

## Project Update: May 2016

We conducted our first monitoring trips for the spring season. From April 18<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup> 2016, four survey trips were carried out. We spent 29 effort hours covering about 1,000 km. We registered 20 sightings along the Canal de Ballenas and the Bahia de los Angeles Bay and we sighted 53 individuals: 49 fin whales (*Balaenoptera physalus*), three humpback whales (*Megaptera novaeangliae*) and one blue whale (*Balaenoptera musculus*). Of the 49 fin whales we observed, 30 of them were photo-identified and two of them were recaptured from last year. The new individuals were added to our fin whale catalogue that now has 110 individuals. In addition, the observation of the blue whale was quite unusual because they usually distribute south in Loreto Bay, about 600 km from Bahia de los Angeles. Our next survey will be conducted at the end of May 2016 and we look forward to sighting more whales.



Local fisherman Jose Arce is our designated boat driver.



Fin whale in Bahia de los Angeles