



In a Cavern, In a Canyon

Fishinar 3/26/2015, Jonathan Lavan – Instructor

Top 12 Fish & Inverts of Las Jolla Shores, CA

- **Blackeye Goby**- 1.5 to 4, Up to 6 in. Usually small, blue opalescent spots below eye. Eye often dark. Back edge on foredorsal fin.



- **Speckled Sanddab** – 3 to 5, Up to 7 in. Only Lefteye Flounder in region. Profuse black speckles and often small blotches over body. Short pectoral fin and straight lateral line.



- **California Sheephead**– 1 to 2 ft, Up to 3 ft. JP- Bright red with white midbody stripe and large black spots on rear dorsal, anal fins and upper bass of tail. Typically less than 6 in. in length. IP- White chin, pink to reddish brown. Typically 6 to 12 in. TP- White chin, Bulbous hump on nape. Canine teeth protrude from front of mouth.



- **Bluebanded Goby**– 0.75 to 2, Up to 2.5 in. Bright Orange with four to nine electric blue bars. Rear dorsal fin tall.



- **Painted Greenling**– 4 to 6, Up to 10 in. Five to six bold, dark (usually red) bars encircle fins and body. Pointed snout, two pairs of cirri, one above eyes and another midway between eyes and dorsal fin.



- **Brown Rockfish**- 8 to 18, Up to 21.5 in. Dark blotch on rear of gill cover may become faint with age.



- **Eccentric Sand Dollar**- Up to 4 in (diameter). This flat, irregular urchin has short hair-like spines. Locally purplish but colors may vary.



- **Tube-Dwelling Anemone** – Up to 16 in. (height) Has long slender outer tentacles and shorter, inner ones. The soft body is protected by a secreted parchment-like tube.



- **Spiny Lobster** – Up to 2 ft. Has very long antennae covered with small sharp spines. Lacks claws but front of body especially around the eyes covered with sharp spines as well.



- **Red Seahare** – Up to 18 in. Has dorsal flap-like extensions produced from the foot. The prominent rhinophores somewhat resemble the ears of a hare hence the common name. Simple eyes are visible.



- **Masking Sheep Crab**- Up to 6.5 in. (carapace) Very large spider crab has a distinctive, robust, oval carapace covered with spines and tubercles. The males have much longer claws than the females. Juveniles will cover themselves with various other inverts: anemones, sponges, hydroids, tunicates, etc. which act as very effective camouflage.



- **Red Octopus** – Up to 16 in. (body & arms) This common octopus has a small, ovoid body. The color varies from dull red to mottled white. There are often cirri on the skin and the arms are usually about four times the length of the body. Usually out at night to hunt but will be seen at La Jolla Shores during the day depending on depth and viability.



Questions? Feel free to contact me at jonathan@reef.org

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