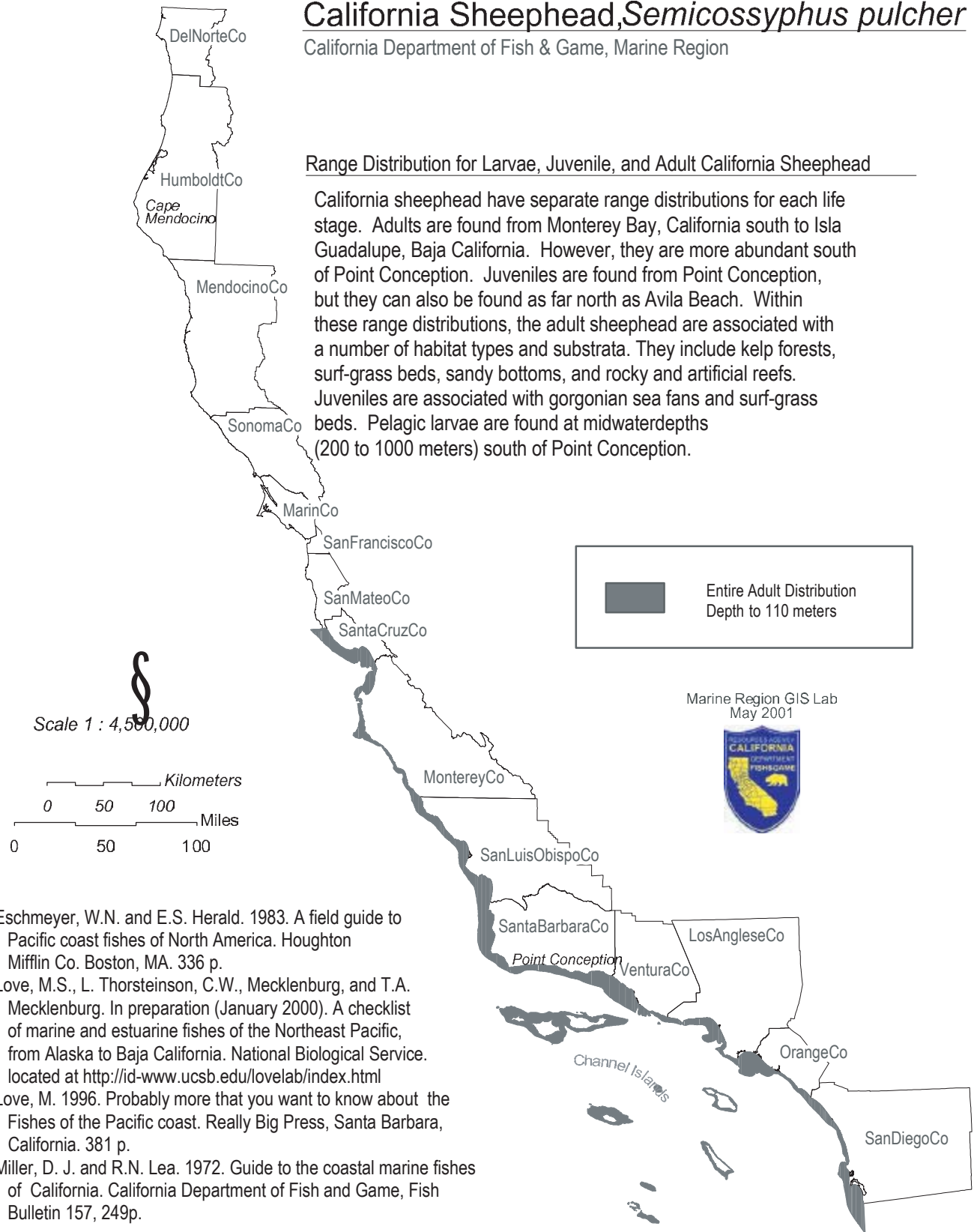


# California Sheephead, *Semicossyphus pulcher*

California Department of Fish & Game, Marine Region

## Range Distribution for Larvae, Juvenile, and Adult California Sheephead

California sheephead have separate range distributions for each life stage. Adults are found from Monterey Bay, California south to Isla Guadalupe, Baja California. However, they are more abundant south of Point Conception. Juveniles are found from Point Conception, but they can also be found as far north as Avila Beach. Within these range distributions, the adult sheephead are associated with a number of habitat types and substrata. They include kelp forests, surf-grass beds, sandy bottoms, and rocky and artificial reefs. Juveniles are associated with gorgonian sea fans and surf-grass beds. Pelagic larvae are found at midwater depths (200 to 1000 meters) south of Point Conception.



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Figure 1.2-4. Range distribution for larval, juvenile, and adult California sheephead