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CalCOFI's past, present, and future role in the ecosystem approach to fishery research

Noelle Bowlin, Andrew Thompson, William Watson, Edward Weber, David Demer, and Brad Erisman




NOAA Southwest Fisheries Science Center
La Jolla, California




**Small Pelagic Fish:
New Frontiers in Science
and Sustainable
Management**

November 7 - 11, 2022
Lisbon, Portugal

ENDORSED BY



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



2021
2030 United Nations Decade
of Ocean Science
for Sustainable Development

Progress in Pelagic Surveys: From Biomass Estimates to Monitoring Ecosystems

Convenors:

Maria Manuel Angélico

Chris Rooper

Jeroen van der Kooij

Tim Ward



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Outline

- Background
- CalCOFI History
- CalCOFI Today
- CalCOFI Future





National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

- United States Federal Government
- NOAA has 8 branches
- NOAA Fisheries

Stewardship of the nation's ocean resources and their habitat

- Productive and sustainable fisheries
- Safe sources of seafood
- Recovery and conservation of protected resources
- Healthy ecosystems



NOAA Southwest Fisheries Science Center

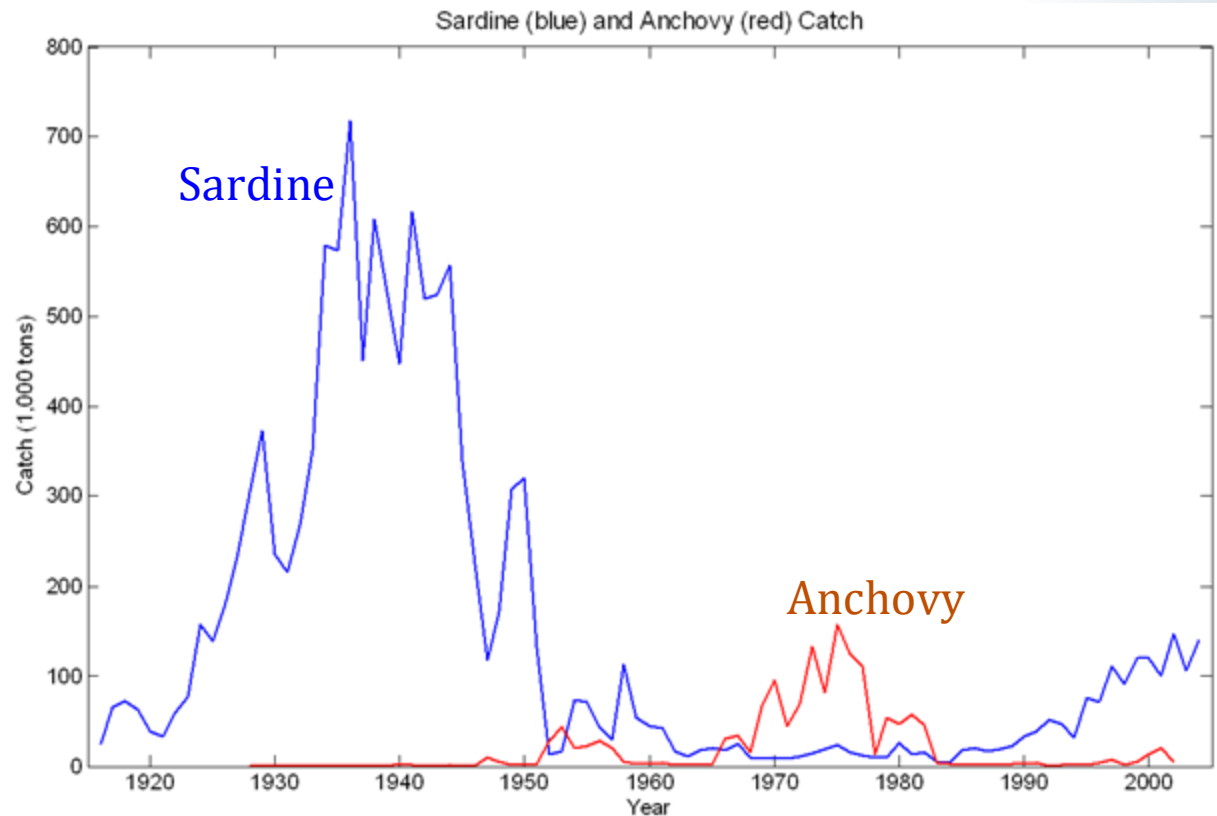
On the Scripps Institution of Oceanography campus



CalCOFI

California Cooperative Oceanic Fisheries Investigations

Pacific Sardine (*Sardinops sagax*)



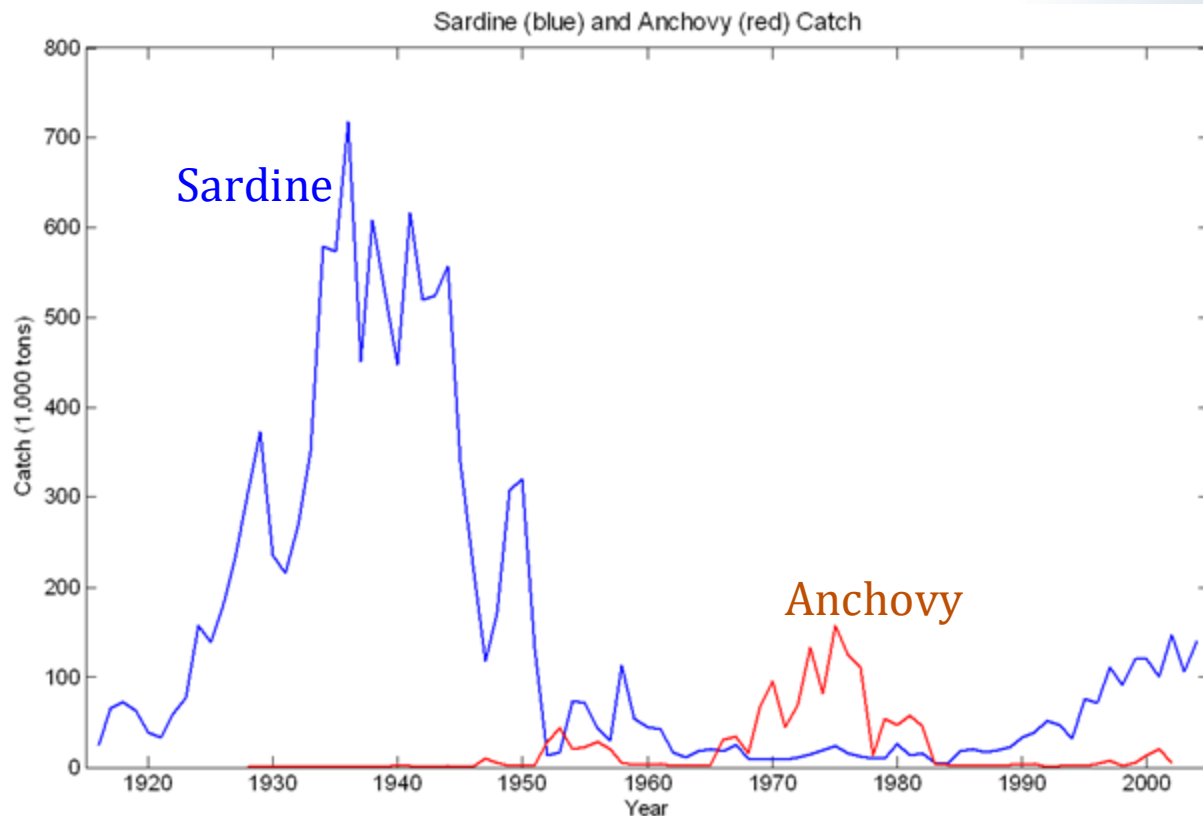


CalCOFI

California Cooperative Oceanic Fisheries Investigations

Overfishing vs environmental changes

Pacific Sardine
(*Sardinops sagax*)



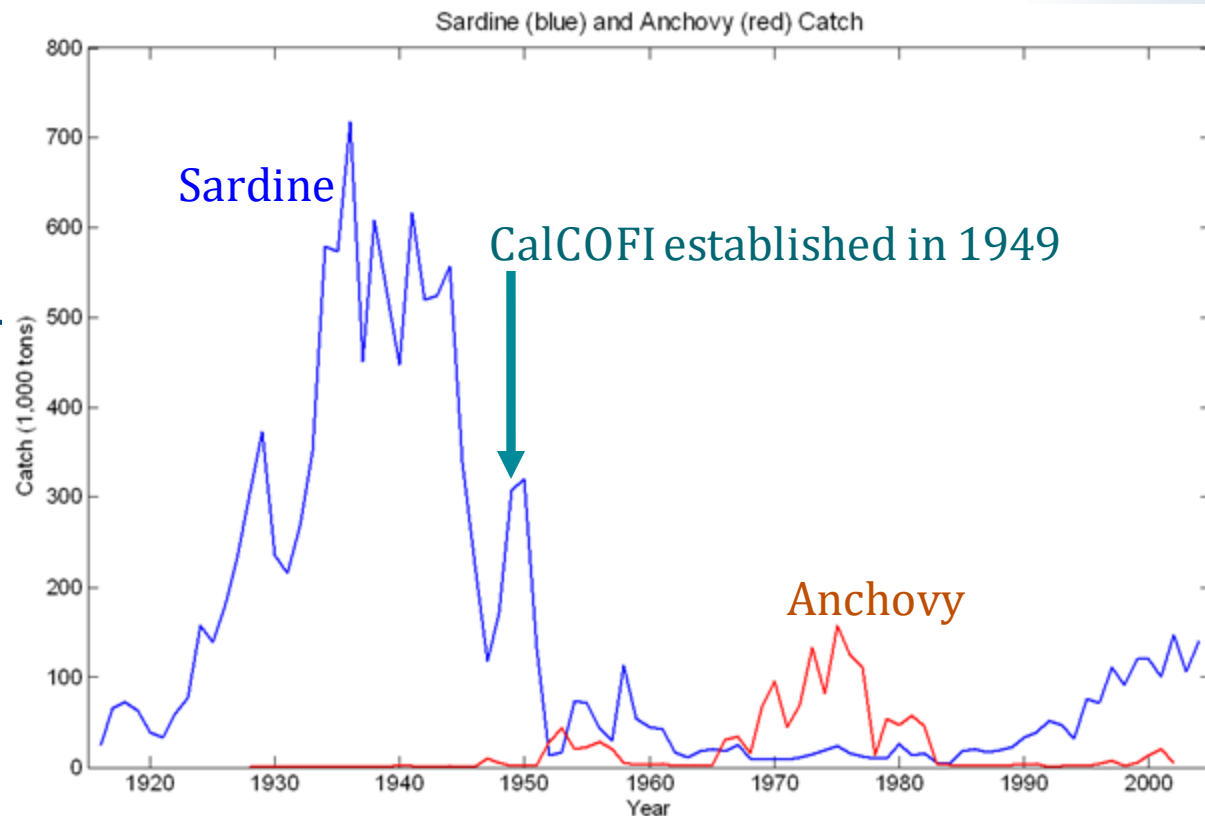


CalCOFI

California Cooperative Oceanic Fisheries Investigations

Overfishing vs environmental changes

- NOAA Fisheries
- Scripps Institution of Oceanography
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife

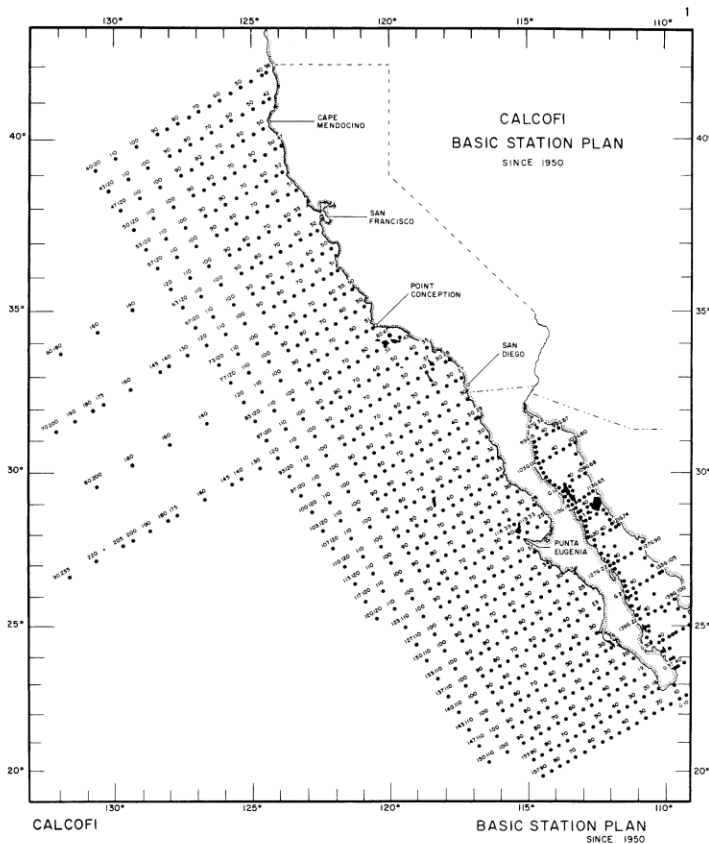




CalCOFI

California Cooperative Oceanic Fisheries Investigations

Monthly cruises, 3 ships working year round



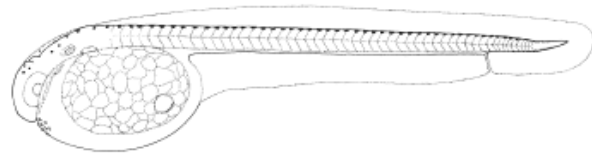
R/V Black Douglas





Pacific sardine

Sardinops sagax



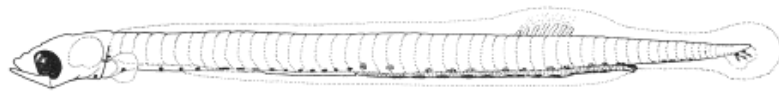
3.0 mm



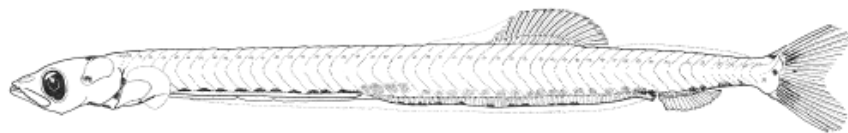
1.4-2.1 mm



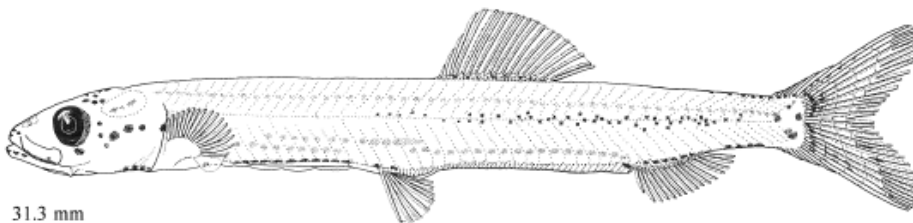
6.1 mm



9.1 mm



19.7 mm

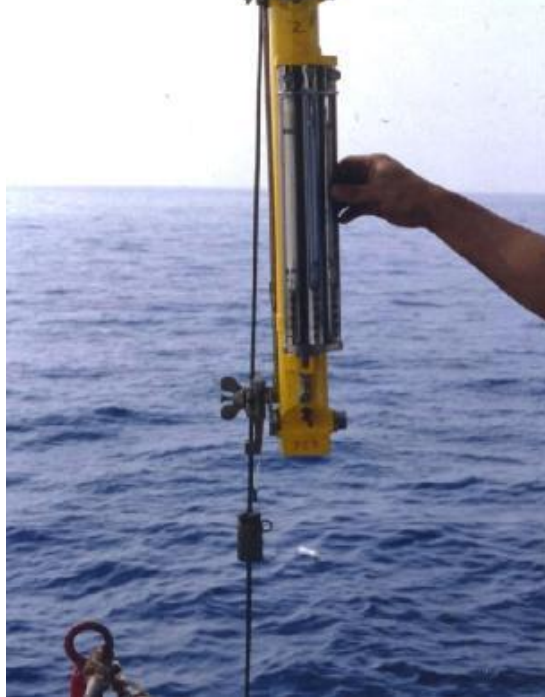
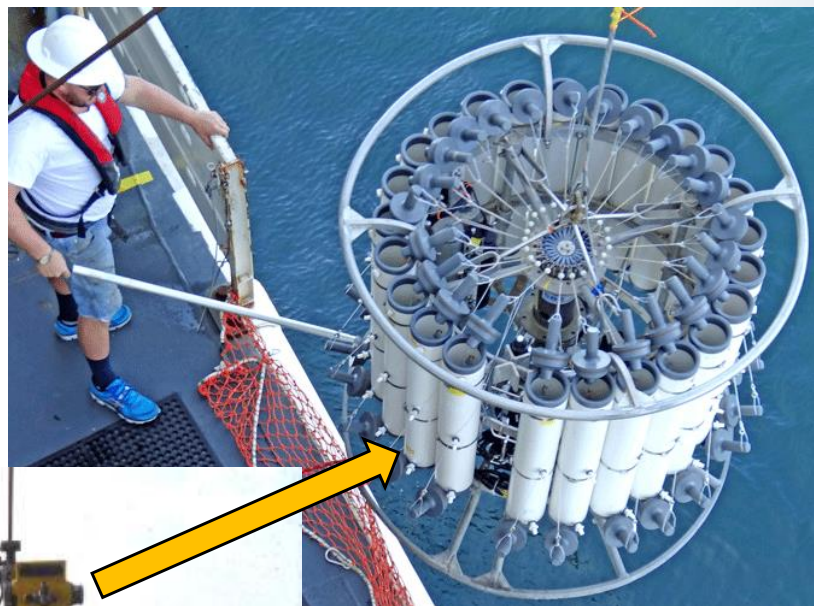
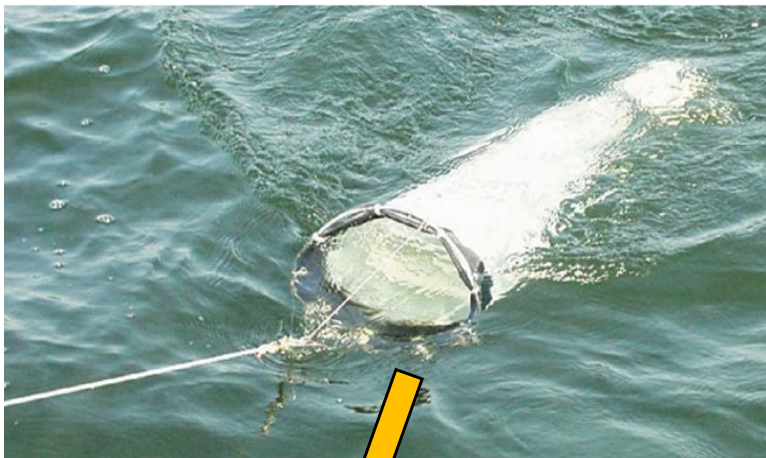


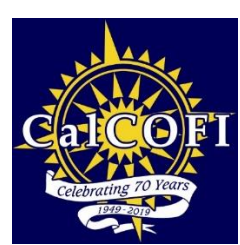
31.3 mm

Moser et al. 1996



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Oceanographic approach to fishery research (Ecosystem approach)

CalCOFI – NOAA Fisheries

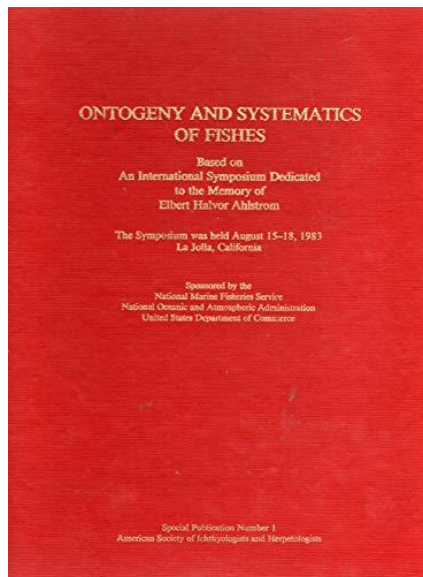


Elbert "Ahlie"
Ahlstrom

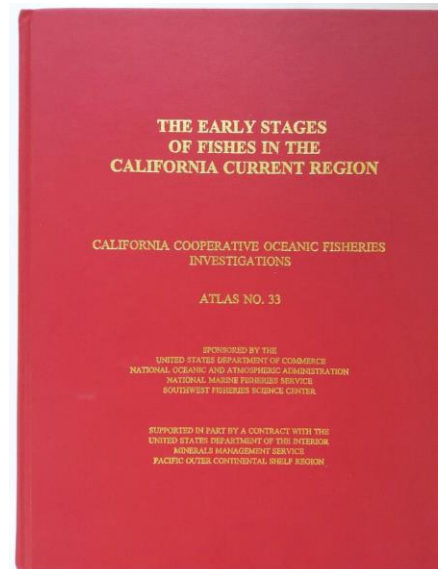
H. Geoffrey
Moser

1. Quantitative ichthyoplankton sampling
2. Describe all fish species

Ontogeny and Systematics of Fishes
ASIH Special Pub No. 1, 1983



The Early Stages of Fishes in the California Current
CalCOFI Atlas 33, 1996



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CalCOFI – Seminal work

- CalCOFI Symposium (1958): “*The Changing Pacific Ocean in 1957 and 1958*”
- First use of “El Niño” to describe the widespread anomalies now known to be associated with the Southern Oscillation

“By the fall of 1957, the coral ring of Canton Island, in the memory of man ever bleak and dry, was lush with the seedlings of tropical trees and vines.”

Elton Sette and John D. Isaacs
CalCOFI Reports Vol. 7



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CalCOFI – Seminal work

NOAA Technical Report NMFS 36

December 1985

An Egg Production Method for Estimating Spawning Biomass of Pelagic Fish: Application to the Northern Anchovy, *Engraulis mordax*



Reuben Lasker (Editor)



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CalCOFI – Seminal work

Vol. 5: 225–227, 1981	MARINE ECOLOGY – PROGRESS SERIES Mar. Ecol. Prog. Ser.	Published May 31
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New Net for Sampling the Ocean Surface

D. M. Brown and L. Cheng

Scripps Institution of Oceanography, A-028, University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, California 92093, USA

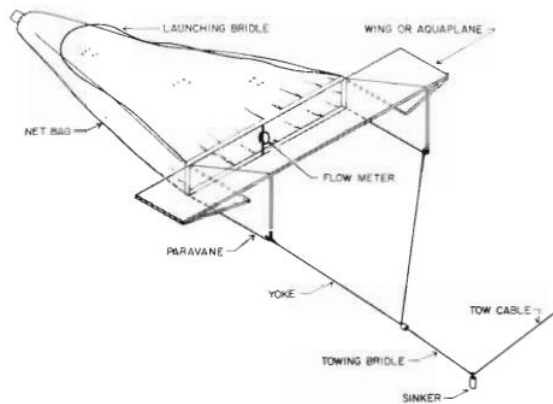


Fig. 1. Manta Net. Schematic diagram

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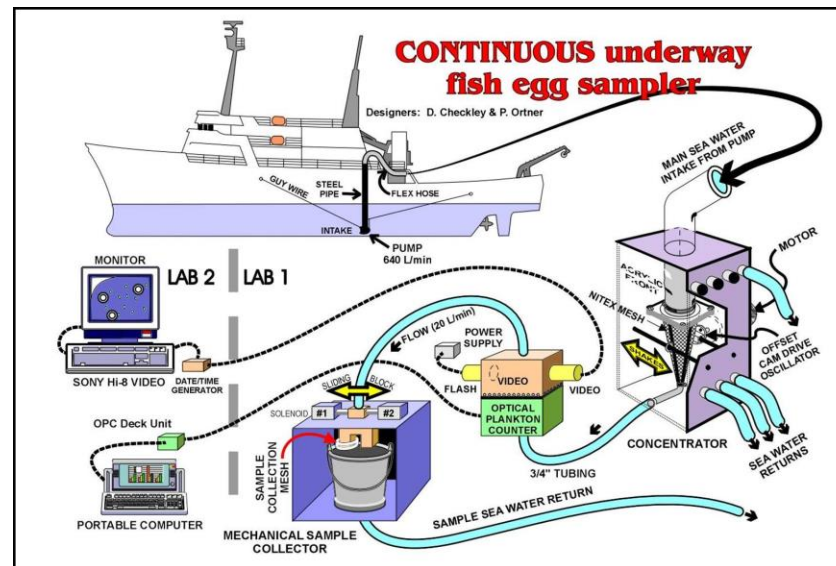
CalCOFI – Seminal work

FISHERIES OCEANOGRAPHY

Fish. Oceanogr. 6:2, 58–73, 1997

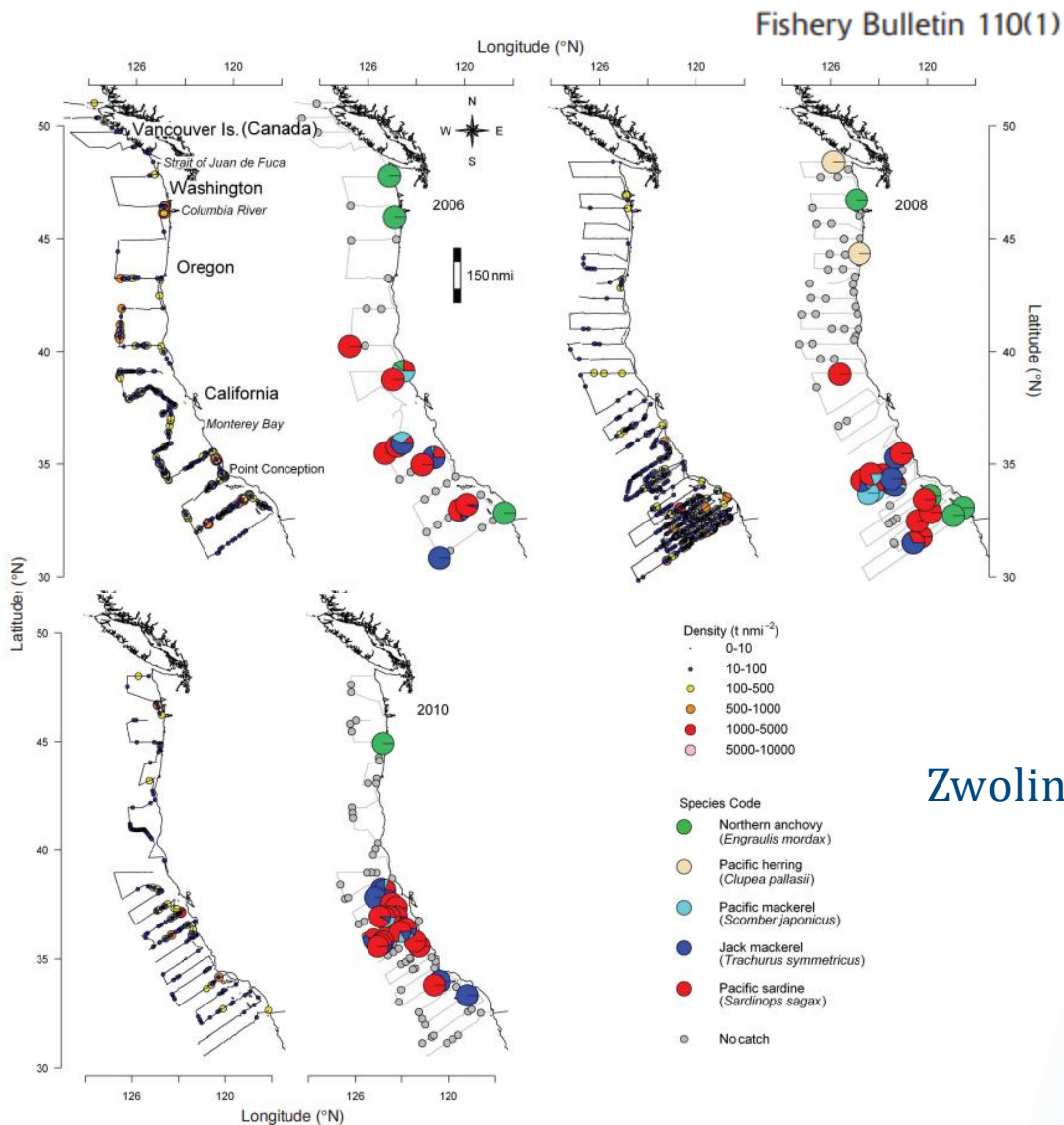
A continuous, underway fish egg sampler

DAVID M. CHECKLEY, JR,¹ PETER
B. ORTNER,² LAWRENCE R. SETTLE,³
AND SHAILER R. CUMMINGS²



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Acoustic Trawl Method – SPF Biomass Estimation



Zwolinski et al. 2012



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NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE



CalCOFI has always been an inclusive community working together to advance our understanding of SPF stocks and their ecosystems



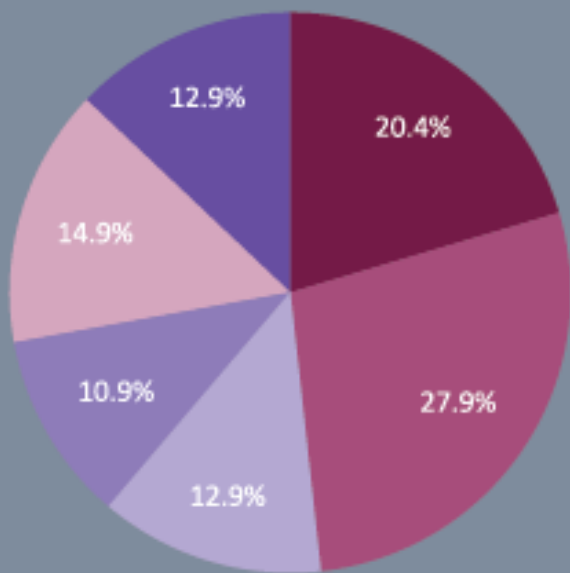
The Future of Ocean Monitoring: CalCOFI Stakeholder Workshop



December 4, 2019



Photo credit: Jim Wilkinson



- Fisheries
- Climate change
- Marine ecosystem function & services
- Complementing other monitoring programs
- Validating/tuning physical and biological ocean models
- Fundamental insights into ocean science



Leveraging the Legacy of the CalCOFI Monitoring Program

A summary report for west coast fishery and ocean resource managers



Engeman et al. 2020



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The Future of Ocean Monitoring:

CalCOFI Stakeholder Workshop



December 4, 2019



Photo credit: Jim Wilkinson

Recommendations:

1. Enhance spatial coverage (cross-shore and alongshore)
2. Enhance ocean ecosystem monitoring collaborations
3. Ensure continuity of biogeochemical sampling & analysis
4. Test emerging research questions and monitoring methods
5. Improve data management and access
6. Make user friendly data products



Leveraging the Legacy of the CalCOFI Monitoring Program

A summary report for west coast fishery and ocean resource managers



Engeman et al. 2020



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CalCOFI Conference

2-3 December 2019

Session IV: The Symposium of the Conference: Putting Ocean Ecosystem Monitoring Data To Use



REVIEW

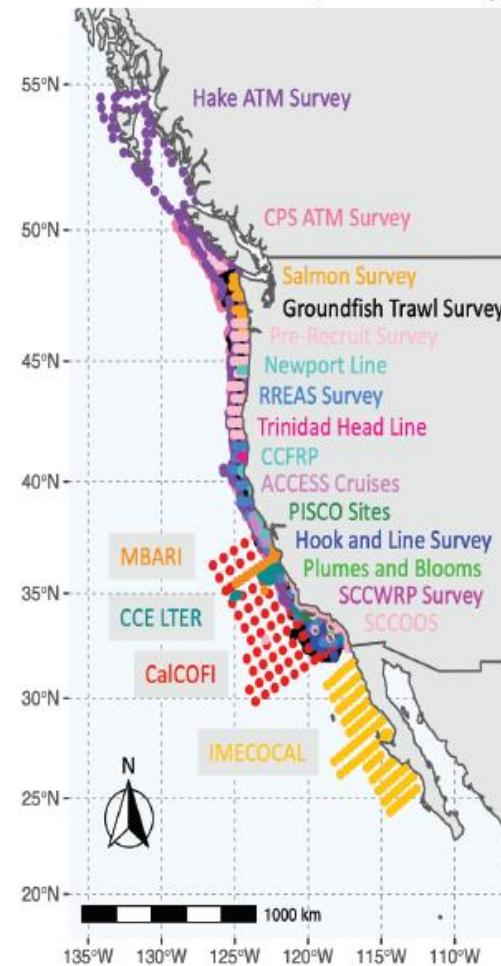
published: 02 March 2022

doi: 10.3389/fmars.2022.757124

Fisheries Surveys Are Essential Ocean Observing Programs in a Time of Global Change: A Synthesis of Oceanographic and Ecological Data From U.S. West Coast Fisheries Surveys

Natalya D. Gallo^{1*}, Noelle M. Bowlin², Andrew R. Thompson², Erin V. Satterthwaite³, Briana Brady⁴ and Brice X. Semmens⁵

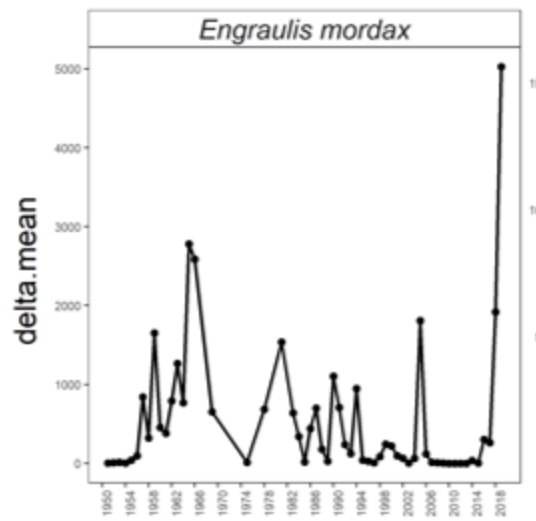
West Coast Ocean Ecosystem Monitoring Programs



New technologies and methods to address unresolved questions

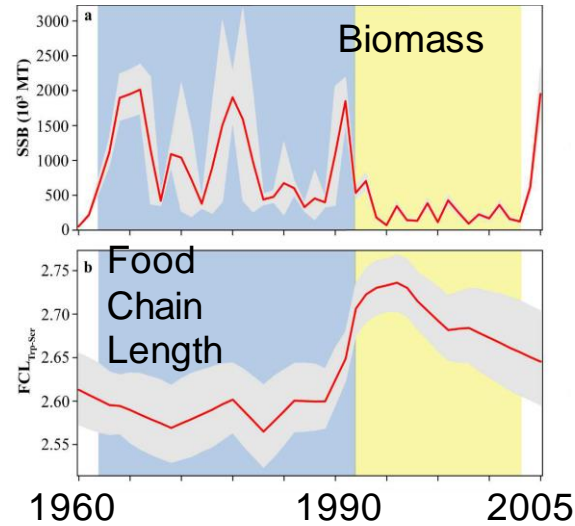
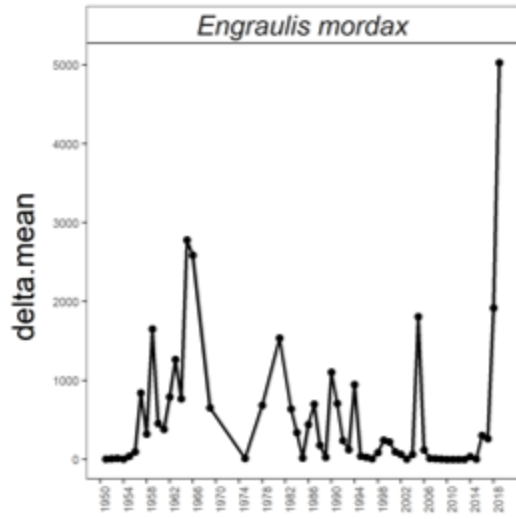


New technologies and methods to address unresolved questions



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New technologies and methods to address unresolved questions



Rasmus Swalethorp, SIO

CSSIA of larval anchovy from 1960-2005


SSB lagged by 2 yrs ~ prey TL
 Anchovy boom when feeding on lower TL prey
 Efficient energy transfer facilitates larval survival

New technologies and methods to address unresolved questions

New Results

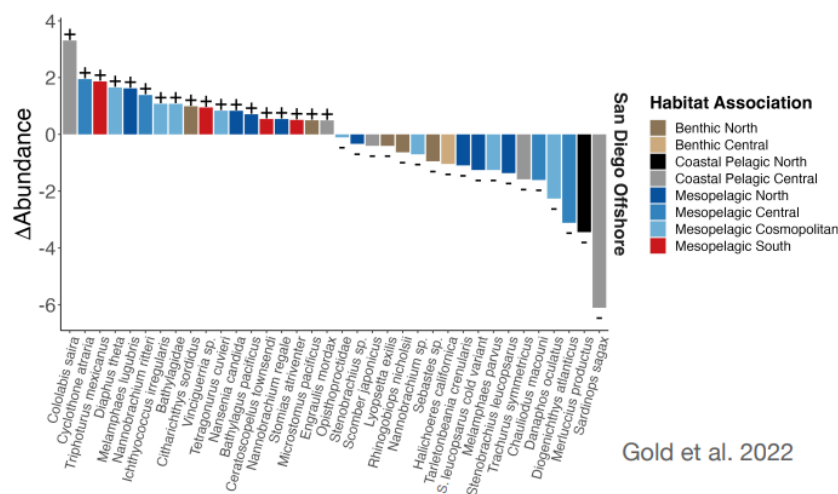
 [Follow this preprint](#)

Message in a Bottle: Archived DNA Reveals Marine Heatwave-Associated Shifts in Fish Assemblages

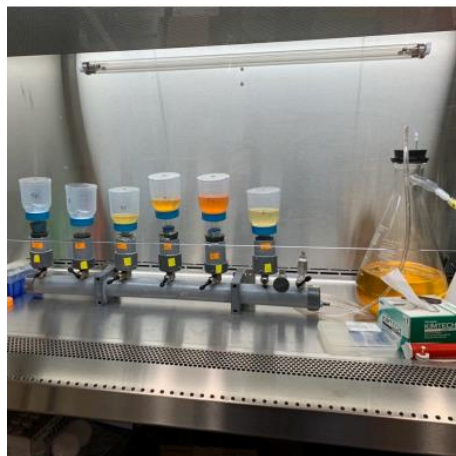
 Zachary Gold, Ryan P. Kelly, Andrew Olaf Shelton, Andrew R. Thompson, Kelly D. Goodwin, Ramón Gallego, Kim M. Parsons, Luke R. Thompson, Dovi Kacev, Paul H. Barber

doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2022.07.27.501788>

Reconstruct the fish fauna of the California Current Large Marine Ecosystem before, during, and after the 2014–2016 Pacific Marine Heatwave



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There's more...



Ta Da!



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