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Spatial management of small-scale fisheries on the west coast of Baja California Sur, Mexico

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To understand small-scale fisheries in Mexico, the spatial and temporal distribution of the landed catch of several species was analyzed, including abalone, clams, snails, octopus, squids, lobsters, shrimps, blue crabs, sharks, rays and finfish along the 349 km of the Gulf of Ulloa coast. Data reported by fishers from 1998 to 2009 on catch volume and value per group of species and per fishing locality, together with the number of landing events, were used to define fishing zones and the relative importance of each fishery. Finfish turned out the primary fishery in the region, but the other fisheries showed relevant spatial changes that should be considered when establishing management goals and fishing regulations according to resource availability, fleet efficiency, processing capacity, commercialization of fishing products and profit distribution.

Palabras clave: small-scale fisheries, producción pesquera, Fishing zones, Trip tickets, Spatial management

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