



## SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF ICHTHYOLOGICAL TAXONOMISTS AND ECOLOGISTS

16 September 2019, CMA

**Attendance:** Julianne Passarelli (CMA); Bill Power, Terra Petry (LACSD); Robin Gartman (CSD); Dario Diehl (SCCWRP); Mike Mengel (OCSD-Retired); Craig Campbell (CLA); Jonathan Williams (VRG).

### Meeting Summary:

Dr. Juli Passarelli opened the meeting with announcements regarding upcoming events and SCAITE business.

#### 1. Upcoming meetings:

Visit the SCAITE website at [www.scaite.org](http://www.scaite.org) for the latest meeting announcements.

Meetings will resume quarterly. It was suggested that meetings occur following POTWs trawling activities, so any specimens of interest collected during trawls could be brought to the meeting for discussion. It was also suggested that perhaps guest speakers, such as students could present their research at meetings thus providing them a platform for small group public speaking.

#### 2. Miller and Lea revision:

Over the past couple of months, several new developments have occurred. The top finding was that Guide to the Coastal Marine Fishes of California, California Fish Bulletin Number 157 is copyrighted, and a new print run was done in 2018 by University of California, Agriculture and Natural Resources (UCANR). Juli and their publisher/editor have been in communication and are working out the details for the publication of Miller and Lea's Guide to the Coastal Marine Fishes of California. The question regarding whether this revised book would be considered a second edition or a third edition is now at the discretion of UCANR. All printing and price setting will be done by UCANR. It has been strongly suggested that the cost of the book be kept low, no more than \$30, as to keep it affordable for students. A new cover design needs to be selected, as the 2018 book printing looks very similar (light blue with fishes) to the one that was going to be used. Printing of the book is tentatively scheduled for mid-October with a release

date of January. Details of a Release party will be determined once an official print date has been set.

### 3. SCAITE status:

The idea of SCAITE becoming a non-profit organization was again mentioned... and yet again there were no strong feelings either way.

### 4. Future topics:

It was suggested that a fish identification app or digital database may be useful. Perhaps building from the computer-based program Fred Stern developed several years ago could be a starting point. LACSD will bring the program to the next meeting to review the functionality of the program.

It was suggested that perhaps SCAITE could develop a standardize training guide that could assist new fish taxonomist with identification techniques used to identify local fish species.

It was suggested that perhaps SCAITE could develop some sort of certification program in which field testing and/or bucket testing could be conducted. Certifications could be region specific based on geographic or depth ranges.