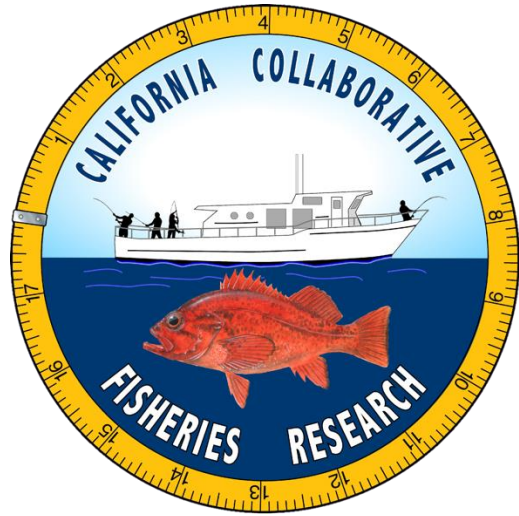


California Collaborative Fisheries Research Program



Scripps Institution of Oceanography

A Summary of the 2024 Sampling Season

CCFRP Anglers,

Thanks to your continued support and dedication, our CCFRP team was able to successfully complete our eighth season of sampling in San Diego! We could not have accomplished this without the support of the amazing fishing community that contributes to this project. This season, we completed all 12 sampling trips, where we conducted standardized hook-and-line surveys inside San Diego MPAs and associated reference sites. We caught a total of 890 fish (598 of which were tagged) across 30 different species. We were joined by 90 volunteer anglers, 52 of which were new to the program in 2024. Our efforts on the water have provided another year of valuable data that is foundational to assessing and evaluating MPA performance in California waters. In this newsletter, we'd like to share catch data from last season and look forward to another great sampling year in 2025!

Interested in fishing with us?

Email catchreporter@gmail.com

To learn more about CCFRP visit ccfrp.org

Meet the Crew!

Jack Elstner

Lead Field Scientist



Jack is a PhD student at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, and the lead tech for the San Diego sector of CCFRP. Originally from Maryland's Chesapeake Bay, Jack is interested in the conservation and management of critical fisheries habitats in a changing ocean. Using CCFRP data, he is working to develop novel methods of MPA assessment that allow for improved evaluation and adaptive management of California marine reserves. Through his science, Jack is also committed to fostering relationships and building trust among fisheries scientists, marine resource managers, and local fishing communities.

Shawn Doyle

Field Technician



Shawn became an undergraduate field technician for CCFRP in 2023, and continued with the project again in 2024 where he helped prepare gear for all our trips, process eDNA samples, tag, measure and descend local fish species, along with dissections for otolith collection. He is currently a 4th year Marine Biology major at UCSD and is looking to continue his education into graduate school and pursue a career in Marine Genetics. Shawn's favorite memory from this past season was getting to know all of our awesome anglers.

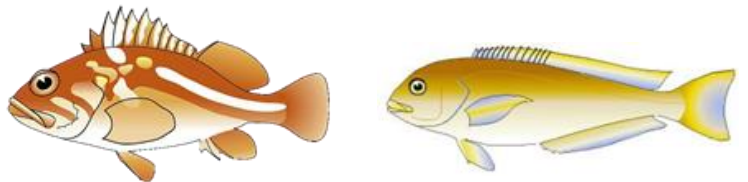
Meet the Crew!

Jakob Tallman
Field Technician



Jakob is one of the undergraduate research field technicians and is currently a third year Marine Biology student. He just finished his first year with CCFRP and enjoyed taking data, tagging fish, and assisting the anglers with their caught fish. Jakob enjoys spending time near the water, whether that is fishing, exploring, or helping with the CCFRP project. His favorite memory this past summer was helping to measure the large California Halibut.

Grace Turner
Field Technician



Grace is a third year Marine Biology student at UCSD and just finished her first year helping with CCFRP. She hopes to pursue a fisheries science or fisheries management program after completing her undergraduate degree, to learn more about the fishing community and sustainability. Grace's favorite memory from this season was getting to see each treefish that came on board.

Meet the Crew!

Nils Gungor
Field Technician



Nils Gungor, a recent UCSD graduate, volunteered with CCFRP this past summer, serving as both an angler and a valuable member of our science crew. He contributed to a wide range of tasks, including tagging and safely descending fish. After the summer season, Nils continued his involvement with CCFRP by assisting with rockfish dissections and data management at NOAA's Southwest Fisheries Science Center. Looking ahead, he hopes to pursue further education in graduate school.

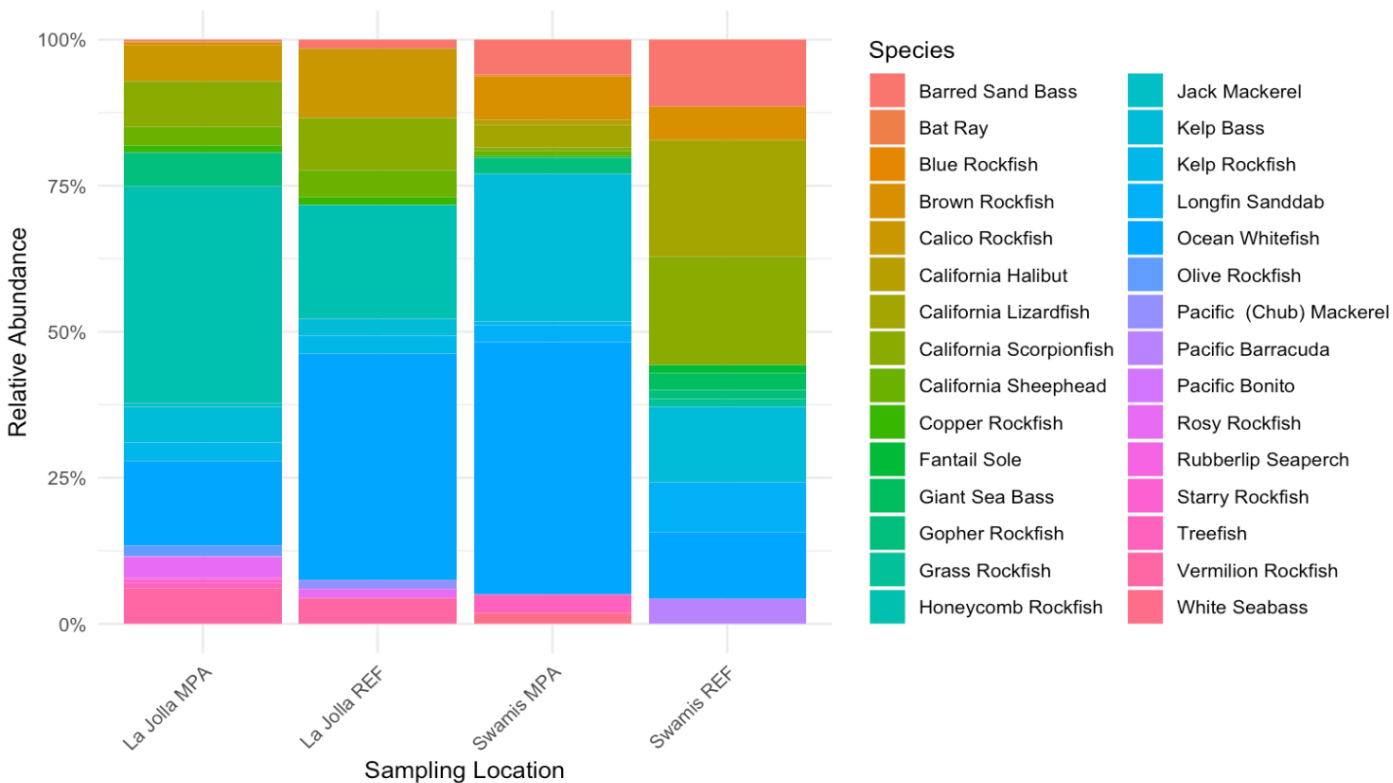
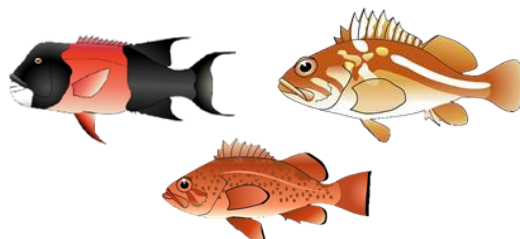
Thank you CCFRP crew for another great season!



Catch Totals - 2024

Area	Number of Sampling Trips	Number of Fishes Caught (Tagged)	Number of Species Caught
Swami's SMCA	6	293 (234)	15
Swami's REF	6	99 (51)	12
Swami's Total*	6	392 (285)	19
South La Jolla SMR	6	350 (197)	20
South La Jolla REF	6	148 (116)	15
South La Jolla Total*	6	498 (313)	21
2024 Season Total	12	890 (598)	30

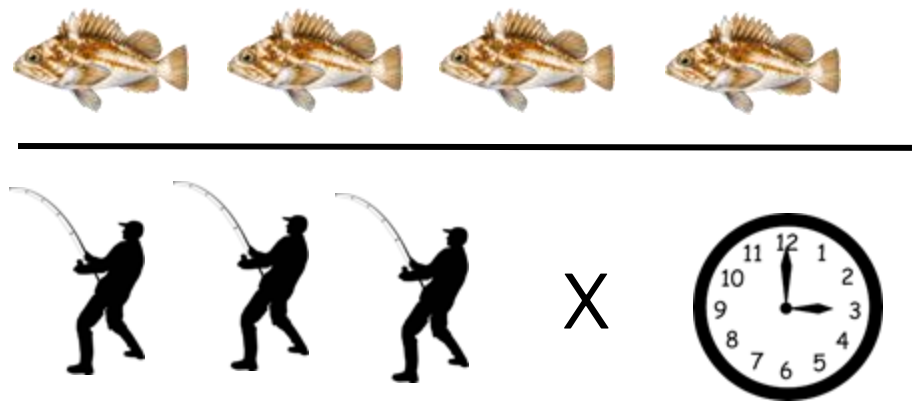
Species Composition



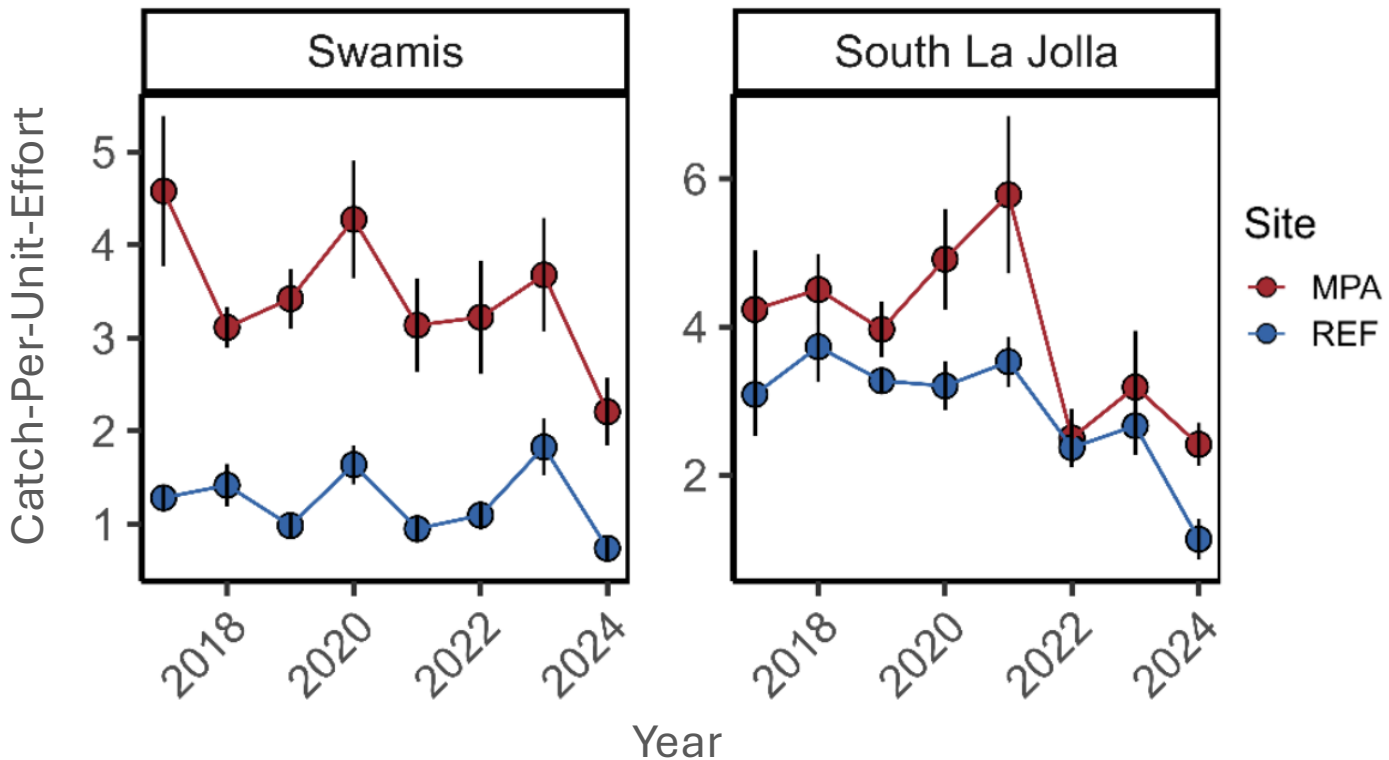
Catch-Per-Unit-Effort

One metric we used to estimate relative abundance is Catch-Per-Unit-Effort (CPUE)

We express CPUE as *catch per angler per hour*

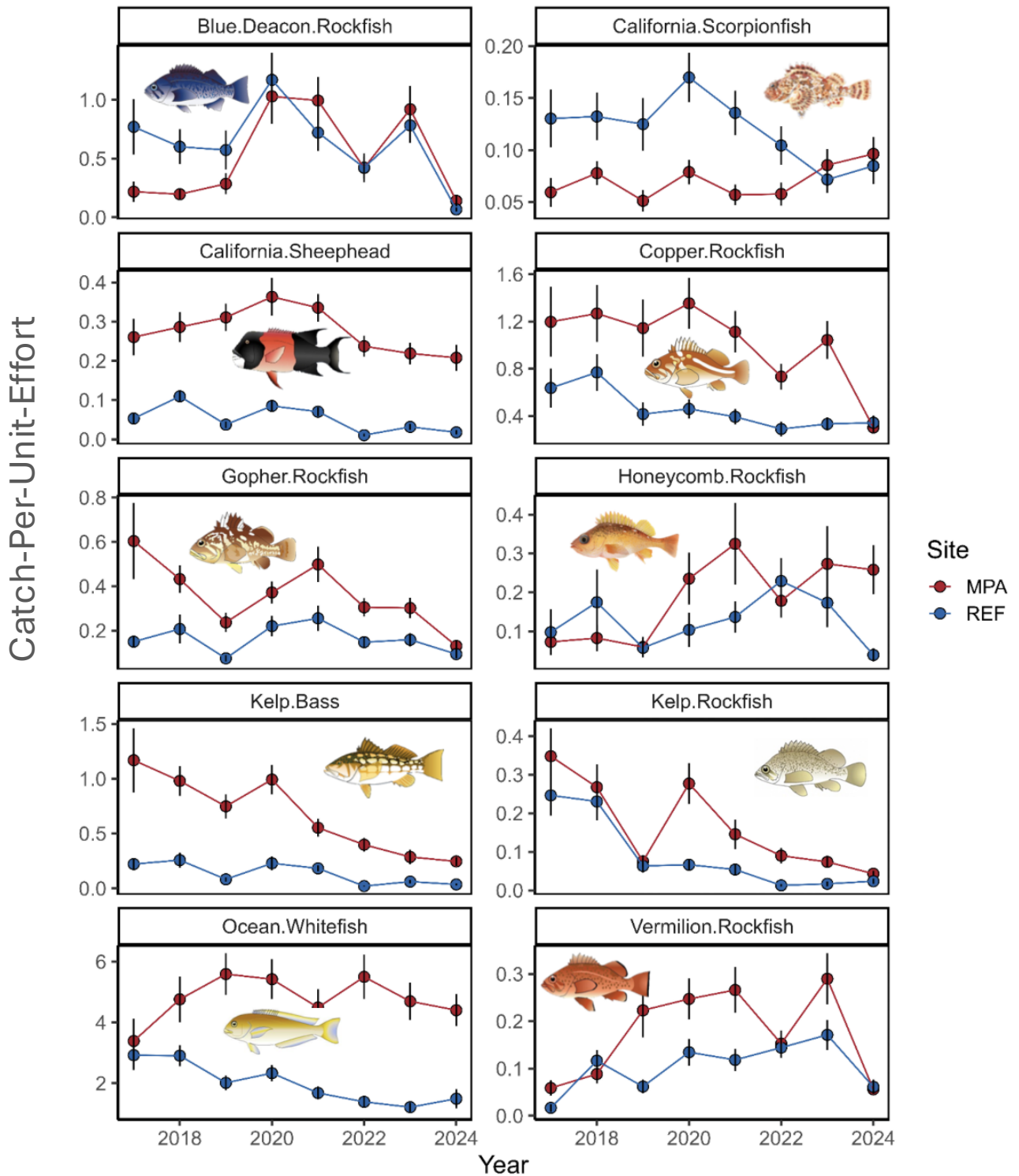
$$\text{CPUE} = \frac{\text{Catch}}{\text{Effort}} \times \text{Time}$$


CPUE Time Series for SIO Sampling Locations



CPUE for Top 10 Most Commonly Caught Species Over Time

(Includes San Diego + Santa Barbara CCFRP)



CCFRP 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

Total 2024 Tag Returns: **17**

- CCFRP Project Recaptures: **11**
- Reported by Anglers: **6**

Species	Max Days at Liberty	Max Distance Traveled
Ocean Whitefish	466 days	34.4 miles
Kelp Bass	327 days	9.32 miles
Barred Sand Bass	329 days	8.1 miles
California Scorpionfish	752 days	0.05 miles
Copper Rockfish	384 days	0.46 miles
Honeycomb Rockfish	2157 days	2.1 miles
Brown Rockfish	1094 days	0.07 miles



What to do if you catch a tagged fish:

- Record the tag ID number and species
- Record the length of the fish (fork length)
- Record the location and depth
- Record the date of capture
- Let us know if you kept or released the fish
- Call **858-534-2156** and leave a detailed message

We will be giving out CCFRP hats as a reward for tag return data, so make sure to reach out if you catch a tagged fish!

Largest Fish Caught in 2024

1. Len Alfuentes

118 cm (46.5 in) California Halibut

Swamis MPA

Swim Bait

2. Bill Moog

64.7 cm (25.5 in) California Halibut

Swamis MPA

Baited Shrimp Fly

3. Len Alfuentes

54.3 cm (21.4) Pacific Barracuda

Swamis REF

Swim Bait

4. Aaron Capelouto

52.8 cm (20.79 in) Kelp Bass

Swamis MPA

Swim Bait

5. Joseph Doyle

49.4 cm (19.45 in) Kelp Bass

Swamis MPA

Swim Bait



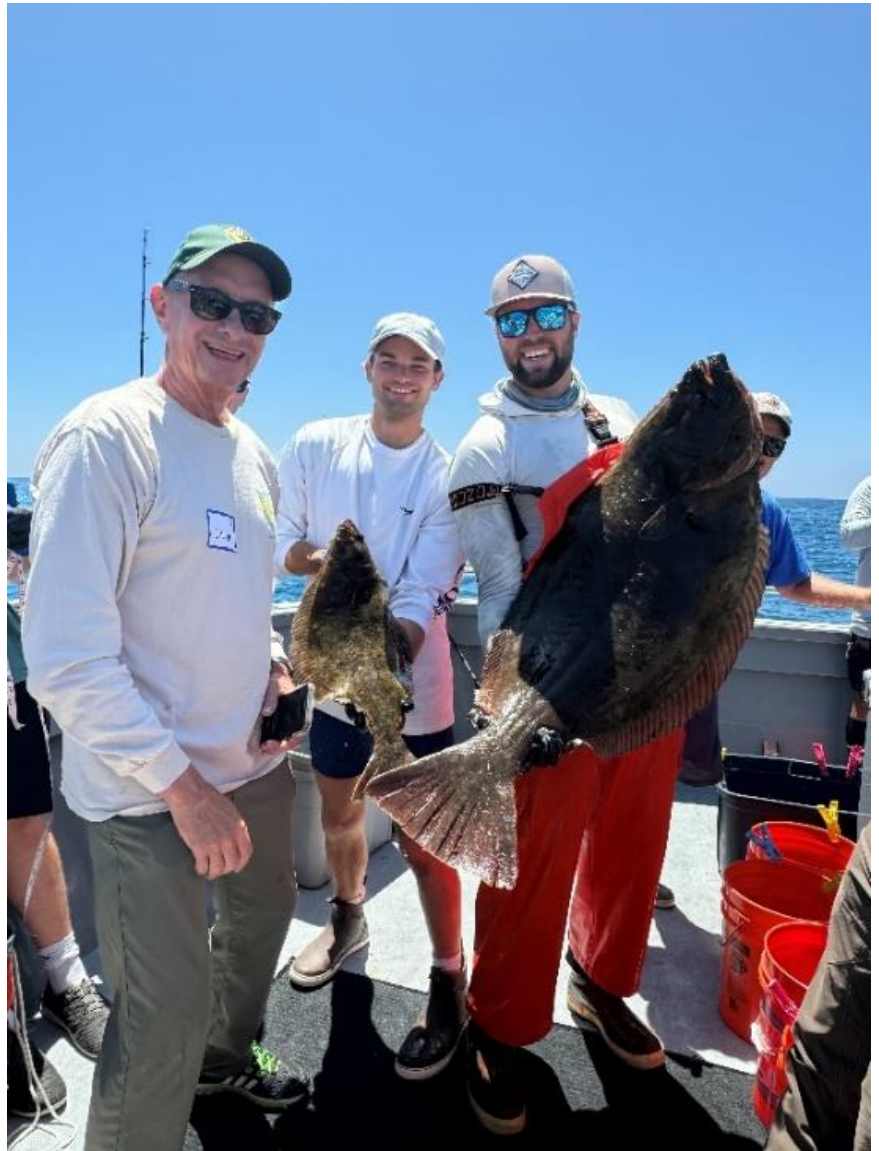
Species Spotlight!



The California Halibut

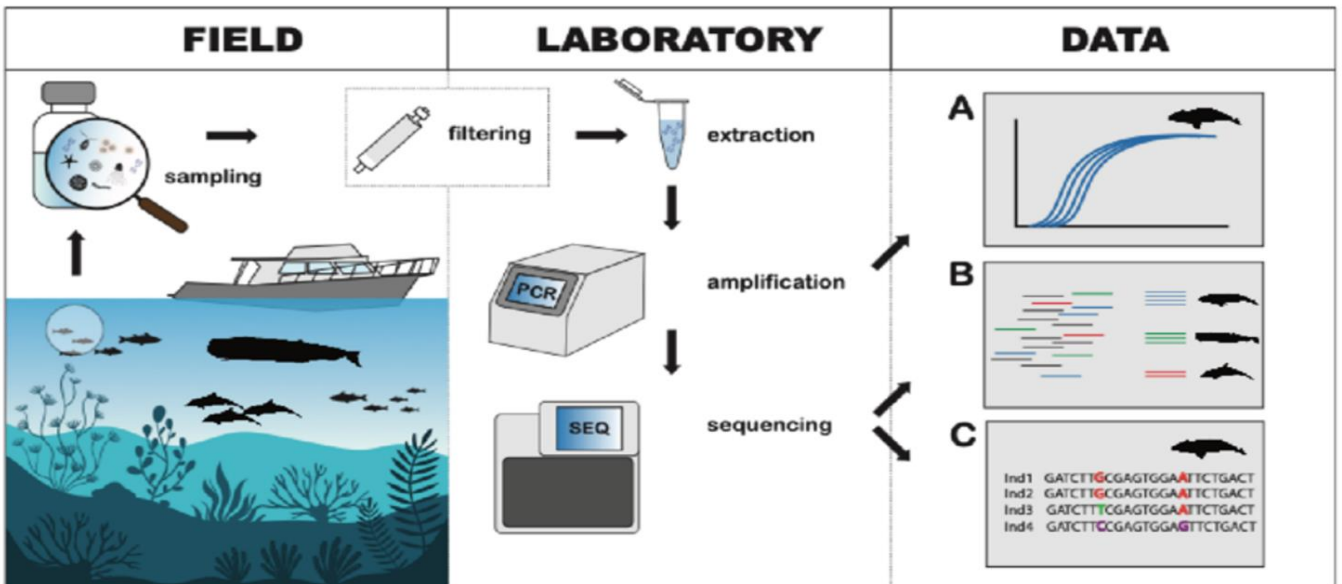
Scientific Name: *Paralichthys californicus*

The California Halibut is a native flatfish found along the Pacific Coast of North America. They spend most of their time on the sandy seafloor, blending in by changing color to match their surroundings. These halibut can grow up to 5 feet long and weigh as much as 70 pounds, with a brown coloration and distinctive light and dark splotches. CCFRP was lucky enough to catch two of these awesome fish back-to-back, making it a memorable day for everyone on board.



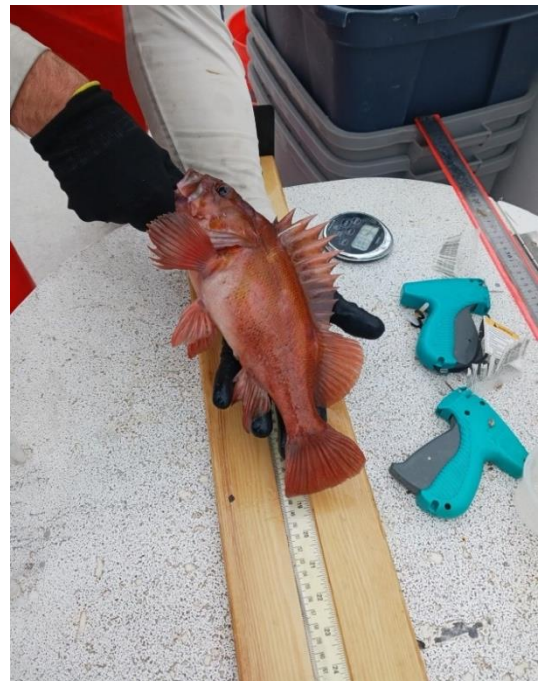
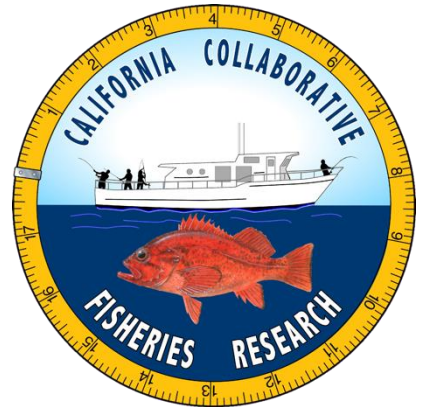
eDNA Sampling Program

In addition to our hook-and-line surveys, we also completed another successful year of eDNA sampling! eDNA (environmental DNA) is an emerging technique increasingly used to collect valuable fisheries data. In aquatic environments, fish and other organisms shed genetic material that becomes suspended in the water column. Through careful collection and analysis of water samples, we can use DNA signatures in the water to estimate the presence of different fish species living in the regions we sample. This may be especially useful for fish species that are hard to catch, or not commonly caught using gear types used on CCFRP surveys. To date, we have collected over 250 water samples, which we are analyzing in the lab as we speak!



NOAA NMFS Collaborative Sampling Program

The 2024 season also marked our second year participating in a cooperative rockfish sampling program directed by NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). This program strives to leverage relationships with local fishing communities to increase collection of biological data for use in life history evaluations and rockfish stock assessments. Our team kept a small portion of the fish we caught this summer for biological dissections, which provided information concerning the age and sex of the fish we caught.



Mark Your Calendars!

SIO Angler Appreciation & Data Sharing Workshop

Tuesday June 10th, 2025

6:00 pm

We will again be hosting our Angler Appreciation and Data Sharing Workshop this year at Scripps Institution of Oceanography! We will convene at the Martin Johnson House (Event Location: 8840 Biological Grade, La Jolla, CA 92037) at 6:00pm. There will be talks, program updates, and food!



Here is the 2025 CCFRP Schedule!

Monday June 23rd (Seaforth Sportfishing, Mission Bay)

Thursday June 26th (Oceanside Sea Center, Oceanside Harbor)

Friday June 27th (Oceanside Sea Center, Oceanside Harbor)

Tuesday July 1st (Seaforth Sportfishing, Mission Bay)

Wednesday July 2nd (Seaforth Sportfishing, Mission Bay)

Thursday July 3rd (Seaforth Sportfishing, Mission Bay)

Wednesday July 23rd (Seaforth Sportfishing, Mission Bay)

Thursday July 24th (Seaforth Sportfishing, Mission Bay)

Tuesday July 29th (Oceanside Sea Center, Oceanside Harbor)

Wednesday July 30th (Oceanside Sea Center, Oceanside Harbor)

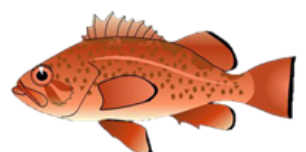
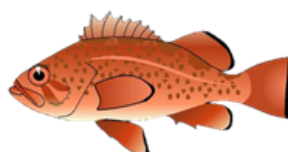
Tuesday August 5th (Oceanside Sea Center, Oceanside Harbor)

Wednesday August 6th (Oceanside Sea Center, Oceanside Harbor)

Start thinking about what trips you'd like to sign up for!

NOTE: You cannot sign up for trips just yet!

Stay on the lookout for emails from catchreporter@gmail.com for information regarding trip sign-ups! Be sure to respond quickly to ensure that you don't miss out on another year of exciting surveys!



Need To Get In Touch?



If you are interested in volunteering, send an email to catchreporter@gmail.com.

Please also take a moment to follow “Coastal Angler Tagging Cooperative” on Facebook, as well as “CCFRP” on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Youtube, and our new website!

www.ccfprp.org

**Thanks for a great season in 2024!
See you in 2025!**

