

Tidewater Goby



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Tidewater Goby

- ❖ Small gray-brown translucent fish
- ❖ Inhabits coastal lagoons with brackish water, seasonal closure. Can tolerate a wide range of salinities
- ❖ Occasionally moves through marine environments to new locations after storms breach lagoons



Tidewater Goby

- ❖ Most individuals live less than a year
- ❖ Reproduction may occur year-round; typically peaks May - July
- ❖ Prefers sandy substrate for depositing eggs



Coastal Lagoon Habitat

Lake Talawa, Del Norte County

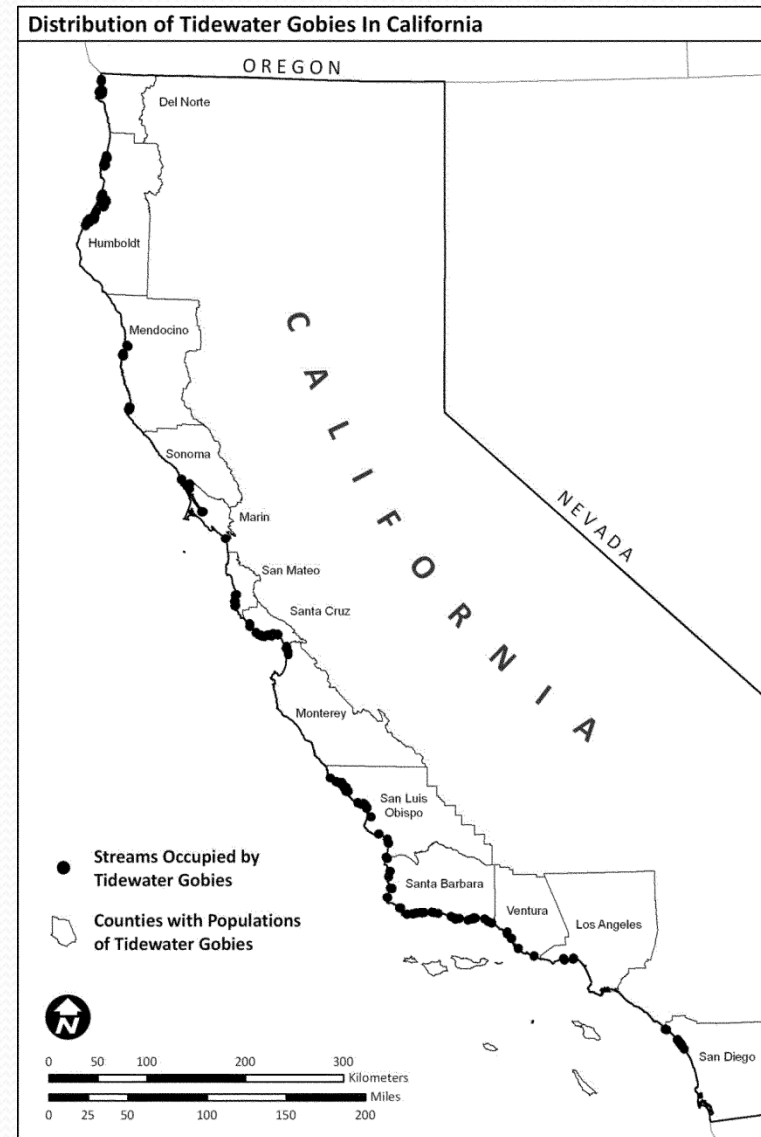


San Onofre Creek, San Diego County



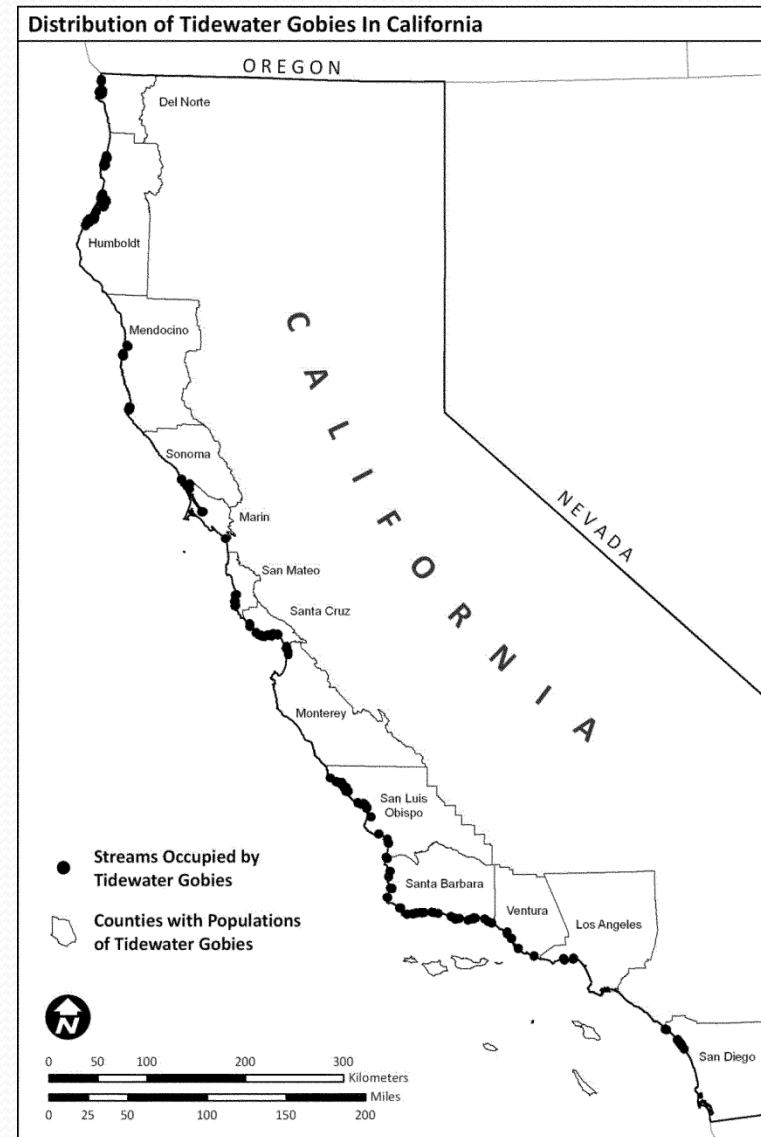
Range

- Occurs from San Diego County** to Del Norte County
- Distributed along most of the California coast, with several distinct breaks in the range
- Swift et al. (2016) recently proposed that the southern population (San Diego) is a distinct species



Abundance

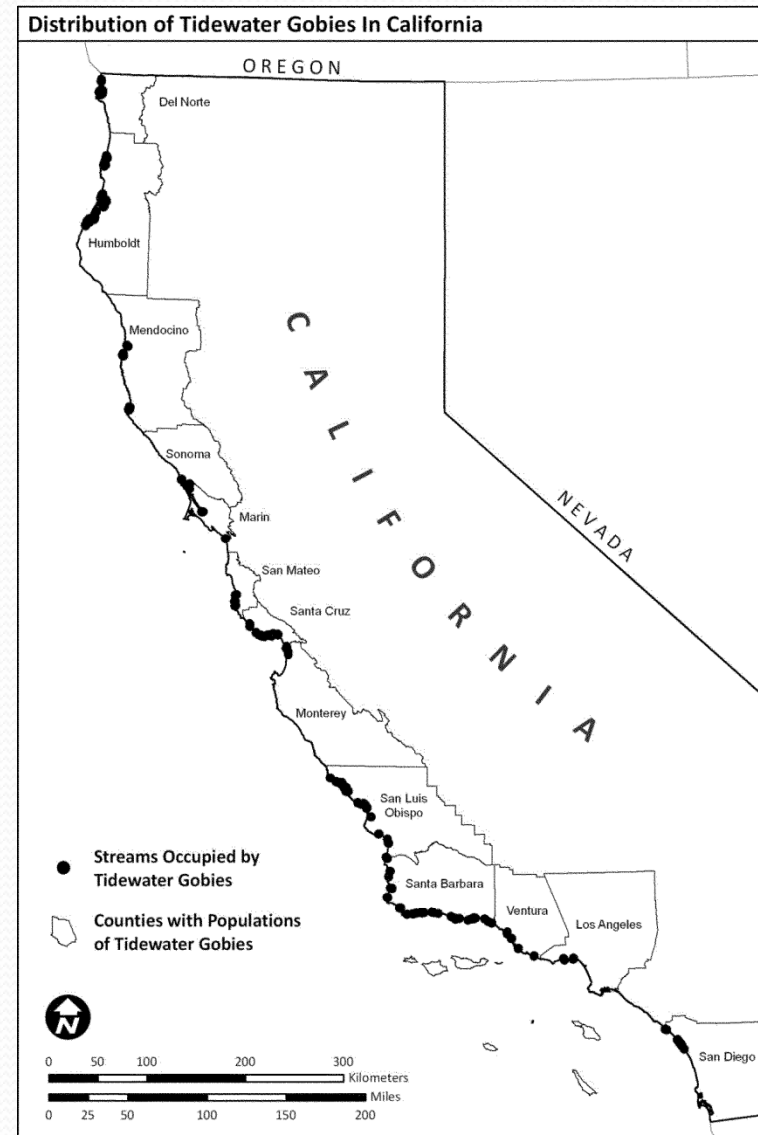
- Within a particular location, populations may fluctuate by several orders of magnitude within a year
- Many sites exhibit local extirpation and recolonization typical of a metapopulation



Service 2014

Abundance

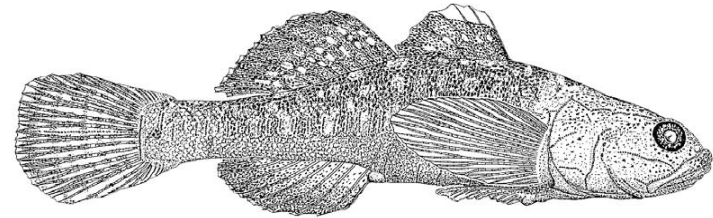
- In 1994, only 48 of 87 (55%) historical locations were occupied
 - The tidewater goby was listed as Endangered in 1994
- Since listing, additional locations have been identified
- As of 2014, up to 114 of 135 (84%) sites believed to be recently occupied



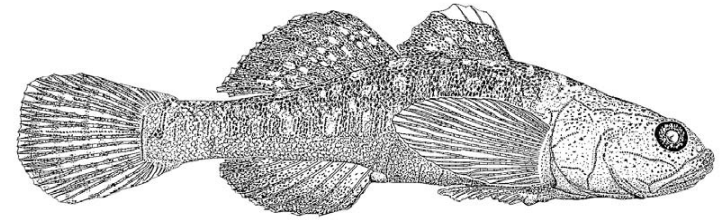
Service 2014

Causes For Decline

- Habitat Loss & Degradation
 - Development
 - Port and marina development / dredging
 - Roads, bridges, housing
 - Hydrological regime modifications
 - Dams, diversions, groundwater extraction
 - Flood control
 - Lagoon breaching
 - Agriculture
 - Chemicals, Sedimentation
- Depredation
 - Non-native predators
- Extreme Weather Events
 - Droughts, Floods



Recovery Actions



- Protect and enhance currently occupied tidewater goby habitat
- Conduct biological research to enhance the ability to integrate land use practices with tidewater goby recovery
- Evaluate and implement translocation where appropriate
- Increase public awareness about tidewater gobies

Questions?



Jack B. Dogue