

(SCAITE LOGO)

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

16 March 2010, OCSD

Attendance: Bill Power, Fred Stern (LACSD); Jeff Armstrong (OCSD); Jim Rounds (CLA - Hyperion); Dario Diehl, David Gillet, Heather Gliniak (SCCWRP); Jim Mann (ABC Labs); Dan Pondella (Occidental College); Otis Horning, Erica Jarvis (DFG).

Meeting Summary:

Bill Power opened the meeting with a PowerPoint presentation displaying a taxonomic key for trawl caught eelpouts and other eel-like fishes of the Southern California Bight. The key and a table of the meristic characters were handed out and several specimens were made available for hands-on use of the key. There were suggestions to add other groups of fishes to the key that might be considered eel-like. Bill indicated that he would work on revising the key for a future meeting, probably in the next year.

Fred then passed out an SOP on taking field photographs of fish. This was supplemental information to his presentation at the last SCAITE meeting.

Dan brought up the idea of eliminating weighing fish in the field by establishing length-weight frequencies (LWF) to all of the locally caught fishes. Dan iterated that the LWF are very accurate (95%) when a curve has been established. OCSD currently takes the first 30 fish of each species they encounter and weigh them to the nearest one gram and measure them to the nearest one millimeter.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 9th where Jim Allen will be giving a presentation on identifying juvenile rockfish.