

The Resources Agency of California
Department of Fish and Game
California State Fisheries Laboratory
Terminal Island, California

Cruise Report 65-S-2 -- Exploratory
Prepared by John G. Carlisle, Jr.

Vessel: N. B. Scofield

Dates: Departed from San Pedro May 3, 1965
Returned to San Pedro May 12, 1965

Locality: The waters offshore of San Clemente Island and the channel between San Clemente and Santa Catalina Island.

Purpose: To conduct an ecological survey from about 100 feet of water to the deeper waters off San Clemente Island. This is an area of special interest because of its oceanography. There is a confluence of "southern" water with an intrusion of oceanic water near the southeast end of the island. It is likely that an interesting mixing of marine life associated with these two water masses exists around the island.

Results: This cruise may have set a new Department record for gathering negative information. Apparently a decision was made by the Navy to escalate the war at San Clemente Island at about the same time the war in Viet Nam was escalated. Between Navy activities and gale-force winds for several days it was difficult to conduct the exploratory work planned. However, it was possible to work off the Pyramid Cove area during the quiet weekend. One complete otter trawl net snagged and was lost in 300 fathoms of water, and catches were consistently meager with all gear: otter trawl, mid-depth trawl, Sigsbee trawl, and lobster and fish traps.

Lobster and fish traps (wired together) were fished at 50-foot depth intervals in 100 to 600 feet of water. No lobsters were caught in the attempts to learn more about their depth distribution. Very few fish were caught in the attached fish traps.

A few common rockfish and flatfish were taken in the otter trawl. Mid-depth trawls produced catches of 29 bathypelagic species, including myctophids, hatchetfishes, snipe-eels, melanphoids and cyclothones. Various shrimps, salps, squids, mysids, (including giant mysids Ganathopansa gigas), and several species of crabs, corals,

sponges and gorgonians were also taken.

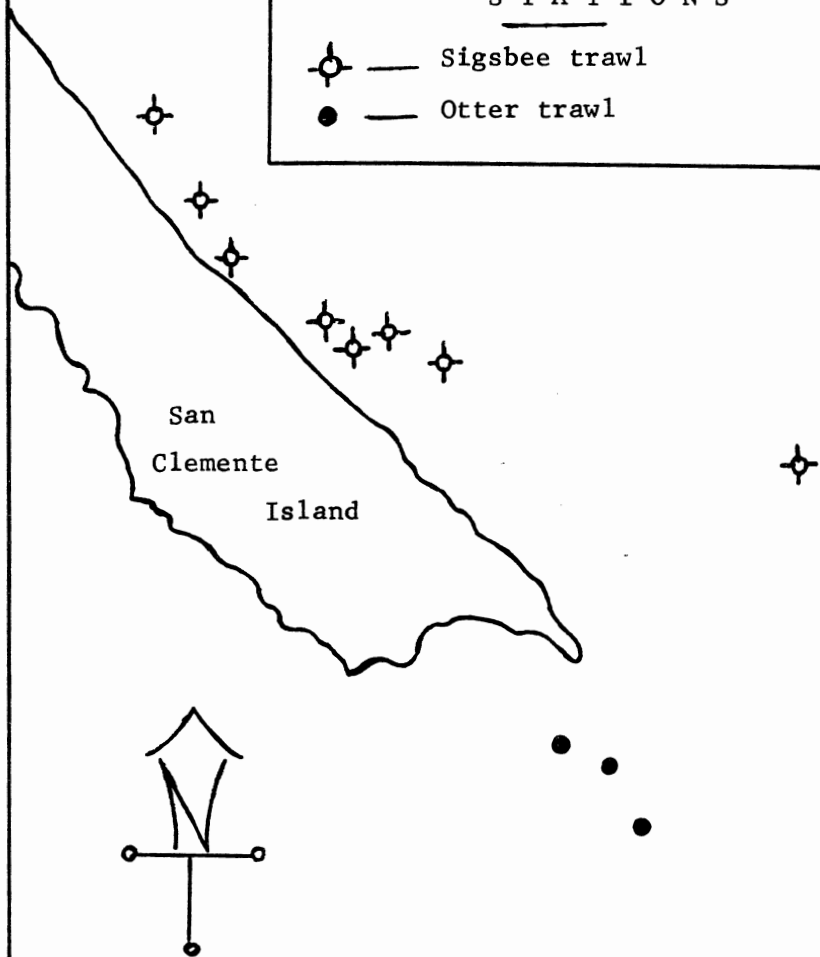
Personnel: R. B. Mitchell, Vessel Captain
John G. Carlisle, Jr., Biologist-in-charge
Ronald W. Little, Seasonal Aid.

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Cruise 65-S-2 Exploratory

STATIONS

- ⊕ — Sigsbee trawl
- — Otter trawl



Santa Catalina Island

Stations

- ⊙ — Mid-water trawl
- ▭ — Traps

