



California Collaborative Fisheries Research Program

Scripps Institution of Oceanography Volunteer Newsletter

A Summary of the 2019 Sampling Season

Welcome CCFRP Volunteers,

Thanks to your valued participation, we completed our third year of CCFRP surveys! In 2019 we had 93 volunteer anglers (51 new) join us on 10 hook-and-line surveys conducted inside MPAs and nearby reference areas off San Diego County. Volunteers spent 424.6 angler hours catching and releasing 1,234 fish (861 of these were tagged) representing 31 different species. Through your help, we were able to gather important information on species composition, lengths, and catch rates! Take a look inside for some of the awesome highlights from this past sampling season!!



Know someone interested in fishing with us in 2020?

Contact Erica Jarvis Mason at catchreporter@gmail.com for more information and to volunteer.



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Biggest Fishes Caught in 2019

Below are the top 10 largest species caught last season.

Total lengths are listed along with angler, gear type, area, and site (MPA/REF).

Pelagic Stingray 32 cm (52 in)

Ernie Tolentino, South La Jolla REF

Swimbait

California Yellowtail 95 cm (37.4 in)

Quincy Quinajon, South La Jolla MPA

Swimbait

92 cm (36.2 in)

Bien Quinajon, South La Jolla REF

Swimbait

California Halibut 93 cm (36.6 in)

Scott Vinson, South La Jolla MPA

Baited Shrimp Fly

California Sheephead 74 cm (29 in)

Chris Brooks, South La Jolla MPA

Baited Shrimp Fly

Kelp Bass 54 cm (21.25 in)

Stuart Iiyama, South La Jolla MPA

Swimbait



Lingcod 50 cm (19.7 in)

Stuart Iiyama, South La Jolla MPA

Swimbait

Ocean Whitefish 49 cm (19.3 in)

Greg Bell, Swami's MPA

Dropper Loop

Martin Buncher, Swami's MPA

Baited Shrimp Fly

Vermillion Rockfish 48 cm (18.9 in)

Glen Chase, South La Jolla MPA

Swimbait

White Seabass 47 cm (18.5 in)

Drew Woodsworth, Swami's MPA

Baited Shrimp Fly

Barred Sand Bass 45 cm (17.7 in)

Richard Barclay, Swami's MPA

Dropper Loop

2019 Data Summary

(Revised February 20, 2020)

Catch-Per-Unit-Effort (Fish/Angler Hour)

Area	CPUE	Most Frequently Caught Species
South La Jolla MPA	3.95	Ocean Whitefish, Gopher Rockfish, Honeycomb Rockfish, Calico Rockfish
South La Jolla REF	3.26	
Swami's MPA	3.74	Kelp Bass, Pacific Mackerel, Barred Sand Bass, Ocean Whitefish
Swami's REF	1.10	

Species Spotlight: Kelp Bass (*Paralabrax clathratus*)



Etymology and Colloquial Names:

Paralabrax is Greek for “near Labrax” or “near seabass.” The Greek word *Clathratus* or “latticed” refers to its checkered pattern.

Geographic Range: Magdalena Bay, Baja California, to the Columbia River, Washington; however, they are rarely found north of Point Conception. Kelp Bass inhabit the surface waters to depths of 150 feet, and associate closely with structure, such as kelp.

Maximum size: 28.5 inches total length.

Kelp Bass are one of the most popular sportfish in Southern California. Size regulations for Kelp Bass began in 1953 following an unprecedented rise in fishing pressure after WWII. Kelp Bass are often thought of as a non-migratory or resident species; however, some individuals may travel relatively long distances. This past tagging season, two Kelp Bass, originally tagged and released in Swami’s Reference Area in 2017, were recaptured in Dana Point. That’s a distance of about 40 miles!

CCFRP Stats:	2017	2018	2019
Caught and released	384	256	181
Tagged	352	242	164
Recaptured	N/A	11	11
Max length (inches)	21.3	22.5	21.3

2019 Tag Returns

Tag returns are an exciting part of our program and one way that we learn about the movements and growth rates of the fish we catch and release on our surveys.

Anglers reported catching **19** of our tagged fish last year! One interesting find was an Ocean Whitefish originally tagged and released in the South La Jolla Reference Area on 9/4/19 and was recaptured 66 days later in a commercial California Sheephead trap! Another Kelp Bass was originally tagged in Laguna Beach MPA on 10/26/17 and recaptured outside of the MPA near Newport Beach 667 days later!

Species	Total	Max Days at Liberty	Max Distance (mi)
Kelp Bass	11	711	41.3
Ocean Whitefish	6	204	.9
Barred Sand Bass	1	20	.1
Treefish	1	193	Unknown

On your next fishing outing, be on the lookout for our tags -- they are white and about 2 inches long, typically inserted on the left side of the fish. One side of the tag has our phone number, the other has the Tag ID number. If tags have been out for quite some time they may be fouled with algae and not as readily noticeable.



What to do if you catch a tagged fish:

- Record the **Tag ID number** and **location** (length, depth if possible)
- Call 858-534-2156 and leave us a detailed message
- Let us know if you kept or released the fish (with or without tag)
- We will be giving out CCFRP hats as a **reward** for tag return data

Fred Hall Show

We'll be at the Fred Hall Show in Del Mar March 26th - 29th!! Come swing by our booth to say hi and show your support for CCFRP!

Upcoming Surveys in 2020

Stay on the lookout for emails this spring from catchreporter@gmail.com with details on our schedule for the 2020 field season. Be sure to respond quickly to ensure you don't miss out on joining us for another exciting year of surveys!

If you are a member of a fishing club that is interested in participating, please let us know! We can always use more volunteers on our science team. Science team members help with rigging gear, shuttling fish, descending bloated rockfish, collecting data, and assisting anglers with their gear.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact us at catchreporter@gmail.com. Volunteers must be 18 years or older.



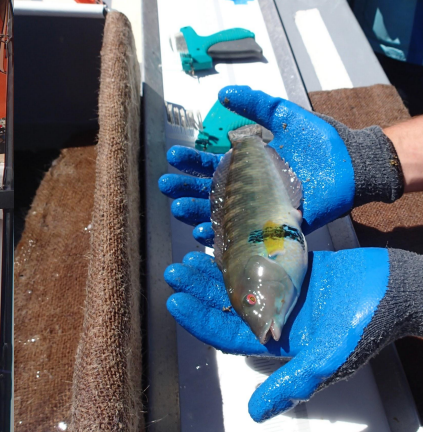
Please take a moment to follow "Coastal Angler Tagging Cooperative" on Facebook, as well as "CCFRP" on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and Youtube!





Thank you for your support of CCFRP!





Looking forward to another great season!

