

KEY TO THE SO. CALIFORNIA BIGHT CRANGONID SHRIMP

Donald B. Cadien (CSDLAC), 20 March 1998

(based on Word & Charwat 1976, Kuris & Carlton 1977, Wicksten 1977, and Butler 1980)

1. Dactyls of 4th and 5th legs flattened; eyes partly concealed by carapace *Argis* 2
Dactyls of 4th and 5th legs not flattened; eyes not partly concealed 3
2. Carapace with 2 median dorsal spines posterior to rostral spine *Argis californiensis*
Carapace with 4 median dorsal spines posterior to rostral spine *Argis levior*
3. Abdominal somites heavily sculptured; 3rd abdominal somite with rostrate posterior margin,
4th and 5th with posteromedial spine *Rhynocrangon alata*
Abdominal somites weakly sculptured or unsculptured; 3rd abdominal somite not posteriorly
produced, 4th and 5th somites lacking posteromedial spine (may be carinate) 4
4. Gastric region of carapace depressed 5
Gastric region not depressed below general level of carapace 7
5. 1-2 spines ventrally on abdominal pleura *Metacrangon spinosissima*
Abdominal pleura without ventral spines 6
6. Carapace lacking lower submedian spine *Metacrangon munita*
Carapace with lower submedian spine *Mesocrangon munitella*
7. Carapace with 1 median dorsal spine *Crangon* 8
Carapace with 2 median dorsal spines *Neocrangon* 13
8. Sixth abdominal somite with bold lateral blue pigment spot(s) *Crangon nigromaculata*
Sixth abdominal somite lacking lateral pigment spot 9
9. Inner flagellum of antenna one distinctly longer than outer 10
Inner and outer flagella of antenna one of equal length *Crangon handi*
10. Sixth abdominal somite grooved ventrally 11
Sixth abdominal somite not grooved ventrally 12
11. Spine of antennal scale extending well past end of blade *Crangon alaskensis*
Spine of antennal scale not or barely extending past end of blade *Crangon nigricauda*
12. Ischium of 3rd maxilliped flattened and laterally flanged *Crangon alba*
Ischium of 3rd maxilliped not especially flattened and not flanged *Crangon holmesi*
13. Third through fifth abdominal somites dorsally carinate *Neocrangon communis*
Abdominal somites not dorsally carinate 14
14. Rostrum bearing terminal "moustache" of setae projecting obliquely downward; rostrum variable,
typically horizontal or slightly elevated *Neocrangon zacaе*
Rostrum with lateral field of setae, but lacks "moustache"; rostrum variable, typically bearing a
ventral blade, and strongly elevated above horizontal *Neocrangon resima*