



California Collaborative Fisheries Research Program

Scripps Institution of Oceanography Volunteer Newsletter

A Summary of the 2022 Sampling Season

CCFRP Volunteers,

With your support, we successfully completed our sixth season of CCFRP sampling in San Diego! We cannot thank you enough for your continued participation and enthusiasm for this program. This season was particularly exciting because we were able to again invite members of the local fishing community on our trips! We were able to complete all 12 sampling trips this year, where we conducted standardized hook-and-line surveys inside MPAs and throughout nearby reference sites off San Diego County. Over the course of the summer, we were joined by 104 volunteer anglers who spend 505 hours catching and releasing fish as part of our surveys. Our anglers caught a total of 1171 fishes (601 of these were tagged) representing 28 different species. We also welcomed 73 new volunteers this year! We'd like to share some highlights from this past season, and keep you up to date on all things CCFRP!



Know someone interested in fishing with us in 2023?

Contact us at catchreporter@gmail.com for more information and to volunteer.



Meet Our CCFRP Team!



Jack Elstner

This year, Jack transitioned into the role of lead field scientist at SIO for the CCFRP Program. As a PhD student at Scripps, he is interested in fisheries oceanography and marine resource management. At the core of Jack's graduate work is an effort to understand connections between oceans, climate and people, with a particular emphasis on climate-informed ocean management. In addition to his work with CCFRP, Jack is also the manager of the La Jolla Acoustic Telemetry Array.

Connor Coscino

In Winter of 2023, Connor graduated with a Master's degree in marine biology. His work focuses on using length data for stock assessments and management strategy evaluations, with an emphasis on minimum size limits. Connor has worked as a lab technician and lead field scientist on CCFRP since 2019. This past season, he helped train Jack to be SIO's new lead field scientist.



Kamran Walsh

Kamran Walsh is a Master's Student at Scripps Institution of Oceanography, and graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Marine Biology in Fall 2021. He has helped with CCFRP field surveys throughout the course of his undergraduate and graduate education. His research centers around the study of fishes in their early life stages, and is particularly interested in understanding how diet and maternal provisioning influence growth and survival in larval rockfishes.

Meet Our CCFRP Team!

Jordan Dinardo

Jordan is a PhD student in the Marine Biology Program at Scripps Institution of Oceanography and interested in applying quantitative tools to advance our understanding and management of fisheries. She began working in the Semmens Lab in 2016 as a master's student, culminating in the development of habitat models to inform Federal Government outplanting efforts of white abalone in the Southern California Bight ecosystem. Jordan is planning to graduate in 2023.



Cai Rahman

Cai is a fourth year undergraduate at UCSD who will be completing his bachelor's degree this spring. He began volunteering for the Semmens Lab in the Summer of 2022, and has since then aided in CCFRP field operations and database management. Previously, Cai worked in the Smith Lab at SIO, where his work focused on coral and algae species found at the Palmyra Atoll.

We look forward to working with you!

Biggest Fishes Caught in 2022

Below are the top 7 largest species caught last season.

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

California Sheephead 59 cm (23.2 in)

Joseph Doyle, Swami's MPA

Dropper Loop

53 cm (20.9 in)

Joe Cote, Swami's MPA

Swimbait

Lingcod 53 cm (20.9 in)

Sebastian Lanswick, South La Jolla MPA

Swimbait

Pacific Barracuda 52 cm (20.5 in)

William Boen, Swami's MPA

Swimbait

50 cm (19.7 in)

Jeff Schoellerman, South La Jolla MPA

Swimbait

50 cm (19.7 in)

Conor Coscino, Swami's MPA

Swimbait

Vermillion Rockfish 49 cm (19.3 in)

Larry Courtney, Swami's MPA

Swimbait

Ocean Whitefish 48 cm (18.9 in)

Kevin Bayne, Swami's MPA

Dropper loop

46 cm (18.1 in)

Jim Van Evera, Swami's MPA

Dropper Loop

Kelp Bass 47 cm (18.5 in)

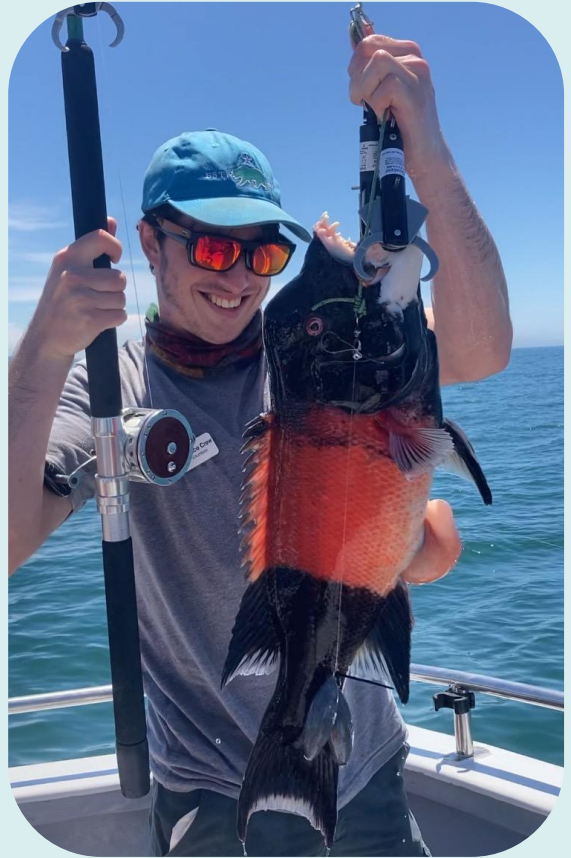
Joe Dohner, Swami's REF

Swimbait

46 cm (18.1 in)

Hayden Huff, Swami's REF

Swimbait



2022 Data Summary

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

Area	2021 CPUE	2022 CPUE	Most Frequently Caught Species
South La Jolla MPA	5.47	2.54	Honeycomb Rockfish, Ocean Whitefish, Gopher Rockfish, Vermilion Rockfish
South La Jolla REF	3.48	2.40	
Swami's MPA	3.31	3.36	Kelp Bass, Treefish, Longfin Sanddab, Pacific Mackerel, Barred Sand Bass
Swami's REF	0.93	1.03	

Species Spotlight: California Scorpionfish (*Scorpaena guttata*)



Etymology and Colloquial Names:

Scorpaena meaning “scorpion,” and *guttata* meaning “spot” in Greek

Geographic Range: Coastal distribution ranges from Uncle Sam Bank in Baja California to Santa Cruz, California

Size Range: Individuals range from about 6.7 inches (17 cm) to about 16.9 inches (43 cm)

The California Scorpionfish is perhaps best known for their infamous venom that, though not fatal, will cause severe pain once pricked by its barbs. This species is a reddish brown colored with black blotches and dark spots covering the body and fins. Their bodies are optimized for the rocky benthic environment, though they can be found anywhere between the surface tide pools to about 600 feet below the surface. These fish spawn between April to August and reach sexual maturity by 3 to 4 years. Though this species is not currently overfished, much about them and their environmental impact is uncertain. This year, we recaptured two California Scorpionfish that were previously caught and tagged. On one trip, we caught the same fish twice on back-to-back drifts!

CCFRP California Scorpionfish Stats:

2022

Caught and released

37

Tagged

21

Recaptured

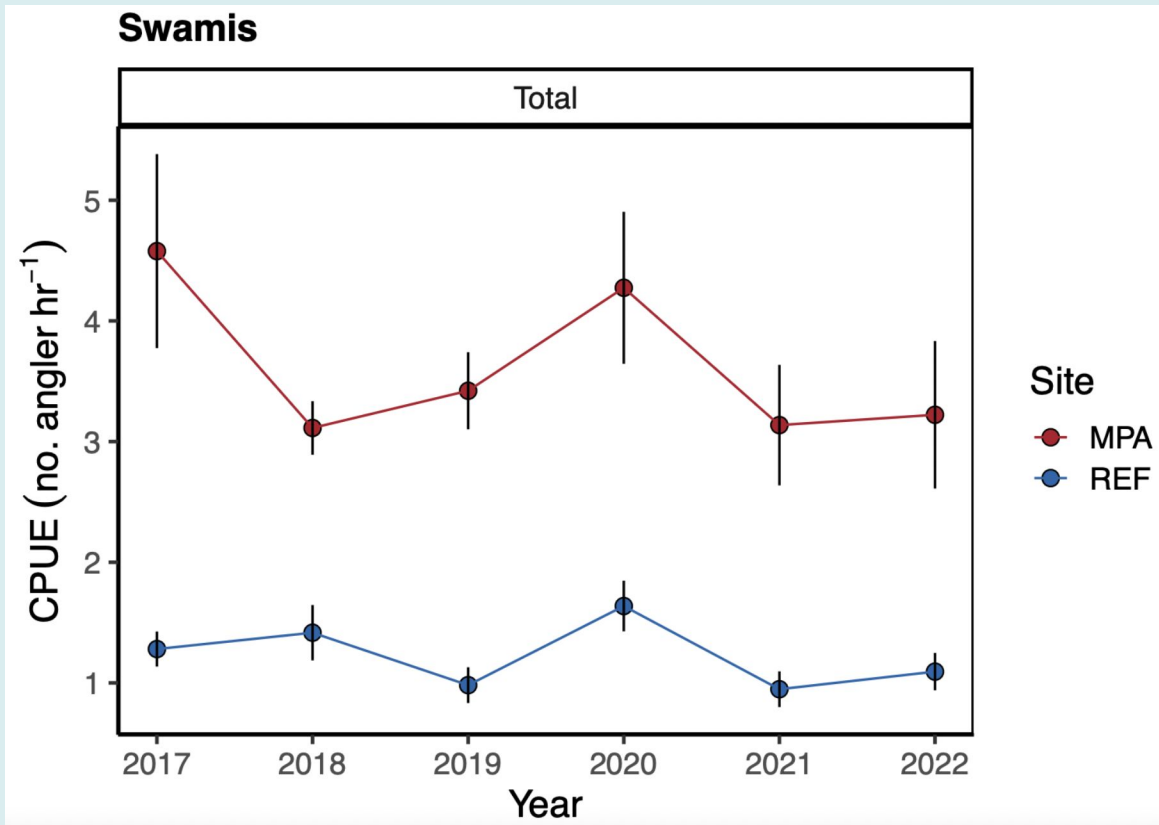
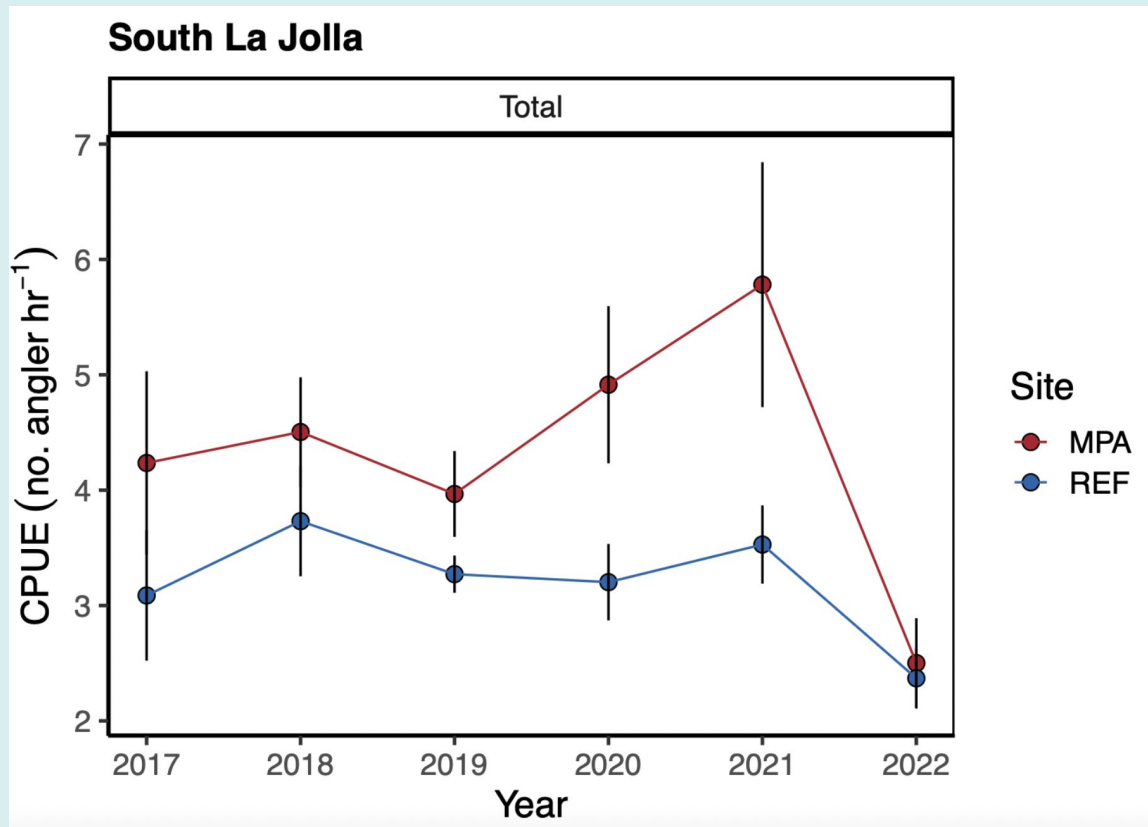
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Max length (inches)

35

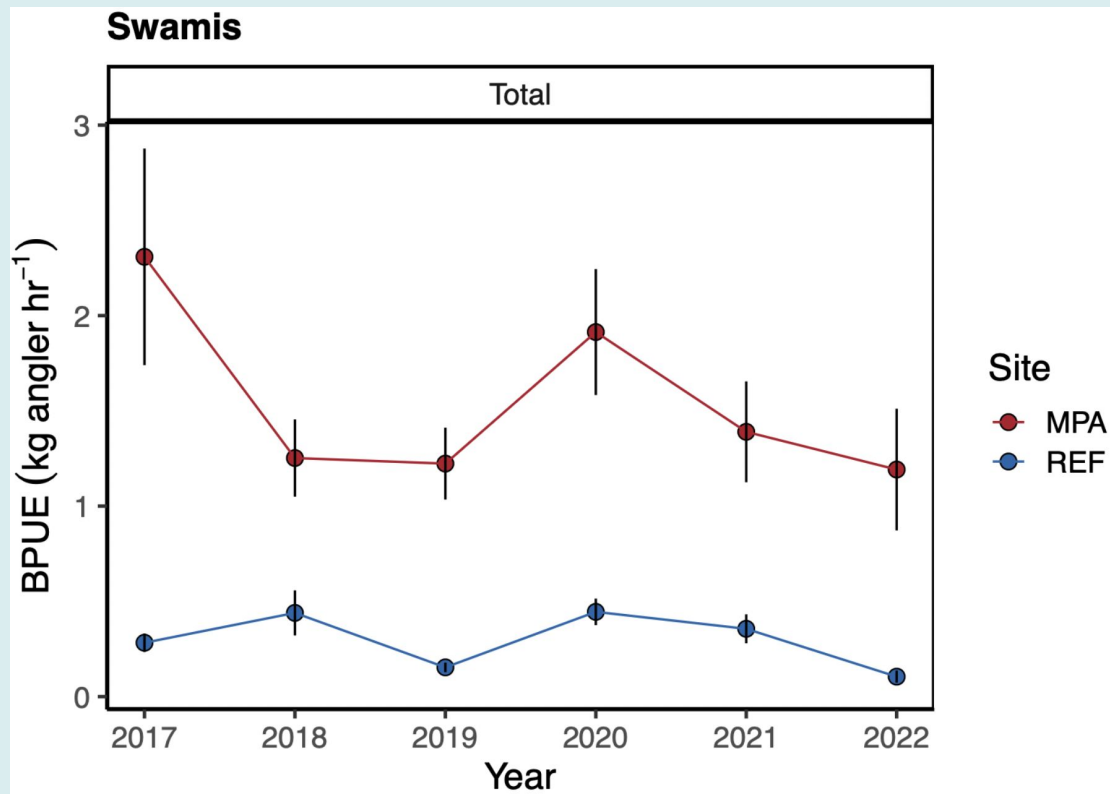
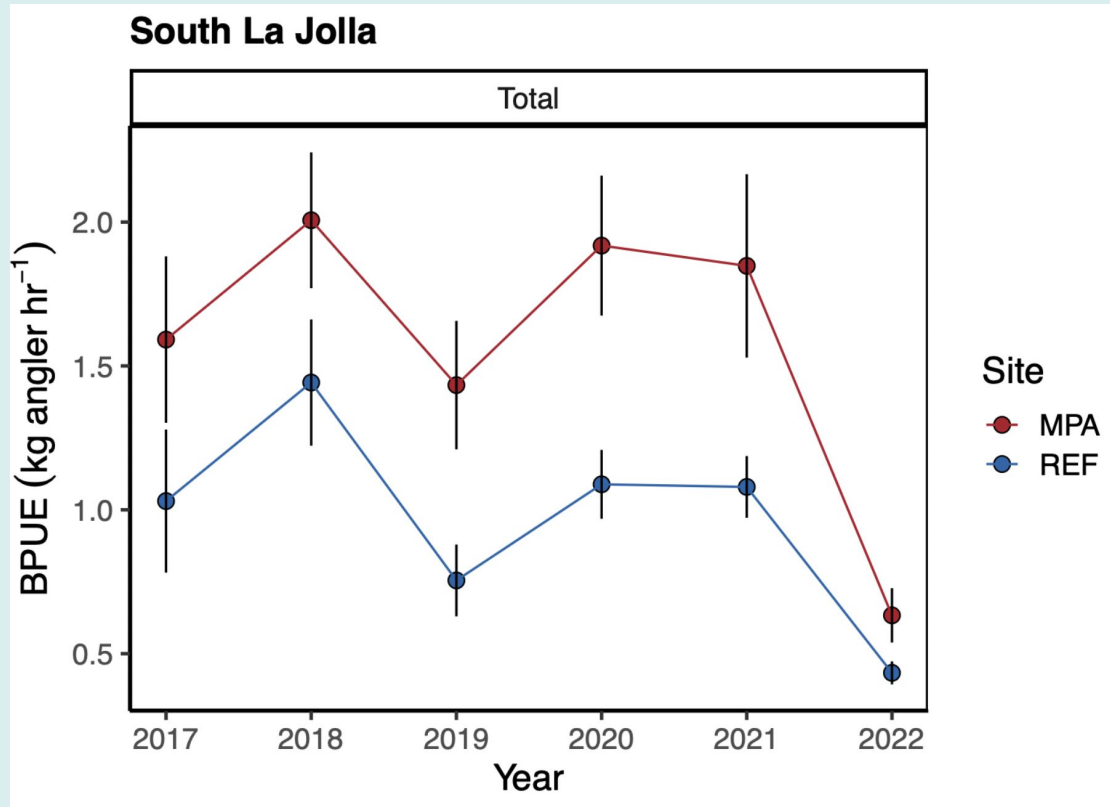
Temporal Trends

Catch-Per-Unit-Effort



Temporal Trends

Biomass-Per-Unit-Effort



2022 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 **20** of our tagged fish last year! Overall there was an increase in total caught species, Max Days at Liberty, and Max Distance from original location compared to the data from our 2020 Tag Returns! This year, an angler recaptured an Ocean Whitefish over 45 miles north of where the fish was originally tagged!

Species	Total	Max Days at Liberty	Max Distance (mi)
Honeycomb Rockfish	4	1519	1.69
Ocean Whitefish	4	267	45.00
Starry Rockfish	3	1839	7.36
Kelp Bass	2	1747	5.86
Vermilion Rockfish	2	146	0.64
California Scorpionfish	2	0	0
Copper Rockfish	1	142	0.58
Olive Rockfish	1	922	3.22
Rosy Rockfish	1	365	0.08



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 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 now have CCFRP hats as a **reward** for tag return data!

Surveys in 2023

Stay on the lookout for emails next spring from catchreporter@gmail.com with details on our schedule for the 2023 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, Youtube, and our new website!

<https://www.ccfrrp.org>



Mark Your Calendars!

SIO Angler Appreciation & Data Sharing Workshop

Tuesday May 23rd

6:00 pm

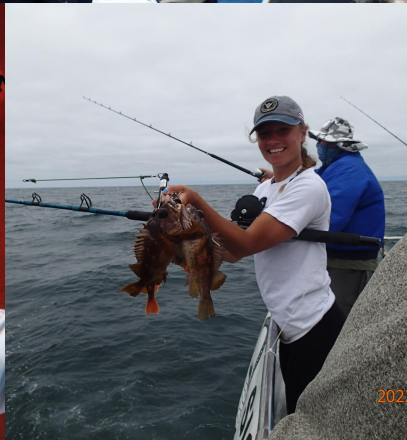
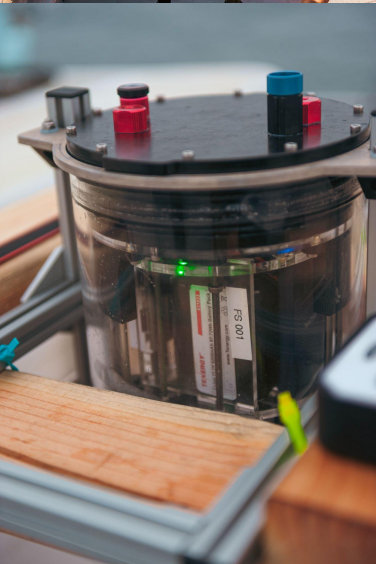
We will be hosting our annual Angler Appreciation and Data Sharing Workshop at SIO! We will convene at the Martin Johnson House (Event Location: [8840 Biological Grade, La Jolla, CA 92037](#)) at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at 6:00pm. There will be talks, refreshments, food, and time to socialize!





**Thank you for your
support of CCFRP!**





Looking forward to another great season!

