

State of California - The Resources Agency  
Department of Fish and Game  
Marine Resources Region  
Long Beach, California

CRUISE REPORT 72-KB-15

BIG GAME FISHERIES INVESTIGATIONS

Prepared by Brian D. Thayer

Vessel: "KELP BASS"

Dates: July 10-14, 1972

Locality: Santa Catalina and San Clemente Islands.

Purpose:

1. To tag and release Pacific bonito, *Sarda chiliensis* and white seabass, *Cynoscion nobilis*.
2. To collect white seabass for fecundity, length-weight and sub-population studies and California barracuda, *Sphyræna argentea* for length frequency analysis.
3. To tag and release any Pacific mackerel, *Scomber japonicus* and jack mackerel, *Trachurus symmetricus* taken.
4. To make incidental collections as requested by other projects.

Equipment: Bait tank, dip nets, gill nets, nightlight, rods, reels, trolling poles, lines and lures.

Procedure: Trolling and still fishing were conducted during daylight hours around San Clemente and Santa Catalina Islands. Gill nets were set at dusk in selected areas and retrieved at dawn the following day. A total of 15 gill net sets was made during the cruise, 13 of these in water 6-10 fathoms deep around Santa Catalina Island. Still fishing was also conducted under nightlights.

Results: Three white seabass ranging in size from 761 mm to 1271 mm (TL), were taken in gill net sets around Santa Catalina Island. All were females and the ovaries were preserved for fecundity and maturity studies. One yellowtail was taken at San Clemente Island. No barracuda or bonito were taken during the cruise.

A total of 14 jack mackerel was tagged and released at Wilson's Cove, San Clemente Island and 53 more were tagged and released at Catalina Harbor, Santa Catalina Island. Approximately 20 sardines were taken in Catalina Harbor.

Personnel: Marco Mazarovich, Vessel Captain  
Brian Thayer, Biologist-in-Charge  
Donald Schultze, Biologist  
Cynthia Klepadlo, Seasonal Aid  
Darlene Osborne, Seasonal Aid