1993 the Ojo de Liebre and San Ignacio lagoons were declared a World Heritage Site with the name of "Whale Sanctuary of El Vizcaino", which came to strengthen the Mexican policy for the conservation of the gray whale. Year after year, gray whales make a 10,000 km journey from the Arctic seas to come to the lagoons of Baja California Sur, Mexico, to reproduce. The lagoons have temperature, salinity and protection conditions that make them more appropriate for nursery calves to spend their first months of life. Productive activities within the Sanctuary are regulated, so that fishing, aquaculture, tourism and the use of sea salt are harmoniously integrated to reconcile local development with the conservation of the gray whale. In these communities the local inhabitants have learned to live with and respect the whales, being a source of pride and identity for the people. Every year a "Gray Whale Festival" is held to celebrate the presence of the whales.

14.2 - Define which topics are covered by this example of best practice at the property level

| |
|-------------------------|
| Sustainable Development |
| Synergies |
| State of Conservation |
| Management |
| Governance |
| Capacity Building |

15. Assessment of the Periodic Reporting Exercise

15.1. Relevance of Periodic Reporting

15.1.1 - Has the Periodic Reporting process improved the understanding of the following?

| |
|--|
| The <i>World Heritage Convention</i> |
| The concept of Outstanding Universal Value |
| The property's Outstanding Universal Value |
| The concept of Integrity and/or Authenticity |
| The property's Integrity and/or Authenticity |

15.1.2 - Please rate the follow-up to conclusions and recommendations from previous Periodic Reporting exercise by the following entities

| | |
|--|------|
| State Party | Fair |
| Site Managers | Fair |
| UNESCO World Heritage Centre | Poor |
| Advisory Bodies (ICOMOS, IUCN, ICCROM) | Poor |

15.2. Use of Data

15.2.1 - How do the authorities in charge of the property plan to use the data recorded from this cycle of Periodic Reporting?

| |
|--|
| Revision of priorities/strategies/policies for the protection, management and conservation of heritage |
| Update of management plans |
| Awareness raising |
| Advocacy |

15.2.2 - Comments on use of data from the Cycle of Periodic Reporting

The Periodic Report process brought together data and opinions from different sources, which has enriched knowledge and strengthened the social fabric on the site. It has also served as a stimulus to rethink and reorient strategies and actions to meet objectives. The data obtained will be used to guide the conservation actions and sustainable use of the Whale Sanctuary.

15.3. Timing and resources

15.3.1 - Entities involved in the filling out of this online questionnaire (tick as many boxes as applicable)

| |
|---|
| Governmental institutions responsible for cultural and natural heritage |
| Site Manager/Coordinator World Heritage property staff |
| Focal points of other international conventions/programmes |

15.3.2 - Has a gender balanced contribution and participation been considered in the filling out of this questionnaire?

Gender balance has been **explicitly considered** in the process **but there are still deficiencies in the implementation**.

15.3.3 - Were you given adequate time (i.e. roughly ten months) to gather necessary information and to fill in this questionnaire?

Yes

15.3.4 - Please estimate the time (working hours) needed to complete this questionnaire

| |
|----------------|
| 60 / 50 / 35 / |
|----------------|

15.3.5 - Did you mobilise any additional resources to fill out this questionnaire?

| | Additional resources | No | Yes |
|----------|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 15.3.5.1 | Human resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 15.3.5.2 | Financial resources for organizing consultation meetings/ training | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

15.4. Format and content of the Periodic Report

15.4.1 - How accessible was the information required to complete this questionnaire?

Most required information was accessible.

15.4.2 - Was the questionnaire easy to use and clear to understand?

| | | Very Difficult | Difficult | Easy | Very easy |
|----------|------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 15.4.2.1 | Ease of use of questionnaire | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 15.4.2.2 | Clarity of questions | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

15.4.3 - Please provide suggestions for improvement of the Periodic Reporting questionnaire

Training to disseminate the different documents and guidelines generated by the World Heritage Center and its advisory bodies. The fact that documents and publications are not available in Spanish makes them difficult to read, understand and apply. Greater involvement of the advisory bodies in the process. They did not supported the focal points.

15.5. Training and Guidance

15.5.1 - Please rate the level of support in terms of training and guidance from the following entities in completing this questionnaire

| | |
|--------------------------------------|------------|
| UNESCO World Heritage Centre | Fair |
| UNESCO (other sectors/field offices) | No support |

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| UNESCO National Commission | No support |
| ICOMOS International | Not applicable |
| IUCN International | No support |
| ICCROM international/regional | Not applicable |
| ICOMOS national/regional | Not applicable |
| IUCN national/regional | No support |

15.5.2 - Please rate the level of support for completing the Periodic Reporting questionnaire from the following entities

| | |
|---|----------------|
| UNESCO World Heritage Centre | Fair |
| State Party Representative (national Focal Point) | Good |
| UNESCO other sectors (e.g. field office) | No support |
| National Commission for UNESCO | No support |
| ICOMOS International | Not applicable |
| ICCROM International/regional | Not applicable |
| ICOMOS national/regional | Not applicable |
| IUCN national/regional | No support |
| IUCN International | No support |

15.5.3 - Were the online training resources prepared by the World Heritage Centre regarding Periodic Reporting adequate for you to complete this questionnaire?

Yes

15.5.4 - If you found that the online training resources were not adequate, what changes would you like to see implemented?

No suggestions

15.6. Actions that will require formal consideration by the World Heritage Committee

15.6.1 - Summary of actions that will require formal consideration by the World Heritage Committee

No item were proposed for update

15.7. Comments, conclusions and/or recommendations related to the Assessment of the Periodic Reporting Exercise

15.7.1 - Comments, conclusions and/or recommendations related to the Assessment of the Periodic Reporting Exercise

This assessment is a very useful tool for improving data gathering and processing, designing better strategies and actions, and correcting management practices.

15.7.2 - Thank you for having filled in all the questions. Please contact your National Focal Point for validation.