



# ***Environmental Education Series: Baja California***

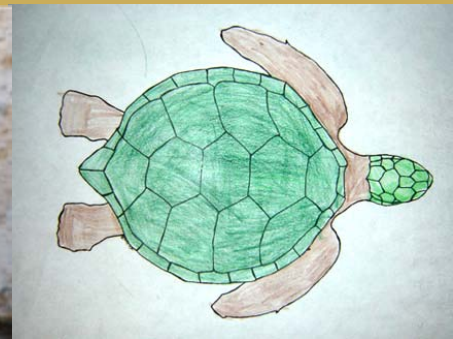


*Debra Valov*  
*ISSI, August 2015*



# Series Topics

1. Conserving the Peninsula
2. The Sonoran Desert
3. Baja's Sea Turtles
4. Cave Paintings and Cowboys
5. Baja's Friendly Whales





***Conserving the Baja  
California Peninsula***



# Ocean Oasis Video



- Opening/Baja California
- Magnet to Life

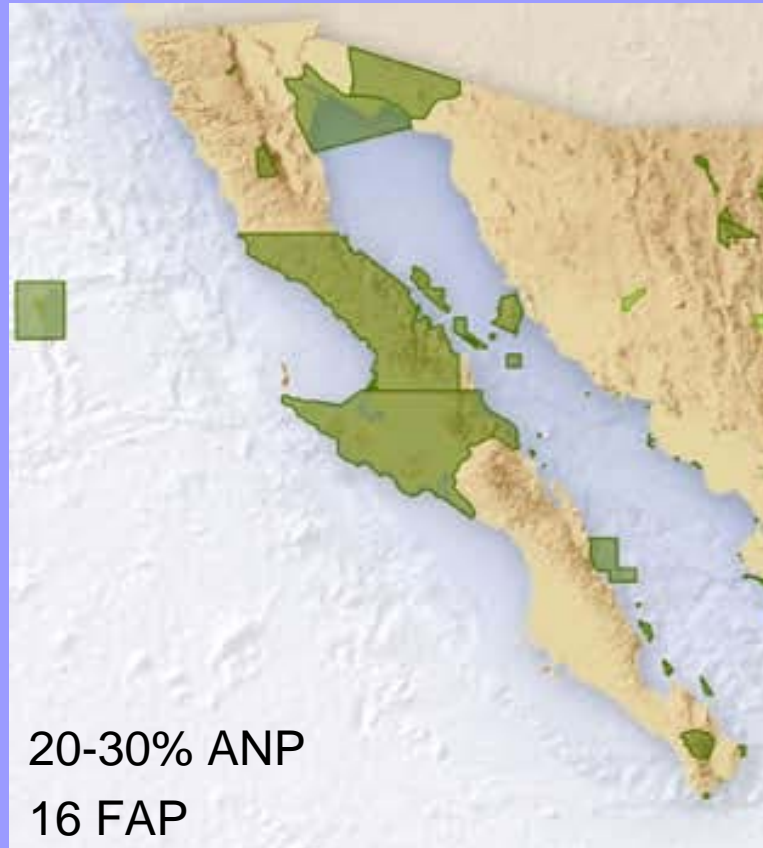


# Conservation in Mexico



High level of biodiversity and endemism

# *Conservation in Baja*





# *Protected Species*

- Bighorn sheep
- Pronghorn antelope
- Cacti
- Gray and other whales
- Sea turtles
- La Vaquita



# Conserving Baja

- Governmental agencies & “parks”







# *Sierra de San Pedro Mártir*

- Highest peak on peninsula
- Camping, hiking, rock climbing
- Least visited park





# Vizcaíno Reserve

- Largest in Latin America
- Rich biodiversity
- UNESCO World Heritage Site
  - Whale watching & eco-activities
  - Bighorn Sheep
  - Pronghorn Antelope
  - Cave Paintings (>300 sites)





© D. Russell



Glenn & Martha Vargas © CA Academy of Sciences



# Threats

- Agriculture, grazing, mining
- Overuse of water
- Illegal fishing and hunting
- Mega-tourism projects
- Insufficient funding/personnel

# Conservation

- Ecotourism
- Ejidos
- NGO's & citizens' groups



## *Pronghorn Antelope Conservation and Captive Breeding Program*

- Since 1997
- 600 individuals
- ~100 births annually
- Reintroduction into wild







# *Cabo Pulmo Nat. Marine Park*

- Ecotourism
- Scuba and snorkeling
- Local NGO
- Turtle monitoring program



# *Other Protected Areas*

- Alto Golfo de California y Delta del Rio Colorado (BR 1993)
- Bahía de los Ángeles, Canales de Ballenas y de Salsipuedes (BR 2007)
- Islas del Golfo de California (ANP 1978, BR 2005)
- Valle de los Cirios (ANP 2000)
- Loreto National Marine Park (1996)
- Cabo Pulmo National Marine Park (1995)
- Archipiélago de Espíritu Santo Marine Park (2007)
- Sierra de la Laguna Biosphere Reserve (2003)



# Conserving Baja

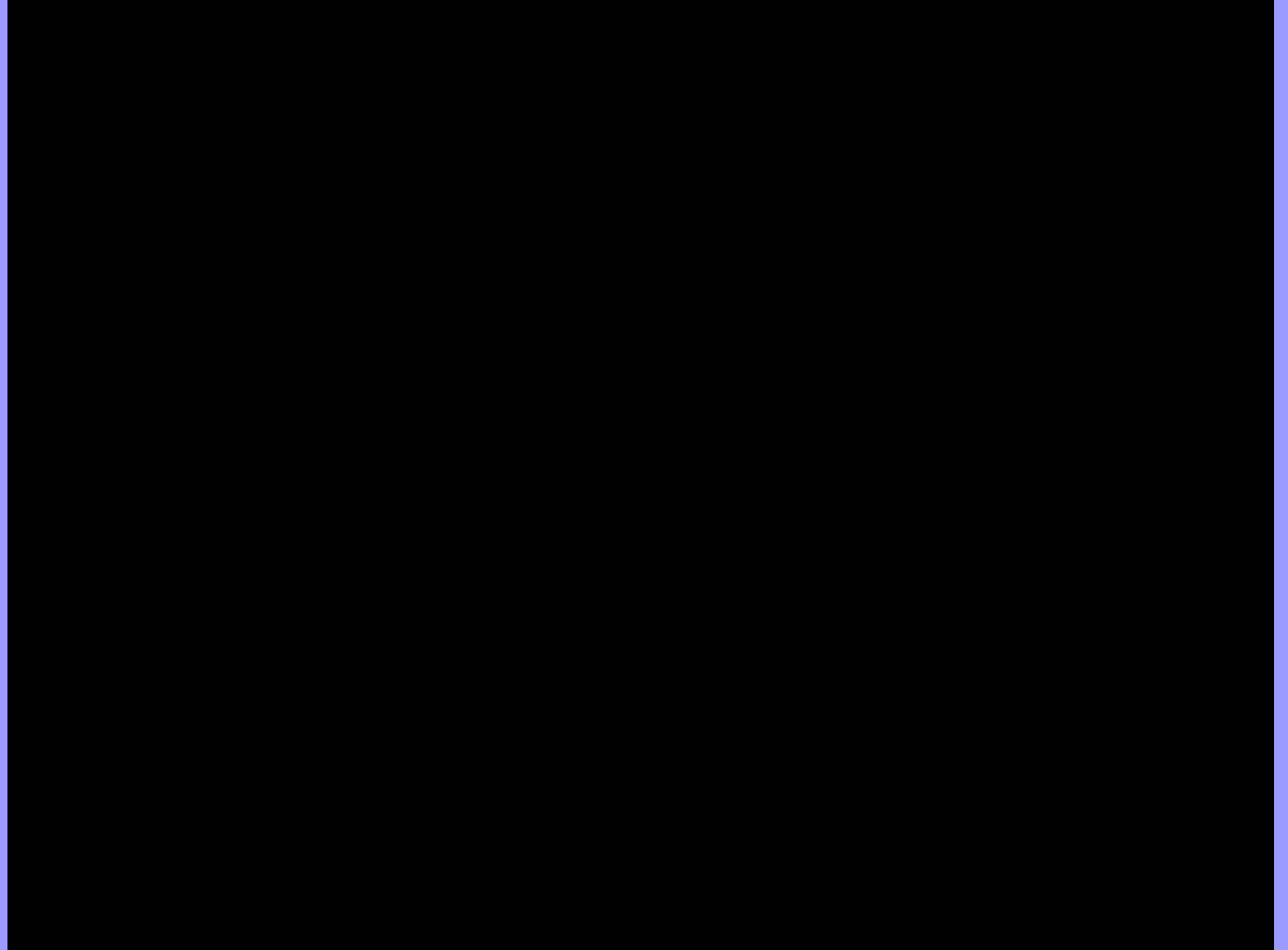
- Governmental agencies & “parks”
- NGOs & Citizen’s groups





# Julio Solís

[Vigilantes de Bahía Magdalena](#) - [Bahía Magdalena Baykeeper](#)



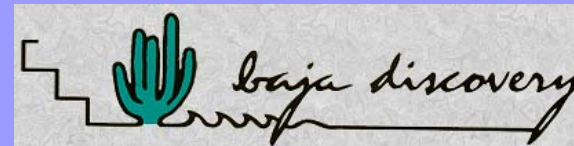
Ve [un video](#) de Julio en el internet





# Conserving Baja

- Governmental agencies & “parks”
- NGOs & citizen’s groups
- Eco-providers & local landowners

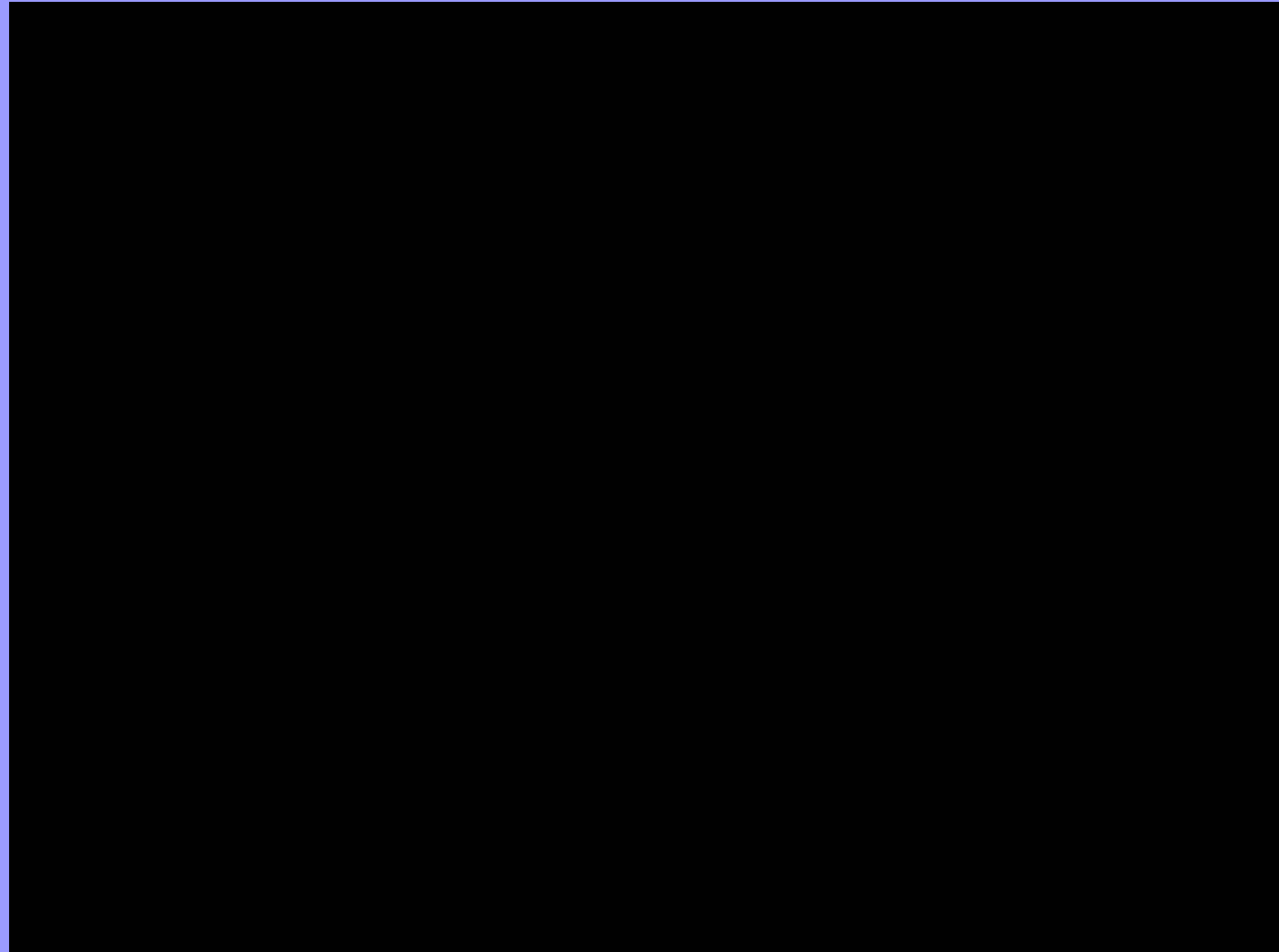




" ESTRELLA AZUL "

# Sergio García

[Estrella Azul](#)



Ve [el video](#) de Sergio en el internet

# Conserving Baja

- Governmental agencies & “parks”
- NGOs & citizen’s groups
- Eco-providers & local landowners
- Schools and research institutes



**UABCS** UNIVERSIDAD AUTÓNOMA DE  
BAJA CALIFORNIA SUR  
*Sabiduría como Meta. Patria como Destino*





# *Sierra de la Laguna*

- Isolated canyons
- Hiking & riding
- Research areas
- **Gold Mining Threat**





# *Get Involved!*

- Educate yourself and others about issues
- Give support to or volunteer in NGOs in US and Mexico





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- Educate yourself and others about issues
- Give support to or volunteer in NGOs in US and Mexico
- Support ecotourism businesses









Gracias!  
See you in Baja!

This presentation is available at:  
[www.lasecomujeres.org](http://www.lasecomujeres.org)