



CALIFORNIA SEA GRANT COLLEGE PROGRAM

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

2 June 2015

Julie Thomas
Executive Director, SCCOOS
La Jolla, CA 92093-0214

David Anderson
Program Director, CeNCOOS
Moss Landing, CA 95039

Dear Ms. Thomas and Mr. Anderson,

On behalf of the California Sea Grant (CASG) Program I enthusiastically endorse the valuable data and services provided by the Southern California Coastal Ocean Observing System (SCCOOS) and the Central and Northern California Ocean Observing System (CeNCOOS).

CASG is a state-based program that supports research and outreach to encourage more sustainable interaction of coastal California residents with nearshore and estuarine ecosystems and habitats. We aim to make local coastal communities more resilient in an environmentally sustainable way. The research we support, and the programs of outreach we develop and implement as part of our extension program, are aided greatly by data collected and made available by the California IOOS programs. For example, local community stakeholders need better information on coastal storms, king tides, beach erosion and other hazards in order to plan for changing environmental forcing. In addition, the quality and sustainability of our seafood is affected by algal blooms, including harmful (toxic) blooms, that seem tied to local nutrient inputs and coastal ocean properties. IOOS data is key to researchers and stakeholders developing and testing models to better understand these important phenomena.

We value the efforts made by the California regional associations (SCCOOS and CeNCOOS), and also the efforts made by their partners from universities and other institutions that comprise the observing system. These additional contributions by others extend the reach and impact of the IOOS investment.

There is a clear, continuing need to operate, maintain and improve the regional observing systems. We would like to see CeNCOOS & SCCOOS expand and have the capacity to increase instrumentation and provide more information and products. We strongly endorse the need for fully developed Regional Associations that benefit our health, wildlife, economy and oceans through a focus on ecosystems and climate, coastal hazards, water quality, and marine operations. CASG looks forward to a continued, long-term partnership with California's ocean observing systems.

Sincerely,

James E. Eckman, Director