



For the last 30 years, the fisheries of Espiritu Santo National Park have been dramatically declining, and now there is almost nothing left. (As dramatically shown in the video below.)

The current management plan, drafted after the Park's inception in 2007, does not provide needed protection for the reef ecosystem in the Park, with less than 2% of the Park fully protected. The remaining 98% of the Park is open to nets and traps, along with sport fishing and spearfishing. By this definition, Espiritu Santo National Park is a "paper park" (ie, a park in name, but not in practice).

Our goal is to protect 100% of the inshore reefs of the Park through modifications to its current management plan.



Phase 1 of our project (the public consultation process) is almost complete and in record time, and the draft management plan will be released early in 2024 for public review.

In spite of promises made by CONANP's park director to add protections and remove fishing gear types, we are very concerned that there will be no new protections for the inshore reefs and all the current types of fishing gear will still be allowed.

We anticipated this outcome and will now begin Phase 2 of our project, a \$70,000 multimedia communication campaign to create strong public support and advocacy for change, modeled and run by the team who ran the successful campaign to protect whale sharks in the Bay of La Paz.

The team will lead a grassroots social media campaign called "Espiritu Santo: Donde estan los peces?" This campaign will be combined with posters, alliance building presentations, a major documentary video and much more.

In addition, SeaWatch will fund a scientific paper on where the Park ranks in the index of "paper parks" in the world, led by expert Dr. Veronica Relano. Finally, SeaWatch will be challenging the IUCN green listing awarded to

Espiritu Santo National Park, as well as CONANP's mandate to manage the Park sustainably as required under Mexican law.



[READ OUR PHASE 2 CAMPAIGN STRATEGY HERE](#)

Our production team below...

**ESPIRITU SANTO
TE NECESITA**
DONDE ESTAN LOS PECES?



Estrella Navarro
Freediving World Vice Champion. PADI World Image, BBC and Travel Channel collaborations. Producer at Big Blue World Cup; Socorro Evolution & "Tiburón Ballena de La Paz" Movies and Campaign. Research published at Oryx & Wiley, Cambridge and United Nations Science Magazines.



Eréndira Valle
Awarded Cinematographer Her Documentary film "Azul Intangible" has shown at Film Festivals all over the world as Aljazeera. Prizes won at Canarias Underwater Film Festival 2017 with "The Legacy".



Erick Higuera
Awarded Cinematographer Winner at Haward Hall Award and Best Underwater Photography at Beneth the Waves Film Festival



Carlos Juvera
Underwater photographer, Recognized graphic designer, translator and voice actor, he has worked for Disney, collaborations with Grupo Milenio and Vallarta Paradise Magazine



Camilo Thompson
Natural Resources Lawyer Camilo has led conservation, policy advocacy projects, and strategic litigation. International treaties and national legislation on marine-coastal issues, fisheries, water and forest resources, human rights and climate change.

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IMAGES FROM AWARDED
CINEMATOGRAPHERS



Lissa Jutti
Awarded Cinematographer
Works for the BBC and
National Geographic. DOP
for award winning film Sharks
of the Sea of Cortez.



Andrés Pruna
Awarded Cinematographer
Multiple Emmy Awards



Alfredo Barroso
Awarded Cinematographer
Works for the BBC. Film
maker for Blue Planet II,
Mares de México and
CONABIO, Emmy, BAFTA
and Jacksons Wild award
winning.



Johnny Friday
Awarded work for National
Geographic, Emmy and
Golden Eagle Awards.



Michele & Howard Hall
Awarded Cinematographers
At Golden Panda Award,
Emmys, Jules Verne Film
Festival and Festivals Choice
Award. Board for Phantoms
Magazine. Collaborations
with Nature, the BBC, PBS,
National Geographic

**Please help continue the reef and reef fish
recovery at Espíritu Santo National Park!**

DONATE

Donations can also be sent to:

SeaWatch

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