



TRIP REPORT

June 13-16, 2012

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I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Baja Project team visited El Barril from June 13-16, 2012. The primary focus of the trip was to conduct the annual community health and energy survey, distribute and install the second round of solar panels, notify scholarship applicants of the team's decision, as well as advance other current projects. The team was able to accomplish all of its goals in a short period of time, and is excited to return in September for a longer stay.

The team's main objective for the trip was to visit each household in the community in order to conduct the annual community health and energy survey. This was the third year that the survey was conducted, and all of the consultants felt that they learned a lot about the community members through conducting the survey. Since the ban on shark fishing was just announced in the community two days prior our arrival, many of the fishermen were at home and were able to partake in the survey. The consultants felt that this provided us with a unique perspective because the fishermen provide the main source of income for their families and were therefore able to provide a lot of financial information that the females in the household are often unsure of. The team agreed that there are certain parts of the survey that need revision, but overall we are hopeful that the survey will be useful to future consultants who want to see how the community has changed and progressed over the years.

Prior to departing for the trip, consultants received the second round of solar panels to distribute to the ten remaining families who expressed interested in receiving one. The panels were donated by 20kWatts, however the team, in an effort to remain equitable, decided to charge the same amount as community members paid for the first round of panels (\$50USD or \$650 pesos). We distributed and helped install six of the panels to families who had money and were ready to pay, and the remaining panels were left with Luis to distribute when the families acquired the money. Don Toño, who was trained to help with installation when the last round of panels were distributed, agreed to help families again this time for a small fee. Overall, the families were very enthusiastic about the solar panels.

After deciding to institute a new iteration of the scholarship program and conducting interviews for applicants during the March 2012 trip, the team carefully reviewed all applications to reach a decision on recipients for the June 2012 trip. Recipients were chosen based off of need and grades primarily, but also an essay and an interview. During the trip, the team met with each of the nine applicants and provided them with a personalized letter informing them of our decision, as well as a book on a topic that they mentioned they were interested in during their interview. The three scholarship recipients for the coming year are David, Sergio, and Omar. All applicants were informed that the application cycle will open again next year.

Lastly, the team had productive meetings with members of Pronatura, who will be spending one week a month in the community to work with fishermen to help them

understand the new shark ban and develop strategies for finding new sources of income, as well as the mobile health clinic, who is now also visiting El Barril once a month.

Overall, the trip was short but incredibly productive. The community health survey provided the consultants with additional information that will be helpful in the future, and our objectives of distributing the solar panels and notifying scholarship recipients were met. The team is looking forward to a longer trip in September to continue to advance current and new projects.

II. INTRODUCTION & OBJECTIVES

The trip was the first that the four first-year consultants took on their own. While there were only four consultants on the trip and we were only in El Barril for two and a half days, the trip was very productive. The main objectives of the trip were to conduct the annual community health and energy survey, distribute the second round of solar panels, notify scholarship recipients, while following up on key projects like aquaculture and the community garden.

III. ITINERARY

June 13-16, 2012

Wednesday 6/13

7:00am Meet at Montgomery Field
7:45am Depart for El Barril
9:30am Stop in San Felipe
11:00am Arrive in El Barril
12:00pm Go to town, visit community garden, co-ops, advise about scholarships
6:00pm Meet with ProNatura
8:00pm Dinner/Reflection

Thursday 6/14

8:00am Breakfast/Morning meeting
9:30am Go to town, split up to administer health survey/distribute solar panels
8:00pm Dinner/Reflection

Friday 6/15

8:00am Breakfast/Morning meeting
9:30am Go to town, split up to administer health survey/distribute solar panels

5:00pm Health committee meeting to discuss progress of clinic

8:00pm Dinner/Reflection

Saturday 6/16

6:00am Depart for Guerrero Negro

10:30 am Depart for San Diego

2:30pm Arrive in San Diego

IV. FINDINGS

A. Water Resources and Purification

Summary of Prior Progress:

On the previous trip, the consultants tested the water and the results informed us that the water in the community is safe to drink and the testing procedures are being conducted with ease. Agustín, who is responsible for the community's water purification system, continues to manage and distribute the water to the community.

Trip Objective: To take water samples for testing and learn the community members' perspective on the developments of the water purification system through the surveys.

Unfortunately, due to a change of plans for our return to San Diego, we were not able to test the water because of time constraints to keep the water fresh for the laboratory. Conversation with some individuals in El Barril and Pronatura have initiated about changing the laboratory location to Guerrero Negro to encourage sustainability and to make the community members more responsible for testing the water quality. This would entail finding a lab in Guerrero Negro that could test drinking water and training community members to periodically take water samples to test. During the September trip, when the group will drive, we plan to stop in Guerrero Negro to speak to the lab about the possibility.

Conducting the health and energy survey provided the team with a lot of information about the relationship between the community and the water system. The number of families that actually spend money to purchase purified water is very small, and several families have debt in order to have access to the water. There is a sense that Agustín is not charging water to families that are related to him and charging others, which makes it difficult to start a savings fund to buy replacement parts and filters.

Future objectives:

During the September trip when the group will drive to El Barril, there will be a tentative meeting with a local laboratory in Guerrero Negro to explore the possibility of testing the water, so that locals can be involved in testing the water in what are the limits for chemicals for Mexican Standards. There will be also a meeting with Agustín to encourage being more strict about charging community members for purified water.

B. Aquaculture

Summary of Prior Progress:

The Baja Project consultants met with the Aquaculture group and went over the project report completed by Mario Ramadez, and found that they had to threaten him to finish

the report and submit it to the government. However, they had problems with some of the documentation, and therefore had to re-do the report and get everything notarized. As we departed from the last trip, they had not yet turned in the new paperwork but were planning on doing it in the coming weeks.

Trip Objective: Meet with CG aquaculture group to discuss progress thus far and find out what next steps are required.

Although the Baja Project was unable to coordinate an official meeting with the Aquaculture group during this trip, the consultants were able to talk with three of the most involved members, Luis, Rodrigo, and Arturo, about the recent progress of the project. The group re-submitted the project proposal to the government for the permit, and is now in the three-month waiting period for approval or rejection. They decided to establish themselves as a business in the central bank in order to keep track of expenses they incur traveling to Ensenada to talk with officials and be prepared for when they are registered. However, when Luis traveled to Ensenada, he was unable to open the account because only the president, Rodrigo, was given official power to make decisions for the group. Because of this, the group planned to meet the Sunday after the Baja Project departed with a lawyer in order to give official power to all the members. They decided to begin buying the materials and constructing the flupsy structure so that when the permits are approved they are ready to begin working immediately. They have strong belief that the permit will be approved, and even though the consultants warned against beginning the project before the approval, they had already decided as a group that it was important for them to keep making advances towards the final project. Overall, the consultants feel that the Aquaculture project is moving along as it should, as it is a slow process and at this point in time all they are able to do is wait for the approval of the permit. We were glad to see some progress and initiative taken by the group, and are look forward to meeting with them in September once the three-month waiting period for the permit is over.

Future Objectives:

The BP plans to meet in person with the entire aquaculture group during their trip in September. We hope that the permit has been approved and that there has been progress made on the planning of the logistics and the construction of the initial flupsy structure. Although these are large steps, the consultants believe they are feasible and that the group is motivated now to see progress in the project and continue making advances even when we are not in the community.

C. Electrification/Solar Panels

Summary of Prior Progress:

Prior to departing for the April trip, the Baja Project consultants submitted a proposal to 20kWatts for the remaining solar panels for community members that expressed

interest in receiving a solar panel but did not receive one in the first round of disbursement. We received great news that the proposal was approved and that we received ten solar panels. We were excited about these solar panels because they have a strip LED light as opposed to light bulbs which we feel will provide more adequate lighting. During the April trip consultants followed up with community members who had previously expressed interest in receiving a panel to confirm interest. We also explained that the solar panels would cost \$50USD, the same as the first round of recipients paid.

Trip Objective: Distribute remaining solar panels to families who expressed interest in the April trip.

The group received the remaining ten solar panels to distribute throughout the trip. There were eight community members interested in receiving the remaining panels, and they were all excited to hear we had them this time. In order to be equitable, we decided to charge the same amount that the rest of the community members were charged for the first round of solar panels, which was \$50USD (\$650 pesos). Due to the recent ban on shark fishing, we thought that a lot of people would not have the money available to pay for the panels, but six of the families had their payment ready and received the panels upon paying. The panels are slightly different than the previous round because they do not have regulators, but we were able to work with each family to demonstrate how the units work. We also showed Don Toño, who previously installed the panels, so that he could help with installation after our departure. Luis will pay Don Toño \$5USD per installation and will also hold the remaining panels at La Mancha until the remaining families have the money to pay for them. Panels were distributed to the following community members:

- Beto Castro
- Argelia/Jose
- Manuel Aguilar
- Gonzalo/Gregoria
- Jibrán Alberto Aguilar
- Lupe y Ophelia Cardero

The following community members expressed interest but have not yet picked up their panels:

- Tochy/Isis
- Zaira/Marciel
- Facundo
- Domingo y Rosa (not in community right now)

Future Objectives:

During the September trip, the Baja Project consultants will check on the panels that were distributed in June to ensure that they are functioning properly. We will also

provide additional support for any families that are having trouble with their solar panels. We also noticed that several families have one or two solar panels (usually from the government) that are not working well. Therefore, we are going to investigate the possibility of bringing someone with solar panel expertise to El Barril with us on one of our driving trips in the near future. Lastly, we want to use the money given by the families to purchase these solar panels to purchase replacement batteries for the future, so we will research the best and cheapest option.

D. Health

Summary of Prior Progress:

The April trip gave the Baja Project consultants their first views of the beginning of construction of the new health clinic. The sewer system for the health clinic was underway, however the consultants noted a lack of commitment among the men in the community to donate their time in helping to build the clinic. The health committee met during the April trip to create a timeline for construction, breaking it down into simple jobs and specifying the number of people required to complete each task. During a meeting with many of El Barril's fisherman, it was decided that several members of the community would pool their resources to hire someone to work on the health clinic to help Delfino, the project foreman, with the construction instead of donating their own time. There was still reluctance among several members of the community to support the new health clinic. Seeing as the government traveling health clinic had failed to visit the community since December, community members were left wondering what use the new clinic would be if the health workers were not visiting on a consistent basis.

In the interim, the consultants were notified that the mobile health clinic had visited the community the day after our April trip. The doctor and nurse saw patients while the social worker, Nadya, held a meeting with the health committee and the recipients of the Oportunidades program. Baja Project members were able to establish telephone contact with Nadya, who informed us of her visit. She also conveyed to us that the health worker team would be returning to El Barril on a monthly basis because of a change to the Oportunidades cash transfer program. She spoke about her meeting with the members of the community, and her urging them to continue to work together with the construction of the health clinic. We exchanged further contact information and were able to connect to her through email, advising her of our upcoming June trip dates.

Trip Objectives: Complete the health and energy survey, observe the current state of the new health clinic and encourage the community to work together on the construction, and meet with the health committee and the government mobile health team.

The main objective of the trip was to survey every household in the community as to their health and their electricity usage. The consultants made small changes to the questions in the health survey, but maintained the basic structure of the survey to ensure that the answers obtained would be usable for future panel data. Despite the

very truncated nature of the trip, the consultants were able to survey the community. The residents expressed that they continue to go outside of the community for their healthcare because the mobile health unit is not consistent and most people only seek medical care under emergency circumstances.

The consultants viewed the new health clinic's construction, noting that it had not advanced much more than on the previous visit. A foundation of cement and stones to serve as the border of the clinic was halfway completed. Delfino, the foreman as suggested by Luis, had been working on the clinic. He was sometimes assisted by the worker hired by the community members, but the consultants were informed that there might be some friction between the two workers. The Baja Project members expressed interest in continuing to pay Delfino for his work on the clinic as the foreman. The consultants now hope that with the shark-fishing ban, the fishermen will be more apt to contribute to the construction.

The mobile health clinic arrived in El Barril before the consultants' last day, just in time to join in on the health committee meeting. At the meeting, all agreed that the progress on the health clinic was not sufficient for the four months since the start of the construction. Nadya informed the group that the mobile clinic will continue their monthly visits to monitor the Oportunidades program in spite of any potential outcomes in the upcoming Mexican elections. The group discussed the fact that men are not visiting the health clinic for consultations and Nadya stressed that both men and women should attend to emphasize the community's need for more support from the government for health services. Many continue to go to Guerrero Negro for health care even when the mobile health unit comes to El Barril on a monthly basis. The consultants and Nadya also discussed that many of the men were working on structural improvements to the icehouse but would not come to help construct the health clinic. Most of the men were in their homes because of the shark fishing ban, and Nadya emphasized the need for the women at the meeting to urge their husbands to work on the health clinic, even if only for a couple of hours. The group suggested that the women organize a fiesta for the workers, complete with food and beer as an incentive to get the men together to make progress on the structure. One proposal was that the health committee go house to house to get commitments from each member, and to set a specific date for the work party. Using this technique, the men could influence the others, making it a community event to work on the health clinic. The committee believed that the floor would be the next and easiest part of the construction and could be completed quickly if the community members uphold their commitment. The next steps on the clinic will be to set a date for the men to complete the floor, and then speak to Luis to purchase the materials for the walls. The consultants and Nadya articulated the importance of creating a regular workday for the clinic, once every two weeks, with the committee encouragement as a motivating force.

Future Objectives:

The consultants will work with Nadya and Pronatura and use both outlets to promote the construction of the health clinic between trips. The team hopes to hear good news about the participation of the fishermen while the ban on shark fishing is in effect.

E. Scholarship Program

Summary of Prior Progress:

The consultants accepted applications and conducted interviews for the scholarship program during the April trip. The team changed the scholarship program to be evaluated on a yearly basis to provide greater opportunities to more students. Ten students applied, and the Baja Project members were impressed by the enthusiasm the students had for their education as evidenced by their interviews and essays.

Trip Objective: To distribute books and scholarship acceptance or rejection letters to the applicants.

The consultants decided on the recipients of the scholarships using a rubric weighing need most heavily, and then grades, essay, and interview. The team will continue to honor the scholarship to Zurisiday, and then will grant Sergio, David, and Omar \$400 each for the 2012-2013 school year to continue their secondary education in El Barril. In the interest of transparency, the team wrote letters to those who were granted the scholarship and those who were not. Additionally, consultant Olive Marques purchased books on topics in which the students expressed interest to give to them regardless of whether they were chosen to receive the scholarships. The students greatly appreciated the books and those who were awarded scholarships were very grateful.

The consultants also spoke to members of Johnny's family, who inquired about whether or not he would be eligible for a scholarship while pursuing his university education. We told them that we would need more information about exact costs and how we might directly transfer money to the school rather than giving it to the family. His sister agreed to gather the information while at his upcoming graduation from the preporatoria and to provide us with that during our September visit. The team agreed to evaluate the materials and create the framework for a potential university scholarship program in the future.

Future Objectives:

To distribute scholarship money to 2012-2013 recipients and to evaluate a possible scholarship program for students attending university.

F. Preschool/Kindergarten

Summary of Prior Progress:

In the December trip the consultants found that CONAFE has been paying Zaira a monthly stipend that is supplemented by Mr. Jameson. We have been wanting to plan a meeting with CONAFE to discuss full funding of her salary from the government, but must wait for a driving trip, and therefore must wait until September.

Trip Objective: Speak with Zaira about her salary and observe her with the children at the school.

The Baja Project consultants were only able to communicate with Zaira for a few minutes outside of the household survey, as they were planning to come back and speak more about the kinder but unfortunately ran out of time. They found that in the next school year, Zaira will only have four students. The government has not offered her a full time salary yet, and the consultants plan on stopping by the department of education on their driving trip to inquire about the necessary steps she needs to take to become a full time employee. As of now, the Baja Project continues to subsidize her salary and we hope to eventually diminish this dependence on outside resources. Unfortunately we were unable to observe her with the children, as school was let out for the summer a week early due to a scheduling conflict with the primary school teacher.

Future Objectives:

In the September driving trip we plan to have a meeting with CONAFE regarding Zaira's salary. We will also have a formal meeting with her where we will be able to convey what happened in our meeting with CONAFE. We hope to be able to observe her as a teacher, as the children should be in school at this time.

G. Fishing Co-op

Summary of Prior Progress:

Although the consultants did not hold a meeting with the co-op regarding the status of their ice truck, icehouse, and directive, the Baja Project was able to attend a meeting with them that involved the discussion of the construction of the new health clinic. The consultants were able to see the motivation and enthusiasm of Ramón, a 16-year old youth from El Barril who is also in the fishing cooperative. He volunteered to organize the co-op and create a schedule for the donation of their labor, or if they chose not to work, help them decide who to pay to fill in for them. Ramón called a meeting on the soccer court in the center of town, which had a large turnout of the fishermen and their families. Although many said they could not work themselves, they seemed open to paying for someone to work for them, as long as they could negotiate a fair price. They also expressed that they would be able to volunteer their time on days when the wind was too strong to go out on the ocean, as well as for the larger phases of the project such as the floor and the roof. The new consultants observed the meeting, as it was

their first interaction with the co-op and wanted to see how they operate as a group.

Trip Objective: Meet with members of Pronatura to learn about the work they are doing with the fishermen in the community and to explore possible avenues for collaboration.

The Baja Project was able to meet two representatives from the Mexico-based non-profit Pronatura, Cristián and Jesus. The mission of the organization is to conserve ecosystems while promoting the development of society in harmony with nature. They have started a campaign in the community of El Barril to work closely with the fishermen to promote these goals. The consultants had spoken with Cristián earlier in the month about the organizations campaign and the role of the Baja Project in supporting them and the community. We arranged to meet with them on our June trip, and were happy to finally meet them on our first day in the community.

Beginning in May, Cristián and Jesus began a project that entails traveling to El Barril once a month to administer a campaign for sustainable fishing. They plan to build relationships with the fisherman both as a group and individually, to convey their message of conservation and alternative options to fishing that are less harmful to the environment. This comes at an opportune time, as a national ban on shark fishing from May 1st through July 31st was published just two days prior to the arrival of the BP consultants in El Barril. The ban will be implemented every year, and the consequences for catching shark in these months include a large fine, and getting both their boat and their fishing license taken away. Because of these extreme penalties, the fishermen in El Barril plan on obeying the new law, but they are not happy. Although the community had heard rumors that there was going to be a ban, they did not know the exact date and had not prepared for a year without the income from this lucrative activity. According to members of the fishing co-op, on average they earn 7,000 pesos per month during the regular fishing season, and up to 15,000 pesos per month in the shark fishing season. Because of the lack of a culture of saving money, they are very dependent on the three months of shark fishing where they are able to make enough money to pay off debts accumulated throughout the year and support their families. The BP consultants asked why they could not continue fishing other species, and were told that in the hot summer months it is impossible for them to transport their catch without it going bad. This is because the ice that keeps the fish fresh melts very quickly in the summer months and they have to transport it at least three hours to Guerrero Negro. This is also a consequence of not using their icehouse or ice truck because they state that they do not have enough resources to maintain them. Shark is the only product that can stay fresh until the market and because of the ban they no longer have this option.

Pronatura helped the fishing co-op write an official letter to the government, explaining their distress with the passing of the ban. They explained the importance of shark fishing for all of the 30 families in the community and how dependent they are on the high earnings in these months. They are asking that the government give them a quota for shark, special assistance during these months, and an increased intensity of monitoring the waters. Although the fishermen of El Barril say they will respect the ban,

they believe that others will come and take their products if there is not a good monitoring system in place. Pronatura is going to send this letter to the Governor of Baja California, the National Commissioner of Fish, and the National Commission of Protected Areas (CONAP). They will be monitoring the processing of the letter and making sure the fishermen of the community receive an answer as quickly as possible.

Another project of Pronatura is to implement training to the fishermen in diving in order to measure levels of different species in the area and be able to give information to the organization. This could serve as an employment for the fishermen with various non-profits and government organizations that are interested in the levels of populations of different species. They also seek to repair the icehouse so it can become a functioning processing plant once again. The organization is in contact with Chesapeake, a fish distributor in San Diego. This could serve to get the fishermen a better price for their products as they cut out middlemen and sell directly to the distributors. The consultants asked about measuring the success of the project and were told that during the campaign they plan on collecting qualitative results-interviewing the project beneficiaries and the people of the community. After the campaign, they will be able to measure the results quantitatively with the higher levels of certain fish in the areas that before had been disappearing.

The BP consultants view the presence of Pronatura as very important in the community of El Barril. Although they have similar goals as our consultants, their prior experience, nationality, and frequency in visiting the community have allowed them to build strong relationships with the fishermen in the short time they have spent there. The BP has always had difficulties building relationships with the fishing co-op, especially when there are all female consultants. Therefore, as a group we endorse their presence in the community and hope that they are able to carry out their project in full.

Future Objectives:

Remain in contact with Pronatura to receive updates on how the fishermen are responding to the ban on shark fishing. Collaborate with Pronatura to explore other income-generating activities for the fishermen during the ban.

H. Community Garden

Summary of Prior Progress:

The community garden was flourishing during the April trip, with lots of fresh produce that was nearing harvest. The garden was growing radishes, onions, cauliflower, peppers, lettuce, pumpkin, zucchini, corn, cabbage, cilantro, and tomatoes. Don Toño informed the consultants that he had petitioned the government for funding to move the garden to a location next to the secondary school. This would allow for greater dispersment of the vegetables among the families in the community.

Trip Objective: To inquire about the most recent harvest and to talk to Don Toño about the future of the community garden.

The team visited the community garden, and noted that it was dry and that most of the plants had died. It appeared that the vegetables had been harvested. Upon speaking to Don Toño, we were informed that it had been a very successful harvest. He said they were still planning on moving the garden, but were waiting on the government funding to do so. We asked about how the plants would be irrigated, and he said they were planning to set up a system of hoses to feed the garden with water. The consultants were impressed by how many families reported eating produce from the garden when it was available during the health survey. The community has not yet received the additional covering they had requested from the government.

Future Objectives:

The consultants will check in on the garden during our next visit, and hopefully see the community showing further support in growing the produce at the garden's new location utilizing the help of the students.

I. Women's Co-ops

Summary of Prior Progress:

The cooperatives have been producing and selling infrequently because they do not have access to a constant market due to remoteness and lack of communication. The workshops led by CONANP have helped the different co-ops to improve the quality of the products and to present models of jewelry that have better markets. The cooperatives have great capacity to expand and sell more but the obstacle of distance has to be overcome first.

Trip Objective: Speak with the cooperatives about their products and engage in conversation about increasing access to markets for their products.

During this trip there was a long meeting with AMBAR (Claudia's co-op) where the team delivered the catalogue that she has made utilizing the program Publisher on her laptop. The catalogue was formatted, printed and laminated to be a professional catalogue so that she is able to market the products to stores around Baja California and increase sales. The group spent time with the co-op while the jewelry was being made learning the process from a dirty shell, to a polished necklace. The Baja Project witnessed the intensive manual labor that is needed to create one piece of jewelry. Claudia mentioned the need for specific materials for her products and the group will bring them in September trip.

In meeting with a representative of Mar Azul (jewelry co-op) and the sewing cooperative there was an interest in also producing a catalogue to promote the products in other

localities. They are responsible for taking pictures of their products in the next three months so that in the September trip, together we are able to produce a professional catalogue.

During the survey interviews there was an informal question of what new workshops the community is interested in participating, and several mentioned receiving more trainings from CONANP. The Baja project is consulting about encouraging CONANP to come more frequently and offer more workshops directed towards the cooperatives such as offering more jewelry techniques and business marketing workshops.

Future Objectives:

Offer workshops directed towards the specific needs of the cooperatives and bring the materials needed that are not found in the area. In partnership with Mar Azul and the sewing cooperative, produce catalogs of the products in support the expansion of the markets. The Baja Project will also purchase more products to sell and offer as gifts at UCSD.

J. Telecommunications

Summary of Prior Progress:

Consultants departed on the April trip eager to make a new strategy for telecommunications only to find that action had already been taken by several community members to move the process along. Eight members of the community had come together (Lino, Luis, Nicolasa, Delfino, Rodrigo, Oscar Escondido, and one of the schools) and approached Desarrollo Social about getting internet in the community. These members have offered to pay a certain amount in order to get the lines in the community, and are asking for help from the government in covering the remaining costs. If approved, the community would have eight lines initially but would have the capacity for up to 32 lines if other members of the community became interested in obtaining them.

Trip Objective: Figure out the various possibilities of jumpstarting this project by speaking with Luis and other community leaders.

Luis traveled to Ensenada the Monday before our arrival to handle several matters, one of which was the telecommunications initiative described above. Unfortunately, his contact at Desarrollo Social was not there to speak with him during his visit. There was not much time on this trip to discuss the future of the project, but Luis seems hopeful that he will get the opportunity to speak with his contact to get more information in the near future. Also, we asked Cristián from Pronatura if he has heard anything about mining in El Arco and he said he did not hear for anything and did not think that the project was likely to happen anytime soon.

Future Objective:

Community members have noted on several occasions that telecommunications is a priority in El Barril. Therefore, the Baja Project will remain in contact with Luis and the group about the progress of their initiative and offer help in the form of consultation, letters to government, etc, to help move the process forward. If it seems that this strategy will not be successful, the Baja Project will continue to research other options to bring internet and telephone access to El Barril.

V. CONCLUSIONS

The June 2012 trip to El Barril was a success. The consultants worked to achieve their priority goals for the trip, which were to conduct the annual health and energy survey, distribute the remaining solar panels to families, and inform scholarship applications of our decision. The team was able to achieve all of these objectives, as well as follow up on other initiatives such as the community garden, the co-ops, and the aquaculture project. We were very pleased with the overall productivity of the trip and are looking forward to continued progress on the September trip.

The team enjoyed administering the health survey and felt that they gained a lot of valuable information about community members through the process. In particular, it was great to have the opportunity to hear from the fishermen who were able to participate in the survey since they were not out working due to the recent ban on shark fishing. We have plans to revise the survey and format data from the last three years over the summer.

We were pleased to be able to get solar panels donated for the remaining families who requested a panel but did not receive one in the first lottery. The families' excitement about the panels was evident as almost all families were able to find money to pay for them. The team enjoyed distributing the panels and helping with the installation process. The remaining panels that have not yet been paid for are with Luis and will be distributed upon payment.

After announcing the new iteration of the scholarship program on the April trip, the team was excited to return and inform the applicants of our decision on the June trip. The three scholarship recipients, David, Sergio, and Omar were all thrilled to hear that they were chosen, and the other applicants were encouraged to apply again at the same time next year. All applicants were given a book on a topic that they expressed interest about during their interview.

In conclusion, this trip was a very busy and productive. The Baja Project was pleased with the progress the community has made on their own between trips, and the team looks forward to future collaborations with the community on a variety of projects. Overall, the community was very thankful for the service of the second year students and looks forward to further building the relationship with the Baja Project.

Appendix I: Pictures



Baja Project consultants
doing in

discuss the work they are
collaboration.



Consultant Claire Springer helping to distribute and assemble solar panels.



Baja Project consultant Olive Marques administering the health and energy survey.



One of the new solar panels installed on the roof with a home-made base which will allow the family to move the panel to follow the sun at different times during the day.



Health committee meeting to discuss the progress of the new health clinic. Members of the traveling clinic and Pronatura were also present.