

**(SCAITE LOGO)**

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

**17 September 2012, CMA**

**Attendance:** Julianne Passarelli, Alfonso Montiel, Jeff Landesman (CMA); Bill Power, Fred Stern, Terra Petry (LACSD); Jim Rounds, Craig Cambell, Greg Lyon (CLA - Hyperion); Dario Diehl, Ken Schiff (SCCWRP); Danny Heilprin, Todd Chapman (Ecorp Consulting); Jim Mann (ABC Labs); Karen Martin (Pepperdine); Rick Feeney (LACM); Don Buth (UCLA); Heather Gliniak (DFG).

**Meeting Summary:**

Dr. Juli Passarelli opened the meeting with a brief recap of the previous meeting and announcements of upcoming meetings and SCAITE business.

1. SCAITE logo:

Juli ask the group about a decision on the logo. She wanted a black, darker, ring around the circle. She pointed out the recent changes to the fish drawings that made them more realistic and accurate. Some folks were still debating the choice while others thought the logo was fine. Juli said she would distribute the logo again for another vote and suggestions for improvement.

2. SCAITE website:

Not ready yet. Waiting on a logo. It will be hosted by SCCWRP but not setup yet. Danny has reserved/registered the name as "SCAITE.org" with GoDaddy.com. A preliminary template, modeled after the SCAMIT website, has been created and works internally at SCCWRP. It needs content (i.e., introduction, etc).

Ken informed the group that the State of California, through SWAMP, wants to create a trawl protocol and Data Quality Objectives (DQO) for monitoring. He was soliciting input from the group though a questionnaire he passed out. He requested SCAITE members to file out the questionnaire and return it to kens@sccwrp.org.

Some recommendations include document the lowest taxonomic standard (IDs) your agency/organization achieves (include FIDs). The state standards should be vague for flexibility, when appropriate, and specific for important items. Minimal requirements are acceptable. Any additional questions not listed, but important to your organization, add it to the questionnaire

and give your response (e.g., batch weights). Other issues that came up include gear questions, tow speed, and changing crew to scientific personnel.

Juli informed the group that her and Milton Love personally visited Dan Miller and Bob Lea. Both of them had no issues with updating the original version. Dan has written an introduction and Bob will review the final document (and will hopefully write an introduction). The California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) also has no issues with updating the book. Friends of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium will put up the money for a bulk print of the first ~4000 books. The proceeds will go into an account to print future books. Once things are closer to fruition, donations from other agencies/organizations/people will be gladly accepted. The topic of an electronic version came up, but that needs further resolution, especially with the Friends of Cabrillo. Fred said an electron version of the old book is available from CDFG (buried in the website), maybe we can put it on the SCAITE website.

After reviewing Milton's checklist of California marine fishes and the trawl list compiled by the group, 147 species will be added and 9 of these are questionable. The questionable ones needed validation (specimen in a jar), confirmation, or had recent literature changes. These include longfin halfbeak, columbia goby, tilapia, sandpaper skate, bulldog lightfish, spotted opah, oarfish, blue rockfish, vermilion rockfish, UI jawfish, and blackwing flyingfish. Common names will reflect the most recent AFS checklist (new version due soon). Questions arose as to what is the cutoff point (e.g., 400m depth or the recent Bight'08 500m trawl survey depth, do we include pelagic's, etc.). How do we handle revisions (print, electronic)? Members wanted an appendix of potential fish that may be encountered, but excluded in the keys (otherwise the book would be too thick for field use).

Two keys are now complete and one was passed out to the group for evaluation and correctness in identifying fish: Cottidae (sculpins). LACMNH and Cabrillo provided specimens (thanks, Rick and Juli) for the group to examine and make comments on the keys.

Special Request: Kristy Forsgren of CSUF would like any pipefish collected during the groups field work be preserved in 95% ethanol or frozen. She wants to do DNA work to further separate difficult species. Please email her at [kforsgren@fullerton.edu](mailto:kforsgren@fullerton.edu) or bring them to the next SCAITE meeting.