



Fisheries Verification Report

MSCV20

Small pelagic fishery in Sonora, Gulf of California

Issued May 2026 – Effective June 2026

Report code	MSCV20	Date of issue	July 2026
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1. Application details		
Applicant name(s)	Serconomar SA de CV, Guaymas Protein Company SA, Pacifico Industrial SA de CV, Pescaharina De Guaymas SA de CV, Productos Pesqueros de Guaymas S.A. de C.V., Industrias Barda SA de CV	
Applicant country	Mexico	
2. Certification Body details		
Name of Certification Body (CB)	LRQA	
Contact information for CB	Fisheries-ca@lrqa.com	
Assessor name	Sam Peacock	
CB internal peer reviewer name	Phoebe Schouten	
Internal peer review evaluation	Agree with evaluation	
Number of Assessment days	0.25	
Comments on the assessment	The species, geographic area, stock definition and fishing gear provided by the applicant match those on a valid MSC certificate, with the exception of the less frequently-caught thread herrings which are covered as IPI species. The most recent PCR indicates that there were no major traceability concerns.	
3. Approval validity	Valid from 07/2026	Valid until 06/2028
4. Assessment cycle	Initial	

5. Fishery for verification	
Recognised Fishery Standard for verification	MSC
Recognised fishery certificate details:	Small pelagics fishery in Sonora, Gulf of California
Fishery name, certificate code and website reference	MSC-F31596 https://fisheries.msc.org/en/fisheries/small-pelagics-fishery-in-sonora-gulf-of-california/

Validity date(s) of the fishery certification (certificate date of issue - certificate expiry date)	Issued: 23 Jun 2023 Expires: 22 Jun 2028
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Verification scope

6. Verification scope comparison		
Fishery details	MarinTrust unit of approval <i>Received from applicant/certificate holder</i>	Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) unit of certification <i>Listed on the certificate/ additional information from Fishery Assessor</i>
Species	<i>Cetengraulis mysticetus</i> - Pacific anchoveta/Bocona sardine/Chuhueco <i>Engraulis mordax</i> – Anchoveta <i>Opisthonema spp.</i> - Pacific thread herring/pinchagua <i>Sardinops sagax</i> - Pilchard/Sardine <i>Scomber japonicus</i> - Pacific chub mackerel/macarela	Pacific anchoveta (<i>Cetengraulis mysticetus</i>) Californian anchovy (<i>Engraulis mordax</i>) Thread herring (<i>Opisthonema libertate</i>). Note that the other two thread herring species in the region are covered by the certificate as IPI species. Pacific sardine (<i>Sardinops sagax</i>) Chub mackerel (<i>Scomber japonicus</i>)
Geographic area	FAO 77 – Western Central Pacific Ocean, Gulf of California, Mexico	Northern and central Gulf of California, Sonora, Mexico

Stock definition	Pacific sardine: FAO 77 Northern/Central Gulf of California stock Thread herring: FAO 77 Northern/Central Gulf of California stock Pacific anchoveta: FAO 77 Gulf of California stock Californian anchovy: FAO 77 Gulf of California stock Chub mackerel: FAO 77 Gulf of California stock	Pacific sardine: Northern/Central Gulf of California stock Thread herring: Northern/Central Gulf of California stock Pacific anchoveta: Gulf of California stock Californian anchovy: Gulf of California stock Chub mackerel: Gulf of California stock
Gear type / Harvest method	Purse seine	Purse seine nets
Parties currently eligible to access this certificate Fleets, individual vessels	n/a	50 purse seine vessels registered to the Cámara Nacional de la Industria Pesquera (CANAINPES). Full vessel list is provided on the certificate ¹ .

¹ https://fisheries.msc.org/en/fisheries/small-pelagics-fishery-in-sonora-gulf-of-california/@@certificate-documentsets?certificate_number=MSC-F-31596

Traceability factors	n/a	The 2023 PCR makes the following comments about traceability: • There is no processing at sea and all transhipments are carried out by vessels within the UoA. • The fishery does not handle catch from outside the UoA. • There are species caught by the fishery which are not covered by the certification. If the proportion of these species exceeds 2% of the catch, the material is classified as not MSC certified and is separated from the certified catch. The 2026 MSC surveillance report states that “no changes [affecting traceability] were detected during [the] audit”².
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² https://fisheries.msc.org/en/fisheries/small-pelagics-fishery-in-sonora-gulf-of-california/@@assessment-documentsets?assessment_step=Surveillance+Audit&documentset_name=Surveillance+report&assessment_id=FA-04243&phase_name=Ongoing+surveillance&start_date=2025-09-24