Phylum Echinodermata
Class Asteroidea
Order Forcipulatida
Family Asteriidae

*Rathbunaster californicus*

**Coloration:** Pinkish-orange, bright highlighted colors

**Number of Arms:** Seventeen Rays

**Defining Characteristics:**
- Central disk small and flat
- Rays long and slender
- Long spines on margins of arms
- Large chunky sea star
- Arms constricted at both ends, wider in the middle
- Disk almost looks separate
- Arms cleaved sharply
- Round bulbous masses on arms
- Spongy in appearance
- Crossed and straight pedicellariae

**Illustration**