



2.5.2020

Dr. Clarissa Anderson
Executive Director
Southern California Coastal Ocean Observing System
Scripps Institution of Oceanography
9500 Gilman Drive, 0206
La Jolla, CA 92093-0214

Dear Dr. Anderson:

On behalf of the Santa Barbara Adventure Company, I enthusiastically endorse the valuable data and services provided by the Southern California Coastal Ocean Observing System (SCCOOS) at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California San Diego.

The Santa Barbara Adventure Company offers tours to guests in the local Santa Barbara area as well as within the Channel Islands National Park. We also offer multi-day outdoor education trips for local schools. Many of the guests & students who participate in our programs have little exposure to the ocean and marine environments. A large part of our mission is educating guests about how they help protect our marine environments and make a difference. We heavily rely on ocean observing data to ensure risk management and safe operations. Additionally, we rely on successful and abundant marine ecosystems to be able to help guests see wild seals, sea lions, dolphins and underwater invertebrates. These sightings on tours help us showcase the personal need to protect and defend marine environments for the animals that rely on & thrive in our oceans. It is invaluable information we need to have to continue to be able to operate tours for guests.

As a science-based decision support system, SCCOOS collaborates with local, state and federal agencies, resource managers, industry, policy makers, educators, scientists and the general public to provide data, models and products that advance our understanding of the current and future state of our coastal and global ocean. SCCOOS focuses on coastal observations and product development to provide the information necessary to address issues on marine operations, coastal hazards, climate variability and change, and ecosystems, fisheries, and water quality.

I understand that SCCOOS is funded primarily by the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Sustained funding for SCCOOS will be crucial to the maintenance of the program's ocean observing network and to the continuity of the important data products and services that these observations enable. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Michael Cohen
Michael Cohen
Santa Barbara Adventure Company
President