

(SCAITE LOGO)

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF
ICHTHYOLOGICAL TAXONOMISTS AND ECOLOGISTS**

11 January 2010, SCCWRP

Attendance: Bill Power, Fred Stern (LACSD); Jeff Armstrong, Mike Mengel (OCSD); Dario Diehl, Ken Schiff, Shelly Moore, Peter Miller (SCCWRP); Karen Weisenbacher (ABC Labs); Dan Pondella (Occidental College); Adriano Feit (CSD); Eric Miller (MBC); Bill Isham (Weston Solutions); Jim Allen (Contractor).

Meeting Summary:

Fred Stern opened the meeting with a PowerPoint presentation on taking field photographs of fish. His presentation highlighted techniques to improve quality and standardization of composition. He then presented the LACSD Fish Guide and it seemed well received. It was agreed that this would be a good learning guide and suggestions were made to incorporate images gathered by other agencies that are unique to their areas. The guide would then be presented as a Southern California Bight Fish Guide. Fred accepted this task pending management's approval.

Peter Miller gave a brief talk about collecting fish clippings for DNA barcoding. A species list with the names of fishes needed will be circulated to other agencies. Fishes will then be forwarded to Phil Hasting or H.J. Walker at Scripps. There was some thought that barcoding may be useful in identifying juvenile fishes especially rockfish. However, barcoding as a whole did not seem to be well received for identification purposes but may be useful to have for a fish database.

Discussion then ensued to naming the group. SCAITE (Southern California Association of Ichthyological Taxonomists and Ecologists) was settled on after every possible acronym was explored. This was followed by what type of an organization SCAITE should be: Bight committee, Ad Hoc committee, or non-profit organization 301(c). It was decided to have SCAITE be an Ad Hoc committee with efforts to try and become a non-profit organization after a year. Efforts will commence to bring in new members. Ken asked if there could be a sub-committee to assist him in organizing the group. Jim Allen, Jeff Armstrong, and Bill Power volunteered.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 3rd where Bill Power will present techniques and helpful tips for identifying eelpouts.