



MLML Volunteer Newsletter

A Summary of the 2017 Sampling Season

California Collaborative Fisheries Research Program

Greetings MLML CCFRP Volunteers,

With your help, MLML has successfully completed ELEVEN years of data collection inside and outside MPAs of the central California coast! In this time, we've conducted a total of **186** hook-and-line surveys in an effort to gather information regarding species compositions, lengths, and catch rates of rockfishes and other species commonly found in the nearshore environment. From these surveys, **556** volunteer anglers have spent **5,465** hours catching **58,043** (and tagging 20,074 fishes) from a total of **51** different species! In addition to the Point Lobos and Año Nuevo MPAs, MLML added the SE Farallon Islands MPA to our sampling locations this season. This year we were also able to expand the program statewide to sample include 14 MPAs along the California coast with the cooperation of 5 other academic institutions! Thank you to everyone involved in this effort!



At this time, we would like to invite you to our annual volunteer angler appreciation event and data workshop. This is an excellent opportunity to hear about the data we have collected over the past eleven seasons. We would appreciate your attendance and involvement. The event will be held on **Sunday, March 4, 2018, from 12-3PM at Moss Landing Marine Laboratories.**

If you are able to attend, feel free to bring others who might be interested and **please RSVP through email (CCFRP@mlml.calstate.edu)** so we may plan accordingly. Lunch will be provided at the meeting. An additional message will be sent out soon with more workshop details. Please stay tuned for updates through email, our website, Facebook, Instagram and YouTube! To review some of the data analyses conducted so far, visit our webpage at:

<https://www.mlml.calstate.edu/fisheries/ccfrp-datareports/>



A big thanks to our program partners and research affiliates this season: The Ocean Protection Council, NOAA, FishWise, Santa Monica Seafood, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, F/V Chubasco, F/V Huli Cat, F/V Kahuna, F/V Tigerfish, Humboldt State University, Bodega Marine Laboratories, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, UC Santa Barbara, and Scripps Institution of Oceanography

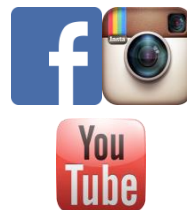
Updates from the MLML CCFRP Science Crew



We're all working hard behind the scenes preparing for another successful and fun field season! Jen will act as the statewide coordinator for the program, and will return as lead field scientist for MLML. Ryan will continue coordinating the volunteers and Bonnie, Jimmy, Katie, and Jackie will be the returning science crew. Be on the lookout for emails in the early summer with details on our upcoming sampling schedule.



Please take a minute to like **CCFRP** on Facebook, and follow us on Instagram, and YouTube (@CCFRP)



Jen Chiu is wrapping up her thesis work on Yellowtail Rockfish diet and getting ready to defend! **Ryan Fields** is working on a collaborative project to develop a new stereo drop-camera tool to better survey rockfish populations in deep rocky-reef habitats. **Bonnie Brown** is studying Lingcod diet variability along the U.S. West Coast, and is currently in the middle of processing her Lingcod samples. She looks forward to the upcoming season of CCFRP! **Jimmy Williamson** is keeping busy with his thesis reviewing hours of underwater camera footage from the video Lander. **Katie Cieri and Jackie Mohay** just finished their first semester at MLML and are ready to dive into their thesis work! Summer interns **Jack Johnson and Joaquin Cardozo** are continuing their college careers; Joaquin is studying Biology and Chemistry, and Jack is enrolled in a research program at a marine lab in Mossel Bay, South Africa for the summer of 2018!



We all thoroughly enjoyed working with you and can't wait to see you again this season!



MLML's fearless leader, Dr. **Rick Starr**, continues to seek out funding, find innovative applications for our data, and offer useful advice to our team. He has a very busy schedule that prevents him from getting out on the water as often as he'd like, but we are sure to bring back lots of exciting stories and photos!



Biggest Fishes Caught with MLML (2007 to 2017)

Below are some of Moss Landing Marine Labs' largest fishes ever caught, by species.
Total lengths are listed along with angler, area, site (MPA / REF) and year.

Black & Yellow Rockfish 33 cm (13 in)
Matthew Crow, Año Nuevo MPA '08
John Barnes, Año Nuevo REF '12
Judy Wong, Año Nuevo REF '14
Dan Schuster, Año Nuevo REF '17

Black Rockfish 49 cm (19 in)
Harry Burcher, Año Nuevo REF '08
Hap Gladstone, Año Nuevo REF '08

Blue Rockfish 45 cm (18 in)
Ray Yee, Año Nuevo MPA '08
Mike Ingram, Point Lobos REF '15

Bocaccio 59 cm (23 in)
Dan Schrimsher, Farallon Islands MPA '17

Brown Rockfish 48 cm (19 in)
Scott Young, Año Nuevo MPA '17

California Halibut 89 cm (35 in)
Ken Yuen, Año Nuevo MPA '15
Ken Yuen, Año Nuevo REF '17

Cabazon 64 cm (25 in)
EC Ong, Año Nuevo REF '16

Canary Rockfish 56 cm (22 in)
Amy McKee, Año Nuevo REF '11

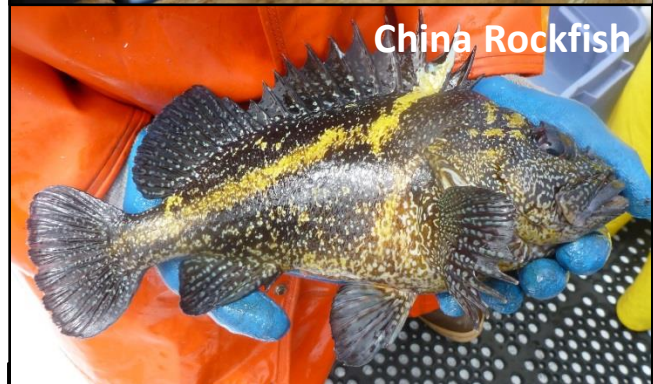
China Rockfish 39 cm (15 in)
Kevin Mowery, Año Nuevo REF '10

Copper Rockfish 52 cm (20 in)
Darrell Bunse, Point Lobos MPA '17

Gopher Rockfish 41 cm (16 in)
Darrell Bunse, Point Lobos REF '15

Grass Rockfish 45 cm (18 in)
Ken Yuen, Año Nuevo MPA '09

Kelp Greenling 41 cm (16 in)
Manny Lim, Año Nuevo REF '17



Biggest Fishes Caught with MLML (2007 to 2017)

Come fish with us again and defend your record! Or make a new one!



Kelp Rockfish

Kelp Rockfish 39 cm (15 in)
Lester Yung, Point Lobos MPA '14



Lingcod

Lingcod 102 cm (40 in)
Ed Marchese, Año Nuevo MPA '14

Lingcod

Olive Rockfish 50 cm (20 in)
Alan Bienenfeld, Point Lobos MPA '08

Ocean Whitefish 60 cm (24 in)
Frank Pickell, Point Lobos MPA '09


Rock Greenling 38 cm (15 in)
Gary Christensen, Point Lobos MPA '07



Rosy Rockfish

Rosy Rockfish 29 cm (11 in)
Keri Clements, Farallon Islands REF '17

Starry Rockfish 38 cm (15 in)
Randy Young, Farallon Islands MPA '17



Vermilion Rockfish

Treefish 35 cm (14 in)
Ben Romano, Point Lobos REF '15
Eddie Gomez, Point Lobos MPA '17

Vermilion Rockfish 56 cm (22 in)
Daniel Shim, Point Lobos MPA '11
Ben Sadeghi, Año Nuevo REF '12

White Croaker 32 cm (13 in)
Bill Doo, Año Nuevo MPA '11



Yellowtail Rockfish

Wolf Eel 122 cm (48 in)
Paul Rowles Farallon Islands REF '17

Yellowtail Rockfish 44 cm (17 in)
Ken Yuen, Año Nuevo MPA '15

Tag Recaptures at MLML

Tag returns are an exciting part of our program and one way that we can learn about the movements and growth rates of the fishes we catch and release on our sampling trips. We had 12 fish recaptures in 2017 and we wanted to highlight a few of these interesting stories!

Two Brown Rockfish were tagged on 7/19/17 at Año Nuevo. The first, caught by Nick Ingram, was 43cm (17in). The second, caught by Ed Marchese was 39cm (15in). Both were caught again on the same day, 9/12/17, the first by Mike Juanes, and the second by Harry Lee.



A Copper Rockfish caught **10 years ago** (8/7/17) by David Bayles was recaptured on 9/19/17 by Cheyanna Carr at Point Lobos! It had grown 12 cm (5in) from 30 cm (12in) to 42 cm (17in). It only traveled about 65 meters.

We had some very lucky anglers this year! Lester Yung caught the same 38 cm (15in) Brown Rockfish on 9/28/16 and 7/19/17 at Año Nuevo! Paul Reilly also caught the same 46 cm (18in) Vermilion Rockfish at Point Lobos on 8/2/17 and 9/20/17.



One unlucky male Lingcod was caught **twice on the same day**, 9/19/17, at Point Lobos! Ben Romano caught it the first time and Nick Ingram the second. It was 58 cm (23in).



Please check for tags next time you are out fishing!

We don't get to fish as much as our volunteers (or as much as we'd like to), so we have to rely on the help of the fishing community to gather this important information. Remember that information from a tagged fish is worth \$20! If you happen to catch a tagged fish, please record the species, length, depth, and location and contact:

CCFRP@mlml.calstate.edu or (831) 771-4479

2017 Highlights

This year was a huge year for the California Collaborative Fisheries Research program as it was successfully spread into a state-wide program! This expansion is a great achievement and opportunity to involve more scientists, captains and volunteer anglers! To learn about the research other CCFRP regions are conducting, please visit our statewide CCFRP website at <https://www.mlml.calstate.edu/ccfrp/>

Record-Breaking Numbers!

Prior to this season, the MLML record day was 1,097 fishes caught out of the Point Lobos MPA in 2016. It was a busy year as **we broke the 2016 record with 1,143 fishes in one day this season!** Holy Mackerel!

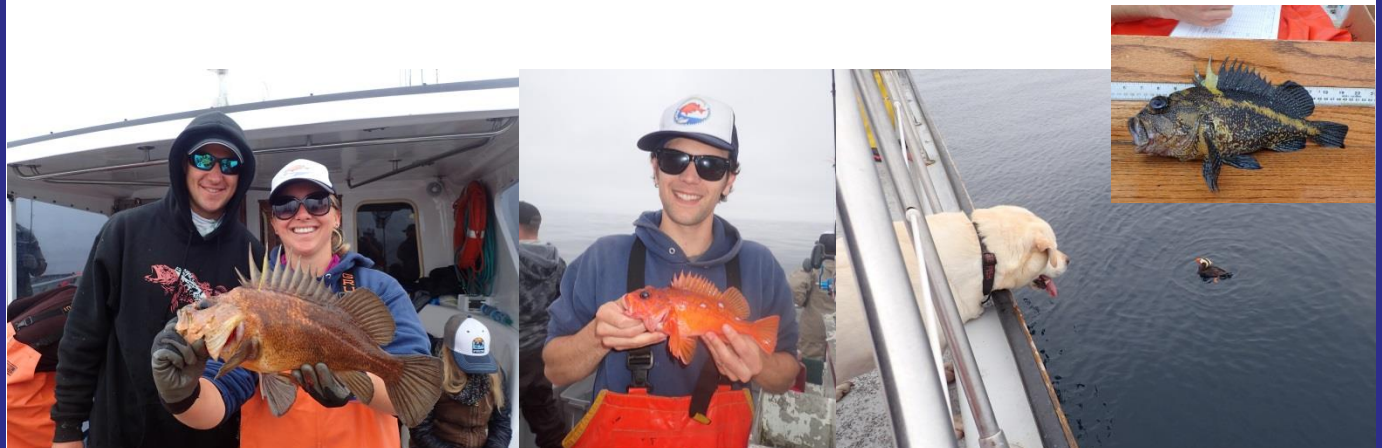


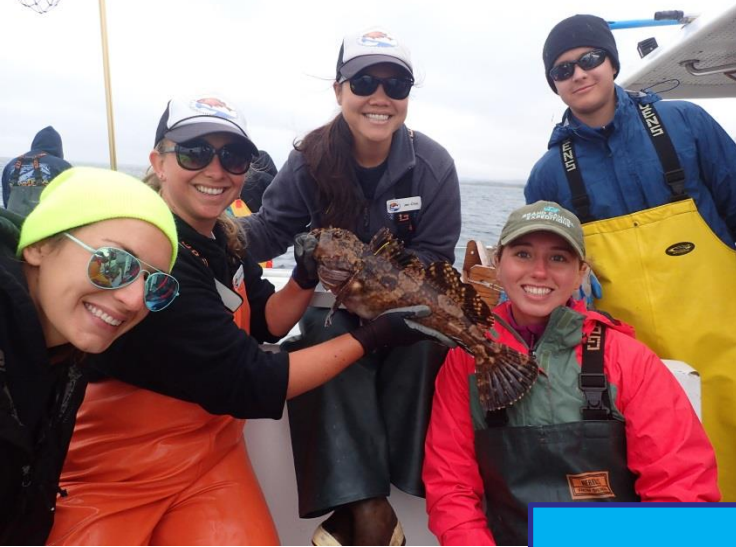
The new
MLML
CCFRP record:

1,143 fishes

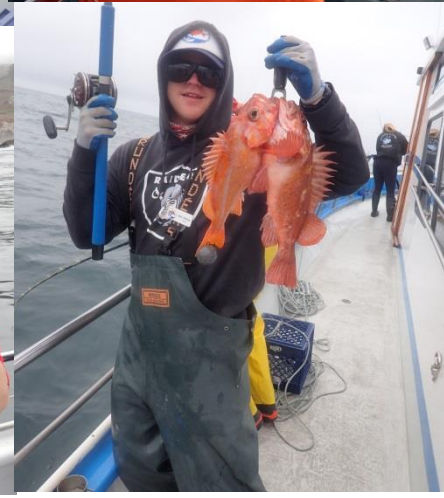
Uncharted Territory

This year we sampled a new and speciose location, the Southeast Farallon Islands! Well worth the long steam, the area we surveyed is a State Marine Reserve, which is a marine protected area where no take is allowed. This MPA, established in 2010, provided us with many vibrant species some of which we haven't encountered at our other sampling locations. Some exciting species caught here include the Quillback Rockfish, which made up over 25% of the catch in the MPA, as well as China and Rosy Rockfishes which were top species caught outside of the MPA. And of course, who could forget.....the PUFFINS!





**Thank you for your support,
and for another great year
with CCFRP!**



We look forward to our 12th sampling season!

