

(SCAITE LOGO)

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

18 April 2011, CMA

Attendance: Julianne Passarelli, Atsuhiko Kubo (CMA); Bill Power, Fred Stern (LACSD); Mike Mengel, Jeff Armstrong (OCSD); Jim Rounds (CLA - Hyperion); Dario Diehl (SCCWRP); Jim Allen, Danny Heilprin (Ecorp Consulting); Jim Mann (ABC Labs); Robin Gartman (CSD); Katy Lyons (CSULB); Erica Jarvis, Otis Horning, Heather Gliniak (DFG); Edward Basmadjian (SAIC).

Meeting Summary:

Dr. Juli Passarelli opened the meeting by introducing Mike Schaadt and Ed Mastro from CMA, whom gave the opening remarks. Bill then gave a brief overview of SCAITE and its history since it had been many months since the last meeting.

The leadership of SCAITE was discussed. The group decided that we didn't need a formalized leadership structure at this time (i.e., President, Vice President, etc.). We agreed that there was no need for membership dues or a charter at this time, but may consider it in the future. Following the discussion, Bill was volunteered to lead SCAITE initially, a position which he accepted. Juli and Dario volunteered to assist. It was decided that we need a website and a logo. Danny registered the domain name "SCAITE.org" as a placeholder for the website. Logo ideas were discussed including using a skate in the logo. We decided to make this an item for the next meeting when members can bring in ideas and prototypes for discussion.

Discussion then turned to what the focus of SCAITE should be, what potential products may be generated from the group, and potential topics for future meetings. It was suggested that the initial focus should be marine, but the freshwater environments may be added later. While SCAITE is generally modeled after SCAMIT, we differ in that the focus of SCAMIT is solely taxonomic, while ours includes fish ecology. It was stressed that while much of the existing fish data in the SCB was generated by POTWs SCAITE should not be POTW centric, but should include all marine habitats in the SCB. The Bight and POTW data are low hanging fruit for starting a database, but they won't be the only data included.

We discussed potential projects that SCAITE may sponsor and several ideas were put forth. One was to develop a fish database for the SCB. It was generally agreed that the regional Bight database kept by SCCWRP was a good starting point. Erica proposed that SCAITE might propose working with CDFG to update their database with current SCB data. It was further suggested that a regional database to possibly include fish taxonomic and ecological literature could be the topic for a future SCAITE meeting. A second potential project is to update Miller

and Lea (1972). Per discussion, Dr. Bob Lea is open to updating the publication and SCAITE may be a good avenue for updating SCB species. We discussed inviting Dr. Lea to a future SCAITE meeting, possibly one that could occur close to the SCAS annual meeting, which he may be attending to make it easier on him.

Dario discussed the fate of the SCCWRP fish collection, which SCCWRP is looking to purge. Several options exist including the POTWs that collected fish as part of the Bight projects could take their samples for their own collections and donating specimens to natural history museums and colleges. Juli stated that the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium may be interested in taking some specimens and will explore that possibility. In the meantime, Dario will provide SCAITE with the inventory of what fish are in the collection.

Prior to lunch Juli gave a tour of the aquarium including highlighting several exhibits, including one with a sablefish (*Anoploma fimbria*) collected several years ago, an upward looking kelp paddy fish exhibit, and their culturing laboratory.

Potential future meeting topics:

- surf perches (Dr. Juli Passarelli – CMA)
- flatfishes (Dr. Jim Allen – Ecorp Consulting)
- gobies (Dr. Ray Wilson – CSULB)
- pelagic species (Dr. Dan Pondella – Occidental College)
- forage fishes (Dr. Jim Allen – Ecorp Consulting)
- rockfishes (Dr. Milton Love – UCSB)
- kelp paddy fishes (Dr. Jim Allen – Ecorp Consulting)
- wetland fishes (Dr. Larry Allen – CSUN)
- cottids (Dr. Don Buth – UCLA and Rick Feeney – LACMNH)
- larval fishes (Rick Feeney – LACMNH)
- elasmobranchs (Dr. Chris Lowe – CSULB, Jeff Landesman – CMA, and Jeff Seigel – LACMNH)

Action Items:

- Everyone bring logo ideas to next meeting

- Erica will contact CDFG about potentially updating the database and Miller and Lea (1972)
- Fred will post his fish guide to the SCCWRP FTP site for viewing
- Dario will provide SCAITE with the inventory of what fish are in the SCCWRP collection