



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF ICHTHYOLOGICAL TAXONOMISTS AND ECOLOGISTS

01 March 2021, Online Zoom Meeting

Attendance: Julianne Passarelli (CMA); Terra Petry, Bill Furlong, Norbert Lee, Shelly Walther (LACSD); Craig Campbell (CLA); Jonathan Williams (VRG); Robin Gartman, Zoe Scott, Ami Latker (CSD); Mike Mengel (OCSD-Retired); Karin Wisenbaker (ABC Labs); Danny Helprin (Man Tech); Don Buth (UCLA); Dario Diehl (SCCWRP); Fred Stern (LACSD-Retired); Kevin Stolzenback (Wood).

Meeting Summary:

Dr. Juli Passarelli opened the meeting by welcoming SCAITE members. After self-introductions, Juli gave a brief narrative of the day's agenda. Announcements regarding upcoming events were made and SCAITE business was discussed.

1. Upcoming SCAITE meetings:

Visit the SCAITE website at www.scaite.org for the latest meeting announcements. Meetings will continue to be virtual until deemed safe to resume group gatherings.

- May 24, 2021: guest speaker Jonathan Williams, Vantuna Research Group Palos Verdes Reef Restoration Project Update
- September 13, 2021: review Miller and Lea book
- December 6, 2021: guest speaker (Shark Lab student)

2. Upcoming events:

Book Signing or Acknowledgement Party for Miller and Lea's Guide To The Coastal Marine Fishes Of California has been postponed until deemed safe to resume large group (100+) gathering, likely late 2021 or early 2022.

Southern California Academy of Sciences (SCAS) 2021 Annual Meeting will be held virtually on May 7, 2021. Abstract Submission deadline delayed until the end of March. Two symposia are: Deserts and Terrestrial Environments and Ocean Studies Institute. The plenary speaker is Dr. Chris Lowe, director of the Shark Lab at California State University Long Beach (CSULB).

American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists 2021 Annual Meeting will be a hybrid meeting held in July. The in-person platform will be in Phoenix, Arizona on July 21-23, 2021 and the virtual platform will be on July 26-28, 2021.

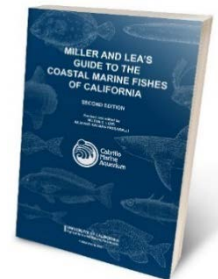
Cabrillo Marine Aquarium Discovery Lecture Series will be held virtually. The current schedule is listed below. For more information go the Discovery Lecture Series website at <https://www.cabrillomarineaquarium.org/events-news/news.asp?id=178>

- April 9, 2021: Just say no to drugs: The spread of antibiotics-resistant bacteria into our coastal wetlands presented by Dr. David Cummings, Point Loma Nazarene University
- June 4, 2021: Searching for “Lost Sharks” presented by Dr. David A. Ebert, Pacific Shark Research Center, Moss Landing Marine Laboratories

SCAS Spotlight Virtual Speaker Series. The next presentation is schedule on April 15, 2021: Reproductive ecology of sex-changing fishes of the southern California Bight presented by Mia Adreani. All past presentations have been recorded and can be view on the SCAS website at <https://scas.nhm.org/>

3. Miller and Lea Updates:

Books can be purchased from the CMA gift shop or directly from the publisher’s website: University of California, Agriculture and Natural Resources (UCANR) <https://anrcatalog.ucanr.edu/Details.aspx?itemNo=3556> for \$30.



Over Christmas the Cabrillo gift shop sold out of books indicating over 1,000 copies had been sold. A book review will be published in the journal of Ichthyology & Herpetology (formally Copeia). Juli will make Miller and Lea book presentations at the upcoming SCAS and Multi-Agency Rocky Intertidal Network (MARINE) meetings.

4. Palos Verdes Reef Restoration Project Update:

The purpose of the project is to restore rocky reef habitats on the Palos Verdes Shelf. Funding was provided by NOAA Montrose Settlements Restoration Program (MSRP). Catalina quarry rock, 58,000 tons, was used to create 18 modules, up to four meters in height, and placed in water depths ranging from 46-75 feet. Nine months after the installation of the modules, benthic cover and fishes have been observed inhabiting the area.

5. Guest speaker: Karin Wisenbaker, Aquatic Bioassay and Consulting Laboratories Review of the Fish Response Index:

The following document contains information on how the fish response index was derived: Allen et al. 2001. Development of Biointegrity Indices for Marine Demersal Fish and Megabenthic Invertebrate Assemblages of Southern California. Technical Report 469. Southern California Coastal Water Research Project.

http://ftp.sccwrp.org/pub/download/DOCUMENTS/TechnicalReports/469_DemersalMegabenthicBiointegrityIndices.pdf

After a lengthy discussion, the group agreed SCAITE would best serve the task of reviewing revisions made to the index after the statistics were updated. Any input provided by SCAITE members would be “best professional judgement” rather than statistical based.