

"Some Organisms of the Mission Bay Estuary"

Note: Sizes are not to scale.

1 Plankton

Fig. 3.25
Some common phytoplankton of ponds and lakes. (Microscopic)

Tabellaria

Navicula

Stephanodiscus

DIATOMS

Cosmarium

Asterium

Tetmemorus

DESMIDS

Photosynthetic, Makes the water green

2 BACTERIA (Microscopic)

X 1500

X 1500

cocci

bacilli

Decomposes Organic Molecules

3 GREEN ALGAE

X 1/2

Photosynthetic (Grows on the mud)

4 Eel Grass

Female flower

Male flower

Vallisneria (eel grass)

Photosynthetic



Tetraclita squamosa

5 Barnacle (Rocks) (Eats Plankton)



Tube snail House

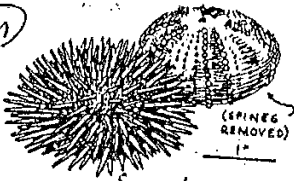
Aletes squamigerus

6 Rock Tube Snail (Eats Algae)



Uca crenulata

7 Fiddler Crab (Eats Green Algae)



Strongylocentrotus purpuratus

8 Sea Urchin (Eats Sea Weed, Eel Grass)



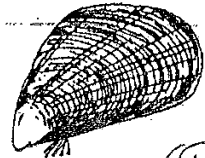
Cerithidea californica

Eats Algae



Pachygrapsus crassipes

9 Lined Shore Crab (Eats dead things, B-17 snails)

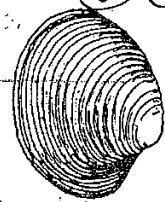


Mytilus californianus



Mytilus edulis

10 Mussels (Eats Plankton)

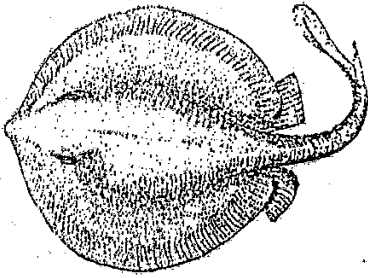


Amiantis callosa



Chione undatella

11 Clams (Eats Plankton)



Round Stingray (*Urolophus halleri*)

(Eats crabs, clams, mussels.)

13 Stingray

2

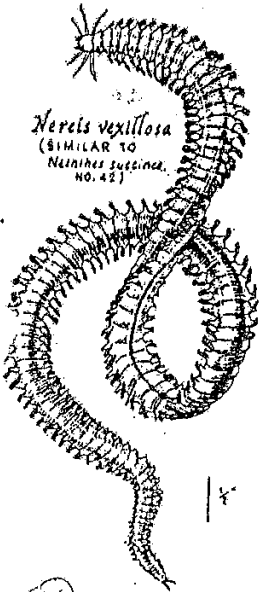


(Eats small and medium fish)

FIGURE 94

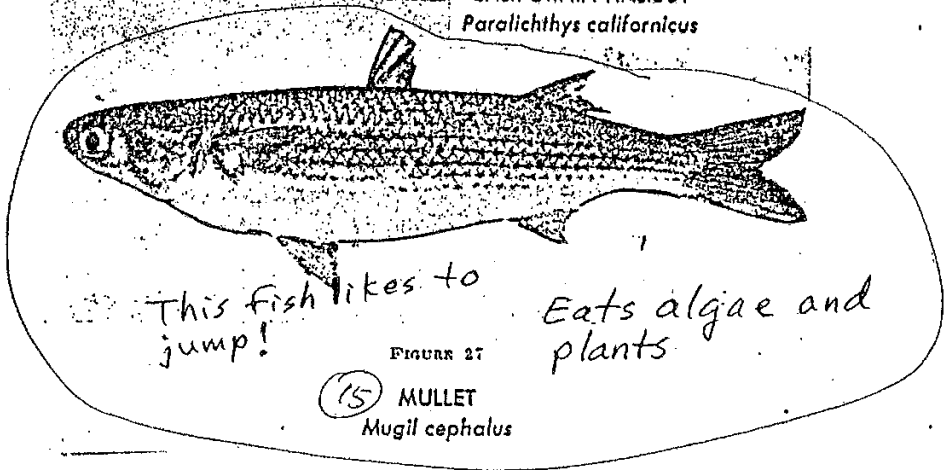
14

CALIFORNIA HALIBUT
Paralichthys californicus



Nereis vexillosa
(SIMILAR TO
Nereis succinea,
NO. 42)

16 Sand Worm
Eats plankton



This fish likes to jump!

Eats algae and plants

FIGURE 27

15

MULLET
Mugil cephalus



Eats plankton

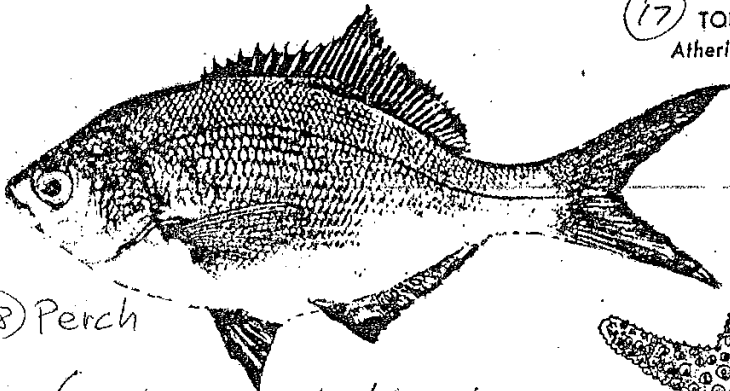
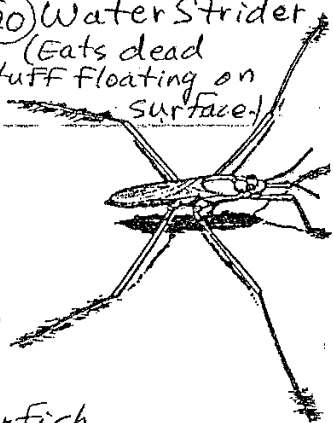
FIGURE 18

17

TOP SMELT
Atherinops affinis

Fig. 3.1
Gerris, the water strider.

20 Water Strider
(Eats dead stuff floating on surface)



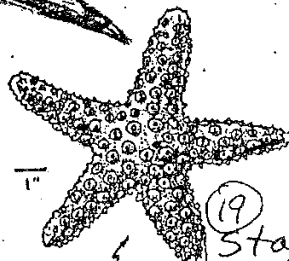
18 Perch

(Eats mussels, barnacles, snails, crabs, clams and small smelt)

PILE PERCH

D-17

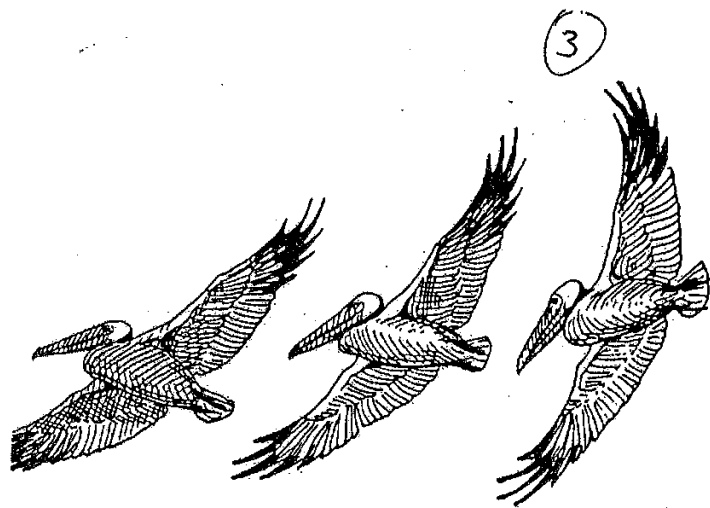
Damalichthys vacca



Pisaster giganteus

19

Starfish
(Eats mussels and clams)



3

21 CALIFORNIA BROWN PELICAN (Eats fish)



22 Sea Gull

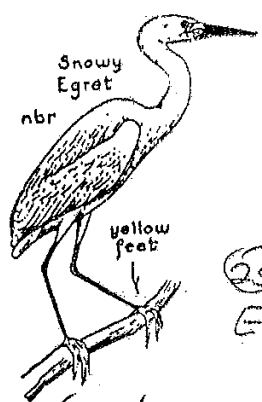
THE GULLS (Eats dead things)



23 Coot

American Coot adult

(Eats Green Algae, Eel Grass)

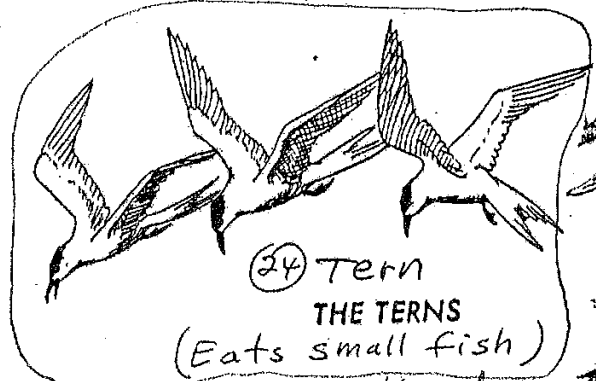


Snowy Egret

yellow feet

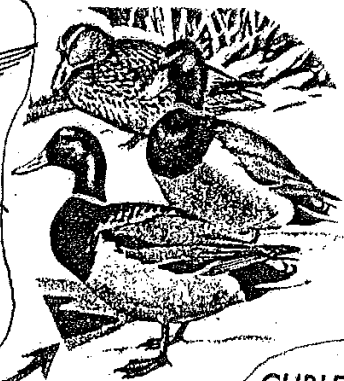
25 Egret

(Eats crabs, small fish, snails)



24 Tern

THE TERNS (Eats small fish)

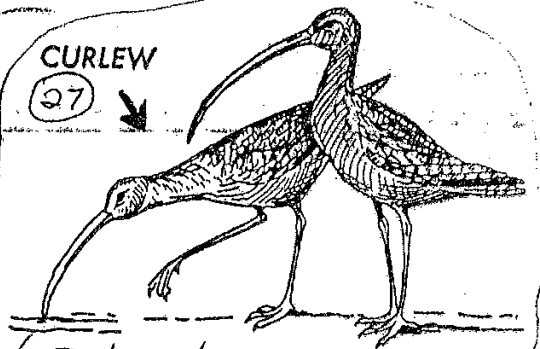


28 Mallard Ducks

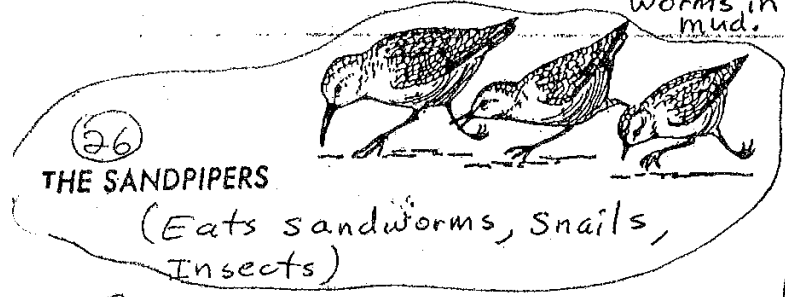
Eats seeds, worms in mud.

CURLEW

27



(Eats clams, snails, sandworms)



26

THE SANDPIPERS

(Eats sandworms, snails, insects)