

The **ULTIMATE GUIDE** to
Baja Sur Arts,
Culture & Adventure

Baja Sur Tv:
BCS's Citizen Driven Media
Periodismo Ciudadano en BCS
The Desert Food Chain
La Cadena Alimenticia
en El Desierto
Baja Bookshelf

Summertime Fun in Baja Sur!

Gold Mining and Biodiversity
in the Biosphere Reserve

Minería de Oro y Biodiversidad
en la Reserva de la Biosfera



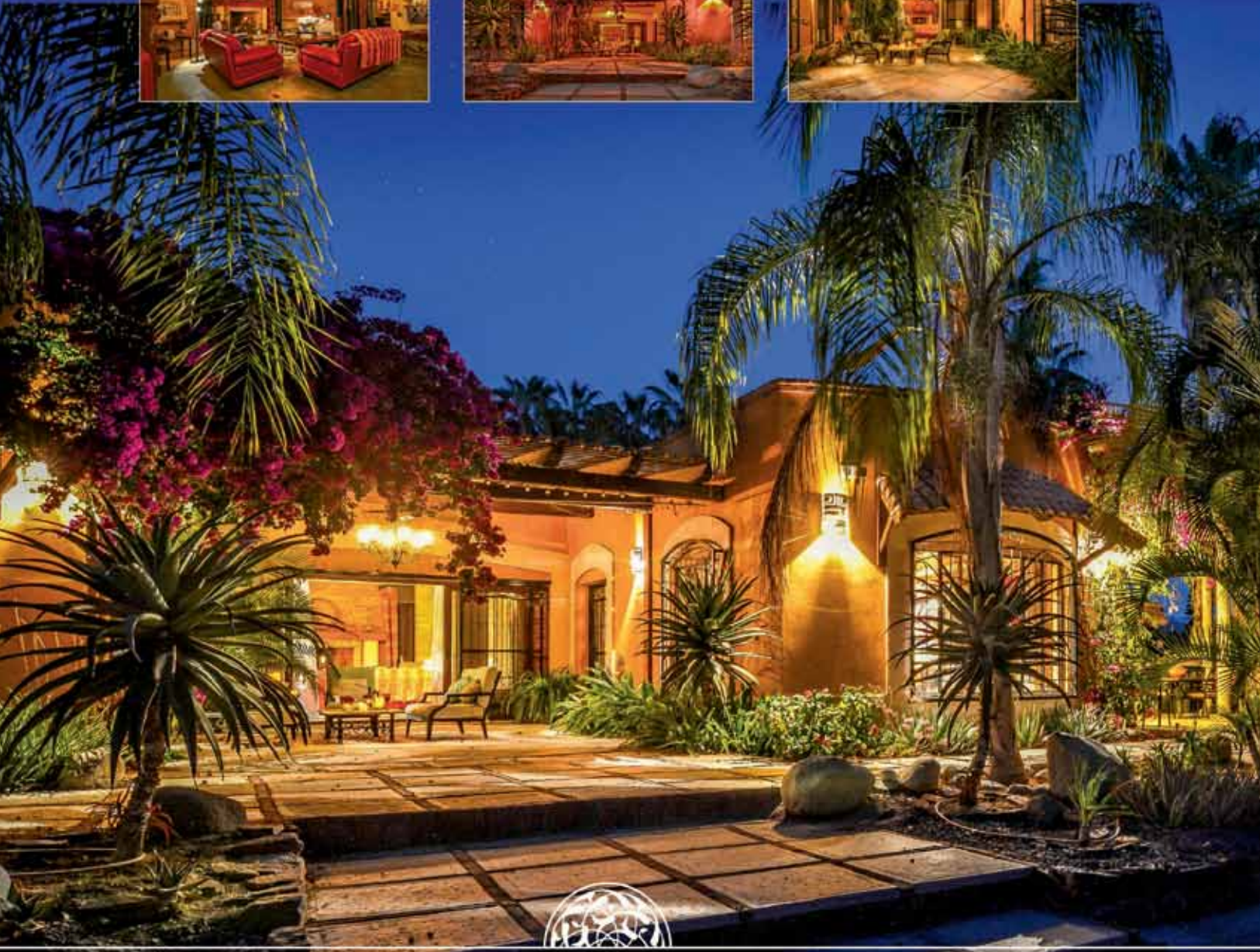
View from La Poza by Keenan Shoal

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FALL/OTOÑO 2016 ISSUE

DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 19, 2016

FECHA LIMITE: 19 DE SEPT 2016



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Summertime Fun in Baja Sur!

Summer in Baja Sur is the time when things slow down and move at a relaxed pace. Locals enjoy a day at the beach or a siesta in the shade. Need some inspiration for summer fun? Check out our list and see how many you can cross off for a perfect summer vacation, or for locals, your summer staycation. And don't forget your sunscreen!

START YOUR DAY WITH A FRESH CUP OF JOE. **Baja Beans Roasting Company** in Pescadero, pulled the first shot of their own roasted coffee on November 24, 2010, and have been supplying the best Baja java ever since. People line up not just for a fresh-roasted espresso, mocha, or latte fix, but also for their irresistible baked goods, like scones, biscuits, muffins, carrot cake, brownies, and more.

TAKE A SURFING LESSON. **Mario Surf School** provides you with the best surf instruction, customized to your skill level. Private and group classes are held at Los Cerritos beach—only ten minutes from Todos Santos—where there is a smooth, sandy bottom and gentle waves, making it one of the best beaches in Mexico for learning to surf. Maybe you want to try surfing for the first time, to experience the emotional rush of catching your first wave... and be hooked forever. Or you may have some surfing experience and want to maximize your surf skills. With the combination of the great conditions at Los Cerritos beach and the expert surfing instruction from Mario Surf School, you can reach

all your surfing goals!

OR RENT A BOARD FOR THE DAY. **Todos Santos Surf Shop** sells and rents surf boards, offers beach supplies and activities around Todos Santos. They carry International brands like Vans, Rip Curl, Dakine, Exile, Rainbow & Havaianas sandals as well as many locally handmade, clothes, bikinis, accessories, natural sunscreen and the beloved "Eclipse" boards shaped by Meisy of Todos Santos. They offer tours to swim with whale sharks and sea lions, surfing lessons, fishing trips, and trips to Espíritu Santo Island.

SPEND THE DAY AT EL FARO BEACH CLUB. Relax by the pool with a cool drink from the bar, or enjoy the exquisite fresh seafood menu in an atmosphere of elegant relaxation on Todos Santos' southwest beach. For reservations, contact the **Guaycura Boutique Hotel**.

TAKE A COOKING CLASS OR DINE IN STYLE. **Rancho Pescadero** has two more weekends in their Guest Chef Series. Chef Joseph Centeno from L.A. will be here in June, and Chef Jason Fox from San Francisco, California, in July. Take a Friday cooking class or try their special offerings at the Saturday special dinner.

VOLUNTEER AT SEA TURTLE CAMP. Each summer, **Todos Santos Eco Adventures**; in association ASUPMATOMA,

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photo: Keenan Shoal

one of the oldest sea turtle conservation groups in Baja California Sur; operates Sea Turtle Camp. Volunteers at Sea Turtle Camp have the opportunity to work with Stephanie Rousso and a group of Mexican biologists, patrolling the beaches at night to look for nesting sea turtles, relocating eggs to a protected corral, and, often, releasing hatchlings into the sea. This year the TOSEA Sea Turtle Camp will run August 27 to September 5; volunteering for only one night at a time is recommended.

Todos Santos Eco Adventures also offers whale and bird-watching trips in the Pacific lagoons, treks and rancho culture programs in the Sierra la Laguna mountains, surfing surfaris on the Pacific coast, and kayaking, "glamping," whale shark and sea lion adventures in the Sea of Cortez.

RELAX WITH A MASSAGE. Odile "Deedee" Muller is a licensed masseuse and physical therapist who provides body work and deep tissue massage in the comfort of your hotel or home. Her specialty is a 1.5 hour full-body deep tissue relaxing massage.

White Sand Massage and Day Spa offers deep tissue, hot rocks, and gentle massages, as well as other services in their air-conditioned spa on calle Militar in Todos Santos.

PLAY A GAME OF BOCCE BALL OR POOL. Gallo Azul Pizza Bar and Art in Todos Santos has both! After your game, enjoy a wood-fired pizza or pasta dish with a cool mojito cocktail.

APPRECIATE BAJA WINES. Try a flight of three white or red Baja wines while listening to music and sampling tasty Mexican treats from **Mi Pueblito** at Monday Flight Night or Big Red Wednesday at **La Bodega de Todos Santos** on calle Hidalgo.

NEED SOME ALONE TIME? TRY FLOATATION THERAPY. It's a luxurious escape, as well as a powerful tool for strengthening the immune system and improving health on many levels. At **Joy of Floating**, in Pescadero, the soundproof and lightproof heated spa filled with Epsom salts allows you to buoyantly float away mental stress, **SUMMERTIME** continued on page 10


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GALLERY365 #88 on Todos Santos map

Art Talk

by Jill Logan

PAINTING THE SAME SCENE OVER AND OVER

I was recently commissioned by a client to paint Picasso’s “Mediterranean Landscape”—a large complicated cubistic design with the primary colors of red, blue and yellow. I had just finished two other paintings for one of his bedrooms and he needed a significant painting for the second bedroom. My client chose this particular Picasso with a strong yellow theme because the room had yellow bedspreads. It intrigued me to approach a famous artist’s work. I don’t, as a rule, paint other artist’s work because I feel it is important to create my own unique vision of a landscape or scene. To duplicate a design by another artist, particularly one who is alive or selling their work nearby feels unethical. But that said, being inspired by other artists is always a good thing.

As I worked on this piece, I had a thought about artists who paint the same subject over and over and why would an artist do that. The pros and cons of painting the same scene over and over or making a particular series out of one subject matter for a show or display are many.

I have painted my “Paseo del Mar” probably 18 times in different colors and sizes. Originally, the first painting was done on location at the moment the sun came over the horizon. The key changes in the next pieces were in the color scheme and the abstract expressionism of the foliage. My imagination was able to run wild with new inventions due to the fact I had painted this location so many times. I find each time very challenging and a completely new learning experience. “La Montana” and “View from Pescadero” I have also painted several times some with different colors and design changes, these were originally painted on location in early morning light.

Claude Monet painted the “Rouen Cathedral” thirty-one times. According to my research he was impressed with the way light imparts to a subject a distinctly different character at different times of the day and different times of year as the atmosphere changes.

Robert Pelfrey, in *Art and Mass Media* (Kendall/Hunt, 1996), says:

By focusing on the same subject through a whole series of paintings, Monet was able to concentrate on recording visual sensations themselves. The subjects did not change, but the visual sensations—due to changing conditions of light—changed constantly.

In the Rouen Cathedral series Monet used an extremely close point of view in such a way that the architecture seems to be absent of perspective. The cathedral then becomes a reflection of light and shadow with very little definition of form. Somehow he brings to life a stony edifice that is softened and then morphed into an organic living form with its own movement and dance. All thirty-

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"Walk to the Beach" and "Summer Walk to the Beach" by Jill Logan

one pieces are very unique. I read there was a call for the state to buy the entire series and exhibit them as a whole, but those calls were not heeded and the series ended up divided.

Hayes Tucker, in *Claude Monet: Life and Art* (Yale University Press, 1995), writes:

Monet's sensitivity to the natural effects he observed are [sic] just one factor that make these pictures so remarkable; the way he manipulates his medium contributes to their majesty as well. For the surfaces of these canvases are literally encrusted with paint that Monet built up layer upon layer like the masonry of the façade itself.

He also chose five different points of view of the cathedral and this series drew immediate acceptance. It is interesting to note that in May 2000, Sotheby's auctioned one of these Cathedral canvases for more than \$24 million, testimony to their continued success.

Many other artists have painted the same subject over and over, for instance, Van Gogh's famous sunflowers. By repainting a subject an artist is able to hone their technique and try new methods sometimes changing the light, the colors, the values and the design, thus making each work unique and special.

I always advise beginning artists to paint in a series, rather than random different ideas and topics. There are benefits to working this way. One is you are able to think deeply about a subject, which always makes for a better work of art. You will create more pieces and have more to sell, a "body" of work to display. Most financially successful artists release new art in a series, a creative, cohesive, coherent, related body of work.

The problem with the "I make whatever I feel like making whenever I feel like making it" approach to art is that when everything is different and there's no common thread it's difficult for the viewer to get a grip on where you're going. Ask yourself, "What do I stand for as an artist?"

ART TALK continued on page 18

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"Sweep of the Point" by John Comer
25"x45" oil/board



Keenan's love for Todos Santos started at an early age when he would come down to visit his family. He and his wife moved here, full-time, twelve years ago to begin a family of their own that now includes two darling daughters and four dogs.

Keenan is a storyteller whose photography reminds us of the inseparability of art and life. He's about living and seeing the moment as it is, with vision, humor and honesty. He's driven by ideas and the creative process.

Keenan feels that, "the beauty and history of our little oasis inspires us all. Its warm people, soft

On the Cover Keenan Shoal

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light, rich farmland and Pacific waves wrap us all in an ineffable embrace. You can see it in the stars and breathe it through the pure air. We all love Todos Santos. Its rhythm and energy keep us healthy and feeling good. Living here, one can't help becoming an artist of life."

The main focus of his photography has been real estate, architecture and nature where he captures the light and drama of the beautiful homes and people of Todos Santos.

His other passions include fine art, landscape design, architecture, surfing and cooking with friends.

Keenan can be found, where he presently works, at Amerimex Realty, in downtown Todos Santos, (612) 145-0050.

En la Portada Keenan Shoal

traducido por L. Madeleine Castellanos A.

El amor que Keenan siente por Todos Santos comenzó a una edad temprana cuando venía a visitar a su familia. Su esposa y él se mudaron aquí tiempo completo hace doce años para empezar una familia que ahora incluye dos hijas adorables y cuatro perros.

Keenan es un cuentacuentos cuya fotografía nos recuerda de la inseparabilidad del arte y la vida. Para él, se trata de vivir y ver el momento tal cual es; con visión, humor y honestidad. Lo mueven las ideas y el proceso creativo.

Keenan siente que "la belleza y la historia de nuestro pequeño oasis nos inspiran a todos. Su gente calurosa, su suave luz, la riqueza de su tierra y las olas del Pacífico nos envuelven a todos en un abrazo inefable. Lo puedes ver en las estrellas y respirarlo a través de aire puro. Todos amamos a Todos Santos. Su ritmo y energía nos mantienen saludables y sintiéndonos bien. Viviendo aquí, uno no puede evitar volverse un artista de vida."

El principal enfoque de su fotografía han sido los bienes raíces, la arquitectura y la naturaleza donde captura la luz y el drama de hermosas casas y gente de Todos Santos.

Sus otras pasiones incluyen las artes, el diseño de jardines, la arquitectura, surfear y cocinar con amigos.

Puedes encontrar a Keenan donde trabaja actualmente, en Amerimex Realty, en el centro de Todos Santos. (612) 145-0050.

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photo: Keenan Shoal

physical stress, and chronic pain. Aah!

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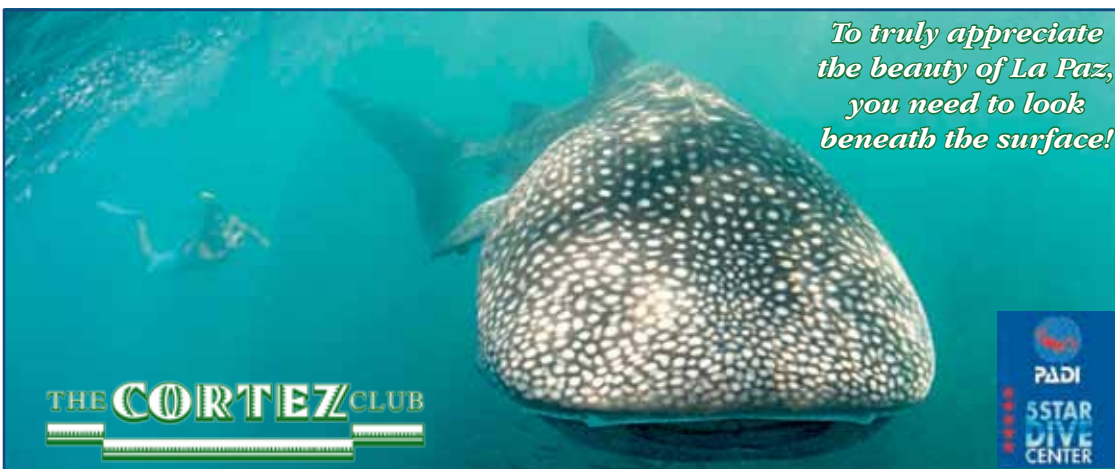
APPRECIATE THE BEAUTY OF LA PAZ BY LOOKING BENEATH THE SURFACE.

The Cortez Club is La Paz's premier diving and watersports center, and Baja California Sur's only PADI Five Star Gold Palm IDC Resort and Watersports center. The diversity of the marine life—including sea lions, giant Pacific manta rays, schooling hammerhead sharks, whales, whale sharks, and more—make diving and snorkeling in the waters of La Paz

a world-class experience. The Cortez Club also offers scuba diving day trips, live aboard diving expeditions, and diving instruction from "open water" certification through "instructor." Nitrox and rebreathers are also available for more experienced divers.

Or, if you prefer, try snorkeling near the island of Espíritu Santo, with its numerous white-sand beaches and rocky promontories; or in one of the bays closer to La Paz, such as Balandra Bay and San Rafaelito, where they offer daily excursions. Either way, you are sure to have a sightseeing extravaganza and a most memorable snorkeling experience.

SunRider Tours' La Paz malecón location also offers unbelievable snorkeling, whale shark watching, and day trips to Espíritu Santo Island—a UNESCO—protected natural reserve with turquoise-blue bays, red wind-shaped rock formations, sea lions and bird colonies, and, of course, abundant sea life. For the ultimate diving adventure, live aboard SunRider's 100 ft. yacht during a diving trip to the Socorro Island Revillagigedo. Landlubbers will enjoy one of their Todos Santos or La Paz city tours.



*To truly appreciate
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you need to look
beneath the surface!*

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The Cortez Club's Mosquito Fleet provides a range of sport fishing boats; from 22 ft. pangas, to 26 ft. deluxe pangas, to 28 ft. cruisers, through to 75 ft. yachts. The waters of La Paz provide world-class fishing, with species such as black and blue marlin, dorado, wahoo, yellowfin tuna, yellowtail, amberjack, striped marlin, sailfish, sea bass, snapper, and more.

IT'S MANGO SEASON! Try mango on a stick, or in a cup with limón and chile, as a cold refreshing ice cream, in a smoothie, a fresh salsa, or in a fruity margarita. The Todos Santos *Festival de Mango* takes place the last weekend in July and celebrates everything mango.

WHAT'S YOUR PLEASURE? Discover a fresh tropical drink made with tamarindo, mescal, or damiana. Or go in search of the coldest beer or best fish taco. Hmm, maybe both.

SPEND THE AFTERNOON APPRECIATING GREAT ART. When it comes to art, Baja California Sur has something for

everyone's taste and budget, and the opportunity to meet with some very talented local artists. Take a walking tour of the Todos Santos art district. Check out **Galería Logan**, **Gallery 365**, and **Galería de Todos Santos**. In San José del Cabo, **Pez Gordo** shows the works of an amazing variety of artists at their **Shoppes de Palmilla** location.

BUY A COOL SUMMER OUTFIT. **Étnica**, across from The Todos Santos Inn, has fun and colorful Mexican cotton and linen dresses and shirts for men and women, as well as hand-tooled leather purses, wallets, and boots. **Nomad Chic**, on calle Juárez in Todos Santos, has a unique collection of effortlessly chic eco-designer tops, dresses, leggings, purses, and accessories.

BOOK A ROOM AT THE BEACH. Get some sand between your toes then watch the sunset from your luxury room just steps from the beach at **Cerritos Beach Inn**, **Cerritos Puesta del Sol**, or **Desert Moon** at Cerritos Beach. Or enjoy the saltwater pool at **The Hotelito**, just a short stroll from the La Cachora beach in Todos Santos. Locals receive a summer discount at many area hotels!

KICK BACK AND READ A BOOK. Learn more about the area with a colorful guide book or pick up a great novel at **El Tecolote Bookstore** in Todos Santos or **Allende Books** in La Paz.

GET OUT AND DANCE UNDER THE STARS. Saturday nights are hot with live music at **Chill N Grill** and the **Sky Lounge** at the top of the **Guaycura Boutique Hotel**, both in Todos Santos, or **Mi Pueblito 3** in Pescadero.

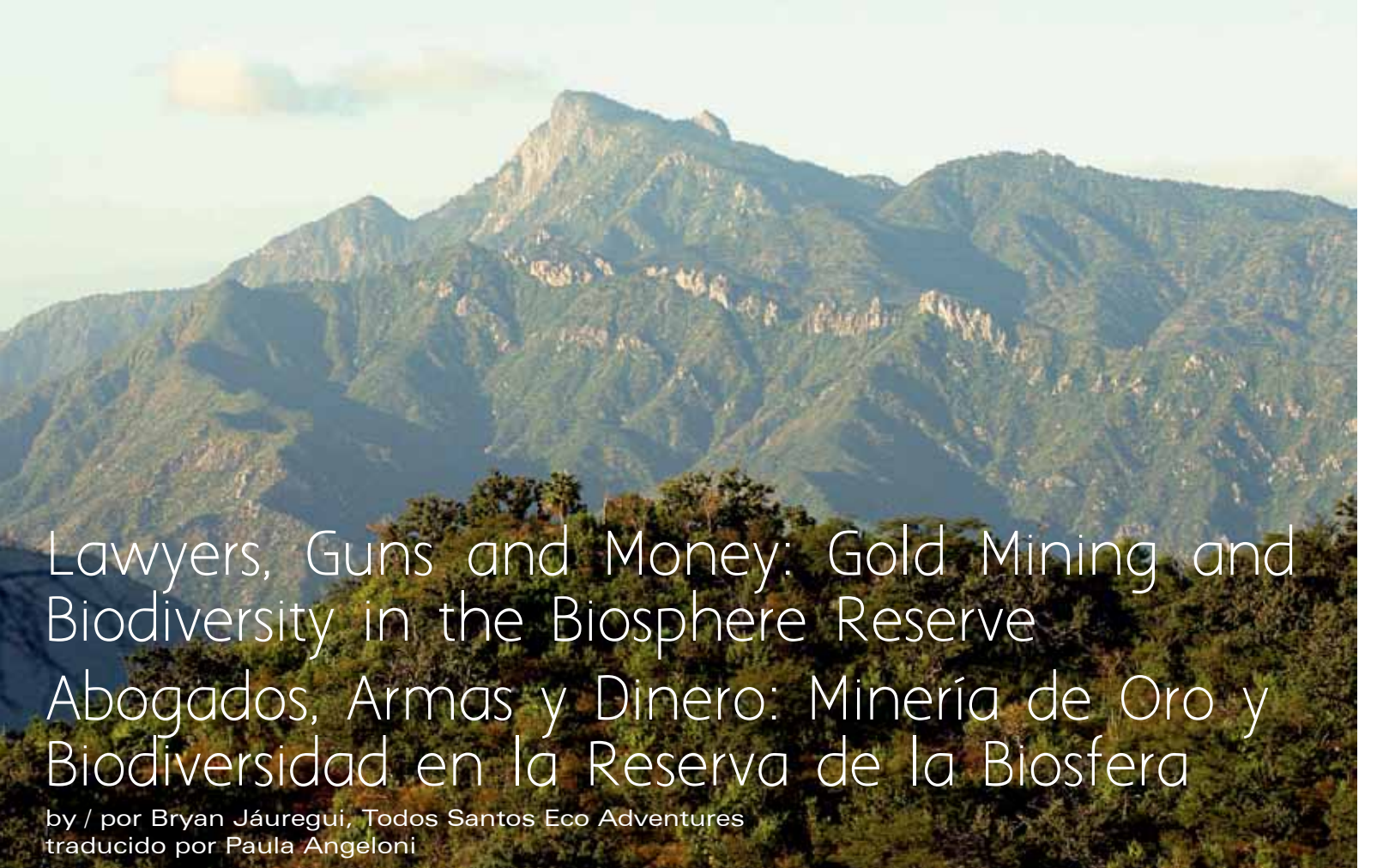
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Lawyers, Guns and Money: Gold Mining and Biodiversity in the Biosphere Reserve

Abogados, Armas y Dinero: Minería de Oro y Biodiversidad en la Reserva de la Biosfera

by / por Bryan Jáuregui, Todos Santos Eco Adventures
traducido por Paula Angeloni

Sierra El Toste, Sierra La Laguna, Baja California Sur. Foto: Jon Rebman

Lawyers, guns and money. For the last several hundred years these have been the tools employed throughout the Americas to resolve land use and land ownership issues, and the system continues to thrive in present-day Baja California Sur. If you have enough of all three deployed in the correct proportions, you can generally carry the day. So how could the staff of a resource-restricted, government-operated, conservation-driven institution face down a large multinational company aiming to put an open pit gold mining operation in the UNESCO-certified natural area that they are charged with protecting? If you're the employees of CONANP (The National Commission of Natural Protected Areas) in Baja California Sur you look to the earth. You invoke the powerful forces of nature. You call in the botanists.

When the CONANP team first met Dr. Sula Vanderplank of the Botanical Research Institute of Texas in 2014, she and her colleague Dr. Benjamin Wilder of the University of Arizona and Next Generation Sonoran Desert Researchers (N-Gen; www.nextgensd.com) had just completed a terrestrial biodiversity study of the lands surrounding Cabo Pulmo National Marine Park. Not coincidentally, these were the same lands targeted by a developer with plans to construct a massive 30,000-room hotel complex on the shores of the marine park. While there are likely many factors that ultimately lead to the termination of the project—massive protests, focused effort by leading local and international NGOs, international media scrutiny—it is beyond a shadow of a doubt that the findings of the team

Abogados, armas y dinero. Desde hace varios cientos de años, estas han sido las herramientas empleadas en el continente americano para resolver problemas en cuanto al uso y propiedad de la tierra. Hoy en día, este sistema sigue prosperando en Baja California Sur. Si usted cuenta con los tres ingredientes, desplegados en las proporciones correctas, por lo general puede llevar su día. Entonces, el personal de una institución operada por el gobierno, con recursos restringidos e impulsada por la conservación, ¿cómo podría desalentar a una gran empresa multinacional destinada a la minería de oro a cielo abierto en un área natural certificada por la UNESCO que está encargado de proteger? Si eres uno de los empleados de la CONANP (Comisión Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas) en Baja California Sur; miras hacia la tierra, invocas las poderosas fuerzas de la naturaleza y llamas a los botánicos.

En el 2004, cuando el equipo de la CONANP conoció por primera vez a la Dra. Sula Vanderplank del Instituto de Investigación Botánica de Texas; ella y su colega el Dr. Benjamin Wilder, de la Universidad de Arizona, ambos miembros de la Nueva Generación de Investigadores del Desierto de Sonora (N-Gen; www.nextgensd.com), acababan de terminar un estudio sobre la biodiversidad terrestre de las tierras circundantes al Parque Nacional Marino Cabo Pulmo. No por coincidencia fue que estas mismas tierras estaban en la mira de un desarrollador con planes de construir un enorme complejo hotelero de 30.000 habitaciones sobre las orillas del parque marino. Si bien es probable que muchos factores condujeran en BIODIVERSIDAD continúa en página 15

lead by Sula and Ben were a strong contributing factor. Why? In the area where they were to construct the hotel the botanists and their bi-national, multi-disciplinary team recorded no fewer than 560 species of flora and fauna. Of those, 100 (almost one in five) are endemic to the Cape region of Baja California Sur, and 42 are on the Mexican endangered species list. Until that time, no one had any idea of the magnitude of the biodiversity of the area. As the authors of the study concluded, "Given the large number of endemic species present in the area, large-scale development projects risk the full scale and local extinctions of endemic species with narrow geographic ranges. Entire species could be lost forever (and their roles within the Sonoran Desert ecosystem) from the unique places where they evolved *in situ* during thousands or millions of years."

Development's deadly impact on biodiversity: CONANP was inspired. Gold mines operating in a protected natural area: N-Gen was invigorated. The opportunity to bring serious scientific scrutiny to Arroyo La Junta and the Los Cardones open pit gold mining project: it was too compelling to ignore. The CONANP/N-Gen team of Sierra scientific superheroes was born.

Now fictional superheroes like Bruce Wayne and Tony Stark conveniently come with immense family fortunes to back their earth-saving endeavors. Not so with reality-bound botanists and their colleagues. When Sula and Ben were first introduced to the Arroyo La Junta area in the Sierra foothills where the Mexican government had authorized the Los Cardones mining project, they couldn't find much science on the area. A good bit of work had been done at the higher elevations of the Sierras, but the area around the proposed gold mine had remained a generally science-free zone. With the help of CONANP, Sula and Ben set out to change that and, as they had done in Cabo Pulmo, created a proposal to bring rigorous scientific investigation and analysis to determine the magnitude of endemism and biodiversity in the area. CONANP was thrilled. Potential funders were silent.

"Then an interesting thing happened" says Ben. "When the government approved the MIA (environmental impact assessment) of the Los Cardones mine, the people of Todos Santos and La Paz rose up in protest and staged rallies and marches against the mine. This public outcry really gave new life to the importance of understanding the potential impact to the biosphere reserve."

Anne McEnany, president of the International Community Foundation, had been involved in educating people about economic activities in the Biosphere Reserve for years, and immediately grasped the importance of the N-Gen project. "ICF has been working with local organizations to educate and inform the general public about the Biosphere Reserve and the La Paz watershed by developing curriculum, analyzing potential economic activities, and convening workshops. When the N-Gen research team approached ICF to finance a biodiversity assessment there, we knew it was the right next step. How can CONANP appropriately manage such a large area without knowing what is there?" The CONANP team breathed a sigh of relief. The botanists got busy.

BIODIVERSITY continued on page 14

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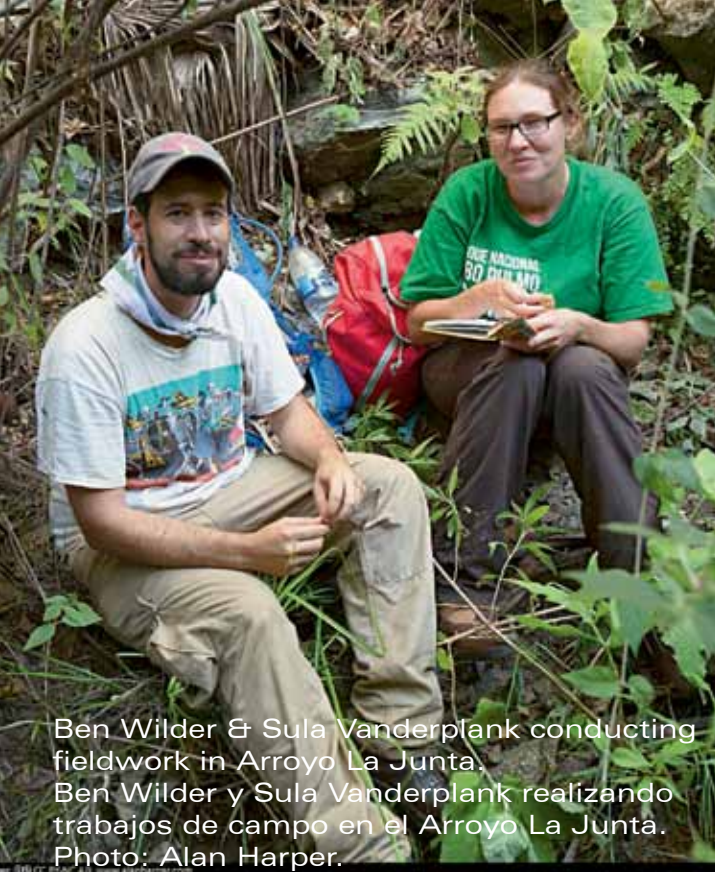
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Ben Wilder & Sula Vanderplank conducting fieldwork in Arroyo La Junta.
 Ben Wilder y Sula Vanderplank realizando trabajos de campo en el Arroyo La Junta.
 Photo: Alan Harper.



The Herpetology team.
 El grupo de los herpetólogos.
 Left to right / De izquierda a derecha:
 Jorge Valdez, Isaí Valle Jiménez, Yaredh Ramírez Enriquez, Patricia Galina Tessaro, Brad Hollingsworth, Rafael Lara, Dean Leavitt.
 Photo: Alan Harper.

Biodiversity cont. from page 13

Sula came down in September 2015 to scout out the area and to work with the director of the Sierra La Laguna Biosphere Reserve, Jesús Quiñónez Gómez, on the permits required for the team to conduct its research. The scouting trip was a little scary. Recalls Sula, "The Los Cardones people had guards and checkpoints at several spots in the Arroyo La Junta area, and it was definitely a little intimidating. So when we came back with the whole team in December 2015, we were apprehensive about the type of reception we might receive." The "whole team" consisted of 46 participants, including 29 scientists from 19 institutions (10 from Mexico and 9 from the US). Everyone was a little nervous, but by the time the team arrived to conduct their eight days of investigation starting on December 4, 2015, the roadblocks and guards had been removed and the team worked without interference.

And apparently without much sleep either! The group, many of whom had worked on the Cabo Pulmo study and are part of the N-GEN network of investigators, consisted of five main teams of scientists: four botanists (the plant people), six entomologists (the insect folks), eight herpetologists (the snake and lizard researchers), seven mammalogists (self-evident) and four ornithologists (the birders). Specialists for each taxonomic group worked almost around the clock, systematically surveying different areas as daytime collections gave way to nocturnal studies, which in turn rolled into bird surveys underway well before dawn. A CONANP management team of 10 people kept the whole project going, while the Rancho Agua de Enmedio family kept them all well fed, and Niparajá assisted with local logistics.

It couldn't have been more perfect: a CONANP-inspired, ICF-funded, N-Gen-executed project with a multinational team of scientific rock stars to assess the biodiversity of an area that has been consigned to the ravages of open pit gold mining. It is the people of Baja California Sur's dream team, and if ever salvation were at hand, it is now. But "now" is December. The rains of summer are but a distant memory so few annual plants persist, and the perennials
 BIODIVERSITY continued on page 17

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Mirna Manteca y Michael Bogan.
Foto: Ben Wilder

Biodiversidad

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última instancia a la terminación del proyecto—protestas masivas, esfuerzos conjuntos de organizaciones no gubernamentales locales e internacionales, el escrutinio de los medios internacionales—está fuera de duda el que los resultados de la investigación del equipo dirigido por Sula y Ben fueron un factor de gran peso. ¿Por qué? En la zona donde iban a construir el hotel, los botánicos y su equipo multidisciplinario binacional registraron alrededor de 560 especies de flora y fauna. De estas, 100 (casi una de cada cinco) son endémicas de la Región del Cabo en Baja California Sur y 42 están en la lista de especies en

peligro de extinción en México. Hasta ese momento, nadie tenía idea de la magnitud de la biodiversidad de la zona. Como los autores del estudio concluyeron: “Dado el gran número de especies endémicas presentes en la zona, proyectos de desarrollo a gran escala pueden suponer la extinción masiva y local de especies endémicas con rangos geográficos limitados. Especies completas podrían perderse para siempre (junto con sus roles dentro del ecosistema del Desierto de Sonora) en los únicos lugares donde se desarrollaron *in situ* durante miles o millones de años.”

Impacto letal de desarrollos sobre la biodiversidad: la CONANP se inspiró. Minas de oro que operan en un área natural protegida: N-Gen se vigorizó. La oportunidad de traer un serio escrutinio de científicos al Arroyo La Junta, y el proyecto de minería de oro a cielo abierto Los Cardones: era demasiado convincente como para ignorarlo. Nació el equipo de superhéroes científicos de la Sierra CONANP / N-Gen.

Ahora los superhéroes de ficción como Bruce Wayne y Tony Stark vienen convenientemente equipados con inmensas fortunas familiares para respaldar sus esfuerzos por salvar la tierra, pero en el caso de los botánicos y sus colegas la realidad es otra. Cuando a Sula y Ben se les dio a conocer por primera vez la zona del Arroyo La Junta en las estribaciones de la Sierra, donde el gobierno de México había autorizado el proyecto minero Los Cardones, no pudieron encontrar muchos datos científicos en el área. Una buena parte del trabajo estaba hecho en las elevaciones más altas de las

BIODIVERSIDAD continúa en página 16

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Biodiversidad

continuó de página 15



Depiction of food supported by Arroyo La Junta. Representación de los alimentos que el Arroyo La Junta provee. Por / Designed by Paola Ramírez

sierras, pero el área alrededor de donde se proponía la mina de oro se había mantenido en general como una zona al margen del conocimiento científico. Con la ayuda de la CONANP, Sula y Ben se dispusieron a cambiar esto y como lo habían hecho anteriormente en Cabo Pulmo, crearon una propuesta para llevar a cabo una investigación y un análisis científico rigurosos para determinar la magnitud de endemismo y biodiversidad de la zona. CONANP estaba encantada. Donadores potenciales se hallaban silenciosos.

“Luego algo interesante ocurrió” dice Ben. “Cuando el gobierno aprobó la MIA (manifestación de impacto ambiental) de la mina Los Cardones, el pueblo de Todos Santos y La Paz se levantaron en protesta realizando manifestaciones y marchas contra la mina. Esta protesta pública realmente dio nueva vida a la importancia de comprender el impacto potencial de la reserva de la biosfera.”

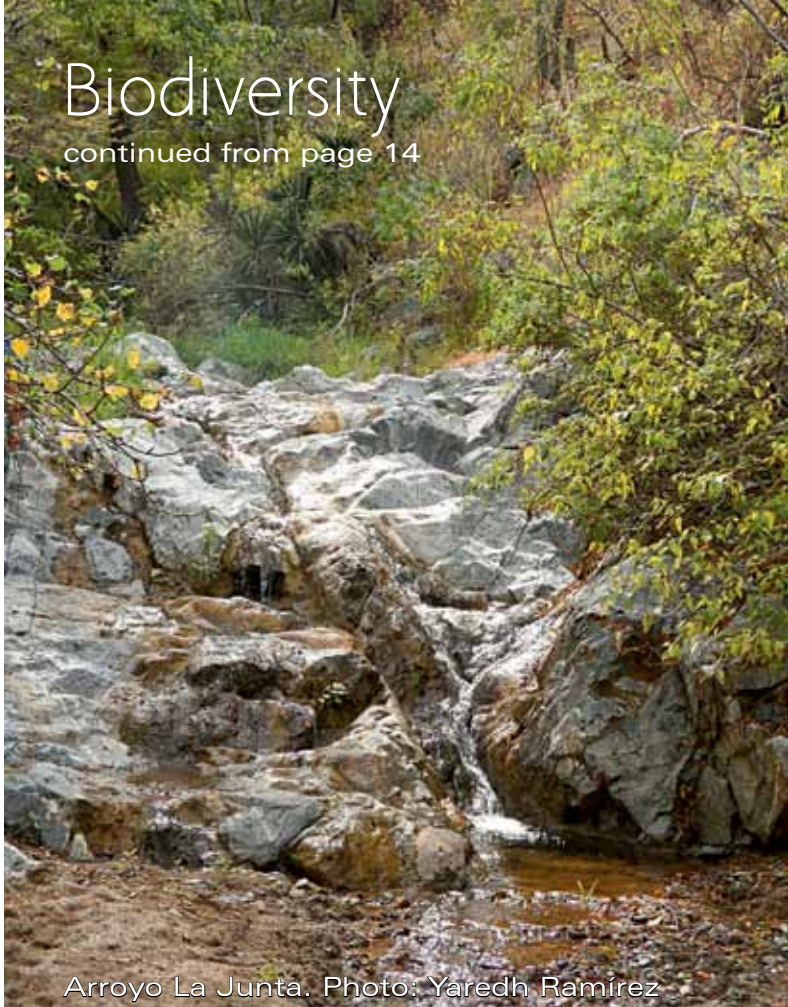
Anne McEnany, presidenta de la ICF “International Community Foundation” (Fundación Internacional de la Comunidad), había estado involucrada por años en la educación acerca de las actividades económicas en la Reserva de la Biosfera e inmediatamente captó la importancia del proyecto N-Gen. “La ICF ha estado trabajando con organizaciones locales en educar e informar al público en general acerca de la reserva de la biosfera y de la cuenca de La Paz a través del desarrollo de planes de estudio, el análisis de las posibles actividades económicas y mediante la convocatoria de talleres. Cuando el equipo

de investigación N-Gen se acercó a ICF para poder financiar una evaluación de la biodiversidad allí, sabíamos que era el paso a seguir. ¿Cómo puede la CONANP gestionar adecuadamente un área tan grande sin saber lo que está ahí?” El equipo de la CONANP dio un suspiro de alivio. Los botánicos se pusieron a trabajar.

Sula vino en septiembre de 2015 para explorar el área y trabajar con el director de la Reserva de la Biosfera Sierra La Laguna, Jesús Quiñónez Gómez sobre los permisos requeridos para que el equipo pueda llevar a cabo sus investigaciones. El viaje de exploración, daba un poco de miedo recuerda Sula, “la gente de Los Cardones tenía guardias y puntos de control en varios lugares de la zona del Arroyo La Junta y fue definitivamente un poco intimidante. Así que cuando volvimos con todo el equipo en diciembre de 2015, estábamos un poco preocupados sobre el tipo de recepción que podríamos recibir.” “El equipo” consistía en 46 participantes, incluyendo 29 científicos de 19 instituciones (10 de México y 9 de EEUU). Todo el mundo estaba un poco nervioso, pero en el momento en que el equipo llegó al sitio para llevar a cabo sus ocho días de investigación a partir del 4 de diciembre del 2015, ya no estaban los bloqueos de paso ni los guardias, por lo que se pudo trabajar sin interferencias. ¡Y al parecer sin mucho descanso tampoco! El grupo, muchos de los cuales habían trabajado en el estudio de Cabo Pulmo y formaban parte de la red N-GEN de investigadores, estuvo integrado por cinco equipos principales de científicos: cuatro botánicos BIODIVERSIDAD continúa en página 37

Biodiversity

continued from page 14



Arroyo La Junta. Photo: Yaredh Ramírez

are not sporting many of their distinguishing flowers and fruits; the botanists are challenged. The weather is cool and the cold-blooded snakes are not inclined to come out; the herpetologists find solace in the amphibians. There's water in the arroyo so land mammals are around, but volant mammals (AKA bats) are the least likely to be active in the Sierras in December; the mammalogists scan the night skies with few catches. Aquatic invertebrate communities often show great seasonal variability, and there are substantial taxonomic limitations to larval identification; the entomologists take pleasure in the huge number of harvestman spiders around that freak out all the other scientists. Lots of birds are in residence, but several important species frequent the Cape Region only in summer; the ornithologists make do with what they have.

All of which makes it even more impressive that in the 500 hectares (1,235 acres) of land currently petitioned for use as the Los Cardones open pit gold mine project, the N-Gen team found 877 (eight hundred and seventy-seven!) species of flora and fauna, including 107 species endemic to the Cape Region alone, and 29 species listed as endangered by the Mexican government. Not only that, entirely new species were documented, including two insect species (and possibly more), and a completely new plant species for the entire Peninsula, *Brickellia diffusa*, part of the sunflower family. And given the limitations of their research—they only had eight days at a relatively unproductive time of year—the results are all the more astounding. In fact, the scientists reckon that their study represents only 25% (invertebrates) to about 50% (reptiles


BIODIVERSITY continued on page 19

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Art Talk

continued from page 7

What statement am I making? What impression do I want to make? What reaction am I looking for in my audience?"

Of course there are times when artists do not want to work on the same series, they don't want to get repetitive, bored, or locked into particular compositions or categories, or end up in a rut.

Paul Kos, a conceptual artist and one of the founders of the Bay Area Conceptual Art movement, wrote:

If you're not sure whether you want to go in a particular direction with multiple works, rather than producing finished pieces right from the start, maybe instead sketch out various ideas for compositions first. See whether they hold your interest individually or as a group, whether they're worth following though on or whether they're not quite as fascinating as you thought they would be, and that you need to rethink your approach.

For those of you who prefer or insist on making different kinds of art, work on several series simultaneously. Or take a break from working on a particular series and make one or two of whatever you want to make; then get back to work on the series.

Once you finalize the ideas behind a series of body of work, stick with them. This isn't always easy, but forcing yourself to maintain a high level of focus and discipline without getting distracted keeps you totally immersed in the outcome. An unwavering intensity of engagement is always evident in a successful body of work.

In a way making art can be compared to writing a novel. How can you express the depth of your ideas in a single chapter? The greater significance of a series is that you and your viewer are on a journey. That you both are immersed in something bigger and more meaningful than one piece of work, and that as you progress you and the work become progressively more enlightened and informed. It becomes a body of work, worthy of deeper reflection and consideration. The collector feels privileged to have a part of this process and a part of you.

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Biodiversity

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and amphibians) of the total species present in the region. It's the frickin' Garden of Eden on a 500 hectare lot.

But everyone knows that the Garden of Eden comes with a fast-talking serpent (apologies herpetologists) who doesn't have the happiness of mankind at heart when he offers temptation to the innocent. As Exequiel Ezcurra, Director of the California Institute for Mexico and the United States (UC MEXUS) and co-editor of the study writes in the introduction to the soon-to-be-published study, "At the end of ten years of operations, the Los Cardones mine would have extracted about 173 million tons of rock, 135 million of which will have been deposited as waste in large pilings, and 38 million tons will have been accumulated in tailings in the form of sediments saturated with cyanide solution. In those ten years the project would have consumed about 300 million kilowatt-hours from the local power grid, releasing about 150,000 tons of CO₂ into the atmosphere generated by the consumption of about 100 million liters of fossil fuels. In return, the project would generate only about 200 jobs for the entire region and only a meager eight tons of gold for the benefit of a private company."

Scarier still, like the Garden of Eden, Arroyo La Junta is bounded by rivers, and its tributaries lie along the division of two watersheds. The ridge just to the north of Arroyo La Junta demarcates the boundary where water flows to the La Paz watershed, ending in the Gulf of California. Arroyo La

Junta itself flows towards Todos Santos and empties into the Pacific Ocean. As Exequiel writes, "The mining project Los Cardones... plans to extract gold at the headwaters of the La Paz watershed treating the extracted rock with tons of cyanide, an amount sufficient to kill the entire population of Mexico." Everyone on the peninsula knows that just one big hurricane could release a disaster of untold proportions from the mining site—it's already happened in Sonora.

Of course it is the water that is the very source of the incredible biodiversity of Arroyo La Junta. The aquatic organisms that the water supports attract a vast array of predators like bats, birds and spiders, and the huge number of insects attracts reptiles and amphibians like frogs, which in turn attract larger predators like raccoons and coyotes. The arroyo is not just a source of drinking water for many of these species, it forms the actual basis for regional biodiversity. The humid air and damp areas extend the active period for many species, most especially reptiles, which means that they can extend their ecosystem functions for a larger part of the year.

CONANP discussed the study's results. "When a company arrives to undertake a project in a protected area, the government wants to know if the project is compatible with the mission of that area. In this case, the protected area is the Sierra La Laguna Biosphere Reserve, and the mission of CONANP is to protect its biodiversity for future generations. The results of this study reaffirm that mining is incompatible with that mission. The mining company says that it can restore everything as it was after it digs these huge holes

BIODIVERSITY continued on page 38



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Baja Sur TV

by Ricardo Madrazo

BCS'S CITIZEN DRIVEN MEDIA

Starting in the fall of 2015, an online channel named Baja Sur TV began publishing, through YouTube and Facebook, videos pertaining to environmental issues in the state of Baja California Sur. Topics have mainly included the Don Diego mine in Comondú, the Los Cardones mine in the Sierra de la Laguna and the Tres Santos mega development in Todos Santos. The accelerated events at Punta Lobos that began last September with the rains, and our coverage of this issue, hurried our entry into citizen-driven media, without us having had the opportunity to properly present ourselves and the project to the public. This article is intended as an overview on what Baja Sur TV is, who is behind it, how it began, and where we hope it will go in the future.



In 2014, while working for the local film festival, my partner Jamie Sechrist and I had the opportunity to produce a documentary called "Una Gota de Vida," which chronicled the local fight against the proposed gold mine in the Sierra de la Laguna. While filming, we met many people who are involved locally in defending the environment and formed strong bonds. Shortly after the film screened, many asked us when we would be filming the sequel, as the fight was far from over. Although no longer involved in the film festival we still felt compelled and obligated to cover the issue, so with our own means we joined the local campaign to aid the Cordero family, who were being intimidated at their ranch, and to continue bringing attention to this issue.

In July 2015 we purchased video equipment which has allowed us to provide professional video services locally and also to pursue the citizen media project (as yet unnamed) on our own time and expense. During the months of August and September, we worked on constructing the project, including the possible financial models that would make it viable.

Things began to take a different pace in mid-September, however, when our attention turned to the loss of beach at Punta Lobos during the rainy season. The sand was all but gone, revealing the large boulders against the new private seawall and dispersing them all over the beach, causing damage to the local fishermen's boats. Jamie and I felt obligated to cover the issue. From there, events unfolded in quick succession as is public knowledge through the videos we published: the fishermen's demands, Tres BAJA SUR TV continued on page 24

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BAJA SUR TV: PERIODISMO CIUDADANO EN BCS

En el otoño de 2015, un canal por internet llamado Baja Sur TV empezó a publicar, a través de YouTube y Facebook, videos sobre cuestiones ambientales en el estado de Baja California Sur. Los temas principales incluían la mina Don Diego en Comondú, la mina Los Cardones en la Sierra de la Laguna, y el megadesarrollo Tres Santos en Todos Santos. Los sucesos precipitados de Punta Lobos que dieron inicio en septiembre con las lluvias y nuestra cobertura de ellos, precipitaron nuestra incursión en el periodismo ciudadano sin que hubiésemos tenido oportunidad de presentar el proyecto ante el público. Este artículo tiene como propósito presentar el concepto de Baja Sur TV, quién está detrás de él, cómo inició y hacia donde lo queremos llevar.

En 2014, trabajando para el festival de cine local, mi pareja Jamie Sechrist y yo tuvimos la oportunidad de producir un documental titulado "Una Gota de Vida," que narra la lucha local de la sociedad civil en contra de una mina de oro a

cielo abierto propuesta para la Sierra de la Laguna. Durante la filmación, conocimos a muchas personas involucradas en la defensa del medio ambiente y formamos fuertes lazos de amistad. Al estrenarse el documental, varios nos preguntaron cuándo se filmaría la segunda parte, ya que la lucha no había terminado. Aunque ya no trabajábamos con el festival de cine, sentimos una obligación de seguir dando cobertura al tema, así que por nuestros propios medios nos unimos a la campaña local por ayudar a la familia Cordero, rancheros de la sierra que estaban siendo intimidados por la minera, y de esa forma continuar la crónica.

En julio de 2015 compramos equipo de video, lo cual nos permitió ofrecer localmente servicios profesionales de producción, así como continuar por nuestros propios medios con el proyecto, aún sin nombre, de reportaje ciudadano. Durante agosto y septiembre trabajamos por darle forma al proyecto en papel, incluyendo los posibles

BAJA SUR TV continúa en página 25

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june

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June 5 | 9:30 am - 12:30 pm, **3RD ANNUAL DOG SURF CONTEST** at Cerritos Beach to benefit local dog rescue in Pescadero. For information: (612) 142-5038 <http://dogsurfcompcerritos.com>, <https://www.facebook.com/DogSurfCompCerritos> or info@dogsurfcompcerritos.com

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June 17 & 18 | **GUEST CHEF SERIES** at **Rancho Pescadero** with Chef Joseph Centeno from L.A. Friday cooking class (\$70 usd /person) and Special Dinner (\$100 usd / person) hosted by guest chef on Saturday night. For more information at: www.ranchopescadero.com, reservations: rancho1@ranchopescadero.com or call (910) 300-8891.

June 19 | **FATHER'S DAY**

June 20 | **SUMMER SOLSTICE**

july

July 1 | 5 - 8 pm, **YOGA SUPER CLASS** at #1810 Querétaro esq Yucatan, in La Paz. For more information call Mayra Torres (612) 131-7564

July 4 | **US INDEPENDENCE DAY**

July 22 & 23 | **GUEST CHEF SERIES** at **Rancho Pescadero** with Chef Jason Fox from San Francisco, Ca. Friday cooking class (\$70 usd /person) and Special Dinner (\$100 usd / person) hosted by guest chef on Saturday night. For more information at: www.ranchopescadero.com, reservations: rancho1@ranchopescadero.com or call (910) 300-8891.

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august

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september

September 2 | 5 - 8 pm, **YOGA SUPER CLASS** at #1810 Querétaro esq Yucatan, in La Paz. For more information call Mayra Torres (612) 131-7564

September 5 | **US LABOR DAY**

September 16 | **MEXICAN INDEPENDENCE DAY**

September 22 | **AUTUMN EQUINOX**

october

October 7 | 5 - 8 pm, **YOGA SUPER CLASS** at #1810 Querétaro esq Yucatan, in La Paz. For more information call Mayra Torres (612) 131-7564

October 8 - 12 | **TODOS SANTOS FIESTAS PATRONALES**

October 10 | **DÍA DE LA RAZA, COLUMBUS DAY**

October 30 | **DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS** in Mexico.

October 30 | **IRONMAN 2016 LOS CABOS**

October 31 | **HALLOWEEN**

november

November 2 | **DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS / DAY OF THE DEAD**

November 6 | **DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS** in US and Canada.

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February 11 & 12 | 10 am - 4 pm, **8TH ANNUAL ARTISTS OPEN STUDIO TOUR**. An art filled weekend, when the artists of Todos Santos open their studios
EVENTS cont. on page 49

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FreeSouls, Su M T W Th F Sa 5 - 6 pm, margaritas, mojitos, and beers at special prices.

Gallo Azul, M T W F Sa 3 - 6 pm, 2x1 mojitos and margaritas.

Hotel Casa Tota, M T W Th F Sa 3 - 6 pm, 2x1 beer and well drinks.

La Generala, Su M T W Th F Sa 8 am - 10 pm, 2x1 margaritas.

La Esquina M T W Th F Sa 5 - 6 pm, 2x1 beer, wine and margaritas.

La Morena M T W Th F Sa 4 - 6 pm

Rip Tide Bar Su M T W Th F Sa 3 beers or 3 margaritas for the price of 2 through November 1st.

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sunday

9 am – 3 pm, **ORGANIC VEGETABLES** at Rancho Buen Día in the *callejon* of Todos Santos.

10:30 am – 1:30 pm, **LIVE MUSIC** by Todos Santos Latin Band at Flora Farm in San José del Cabo.

2 – 8 pm, **DOMINGO DE PAELLA** at **El Mirador Ocean View Restaurant** in Todos Santos.

5 – 8 pm, **LIVE MUSIC** with “Guitarras Tapatias” at **El Mirador Ocean View Restaurant**.

SURF AND TURF DINNER, steak and shrimp scampi served with green salad and baked potato 350 pesos / \$20 usd at **Cerritos Beach Inn** in Pescadero.

monday

9 am – 5:30 pm, **ORGANIC VEGETABLES** at Rancho Buen Día in the *callejon* of Todos Santos.

9:30 am – 3 pm, **PESCADERO ORGANICS** in the *callejon*, #35 on the *otro lado* map, Todos Santos.

MEATLOAF SPECIAL with mashed potatoes and gravy and green beans and bacon for 120 pesos at Shut Up Frank's in Todos Santos.

5 – 8 pm, **FLIGHT NIGHT** at **La Bodega de Todos Santos**. Featuring Baja wine tasting, live music and Mexican appetizers by **Restaurant Mi Pueblito**.

5 – 9 pm, **ALL YOU CAN EAT PIZZA** \$150 pesos w/ 1 beer or soft drink, wine extra at **Cerritos Beach Inn** in Pescadero.

tuesday

8:30 am – 1 pm, **LA PAZ FARMER'S MARKET** on calle Madero between 5 de Mayo and Constitución, La Paz.

9 am – 5:30 pm, **ORGANIC VEGETABLES** at Rancho Buen Día in the *callejon* of Todos Santos.

9:30 am – 3 pm, **PESCADERO ORGANICS** in the *callejon*, #35 on the *otro lado* map, Todos Santos.

1:15 pm, **FREE MEXICAN CULTURAL PRESENTATION** in easy Spanish. *Se Habla... La Paz* Spanish Language School, La Paz.

8 pm, **MOVIE NIGHT** at **Gallo Azul**, Todos Santos.

7 pm, **ROCKIN' TACO TUESDAY** at **Chill N Grill** in Todos Santos. 3 meat, picadillo or potato tacos for \$90 pesos.



wednesday

9 am – 5:30 pm, **ORGANIC VEGETABLES** at Rancho Buen Día in the *callejon* of Todos Santos.

9:30 am – 3 pm, **PESCADERO ORGANICS** in the *callejon*, #35 on the *otro lado* map, Todos Santos.

FISH TACO SPECIAL 25 pesos each, at Shut Up Frank's in Todos Santos.

5 – 8 pm, **BIG RED WEDNESDAY** at **La Bodega de Todos Santos**. Featuring Baja wine tasting, live music and **WEEKLY EVENTS** continued on page 49



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Baja Sur TV

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Santos' and the government's responses. Our work led to the formation of Baja Sur TV.

Baja Sur TV is online citizen journalism with our commitment to truth and transparency, focusing on social and environmental issues in the state of BCS. Our idea is to create a network of collaborators who want to bring to light local issues in their region and help get that information out. It has been designed from the beginning as a grass-roots effort that can be easily replicated and amplified, which is fundamental for its success.

We seek to finance this project long-term through three different avenues: crowdfunding, working with non-profit organizations on content creation and through commercial video production with socially and environmentally responsible companies. Baja Sur TV is not designed to receive government funding or promote private corporations. We believe this model is viable in a place like Todos Santos.

Along the way, we have received in payment for the work Baja Sur TV does: a few donations to our Paypal account, several kilos of fresh fish, and a small grant from Vida y Prosperidad Todos Santos, A.C., but mostly this is a project initiated, operated and financed by my wife and myself—it's been a labor of love for us. It is designed to grow as a collaborative effort by many parties in many places. In the future, we hope to make a more public launch and to seek funding.

Our dream is to have Baja Sur TV grow and bring together the many sectors that make up the people of our state and to give voice to those that have historically been left out of the public discourse. This summer we will formally launch our fundraising campaign, along with a website and video archive.

You can keep up with the project and see past videos on facebook.com/BajaSurTV. If you'd like to participate in this project in any way, please contact us at: bajasur.tv@gmail.com

Baja Sur TV

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modelos financieros que lo harían viable.

A mediados de septiembre, las cosas dieron un giro al darnos cuenta de las condiciones de la playa Punta Lobos como consecuencia de las lluvias. La arena había desaparecido, dejando al descubierto las enormes rocas que protegían el rompeolas privado recién construido, mismas que dañaron las pangas de pescadores al deslavarse. Jamie y yo nos sentimos obligados a dar cobertura a la situación. De ahí fue una serie de eventos que se dieron de manera rápida, como es de conocimiento público a través de los videos que publicamos: las demandas de los pescadores, así como la respuesta por parte de Tres Santos y las autoridades. Este trabajo fue el que llevó a la formación de Baja Sur TV.

Baja Sur TV es periodismo ciudadano con un compromiso hacia la verdad y la transparencia, enfocado a temas de relevancia social y ambiental en el estado de Baja California Sur. Nuestra idea es crear una red de colaboradores que quieran llamar atención a los temas locales y diseminar la información de su problemática. Está diseñado como un proyecto de iniciativa ciudadana que se puede replicar y ampliar fácilmente, lo cual es fundamental para el éxito del proyecto.

Buscamos financiar este proyecto a largo plazo a través de tres vías: donativos del público, generación de contenidos a través de colaboración con organizaciones no gubernamentales, y producción comercial con empresas social y ambientalmente responsables. Baja Sur TV no recibirá financiamiento público ni promoverá mensajes corporativos. Creemos que este modelo es viable en un lugar como Todos Santos.

En el transcurso de todo este trabajo, el pago que hemos recibido a cambio por Baja Sur TV: algunos donativos a nuestra cuenta Paypal, varios kilos de pescado fresco y un pequeño apoyo de Vida y Prosperidad Todos Santos, A.C. Sin embargo, este proyecto es principalmente una labor iniciada, operada y financiada por mi pareja y yo—ha sido una entrega personal. Está diseñado para evolucionar como un proyecto colaborativo de muchas personas en muchos lugares. En un futuro próximo haremos la presentación formal y lanzaremos la campaña de financiamiento.

Nuestra visión es que Baja Sur TV sirva para unir muchos de los sectores que conforman al pueblo sudcaliforniano y dar voz a quienes históricamente han sido excluidos del debate público. Este verano lanzaremos la campaña de financiamiento, sitio web y videoteca.

Manténgase al tanto y conozca nuestro trabajo en facebook.com/BajaSurTV. Si quiere participar en este proyecto de cualquier manera, nos puede contactar en bajasur.tv@gmail.com.

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White-tailed Antelope Squirrel
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The Desert Food Chain

story and photos by Kaia Thomson

La Cadena Alimenticia en El Desierto

historia y fotos por Kaia Thomson / traducido por Lena Marie Castellanos A.

A food chain is a complex network of organisms, from plants to animals, through which energy, derived from the sun, flows in the form of organic matter and dissipates in the form of waste heat. The food chain's biological productivity and species diversification depend on factors such as the daily duration and angle of seasonal sunlight, the timely availability of water, the daily swings of seasonal temperatures, the chemical content of the soils, and the availability of nutrients.

First, an energy source is needed, in this case the sun, and an energy "sink," in this instance space. The sun fuels the biologic processes such as growth, fermentation and germination. Space receives the waste heat product in sort of a reverse radiation, otherwise, temperatures would rise to the point that the organisms would perish. Secondly, a food chain is comprised of a system of *interdependent* species—depending on each other's survival to contribute to their survival as well. A single isolated species would sooner or later consume the supply of chemicals it needs to live, grow and reproduce and it would perish.

The first link in the desert food chain is the plants, or the "producers," that capture the energy from the sun and initiate the flow in the process called "photosynthesis," which means "gathering of light." All plants, from one-celled diatoms to cardon cactus and torote trees to the Palo Adan, biznaga and the coyote melon, use the sun's energy. Water and carbon dioxide produce glucose, a

Una cadena alimenticia es una red compleja de organismos, desde plantas a animales, en la cual, energía derivada del sol fluye en forma de materia orgánica y se disipa como desecho de calor. La productividad biológica de la cadena alimenticia y la diversificación de sus especies depende de factores tales como la duración diaria y el ángulo estacional de la luz del sol, la oportuna disponibilidad del agua, los cambios diarios de temperatura estacional, el contenido químico de la tierra y la disponibilidad de nutrientes.

Primeramente, se necesita una fuente de energía, en este caso el sol y una energía "disipador térmico," en este espacio. El sol alimenta los procesos biológicos tales como el crecimiento, la fermentación y la germinación. El espacio recibe el producto del desecho de calor en una especie de radiación inversa, por que si no, las temperaturas se elevarían hasta llegar al punto que los organismos morirían. Como segundo punto, una cadena alimenticia está compuesta por un sistema de especies independientes—que entre sí dependen de la supervivencia de cada uno para su propia supervivencia. Una sola especie aislada, tarde o temprano consumiría toda la provisión de químicos necesarios para sobrevivir, crecer y reproducirse y moriría.

El primer enlace dentro de la cadena alimenticia son las plantas, las "productoras," que capturan la energía del sol e inician un proceso de flujo en la cadena, llamada "fotosíntesis," que significa "obtención de luz." Todas las plantas, desde las diatomeas unicelulares, a los cardones
CADENA ALIMENTICIA continúa en página 28



Mexican Fritillary
Mariposa nacarada mexicana



Grasshoppers
Saltamontes

basic component in the food chain that the plants then use to produce the carbohydrates, proteins and fats required for reproduction and growth. They also draw nourishment from various available soil nutrients such as nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium. The plants create storehouses of solar energy in the often impoverished desert for the animals, also known as the “consumers.”

Herbivores, plant-eating animals and insects, are the primary consumers and the second link in the food chain. Flesh-eating animals, the carnivores, or secondary consumers are the next link. The omnivores, plant and flesh eaters—including human beings—span two or three links.

Scavengers, also called detritivores, are the next link in the food chain, and microorganisms, or decomposers, the final consumer link. Decomposers play a very important role in completing the food chain as they free up nutrients for recycling to start the process over again.

The distinctive plant and animal communities of our hot deserts and forested regions typify the resilience and adaptability of life under harsh conditions as they also enrich the biological stew that gives rise to varying plant and animal communities found on the Baja California peninsula.



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Walking stick on cardón
Insecto palo sobre un cardón



Peninsular Mule deer foraging
Ciervo mula de la península buscando comida

La Cadena Alimenticia

continuó de página 26

y torotes, hasta los Palo de Adán, la biznaga y el melón coyote, usan la energía del sol. El agua y el dióxido de carbono producen glucosa, un componente básico en la cadena alimenticia que utilizan las plantas para producir carbohidratos, proteínas y grasas que son necesarios para su reproducción y crecimiento. También obtienen alimento de varios nutrientes que se encuentran en la tierra, tales como el nitrógeno, el fósforo y el potasio. Estas plantas crean almacenes de energía solar en el desierto para los animales, que se conocen también como los "consumidores."

Los herbívoros, que comen plantas e insectos, son los consumidores principales y el segundo enlace de la cadena alimenticia. Los carnívoros, o consumidores secundarios, son el siguiente enlace. Los omnívoros, los que se alimentan tanto de plantas como animales, incluyéndonos a nosotros, los seres humanos, toman el

lugar de dos o tres enlaces. Los carroñeros son el enlace que sigue, y los microorganismos o descomponedores son el enlace final. Los descomponedores desempeñan un papel muy importante completando la cadena alimenticia, ya que liberan nutrientes para que puedan ser reciclados para iniciar el proceso de nuevo.

Las distintivas comunidades de plantas y animales de nuestros calurosos desiertos y regiones forestales tipifican la flexibilidad y adaptabilidad de vida bajo condiciones duras, mientras que también enriquecen el caldo biológico que le da surgimiento a una variedad de comunidades de plantas y animales que se encuentran en la península de Baja California.



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El Cielo: The Baja Sky

by Roc Fleishman
photo by Kaia Thomson

Welcome to the summer 2016 edition of *El Cielo*, highlighting the more visible movements of the heavenly objects above Baja California Sur from June through September.

MOON/PLANET CALENDAR

JUNE

- 3rd Waning crescent moon and Mercury are close together in the sunrise, around 5 am.
- 6th New moon visible.
- 8th 8 pm, first quarter moon and Jupiter together.
- 18th 8 pm, waxing gibbous moon close to Saturn.
- 20th Summer Solstice 4:34 am, the sun reaches maximum declination of 23.435° north.

Star notes: Omega Centauri is a great fuzzy ball at 18° of altitude in the south (southwest end of June) at sunset—a great binocular or telescope target.

JULY

- 4th Venus maybe visible in the sunset, starting a new apparition.
- 5th New moon visible in sunset.
- 8th Crescent moon near Jupiter after sunset, closest at 11 pm.
- 15/16th Moon passes very close to Saturn around midnight.

16th During and after sunset, Mercury passes by Venus. Need good conditions to see in the glow.

28/29th Bright red star Aldebaran, the reddish eye of Taurus, passes behind the moon. The ingress should be about 2:28 am, and egress about 3:09. It will be easier to see the egress as it comes out from behind the dark part of the moon, almost directly at the apparent top. The ingress will be into the bright part at the left side. When the star gets close to ingress, it will tend to disappear in the glow. A sight worth watching with binoculars.

AUGUST

4th New moon should be visible with Mercury just to the right and Venus below and to the right.

5th Crescent moon passes close to Jupiter in sunset.

12th Perseid Meteor Shower maximum at 11 am. Our usual big summer meteor shower always runs from the middle part of July until late August. The peak this year is supposed to be during the mid-morning hours of the 12th. The moon sets at around 1 am the morning of the 12th (next to Saturn), so any time after that until daybreak should be the best for meteor viewing. Enjoy.

EL CIELO continued on page 43



View Lots



Beachfront Lots



Townhome at Villas de Cerritos



Beach Houses

ROC FLEISHMAN PESCADERO PROPERTIES

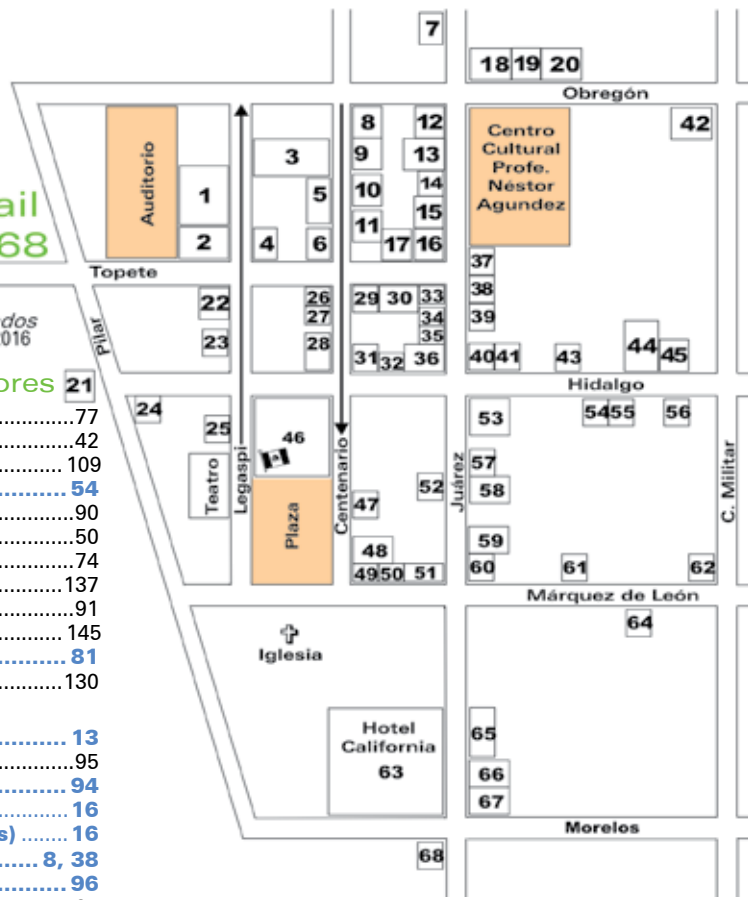
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Voces del Pueblo

by Janice Kinne

Happy summertime in Baja California Sur! In this issue we discover many of the fun things to do in Baja Sur when the water is warm and the days are slow. You can find out more information about all activities mentioned right here in the **Journal del Pacifico**.

Keenan Shoal, of **Amerimex Realty**, shared photos from around Baja California Sur for our cover, our *Summertime Fun in Baja Sur* article and throughout the magazine.

In our feature story, *Lawyers, Guns and Money: Gold Mining and Biodiversity in the Biosphere Reserve*, Bryan Jáuregui of **Todos Santos Eco Adventures** explores the incredible diverse eco system of the Sierra de La Laguna Biosphere and international group of scientists working to aid in the effort to save it from the threat of gold mining. Also Kaia Thomson shares *The Desert Food Chain* in story and photographs.

Ricardo Madrazo tells the story of how Baja Sur TV came about in response to a need for citizen based media to cover important stories that are of interest to citizens and residents of Baja California Sur.

Want to learn more about the area? Kat Bennett of **Allende Books** lists some great area guide books to help you on your way. All are available at **Allende Books** in La Paz and **El Tecolote Bookstore** in Todos Santos.

SunRider Tours, on the malecón in La Paz, will help you get started on your summertime adventure. Take a day trip scuba diving, snorkeling, whale shark watching or swim with the sea lions. They also offer La Paz and Todos Santos city tours.

We are pleased to welcome **Anne Hebebrand** to the growing community of Baja California Sur artists. You can see her works at **Galería de Todos Santos** and **Pez Gordo**



"The Clothes Line Saga " by Anne Hebebrand gallery in the Shoppes of Pamilla.

La Morena Restaurant /Bar / Coffee Shop in Todos Santos is open Monday through Saturday at 8 am serving breakfast, lunch and dinner. They have Wi-fi and accept Visa / MasterCard.

Gallo Azul Pizza Art / Bar in Todos Santos has a backyard bocce ball court, an indoor pool table and have added new pizza specialties and pasta dishes to their menu.

Dine on the patio at **Landi's Restaurant & Gallery**, on Todos Santos' town plaza, and enjoy the "sabores de Mexico" while watching the sunset.

The **El Mirador Ocean View Restaurant** has a special paella dinner every Sunday from 2 to 8 pm, and live music from 5 to 8 pm. The Sky Lounge at the top of **Guaycura Boutique Hotel** has live music Saturday nights from 7 to 10 pm. For more information, visit the **Guaycura Boutique Hotel**.

Mi Pueblito 3 is now open in Pescadero, across the highway from Dana's Diner. In addition to their Mexican specialties, they are also serving pizza and have live rock music every Saturday night.

Cerritos Puesta del Sol has new luxury, fully-appointed, **VOCES** continued on page 48

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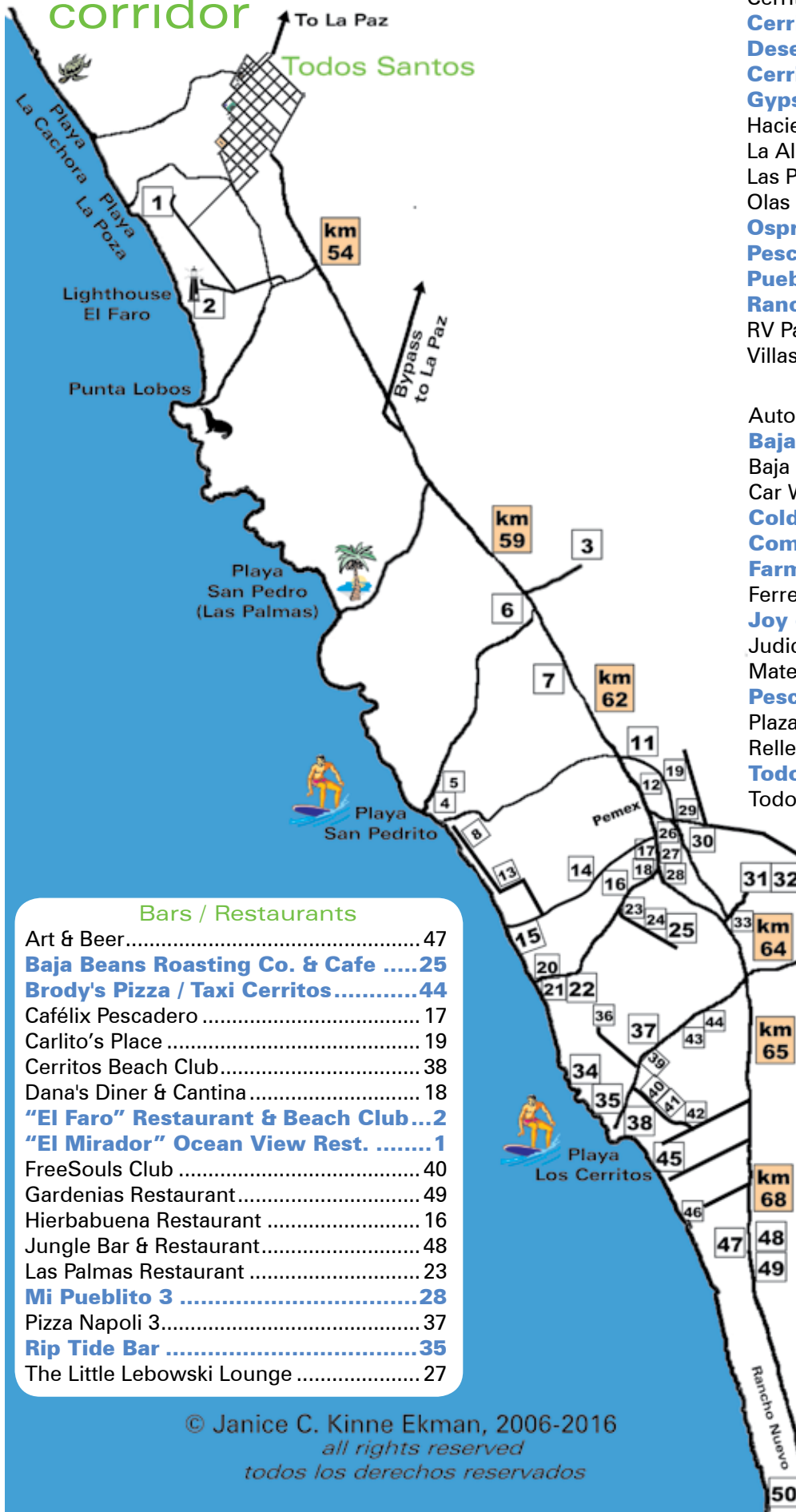
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todos santos—el pescadero corridor



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Beaches / Playas

by Janice Kinne

Todos Santos lies inland along the rugged Pacific coast. There are miles of beautiful white sand beaches accessible down unmarked dirt roads.

This stretch of the Pacific Ocean is a very dangerous place to swim at any time of the year. Strong rip currents and backwash are common. People have drowned in waters near Todos Santos simply because they were too close to the ocean while on beaches with steep drop-offs. PROPLAYAS Todos Santos A. C. has placed warning signs at the most dangerous beaches and has lifeguards on duty daily from 9 am to 5 pm at Los Cerritos beach.

You can access the **LA POZA** and **LA CACHORA** beaches via the La Cachora road. Both are suitable for walking, fishing, whale watching, relaxing or sunbathing. They are not swimming beaches. Because of the big waves breaking on the shore, La Cachora beach has become popular with skim boarders.

La Poza has a large freshwater lagoon that is great for bird watching.

When the lagoon is full, exercise extreme caution, especially if it has begun to overflow. People have drowned at La Poza beach in front of the mouth of the lagoon when the dune has broken and the lagoon flowed into the ocean.

- Do not attempt to surf or boogie-board the overflow.
- Do not swim in the lagoon when it is close to overflow; do not walk or drive across the mouth of the lagoon if it is even close to overflow.
- If you are going to swim in the lagoon be very careful. The lagoon may appear to be shallow, but has many sudden drop-offs and is actually very deep.

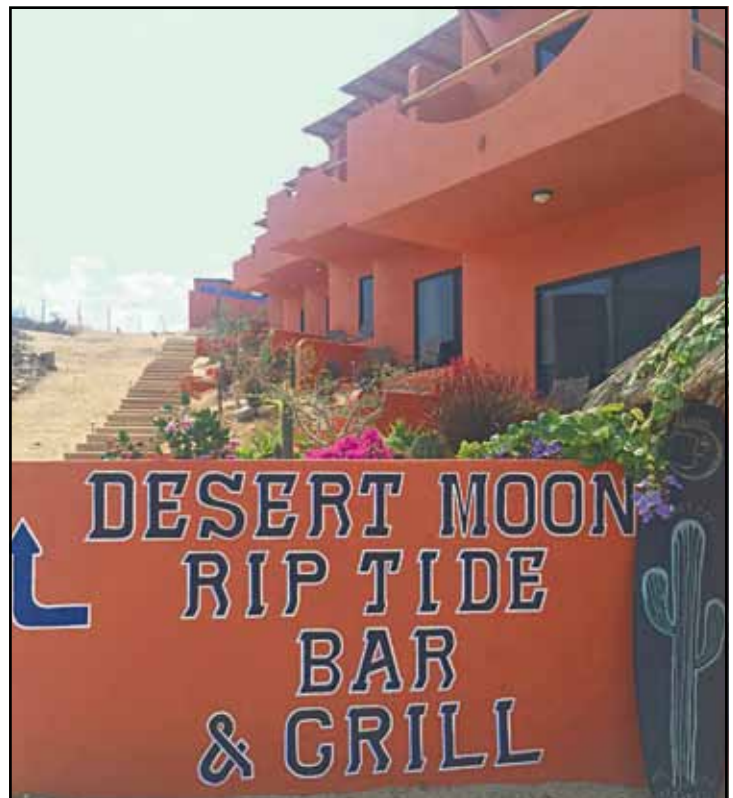
PUNTA LOBOS, named for a sea lion colony, is also known as the fishermen's beach. Simply follow calle Francisco Bojorquez Vidal (formerly calle Punta Lobos) south out of town, or turn off at km 54 from Highway 19. You will pass an old cannery from the days when fishermen could harvest sea turtles legally. There is a small freshwater lagoon at Punta Lobos with a shrine to the Virgin.

The fishermen ride their panga boats on the waves onto the beach between 1 and 3 pm. Their return is exciting to watch and you can usually buy fresh fish from the cooperatives.

The two fishing cooperatives have exclusive rights to the "launch zone" at Playa Punta Lobos. For reasons of safety and due to past problems, boat launching at Punta Lobos is not permitted without their express permission.

The only recommended swimming beaches are outside of Pescadero. **SAN PEDRO**, also known as **PALM BEACH** (*Playa Las Palmas*) is near km 57. Its entrance is across Highway 19 from the Campo Experimental—stay to the left as you pass the abandoned hacienda. Las Palmas is a beautiful, secluded beach surrounded by a palm grove

BEACHES continued on page 36



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photo: Keenan Shoal

with a fresh water lagoon that is home to a variety of plants, birds, and wildlife.

Due to strong currents (especially near the rocky point), swimming is safer 50 meters from the rocks. Swim with caution and always have a land reference. The property surrounding Palm Beach is privately owned. The gates are open from 6 am to 9 pm daily. Car break-ins have been reported at Palm Beach. Leave your valuables at home!

PLAYA SAN PEDRITO is a rocky surfing beach around km 60, about 4.6 miles (7.4 km) from Todos Santos. There is a large San Pedrito RV Park sign at the entrance off the highway. (The trailer park is closed but usually open to cars.)

PLAYA LOS CERRITOS is located at km 64 about 8 miles (12.8 km) south of Todos Santos. Look for the turnoff after the hill, south of Puente El Pescadero. Los Cerritos is a popular spot for surfing, boogie boarding, swimming and fishing. Swim with caution due to strong riptides near the rocks. It is recommended to stay at least 50 meters from

the rocks. The most secure swimming area is in front of the restaurant/bar. Swim with caution and always have a land reference. There is a long stretch of beach to the south that is perfect for walking or running. Surfboard rentals and other services are available.

Baja Zen, #36 on the Pescadero map, offers morning and evening yoga classes overlooking Playa Los Cerritos.

La Sirena Eco-Adventures, #151 on Todos Santos map, provides kayak and snorkeling tours, fishing trips, swimming with whale sharks, beach shuttle, surfing lessons, surfboard and boogie board rentals.

MARIO'S SURF SCHOOL provides surfing lessons, board rentals, repairs and accessories. Call for information.

PESCADERO SURF CAMP, #32 on the Pescadero map, provides surfing lessons and surfaris.

TODOS SANTOS ECO ADVENTURES, #158 on the Todos Santos map. Since 2002 Todos Santos Eco Adventures (TOSEA) has been providing visitors with opportunities to explore, celebrate and help conserve the magnificently diverse ecosystems of Baja. TOSEA offers whale and bird-watching trips in the Pacific lagoons, treks and rancho culture programs in the Sierra la Laguna mountains, Sea Turtle Camp and surfing surfaris on the Pacific coast, and kayaking, "glamping," whale shark and sea lion adventures in the Sea of Cortez.

TODOS SANTOS SURF SHOP, #84 on the Todos Santos map, sells and rents surf boards, offers beach supplies and activities around Todos Santos. They carry International brands like Vans, Rip Curl, Dakine, Exile, Rainbow & Havaianas sandals as well as many locally handmade, clothes, bikinis, accessories, natural sunscreen and the beloved "Eclipse" boards shaped by Meisy of Todos Santos. They offer tours to swim with whale sharks and sea lions, surfing lessons, fishing trips, trips to Espiritu Santo Island and whale watching in Magdalena Bay.

Surf reports: checkout Baja under Mexico at www.wetsand.com/swellwatch

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Biodiversidad

continuó de página 16

(la gente de las plantas), seis entomólogos (la gente de los insectos), ocho herpetólogos (los investigadores de serpientes y lagartos), siete mastozoólogos (de los mamíferos) y cuatro ornitólogos (los de las aves). Especialistas de cada grupo taxonómico trabajaron casi todo el día, examinando sistemáticamente diferentes áreas. Las recolecciones diurnas daban paso a los estudios nocturnos, que a su vez se continuaban con los muestreos de aves que comenzaban mucho antes del amanecer. Un equipo de gestión de la CONANP de diez personas mantenía todo el proyecto en marcha, mientras que la familia de Rancho Agua de en Medio los mantuvo a todos bien alimentados y Niparáj ayudaba con la logística local.

No podría haber sido más perfecto: un proyecto inspirado por la CONANP, financiado por la ICF y ejecutado por la N-Gen con un equipo multinacional de científicos estrella para evaluar la biodiversidad de un área que ha sido condenada a los estragos de una minería de oro a cielo abierto. Es el equipo de gente ideal de Baja California Sur, y si alguna vez la salvación pudiese estar a la mano, ahora es cuando. Pero aquel "ahora" era diciembre. Las lluvias de verano son más que un recuerdo lejano y solo persisten muy pocas plantas anuales mientras que las plantas perennes no lucen muchas de sus flores y frutos distintivos todo el año. Los botánicos están siendo desafiados. El clima es fresco y las serpientes de sangre fría no están dispuestas a salir; los herpetólogos encuentran consuelo en los anfibios. Hay agua en el arroyo de modo que mamíferos terrestres andan cerca, pero los mamíferos voladores (murciélagos) son los menos propensos a ser activos en la sierra en diciembre; los especialistas en mamíferos escanearon el cielo en la noche obteniendo pocas capturas. Las comunidades de invertebrados acuáticos a menudo muestran una gran variabilidad estacional y existen considerables limitaciones taxonómicas para la identificación de las larvas; los entomólogos disfrutaron de la enorme cantidad de Opiliones (arañas que no son arañas, comúnmente conocidos como patones o segadores) que encuentran mientras esto asusta a todos los otros científicos. Un montón de pájaros son residentes en el área, pero varias especies importantes frecuentan la Región del Cabo sólo en verano; los ornitólogos se las arreglan con lo que tienen.

Es muy impresionante el hecho de que en las 500 hectáreas de terreno que la empresa Los Cardones pide para uso del proyecto de la mina de oro a cielo abierto, el equipo N-Gen encontró 877 (ochocientos setenta y siete!) especies de flora y fauna, incluyendo 107 especies endémicas de la Región del Cabo solamente y 29 especies decretadas en peligro de extinción por el gobierno mexicano. No sólo eso sino que nuevas especies fueron documentadas incluyendo dos especies de insectos (posiblemente más). A su vez se hizo el registro de una especie completamente nueva para toda la Península, *Brickellia diffusa*, que forma parte de la familia de los girasoles. Teniendo en cuenta la BIODIVERSIDAD continúa en página 39



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Biodiversity

continued from page 19

in the earth, but this study proves that restoration would be extremely difficult, if not impossible." Ben is more direct. "The biodiversity numbers of the mining company's MIA (environmental impact assessment) don't even come close to what we documented. Restoration to what we see today after ten years of mining would be impossible." Exequiel agrees. "...we want to remind ourselves again, extinction is forever; our children will never be able to see the species that our generation pushes to oblivion."

Lawyers, guns and money. In some cases these tools bring clarity, but in others they are employed to obfuscate, intimidate and remunerate away obstacles. And therein lies the beauty of the N-Gen study—it is pure, crystal clear, science. Every fact fully documented and not subject to dispute. And the timing could not be better as there is now a precedent for scientific institutions setting environmental parameters for mining operations. On February 8, 2016 Colombia's Constitutional Court repealed Article 51 of the National Development Plan that had allowed the Environmental Licensing Authority to authorize mining projects in the Andean *paramos*, tropical alpine ecosystems. It ordered the Ministry of the Environment to use the map created by a scientific research institute, the Alexander von Humboldt Institute, as the basis for demarcating the boundaries of the *paramo* habitat. As Exequiel writes, "This was the first time a country had so explicitly put the human right to a safe water supply above the interest of big mining companies. It was also the first time that a nation had given such importance to a scientific research institute in the decision making process."

Arroyo La Junta is in the part of the Sierras that was designated a Biosphere Reserve by the Mexican government in 1994 and by UNESCO in 2003. So the area's value has long been suspected, but now, because of the inspiration of the CONANP team to bring in the scientific star power that is the N-Gen network, the true natural wealth of the area has finally been documented and all the players know exactly what is at stake: "Hundreds of species, many of them rare and endemic, others new to science or yet to be described." The incredibly high rate of endemism is a result of the extreme isolation that the Sierras enjoyed for possibly millions of years. It is the natural heritage of the Mexican nation and the very source of life for the residents of the Baja California peninsula. All the gold, all the lawyers and all the guns in the world cannot replace it. The botanists showed us that.

KEY BIODIVERSITY FINDINGS

Group	No. Taxa	Endemics	NOM-059 Endangered Species List
Plants	381	77	2
Insects	366	15	0
Reptiles & Amphibians	24	6	16
Mammals	29	3	2
Birds	77	6	9
TOTAL	877	107	29

PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS

MEXICAN INSTITUTIONS	US INSTITUTIONS
@Lab	Botanical Research Institute of Texas
CIBNOR	Next Generation Sonoran Desert Researchers
CICESE	Orma J. Smith Museum of Natural History, The College of Idaho
CICESE, Unidad La Paz	San Diego Natural History Museum
CONANP	San Diego State University
Fauna del Noroeste	San Diego Zoo Global
Niparja	Sky Island Alliance
Rancho Agua de En medio	University of Arizona
Terra Peninsular	University of California, Santa Cruz
University of Guadalajara	

Vanderplank S, BT Wilder, E Ezcurra. 2016. Arroyo la Junta: Una joya de biodiversidad en la Reserva de la Biosfera Sierra La Laguna / A biodiversity jewel in the Sierra La Laguna Biosphere Reserve. Botanical Research Institute of Texas, Next Generation Sonoran Desert Researchers, and UC MEXUS. 159 pg.

The study will be published in June 2016, and you will be able to find it on the N-Gen web site at www.nextgensd.com.

Todos Santos Eco Adventures operates trekking and cultural programs in the Sierra La Laguna Biosphere Reserve, working with local ranchers and their families. For more information please visit www.TOSEA.net



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limitaciones de esta investigación—que sólo tenían ocho días en un tiempo relativamente improductivo del año— los resultados son muy sorprendentes. De hecho, los científicos consideran que su estudio representa entre el 25% (en invertebrados) al 50% (para reptiles y anfibios) del total de las especies presentes en la región. Es el bendito Jardín del Edén en un terreno de 500 hectáreas.

Pero todo el mundo sabe que el Jardín del Edén viene acompañado de una serpiente que habla rápido y (disculpen herpetólogos) que no cuenta con la alegría de la humanidad en el corazón cuando ofrece la tentación a los inocentes. Como Exequiel Ezcurra, director del Instituto de California para México y los Estados Unidos (UC MEXUS) y coeditor del estudio escribe en la introducción al estudio cerca-a-ser-publicado: "Al final de los diez años de operaciones, la mina Los Cardones habría extraído aproximadamente 173 millones de toneladas de roca de los cuales 135 millones se abrían depositado como residuo en grandes pilas, y obteniendo 38 millones de toneladas de residuos en forma de sedimentos saturados con una solución de cianuro. En esos diez años, el proyecto habría consumido unos 300 millones de kilovatios por hora de la red eléctrica local, liberando alrededor de 150.000 toneladas de CO₂ a la atmósfera generadas por el consumo de alrededor de 100 millones de litros de combustibles fósiles. A cambio, el proyecto generaría solamente cerca de 200 puestos de trabajo para toda la región y apenas ocho toneladas de oro para el beneficio de la empresa privada."

Más aterrador aún, al igual que el Jardín del Edén, el Arroyo La Junta está delimitado por ríos y sus afluentes se encuentran a lo largo de la división de dos cuencas. La cresta justo al norte del Arroyo La Junta demarca el límite donde el agua fluye hacia la cuenca de La Paz y que termina en el Golfo de California. Mientras que el propio Arroyo La Junta fluye hacia Todos Santos y desemboca en el Océano Pacífico. Como escribe Exequiel, "El proyecto minero Los Cardones... planea extraer oro en la cabecera de la cuenca de La Paz tratando la roca extraída con toneladas de cianuro, con una cantidad suficiente para matar a toda la población de México." Todo el mundo en la península sabe que un gran huracán por si solo podría provocar un desastre liberando proporciones incalculables de sustancias del sitio minero—algo que ya ha sucedido en Sonora.

Por supuesto, el agua es la fuente misma de la increíble biodiversidad de Arroyo La Junta. Los organismos acuáticos que el agua sostiene, atraen a una gran variedad de depredadores como son aves, murciélagos y arañas; y el gran número de insectos atrae a reptiles y anfibios como las ranas, que a su vez atraen a depredadores más grandes como los mapaches y los coyotes. El arroyo no es solamente una fuente de agua potable para muchas de estas especies, constituye la base real de la biodiversidad regional. El aire húmedo y las zonas húmedas extienden el período activo de muchas especies, la mayoría especialmente reptiles, BIODIVERSIDAD continúa en página 50



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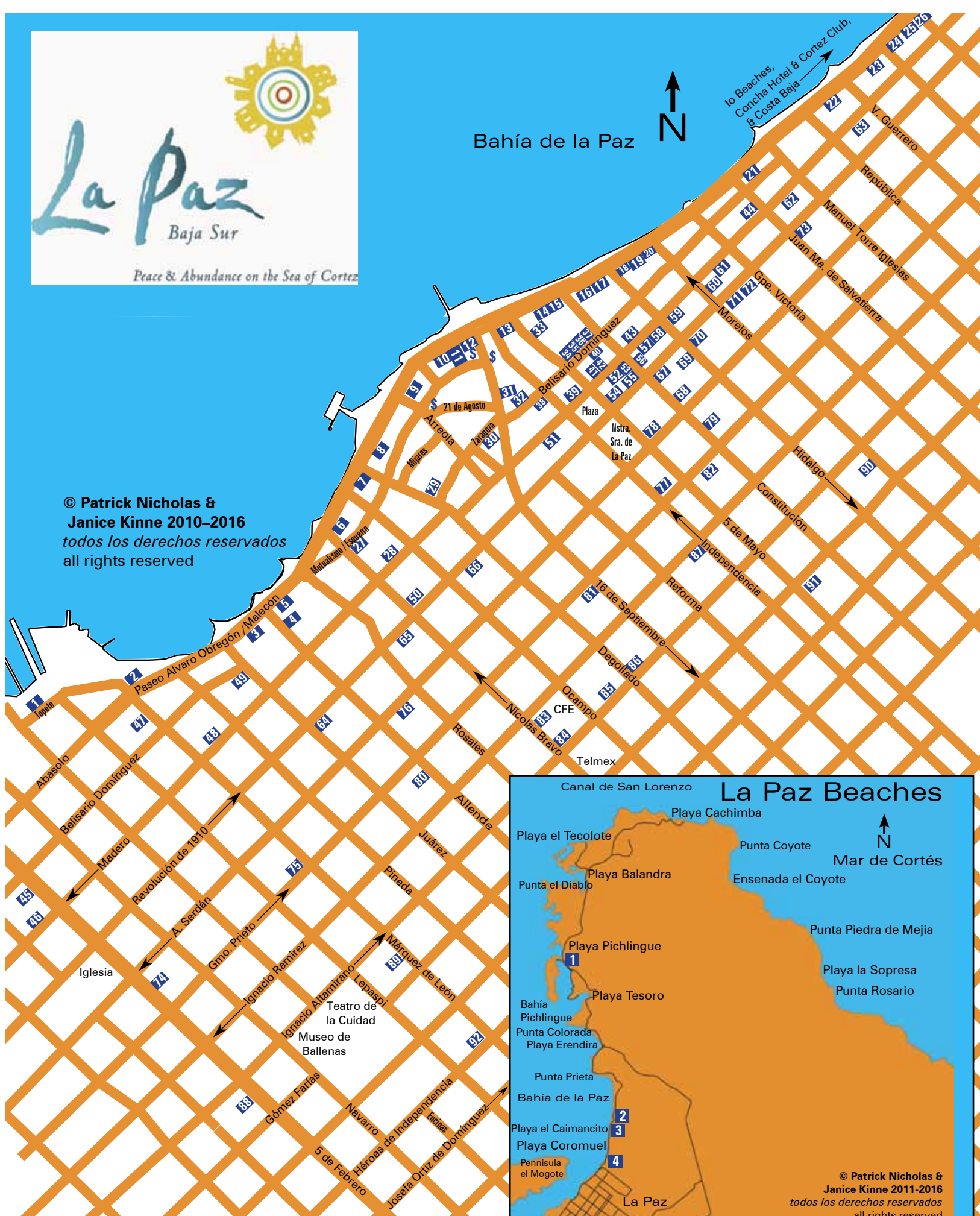


Bahía de la Paz



to Beaches,
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La Paz Beaches

by Janice Kinne

photo: Keenan Shoal

The *malecón* along the bay of La Paz is the perfect place to walk, run, people watch or enjoy gazing across the water. Crews clean the beaches and walkways daily, fresh sand has been imported and there are *palapas* to offer shade. Locals and tourists visit the beaches north of downtown to swim, snorkel, or kayak. There are several adventure companies along the *malecón* and at the marinas offering panga rides, bay and island cruises, snorkeling, scuba diving, fishing, sailing and kayak rentals.

EL MOGOTÉ is the spit of land that separates the harbor of La Paz from the *Bahía de La Paz*. This natural treasure used to be, for the most part, accessible only with 4WD. Now driving onto the peninsula is restricted due to the construction of golf courses, homes and hotels.

PLAYA EL COROMUEL 4.5 km from downtown La Paz, is the first beach north of town and an easy walk from downtown. It is within the harbor boundaries, has shaded *palapas* and food / beverage services. The water here gets much better flow with the tide change and is suitable for swimming. The bottom is clean sand and rock. Snorkeling is good further out.

PLAYA EL TESORO 13 km from downtown La Paz, is a great little beach for children. The shallow, clear waters allow you to walk out for close to 100 meters. Tesoro has about 25 shaded *palapas*, two small restaurants and kayak rentals.

PICHILINGUE 19 km from downtown La Paz. Pichilingue is home to the La Paz ferry terminus and a large commercial harbor. There are pleasant, small beaches just north of the deep water port, on the *Vieja Bahía de Pichilingue*. Beachfront food and beverages service and kayak rentals are available and there is a restaurant with an upstairs view. The *palapa* bar is popular in the hot summer afternoons.

PLAYA BALANDRA 23 km from downtown La Paz, is known for its famous balancing rock formation landmark that resembles a prehistoric mushroom. You can view the rock formation and *playa El Hongo* by walking in the water around the cliff to your right. The large beach and surrounding area are beautiful. The waters surrounding Balandra are shallow and safe for children. Sheltered from wave action from nearly every direction, the water warms early and is very safe for swimmers and kayaking. There are also several little beaches (coves) and mangroves to explore. The beach has no services, so pack your own lunches and drinks for the day. There are vendors renting chairs, selling fruit and drinks, beach *palapas* for shade and BBQ pits to the south.

PLAYA EL TECOLOTE 26 km from downtown La Paz, is by far the largest and most visited beach in La Paz. Two restaurant/bars offer shade *palapas* and a large number of beach vendors offer refreshments. RV camping is available, along with a wide variety of water sports rentals. Usually there are no lifeguards on duty, but they may be present during *la semana santa* and in the summer. The beach has a beautiful view of Isla Espíritu Santo and panga rides to the island are available—a 6.5 km crossing through the San Lorenzo channel. Bus service from the station on the *malecón* to *playa El Tecolote* is available for a nominal charge.

Sting rays are the biggest hazard at the playas and tend to be present on the bottom in shallow waters during the summer. When walking in the water, shuffle your feet on the bottom to avoid stepping directly on a resting ray.

There are no restrictions for beach fishing at any beaches. Please respect our beaches and help protect the sea turtles; don't leave trash or drive on the dunes or beaches.



Anne Hebebrand

Galeria de Todos Santos
Todos Santos



San José del Cabo

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SEPTEMBER

- 2nd New moon visible, with Jupiter just below and Venus close above and to the left.
- 8th Moon close to Saturn from sunset until moonset at 11:30 pm.
- 22nd Equinox when we pass through the Sun's equatorial plane at 8:21 am.
- 29th Waning crescent moon rises at 5 am with Mercury just above.

For more information, check out the web links below, call me on my cell phone (612) 348-5468, or visit my office in Plaza Antigua—upstairs, unit #9—**Pescadero Properties**, #16 on the Todos Santos map.

LINKS OF INTEREST

- COMETS: <http://www.aerith.net/index.html>
- TROPIC OF CANCER: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Axial_tilt#values or http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Circle_of_latitude
- ZODIACAL LIGHT: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zodiacal_light
- TIME: <http://www.time.gov/> and <http://www.worldtimeserver.com/>
- SATELLITES: <http://www.heavens-above.com/> user "elcielots" password "journal"
- WEEKLY SKY REPORT: <http://www.griffithobs.org/skyreport.html> or http://www.space.com/spacewatch/sky_calendar.html
- SATURN: <http://saturn.jpl.nasa.gov/home/index.cfm>
- ROSETTA: <http://sci.esa.int/rosetta/>
- DAWN: <http://dawn.jpl.nasa.gov/>
- NEW HORIZONS: http://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/newhorizons/main/
- ALL THINGS ASTRONOMICAL: <http://www.calsky.com> User "todossantos" password "journal"

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junio

3 de junio | 5 - 8 pm, **SÚPER CLASE DE YOGA**, calle #1810 Querétaro esquina Yucatán, en La Paz. Para más información llame a Mayra Torres (612) 131-7564.

5 de junio | 9:30 am a 12:30 pm, **III COMPETENCIA ANUAL DE SURF PARA PERROS** en la Playa Cerritos, a beneficio del rescate local de perros de Pescadero. Para más información llame al: (612) 142-5038; o contáctenos en <http://dogsurfcompcerritos.com>, <https://www.facebook.com/DogSurfCompCerritos> o info@dogsurfcompcerritos.com

7 al 12 de junio | **LOS CABOS OPEN OF SURF**

17 y 18 de junio | **SERIE DE CHEFS INVITADOS** en **Rancho Pescadero** con el Chef Joseph Centeno de L.A. Clase de cocina el viernes (\$70 dólares por persona) y cena especial (\$100 dólares por persona) a cargo de un chef invitado la noche del sábado. Más información en: www.ranchopescadero.com, reservaciones: rancho1@ranchopescadero.com o llame al (910) 300-8891.

19 de junio | **DÍA DEL PADRE**

20 de junio | **SOLSTICIO DE VERANO**

julio

1 de julio | 5 - 8 pm, **SÚPER CLASE DE YOGA**, calle #1810 Querétaro esquina Yucatán, en La Paz. Para más información llame a Mayra Torres (612) 131-7564.

4 de julio | **INDEPENDENCIA DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS**

22 y 23 de julio | **SERIE DE CHEFS INVITADOS** en **Rancho Pescadero** con el Chef Jason Fox de San Francisco, California, Clase de cocina el viernes (\$70 dólares por persona) y cena especial (\$100 dólares por persona) a cargo de un chef invitado la noche del sábado. Más información en: www.ranchopescadero.com, reservaciones: rancho1@ranchopescadero.com o llame al (910) 300-8891.

30 de julio al 1 de agosto | **IX FESTIVAL DEL MANGO Y FIESTAS DE SAN IGNACIO** en Todos Santos con una cabalgata, festival gastronómico artesanal del mango, un concurso de elaboración de "El Mejor Mángate", torneo de fútbol infantil, carrera ciclista, manifestaciones religiosas, entrega de árboles de mango, la coronación de la reina y un programa artístico que contempla bailes

populares, danza folclórica y presentación de artistas locales.

agosto

5 de agosto | 5 - 8 pm, **SÚPER CLASE DE YOGA**, calle #1810 Querétaro esquina Yucatán, en La Paz. Para más información llame a Mayra Torres (612) 131-7564.

septiembre

2 de septiembre | 5 - 8 pm, **SÚPER CLASE DE YOGA**, calle #1810 Querétaro esquina Yucatán, en La Paz. Para más información llame a Mayra Torres (612) 131-7564.

5 de septiembre | **DÍA DEL TRABAJADOR EN EUA**

16 de septiembre | **DÍA DE LA INDEPENDENCIA DE MÉXICO**

22 de septiembre | **EQUINOCCIO DE OTOÑO**

octubre

7 de octubre | 5 - 8 pm, **SÚPER CLASE DE YOGA**, calle #1810 Querétaro esquina Yucatán, en La Paz. Para más información llame a Mayra Torres (612) 131-7564.

8 al 12 de octubre | **FIESTAS PA-**

TRONALES DE TODOS SANTOS

10 de octubre | **DÍA DE LA RAZA**

30 de octubre | **CAMBIO DE HORARIO EN MÉXICO**

30 de octubre | **TRIATLÓN "IRON-MAN" 2016 LOS CABOS**

31 de octubre | **NOCHE DE BRUJAS / HALLOWEEN**

noviembre

2 de noviembre | **DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS**

6 de noviembre | **CAMBIO DE HORARIO EN EEUU**

2017

febrero

11 y 12 de febrero | 10 am a 4 pm, **8º RECORRIDO ANUAL DE ESTUDIOS DE ARTISTAS**. Un fin de semana lleno de arte, donde los artistas de Todos Santos abren las puertas de sus estudios en beneficio del programa de arte para niños, organizado por la Sociedad de la Palapa de Todos Santos A.C. Para más información: <http://www.facebook.com/OpenStudiosTour/> o contactar: annehebebrand@gmail.com

HORA FELIZ

Cerritos Beach Inn, Lu Mar Mler Ju Vi 4 a 6 pm, Cerveza, vino y well drinks mitad de precio.

Chez Laura, **Do Mler Ju Vi Sa 1 a 5 pm**, vino y tapas 65 pesos.

Chill N Grill, Lu Mar Mler Ju Vi 4 a 6 pm, 2x1 cerveza y well drinks.

Dana's Diner y Cantina **Mler Ju Vi Sa 4 a 7 pm**, \$25 peso cerveza, \$50 peso margaritas y \$40 peso well drinks.

FreeSouls **Do Lu Mar Mler Ju Vi Sa 5 a 6 pm**, margaritas, mojitos, y cerveza especiales.

Gallo Azul, Lu Mar Mler Vi Sa 3 a 6 pm, 2x1 mojitos y margaritas.

Hotel Casa Tota, **Lu Mar Mler Ju Vi Sa 3 a 6 pm**, 2x1 cerveza y well drinks.

La Esquina Lu Mar Mler Ju Vi Sa 5 a 6 pm, 2x1 cerveza, vino y margaritas.

La Generala, Do Lu Mar Mler Ju Vi Sa 8 am a 10 pm, 2x1 margaritas.

La Morena Lu Mar Mler Ju Vi Sa 4 a 6 pm

Shut Up Frank's **Lu Mler Ju Vi 1 a 5 pm**, 2x1 cerveza y bebidas nacionales \$40 pesos.

Rip Tide Bar Do Lu Mar Mler Ju Vi Sa 3 cervezas o margaritas por el precio de 2, hasta el primer de noviembre.

Sky Lounge en **Guaycura Boutique Hotel Do Lu Mar Mler Ju Vi Sa 2 a 5 pm**, 2 x 1 margaritas y cerveza.

Cada Semana

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domingo

9 am a 3 pm, **PUESTO DE PRODUCTOS ORGÁNICOS** del Rancho Buen Día en el callejón de Todos Santos.

10:30 am a 12 pm, **MÚSICA EN VIVO** con "Todos Santos Latin Band" en Flora Farm en San José del Cabo.

2 a 8 pm, **DOMINGO DE PAELLA** en el restaurante **El Mirador** con vista al mar.

5 a 8 pm, **MÚSICA EN VIVO** con "Guitarras Tapatias" en el restaurante **El Mirador** con vista al mar.

CENA "SURF AND TURF," bistec y camarón acompañados de una ensalada verde y papa al horno, \$350 pesos / \$20 dólares en el hotel **Cerritos Beach Inn** en Pescadero.

lunes

9 am a 5:30 pm, **PUESTO DE PRODUCTOS ORGÁNICOS** del Rancho Buen Día en el callejón de Todos Santos.

9:30 am a 3 pm, **PESCADERO ORGÁNICOS** en el callejón, #35 en el mapa del otro lado de Todos Santos.

5 a 8 pm, **DEGUSTACIÓN DE VINOS DE BAJA** en **La Bodega de Todos Santos**. Sirve una selección de tres vinos diferentes de Baja y comida Mexicana de **Restaurante Mi Pueblito**.

5 a 9 pm, **TODA LA PIZZA QUE PUEDAS COMER** \$150 pesos con una cerveza o refresco. Vino es extra en el **Cerritos Beach Inn** en Pescadero.

PASTEL DE CARNE servido con puré de papas, salsa estilo gravy y ejotes con tocino por \$120 pesos en Shut Up Frank's en Todos Santos.

martes

8:30 am a 1 pm, **EL MERCADO ORGÁNICO DE LA PAZ** en calle Madero entre 5 de Mayo y Constitución, La Paz.

9:30 am a 3 pm, **PESCADERO ORGÁNICOS** en el callejón, #35 en el mapa del otro lado de Todos Santos.

10:30 am a 5:30 pm, **PUESTO DE PRODUCTOS ORGÁNICOS** del Rancho Buen Día en el callejón de Todos Santos.

8 pm, **NOCHE DE PELÍCULAS** en **Gallo Azul** en Todos Santos.

7 pm, **NOCHE DE MICRÓFONO Y MARTES DE TACOS** en **Chill N Grill** en Todos Santos. 3 picadillo o tacos de papas por \$90 pesos.

miércoles

9 am a 5:30 pm, **PUESTO DE PRODUCTOS ORGÁNICOS** del Rancho Buen Día en el callejón de Todos Santos.

9:30 am a 3 pm, **PESCADERO ORGÁNICOS** en el callejón, #35 en el mapa del otro lado de Todos Santos.

CADA SEMANA continúa en página 47



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#146 ON TODOS SANTOS MAP



Baja Bookshelf

by Kat Bennett

Ever wondered what that fish you reeled in was? Or what was that pretty bird you saw at the beach? Or what kind of cactus it was that just shredded your ankles? Well—except for the shredded ankles—you’re in luck! There’s a book for that! Fish, birds, invertebrates, plants, geology... There’s a field guide for each.

Discovering the Geology of Baja California: Six Hikes on the Southern Gulf Coast by Markes E. Johnson

Geologist Markes Johnson has put together a wonderful book for anyone interested in the geology of the region. He begins by giving the reader the basics of geology, plus a little bit about the natural history of the area. However, instead of being dry and pedantic, he writes in a conversational manner directed at the layman. Following the introductory basics, Johnson outlines six hikes in the Punta Chivato area and tells the reader what types of geology might be seen on each hike. While the hikes he outlines are all in the same area, the geology he points out

on those hikes is representative of the entire region. Pick up a copy of *Discovering the Geology of Baja California*, take a few days, go for some stunning hikes around Punta Chivato, and revel in the geology and natural history of the peninsula.

Baja California Plant Field Guide by Jon P. Rebman and Norman C. Roberts

The *Baja California Plant Field Guide* has been a standard on Baja bookshelves for decades. Originally written by Norman C. Roberts, the current edition of the field guide has been expanded and updated by Jon P. Rebman, the Curator of Botany at the San Diego Natural History Museum. Dr. Rebman has an introductory section with information about the peninsula—the climate, the geology, the regions, and even a section on conservation. The plant identification sections are packed with great photos that make identification easy, along with detailed information about each plant. This field guide is a must-have, whether you’re just wandering around the neighborhood or whether you’re hiking in the desert. Either way, take the *Baja California Plant Field Guide* with you.

BAJA BOOKSHELF continued on page 54

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Cada Semana

continuó de página 45

miércoles cont.

5 a 8 pm **DEGUSTACIÓN DE VINOS DE BAJA** en La **Bodega de Todos Santos**. Sirve una selección de tres vinos diferentes de Baja y comida Mexicana de **Restaurante Mi Pueblito**.

6:30 a 9 pm, **MÚSICA EN VIVO** con "Balam Puente" en FreeSouls en Cerritos Beach.

jueves

8:30 am a 1 pm, **EL MERCADO ORGÁNICO DE LA PAZ** en calle Madero entre 5 de Mayo y Constitución, La Paz.

9 am a 5:30 pm, **PUESTO DE PRODUCTOS ORGÁNICOS** del Rancho Buen Día en el callejón de Todos Santos.

9:30 am a 3 pm, **PESCADERO ORGÁNICOS** en el callejón, #35 en el mapa del otro lado de Todos Santos.

3 a 6 pm, **2 X 1 PIZZAS** en **Gallo Azul** en Todos Santos.

5 a 9 pm, **CAMINATA DEL ARTE** en San José del Cabo, en el distrito de las galerías. Todas las galerías que participan estarán abiertas hasta las 9 pm y muchas tienen recepciones y eventos especiales. Hasta el fin de Junio.

6 a 9 pm, **MÚSICA EN VIVO** en el Garden Restaurant en **Rancho Pescadero** en el Pescadero.

6:30 a 9 pm, **MÚSICA EN VIVO** con "Balam Puente" en FreeSouls en Cerritos Beach.

POLLO FRITO SUREÑO hecho con la receta secreta de la familia Brown, servido con puré de papas, salsa estilo gravy y ejotes con tocino por \$120 pesos en Shut Up Frank's en Todos Santos.

viernes

9 am a 5:30 pm, **PUESTO DE PRODUCTOS ORGÁNICOS** del Rancho Buen Día en el callejón de Todos Santos.

9:30 am a 3 pm, **PESCADERO ORGÁNICOS** en el callejón, #35 en el mapa del otro lado de Todos Santos.

5 a 8 pm, **MÚSICA EN VIVO** con "Balam Puente" en el restaurante **El Mirador** con vista al mar.

6 a 9 pm, **MÚSICA EN VIVO** en el Garden Restaurant en **Rancho Pescadero** en el Pescadero.

7 a 10 pm, **MÚSICA EN VIVO** en The Todos Santos Inn.

CENA "SURF AND TURF," bistec y camarón acompañados de una ensalada verde y papa al horno, \$350 pesos / \$20 dólares en el hotel **Cerritos Beach Inn** en Pescadero.

ESPECIAL DE COSTILLA con papa al horno y vegetales salteados en Shut Up Frank's en Todos Santos.

KARAOKE Y MIC ABIERTO en Dana's Diner en el Pescadero. Para más información, llame (624) 141-6336.

sábado

8:30 am a 1 pm, **EL MERCADO ORGÁNICO DE LA PAZ** en calle Madero entre 5 de Mayo y Constitución, La Paz.

9 am a 5:30 pm, **PUESTO DE PRODUCTOS ORGÁNICOS** del Rancho Buen Día en el callejón de Todos Santos.

CADA SEMANA continúa en página 48



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Voces

continued from page 33

condominiums for sale or rent just steps from the Cerritos Beach.

Check out the summer happenings at **Cerritos Beach Inn**, August 1st to October 1st: \$99 for any room, daily food and drink specials on burgers, hot dogs, steaks, chicken and shrimp. Cool down in their pool and relax on the loungers!

Desert Moon Cerritos Beach Hotel is offering local discount rates AND 3 for the price of 2 beers or margaritas all day, every day in the **Rip Tide Bar** through November 1st.

Hotelito in La Cachora, Todos Santos, **Serendipity** on the 'otro lado,' **Hacienda Todos Los Santos** in downtown Todos Santos and **Rancho Pescadero** also offer special summer rates from June to September.

Como El Sol in Pescadero, offering solar energy products, has moved to a new location. They can be found on the road heading to downtown Pescadero across from Romex.

Certified yoga instructor, **Mayra Torres**, teaches yoga classes at **Baja Serena** / Los Arcos in Pescadero. She offers special monthly pricing if you sign up for 3 or 5 classes per week.

People are raving about the whole house water treatment systems from **Water Ways Baja**. Now you can have safe, healthy drinking water throughout your home, or just at your kitchen sink.

Summer is also a great time to check out the waves in San Juanico, Baja California Sur. **La Oficina** can help you with vacation rentals, real estate and construction services.

Do you miss your **Baja Beans Roasting Company** fresh roasted coffee when you're not in Baja? You can order beans on Amazon to be shipped in Canada and the USA!

Chill N Grill in Todos Santos will be open all summer long and also on Sundays starting September 11 for regular season NFL games.

Core Yoga will return to Cuatro Vientos Thursdays, starting in October. Many instructors take vacations between July and September, so be sure to check with them on their summer class schedules.

We hope that you enjoy your summertime in Baja California Sur! We'll be back with our Fall issue of **Journal del Pacífico**. Deadline is September 19.



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Cada Semana

continuó de página 47

sábado cont.

9 am a 3 pm, **EL MERCADO ORGÁNICO** en San José del Cabo está ligeramente afuera del distrito de arte histórico en la Huerta María en el Camino a las Ánimas. Hasta el fin de Junio.

9 am a 1 pm, **TIANGUIS NATURAL MALECÓN** (Mercado) en el Callejon Cabezud es en La Paz—el área entre calle Esquerro y el Malecón ubicado en el mural Wyland y la escultura del músico tocando el caracol.

9:30 am a 3 pm, **PESCADERO ORGÁNICOS** en el callejon, #35 en el mapa del otro lado de Todos Santos.

CENA "SURF AND TURF," bistec y camarón acompañados de una ensalada verde y papa al horno, \$350 pesos / \$20 dólares en el hotel **Cerritos Beach Inn** en Pescadero.

ESPECIAL DE RIBEYE con espárragos en Shut Up Frank's en Todos Santos.

6 a 9 pm, **MÚSICA EN VIVO** en el Garden Restaurant en **Rancho Pescadero** en el Pescadero.

7 a 10 pm, **MÚSICA EN VIVO** con "Todos Santos Latin Band" en el Sky Lounge en **Hotel Guaycura**.

7 a 10 pm, **MÚSICA EN VIVO** con "Balam Puente" en el Hotel Casa Tota.

MÚSICA ROCK EN VIVO en **Mi Pueblito 3** en Pescadero.

8 pm, **MÚSICA EN VIVO** en el restaurante **Chill N Grill** en Todos Santos. Para más información, llame al (612) 199-2938.

MÚSICA EN VIVO PARA BAILAR en Dana's Diner en el Pescadero. Para más información, llame (624) 141-6336.

Dialing to Mexico Land Lines from the U.S. or Canada

The Country Code for Mexico is 52. To dial Mexico you follow the normal international dialing procedures.

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Dialing to Mexican Cell Phones from the U.S. or Canada

In order to let you know that you are calling a Mexican cell phone you must dial an extra digit when calling. You dial the digit 1 after the country code, and before the area code.

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Weekly Events

continued from page 23

Mexican appetizers by **Restaurant Mi Pueblito**.

6:30 - 9 pm, **LIVE MUSIC** with "Balam Puente" at FreeSouls at Cerritos Beach.

thursday

8:30 am – 1 pm, **LA PAZ FARMER'S MARKET** on calle Madero between 5 de Mayo and Constitución, La Paz.

9 am – 5:30 pm, **ORGANIC VEGETABLES** at Rancho Buen Día in the *callejon* of Todos Santos.

9:30 am – 3 pm, **PESCADERO ORGANICS** in the callejon, #35 on the *otro lado* map, Todos Santos.

3 – 6 pm, **PIZZA 2 X 1** en el **Gallo Azul** en Todos Santos.

5 – 9 pm, **ARTWALK** in the San José del Cabo Gallery District. Continues through June.

6 – 9 pm, **LIVE DINNER MUSIC** at the Garden Restaurant at **Rancho Pescadero** in Pescadero.

6:30 – 9 pm, **LIVE MUSIC** with "Balam Puente" at FreeSouls at Cerritos Beach.

SECRET BROWN FAMILY RECIPE SOUTHERN FRIED CHICKEN with mashed potatoes and gravy and green beans and bacon for 120 pesos at Shut Up Frank's in Todos Santos.

friday

9 am – 5:30 pm, **ORGANIC VEGETABLES** at Rancho Buen Día in the *callejon* of Todos Santos.

9:30 am – 3 pm, **PESCADERO ORGANICS** in the callejon, #35 on the *otro lado* map, Todos Santos.

PRIME RIB SPECIAL with baked potato and sautéed vegetables at Shut Up Frank's in Todos Santos.

5 – 8 pm, **LIVE MUSIC** with "Balam Puente" at **El Mirador Ocean View Restaurant** in Todos Santos.

6 – 9 pm, **LIVE DINNER MUSIC** at the Garden Restaurant at **Rancho Pescadero** in Pescadero.

7 – 10 pm, **LIVE MUSIC** at The Todos Santos Inn.

SURF AND TURF DINNER, steak and shrimp scampi served with green salad and baked potato 350 pesos / \$20 usd at **Cerritos Beach Inn** in Pescadero.

KARAOKE & OPEN MIC at Dana's Diner in Pescadero. Call for more information (624) 141-6336.

PRIME RIB DINNER with baked potato and salad at Shut Up Frank's in Todos Santos.

saturday

8:30 am – 1 pm, **LA PAZ FARMER'S MARKET** on calle Madero between 5 de Mayo and Constitución, La Paz.

9 am – 1 pm, **MALECÓN TIANGUIS NATURAL (MARKET)** at the Callejon Cabezud in La Paz—the area between Esquerro street and the *malecón* at the location of the Wyland mural and the seashell musician statue.

9 am – 3 pm, **SAN JOSÉ DEL CABO ORGANIC MARKET** (Mercado Organico) just outside the San José historic district in Huerta Maria on the Camino a Las Animas. Look for the signs at the big arroyo off Avenida Centenario. Takes place through the end of June.

9 am – 5:30 pm, **ORGANIC VEGETABLES** at Rancho Buen Día in the *callejon* of Todos Santos.

9:30 am – 3 pm, **PESCADERO ORGANICS** in the *callejon*, #34 on the *otro lado* map, Todos Santos.

SURF AND TURF DINNER, steak and shrimp scampi served with green salad and baked potato 350 pesos / \$20 usd at **Cerritos Beach Inn** in Pescadero.

RIBEYE STEAK SPECIAL with crab asparagus at Shut Up Frank's in Todos Santos.

6 – 9 pm, **LIVE DINNER MUSIC** at the Garden Restaurant at **Rancho Pescadero** in Pescadero.

7 – 10 pm, **Live Music** with the "Todos Santos Latin Band" at the Sky Lounge in **Hotel Guaycura**.

7 – 10 pm, **LIVE MUSIC** with "Balam Puente" at Hotel Casa Tota.

8 – 11 pm, **LIVE MUSIC** at **Chill N Grill** in Todos Santos. Call (612) 199-2938 for more information.

LIVE ROCK MUSIC at **Mi Pueblito 3** in Pescadero.

LIVE DANCE BAND at Dana's Diner in Pescadero. Call for more information (624) 141-6336.

Events

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to benefit the Palapa Society of Todos Santos A.C. children's art program. For more information: <https://www.facebook.com/OpenStudios-Tour/> or contact: annehebebrand@gmail.com

Mi Pueblito 3 now open in Pescadero! #28 on Pesc. map

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Militar e/ Obregon é Hidalgo, Todos Santos, #81 on map

Pool in tributary to Arroyo La Junta.
Piscina en afluente del Arroyo La Junta.
Foto: Ben Wilder



una empresa llega a emprender un proyecto en un área protegida, el gobierno quiere saber si el proyecto es compatible con la misión de esa área. En este caso, el área protegida es la Reserva de la Biosfera Sierra La Laguna, y la misión de la CONANP es proteger su biodiversidad para las futuras generaciones. Los resultados de este estudio confirman que la minería es incompatible con esa misión. La empresa minera dice que puede restaurar todo como estaba después de que se excaven estos enormes agujeros en

Baja California Sur Tree frogs
Ranas de árbol
Foto: Michael Bogan



Biodiversidad

continuó de página 39

lo cual significa que pueden ampliar sus funciones en los ecosistemas durante un tiempo más largo del año.

CONANP discutió los resultados del estudio. "Cuando

la tierra, pero este estudio demuestra que la restauración sería extremadamente difícil, si no imposible." Ben es aun más directo. "Los números de biodiversidad de la MIA (manifestación de impacto ambiental) de la compañía minera ni siquiera se acercan a lo que hemos documentado. La restauración a lo que vemos hoy, después de 10 años de explotación minera sería imposible." Exequiel concuerda. "...Queremos recordar una vez más, la extinción es para siempre; nuestros hijos nunca serán capaces de ver las especies que nuestra generación empuja al olvido."

Abogados, armas y dinero. En algunos casos estas herramientas aportan claridad, pero en otros se emplean para ofuscar, intimidar y quitar obstáculos. Y ahí es donde radica la belleza del estudio N-Gen—es puro, claro como el cristal y sencillamente ciencia. Cada hecho está totalmente documentado y no es objeto de controversia. Y el momento no podría ser mejor, ahora existe un precedente de como instituciones científicas establecen parámetros ambientales para operaciones mineras. El 8 de febrero del 2016 la Corte Constitucional de Colombia derogó el artículo 51 del Plan Nacional de Desarrollo que había permitido a la Autoridad en Licencias Ambientales autorizar los proyectos

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de minería en los páramos andinos, ecosistemas alpinos tropicales. Se ordenó al Ministerio de Medio Ambiente usar el mapa creado por un instituto de investigación científica, el Instituto Alexander von Humboldt, como base para la demarcación de los límites del hábitat de páramo. Como escribe Exequiel, "Esta fue la primera vez que un país puso de manera explícita, el derecho humano a una fuente de agua potable por encima de los intereses de las grandes empresas mineras. También fue la primera vez que una nación haya dado tanta importancia a un instituto de investigación científica en el proceso de la toma de decisiones."

El Arroyo La Junta se encuentra en la parte de las sierras que fue designada como Reserva de la Biosfera por el gobierno mexicano en 1994 y por la UNESCO en 2003. Por lo tanto el valor del área ha sido por largo tiempo sospechado, pero ahora, debido a la inspiración del equipo de la CONANP para traer el poderoso grupo de estrellas científicas que es la red N-Gen, la verdadera riqueza natural de la zona, finalmente se ha documentado y todos los jugadores saben exactamente lo que está en juego: "Cientos de especies, muchas de ellas raras y endémicas y otras nuevas para la ciencia o por describirse." La increíblemente alta tasa de endemismo es el resultado del aislamiento extremo que disfrutaron las sierras por posiblemente millones de años. Es el patrimonio natural de la nación mexicana y la fuente misma de la vida para los habitantes de la península de Baja California. Algo que ni todo el oro, todos los abogados ni todas las armas de fuego en el mundo podrán remplazar. Los botánicos nos enseñaron eso.

El Estudio será publicado en junio del 2016 y usted lo podrá encontrar en la página web de la N-Gen, www.nextgensd.com.

Todos Santos Eco Adventures maneja caminatas y programas culturales en La Sierra de La Laguna Reserva de la Biosfera, trabajando con rancharos locales y sus familias. Para mayor información por favor visite el sitio www.TOSEA.net

Hallazgos, Instituciones y cita:

Grupo	No. Taxones	Endémicos	En la Lista de Especies en Riesgo, NOM-059
Plantas	381	77	2
Insectos	366	15	0
Reptiles y Anfibios	24	6	16
Mamíferos	29	3	2
Aves	77	6	9
TOTAL	877	107	29

INSTITUCIONES MEXICANAS	INSTITUCIONES DE EEUU
@Lab	Instituto de Investigación Botánica de Texas
CIBNOR	Next Generation Sonoran Desert Researchers
CICESE	Museo de Historia Natural Orma J. Smith, The College of Idaho
CICESE, Unidad La Paz	Museo de Historia Natural, San Diego
CONANP	Universidad de San Diego
Fauna del Noroeste	San Diego Zoo Global
Niparja	Sky Island Alliance
Rancho Agua de En medio	Universidad de Arizona
Terra Peninsular	Universidad de California, Santa Cruz
University of Guadalajara	

Vanderplank S, BT Wilder, E Ezcurra. 2016. Arroyo la Junta: Una joya de biodiversidad en la Reserva de la Biosfera Sierra La Laguna / A biodiversity jewel in the Sierra La Laguna Biosphere Reserve. Botanical Research Institute of Texas, Next Generation Sonoran Desert Researchers, & UC MEXUS. 159 pg.



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groups

grupos

TODOS SANTOS	Sunday Domingo	Monday Lunes	Tuesday Martes	Wednesday Miércoles	Thursday Jueves	Friday Viernes	Saturday Sábado
Yoga	All classes at Cuatro Vientos are noted as @ CV and most are 100 pesos. (The studio is across from La Esquina, #11 on otro lado map).	9-10:15 am Hatha Flow c/ Marimar @ CV	7:30-8:45 am Vinyasa Flow c/ Liz @ CV 7:30-9pm Yoga Conciencia w/ Lyobáá @ CV	9-10:15 am Hatha Flow c/ Marimar @ CV	7:30-8:45 am Vinyasa Flow c/ Liz @ CV 7:30-9pm Yoga Conciencia w/ Lyobáá @ CV	9-10:15 am Hatha Flow c/ Marimar @ CV	
Martial Arts		3 - 4:15 pm Yang Michuan Tai Chi c/ Steve @ CV	10:30-11:45am Ta'i Chi short form @ CV 612-157-6088 or barakabaja@gmail.com (call or email to check summer schedule)		10:30-11:45am Qi Gong / @ CV 612-157-6088 or barakabaja@gmail.com (call or email to check summer schedule)		
Other/Otros	10-11:30am Dharma talks c/ Robert K. Hall @ CV (no talks in August or September) <i>El primer domingo de cada mes, la plática sobre meditación y lo que el Buda dice sobre la vida y la tranquilidad del espíritu es traducida al español por Elena Ascencio.</i>	4:30-6 pm Dance Lab c/ Zoë @ CV (no classes in July) 6-7:30 pm Capoeira c/ Diana @ CV 6:30 pm Cross Training w/ Mao @ San Sebastian beach by donation mauricio@mymotivation.es	3:30-5:30 pm Manos Magicas @ Centro Cultural chambarecat@mac.com 6-7:30 pm Capoeira c/ Diana @ CV	10:30am-12pm YAMUNA foot fitness and body rolling Camino del Pacifico 100 pesos info@estudiobaja.com (through June) 1-3 pm Art Journal Lab c/ Zoë @ CV 200 pesos zoe@cultivatecreativity.net (612) 105-0056 (no classes in July) 4:30-6 pm Dance Lab c/ Zoë @ CV (no classes in July) 6:30 pm Cross Training w/ Mao @ San Sebastian beach mauricio@mymotivation.es	9 am Drawing class c/ Tori oscarntori@yahoo.com 10:30am-12pm YAMUNA foot fitness and body rolling Camino del Pacifico 100 pesos info@estudiobaja.com (through June) 6-7:30 pm Capoeira c/ Diana @ CV	3 - 4 pm Danza Hawaiana para niñas c/ Malucha @ CV 4 - 5:45pm Danza Hawaiana c/ Malucha @ CV 6-7:30 pm Core c/ Mao @ CV mauricio@mymotivation.es	

groups

grupos

TODOS SANTOS	Sunday Domingo	Monday Lunes	Tuesday Martes	Wednesday Miércoles	Thursday Jueves	Friday Viernes	Saturday Sábado
Zumba		10-11 am c/ "Lucy" @ Mutualista 7-8 pm c/ "Lucy" @ DIF	8-9 am c/ "Lucy" @ Mutualista 9-10 am c/ Jan @ CV 612-348-1111 Facebook\Todos Santos Zumba with Jan 7-8 pm c/ "Lucy" @ DIF	10-11am c/ "Lucy" @ Mutualista 7-8 pm c/ "Lucy" @ DIF	8-9 am c/ "Lucy" @ Mutualista 4:30-5:30 pm c/ Jan @ CV 612-348-1111 Facebook\Todos Santos Zumba with Jan 7-8 pm c/ "Lucy" @ DIF	10-11am c/ "Lucy" @ Mutualista 7-8 pm c/ "Lucy" @ DIF	8-9 am c/ "Lucy" @ Mutualista 9-10 am c/ Jan @ CV 612-348-1111 Facebook\Todos Santos Zumba with Jan 7-8 pm c/ "Lucy" @ DIF
Palapa Society		10am -1pm Library Open <i>Rincon de Cuentos</i>		10am -1pm Library Open <i>Rincon de Cuentos</i>		10am -1pm Library Open <i>Rincon de Cuentos</i>	
AA		5 pm AA meeting on calle Del Huerto by Aliser	5 pm AA meeting on calle Del Huerto by Aliser	11 am AA meeting on calle Del Huerto by Aliser	5 pm AA meeting on calle Del Huerto by Aliser	5 pm AA meeting on calle Del Huerto by Aliser	11 am AA meeting on calle Del Huerto by Aliser

AA CABO SAN LUCAS—AA Hacienda Group Cabo, upstairs above Ace Hardware behind McDonalds. Daily 4:30 pm and 6 pm.

SAN JOSÉ DEL CABO—Next to the Calvary Chapel corner of Degollado and Coronado. 6 pm nightly. For more information: (624) 147-0478.

PESCADERO	Sunday Domingo	Monday Lunes	Tuesday Martes	Wednesday Miércoles	Thursday Jueves	Friday Viernes	Saturday Sábado
Yoga	9:30 am Yoga @ Baja Zen 612-142-5038 info@baja-zen. com 10 am Yoga 100 pesos @ Rancho Pescadero	8-9 am Yoga c/ Mayra Torres @ Baja Serena 612-131-7564 yogalosarcos@ yahoo.com.mx 10-11 am Yoga c/ Mayra Torres @ Baja Serena 612-131-7564 yogalosarcos@ yahoo.com.mx 10 am Yoga 100 pesos @ Rancho Pescadero	8-9 am Yoga c/ Mayra Torres @ Baja Serena 612-131-7564 yogalosarcos@ yahoo.com.mx 9:30 am, Hatha Yoga c/ Paul Van Vleck @ Villa Cerritos 100 pesos. 10-11 am Yoga c/ Mayra Torres @ Baja Serena 612-131-7564 yogalosarcos@ yahoo.com.mx 10 am Yoga 100 pesos @ Rancho Pescadero	9 am Yoga @ Baja Zen 612-142-5038 info@baja-zen. com 8-9 am Yoga c/ Mayra Torres @ Baja Serena 612-131-7564 yogalosarcos@ yahoo.com.mx 10 am Yoga 100 pesos @ Rancho Pescadero	8-9 am Yoga c/ Mayra Torres @ Baja Serena 612-131-7564 yogalosarcos@ yahoo.com.mx 10-11 am Yoga c/ Mayra Torres @ Baja Serena \$150 pesos 612-131-7564 yogalosarcos@ yahoo.com.mx 10 am Yoga 100 pesos @ Rancho Pescadero	8-9 am Yoga c/ Mayra Torres @ Baja Serena 612-131-7564 yogalosarcos@ yahoo.com.mx 10 am Yoga 100 pesos @ Rancho Pescadero	9:30 am, Hatha Yoga c/ Paul Van Vleck @ Villa Cerritos under the Palapa. 100 pesos.

Baja Bookshelf

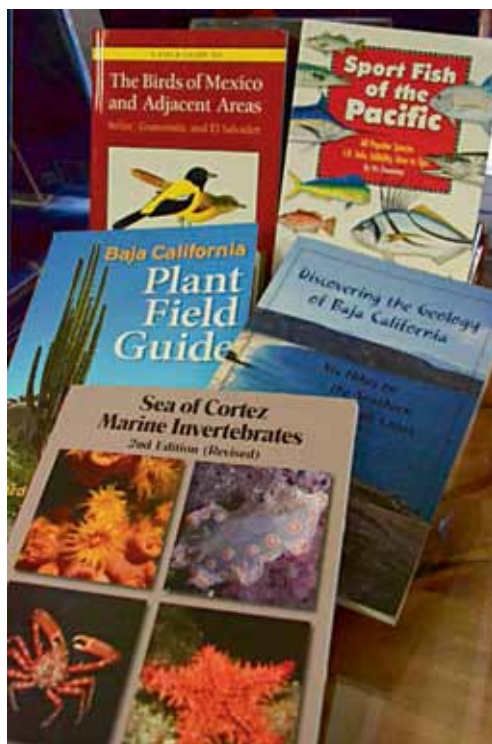
continued from page 46

Sport Fish of the Pacific by Vic Dunaway

For any fisherman out there, this book is an indispensable guide to identifying the sport fish of the area. Each fish in the guide is listed by its common name and its scientific name, as well as a list of other common names. Accompanied by beautiful illustrations making identification a snap, each entry also includes a description of the fish; its range; its size; its edibility; and what tackle, bait, and lures to use when looking for that particular species. The author even lets you know what to expect once you hook the fish—whether it is a strong fighter, a jumper, a diver, etc. While the guide is titled *Sport Fish of the Pacific*, many of the species in the guide are also found in the Sea of Cortez. Title be damned; take it with you fishing in the Sea of Cortez, too!

Sea of Cortez Marine Invertebrates by Alex Kerstitch and Hans Bertsch

The perfect guide to take to the beach with you. Whether you're checking out the tide pools, snorkeling off the beach, or wondering what the squishy thing you just stepped on



the right picture, and follow the listed page number to read more about the bird. Great illustrations, great info, great layout—an all-around great bird guide for either the Baja California peninsula or the interior of Mexico.

All above-mentioned books are available at Allende Books in La Paz and El Tecolote Bookstore in Todos Santos.

is, this book will help you identify the invertebrates you come across. Easy to use and with lots of well-done photographs, this is a great guide for figuring out exactly which nudibranch you did step on and which anemone you're glad you didn't step on.

The Birds of Mexico and Adjacent Areas by Ernest Preston Edwards

There are lots of field guides out there for birds of western North America, including the Baja California peninsula. And most of them are good. The really nice thing about *The Birds of Mexico and Adjacent Areas*, though, is that it covers all of Mexico, not just the peninsula. Also nice is that all the bird illustrations are together in the center of the book; so those of us who don't know a kestrel from a kite can easily thumb through the illustrations, find

Agua Aire Tierra y Fuego, S. de R. L. de C. V.



This 79.9 acre ranch (323,508 M²) is plumbed for drip or sprinklers with plenty of sweet water from the ranch well. The ranch has a large 2 bedroom remodeled house, 3 apartments and a large bodega with restroom facilities.

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"Casita" is located in Huerta Las Quintas. It is a great room with kitchen and fireplace, 2 bedrooms, one bath and a room for washer and dryer (which also can be another bathroom). The rear of the house has a big patio for outdoor cooking and relaxing. It is 130 m² on a lot of 800 m². It has beautiful new wall with electric gate. Has water and electricity. Plenty of room for expansion.



Rancho Colibrís. This organic ranch is 5.6 acres (22,380 M²). The ranch is cleaned w/ permit to farm. Water on property and electricity nearby. Currently a working organic farm near Pescadero.



Office complex and 3 apartments in Todos Santos central.
 3 room office with full bathroom. Large 2-bedroom apartment. Large 1-bedroom apartment. Large studio apartment. All completely remodeled with new bathrooms and kitchens. Walled with door & electric gate. Paved lot that can hold six cars. All utilities.



Pescadero parcel 100 yards from beach, next to Agave Hotel & Homes Development. This 4,555 M² corner lot is cleaned and has water and electricity. Can be subdivided. Room for a Hacienda type complex, small hotel or rentals.

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MLS # 16-898 Offered at \$449,000 USD



CASA LOS MANGOS. 3BR, 2 BA home on a 1,500 m² of landscaped property in Las Tunas. Plenty of garage space, fireplace, municipal and ejido water, irrigation system and completely walled. There are lots of extras in this well thought out home.
MLS # 16-11 Offered at \$349,000 USD



CASA VISTA DEL PACIFICO #4. Colonial style home with contemporary accents. Outdoor fireplace, laundry area and well equipped kitchen. Plenty of room to expand with over 1.25 acres. Parking for RV with hook ups.
MLS # 15-2325 Offered at \$299,000 USD



CASA LAS BRISAS. 2 story custom built home on a corner lot. Upgraded kitchen with stainless steel appliances and granite countertops. Panoramic views from second story bedroom and terrace.
MLS # 15-1633 Offered at \$259,000 USD



BEACHFRONT ESTATE/DEVELOPMENT PROPERTY. Residential lot of 104,052 sq.-ft. and 160 feet of Ocean frontage, 9,666.818 m² with just under 50 mt of Ocean frontage. Has two distinctive rises, great location & short walk to La Pastora Surf Break. *Special Summer Price*
MLS # 13-732 OFFERED AT \$599,000 USD



CERRITOS LA GAVIOTA LOT. A perfect 2000 m² Cerritos lot, walk to the beach in less than 5 minutes! Located in a fast growing neighborhood. Second story would offer amazing ocean and mountain views.
MLS# 15-1387 Offered at \$80,000 USD



PEARL OF LA POZA. Nestled in the quaint barrio of La Poza on the way to the fresh water Lagoon and beautiful Beaches. This 816 m² lot offers views of town, mountains and palms. Walk to town and beaches.
MLS # 16-616 Offered at \$35,000 USD



CERRITOS LOT 2354. 2000 m² elevated lot sits on a ridgeline featuring views overlooking both the point at Los Cerritos and the San Pedrito huerta. Short drive to either playa Pescadero and Cerritos.
MLS # 15-1385 Offered at \$39,000 USD



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