

ANNOUNCEMENT

TRAWL FIELD TAXONOMY INTERCALIBRATION CRUISE 29 JUNE 1999

Sign-up by 11 June 1999

Greetings SCAMIT members & Regional Monitoring participants!

Last June, in preparation for the Bight'98 Regional Survey, we (LACSD) hosted the Trawl Field Taxonomy Intercalibration Cruise aboard the R/V Ocean Sentinel. The purpose of the exercise was to provide an opportunity for the lead fish & invertebrate taxonomists from the participating agencies to compare field IDs of some of the commonly encountered trawl-caught fish and invertebrates. As part of the survey's QA/QC plan, participation in this exercise was required of the eight organizations who would be conducting trawls as part of the Bight'98 survey. In attendance that day were taxonomists from:

Channel Islands Marine Sanctuary
ABC Laboratories
Wrigley Institute for Environmental Studies (USC)
City of Los Angeles, Environmental Monitoring Division
Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts
Southern California Coastal Water Research Project
MEC Analytical Systems
SPAWAR (U.S. Navy)
City of San Diego, Metropolitan Wastewater Department

While limited to Bight'98 participants, the day of trawling was a unique opportunity for those of us who routinely conduct trawling surveys in the SCB to get together and have "real-time" discussions of field identifications of fresh trawl-caught organisms. At the end of the day, several participants suggested that all our programs, as well as cooperative regional surveys, would benefit from periodically repeating the exercise.

In response to the success of the Bight'98 Intercalibration Exercise and the suggestions of the participants, the LACSD, in cooperation with SCAMIT, is organizing a day of trawling on the San Pedro Sea Shelf for the purposes of intercalibrating field identifications of trawl-caught organisms (both fish and invertebrates). We invite any interested biologists who are participants in trawling surveys within the SCB. We hope to have field taxonomists from all agencies or other organizations regularly conducting trawling surveys in the region. However, space is limited. We can accommodate no more than 20 participants. To assure the maximum coverage among organizations, we will initially hold each group to two participants. If attendance allows, we will adjust that limit as necessary. Within these limits on participation, slots will be reserved on a first-come basis. Ideally we will have participation evenly distributed between the fish and invert-folks.

WHAT, WHERE, & WHEN

The exercise will take place Tuesday 29 June 1999 aboard the R/V Ocean Sentinel (directions below). We plan to conduct seven or eight trawls in the range of depths typical of monitoring surveys in the SCB, starting with a trawl at 300 meters and working inshore with trawls planned at 200, 150, 80, 60, 45, 30 meters. We will be trawling on the western margin of the San Pedro Shelf. As in last year's exercise, once the catch is on deck we will work in two groups (fish-folk & invert-folk), dividing the catches along those lines into two separate holding tanks. We will then examine representative specimens of each species in the catch and discuss the field marks and any taxonomic problems they present.

SIGN UP

If you are interested in participating, contact Dave Montagne by phone (310-830-2400 ext 402) or email (dmontagne@lacsds.org) NO LATER THAN FRIDAY 11 JUNE 1999. After that date, any remaining spots will be distributed to those organizations already signed up.

OTHER INFO

- The Ocean Sentinel is docked in San Pedro at the Cabrillo Marina, Berth 30 (next to the Marina Operations Building) . See the map below.
- Regardless of where you're coming from you, once you're on the Harbor Freeway (110), take it to its southern terminus, which will dump you out onto Gaffey Street. Continue south on Gaffey to 22nd street (about 25 blocks). Left on 22nd Street, crossing Pacific Ave and Mesa Street. Right at entrance to Cabrillo Marina (Via Cabrillo Marina). Continue on Via Cabrillo Marina to Whalers Walk (which is a roadway, not a "walk"). The Ocean Sentinel is docked at the end of Whalers Walk.
- The vessel is a white, 66 foot, fiberglass boat recognizable by the orange articulated-crane on its aft deck.
- We will board at 7:30 AM and return to the dock by 4 PM. We will leave the dock promptly, so if you're not there by 7:45 AM, you may miss the boat!
- Parking is available (free) in the lots that flank Whalers Walk . Park in the row of slots nearest Whalers Walk.
- Bring your own food/drink for the day. We have a refrigerator/freezer, microwave and electric range in the galley, so you may store and heat things up.
- We will have on-board the typical range of literature and identification aids that we take out with us during our own trawl surveys. These include:
 - Deep-water Fishes of California (Fitch & Lavenberg 1968)
 - Guide to Coastal Marine Fishes of California (Miller & Lea 1972)
 - Pacific Fishes of Canada (Hart 1972)
 - Pacific Coast Fishes (Eschmeyer, Herald, & Hammann 1983)
 - Guide to Northeast Pacific Rockfishes (Kramer & O'Connell 1988)
 - Marine Fishes of California (Barnhart 1936)
 - Audubon Field Guide to N. American Fishes...(Boschung et al 1983)
 - Shrimps of the Pacific Coast of Canada (Butler 1980)
 - Pacific Coast Crabs and Shrimps (Jensen 1995)
 - Key to Invertebrates I and II (Word & Charwat 1975 & 1976)
 - Marine Decapod Crustacea of California (Schmitt 1921)
 - Guide to NE Pac. Flatfish (Both., Cyno., Pleu) (Kramer 1995)
 - Coastal Fish Identification, Calif to Alaska (Humann 1996)
 - Camarones: Pacifico centro-Oriental (Hendrickx 1995)

We will also have notebooks of misc. fish and invertebrate keys.

- If there are references missing from this list that you find useful in your surveys or if you have your own notebooks of keys or other taxonomic aids, please bring them along so that the rest of us may learn of them. One of the ways of promoting comparable data is the use of comparable information sources.

- You may also wish to bring some of your own references for annotation.
- Along those lines, the SCAMIT web site (www.scamit.org) has available (in downloadable pdf format) keys to the local shelf-depth shrimp and galatheid crabs. We will have a copy of these on board and I urge you to visit the new site, download these files and bring along your own copies for annotation.

PHONE NUMBERS:

Ocean Sentinel Dock:	(310) 832-5623
Ocean Sentinel Cellular:	(310) 613-5434
D. Montagne (work):	(310) 830-2400 ext 402
D. Montagne (eves):	(562) 598-4258 ... in case you have to cancel at the last minute

