

# April – June 2020

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA COASTAL OCEAN OBSERVING SYSTEM: A Science-Based Decision Support System

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## A Message from the SCCOOS Executive Director

Dear SCCOOS Community,

I want to take a moment to acknowledge our collective experience this last month as the nation confronts its long history of systemic racism in the midst of a global health pandemic. We are all searching for ways to make a difference to the community and better serve our STEM colleagues, particularly those of color, who have endured a lifetime of discrimination and trauma. The hard work is long past due. At SCCOOS, we are committed to supporting an open and nurturing environment for the entire ocean observing network. We welcome suggestions from all of you that will lead to tangible change and positive growth. I believe we will look back at 2020 as a year of radical societal change on many levels, but only if we make it so. Please be safe and follow public health guidelines as you venture out to create a braver, better world.

“Let us all hope that the dark clouds of racial prejudice will soon pass away and the deep fog of misunderstanding will be lifted from our fear-drenched communities, and in some not too distant tomorrow the radiant stars of love and brotherhood will shine over our great nation with all their scintillating beauty” - *Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., 1963*

Clarissa Anderson,  
Executive Director

## SCCOOS and CeNCOOS Joint Call for FY21-26 Expressions of Interest

**The Central and Northern California Ocean Observing System ([CeNCOOS](#)) and the Southern California Coastal Ocean Observing System ([SCCOOS](#)) are pleased to announce an opportunity to submit a joint Expression of Interest (EOI).**

CeNCOOS and SCCOOS are developing 5-year work plans in response to the US Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS) FY 2020 Notice of Federal Opportunity ([link](#)). This award will cover the 5-year period June 1, 2021, through May 31, 2026, and will sustain critical observing, modeling, product, and service activities, while also providing opportunities to add new, multidisciplinary projects to the system. To develop the proposal we are soliciting Expressions of Interest (EOIs) from existing Principal Investigators and potential new collaborators.

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Details about how to submit an EOI, EOI review criteria, and FAQs are available on the SCCOOS website ([link](#)) and CeNCOOS website ([link](#)).

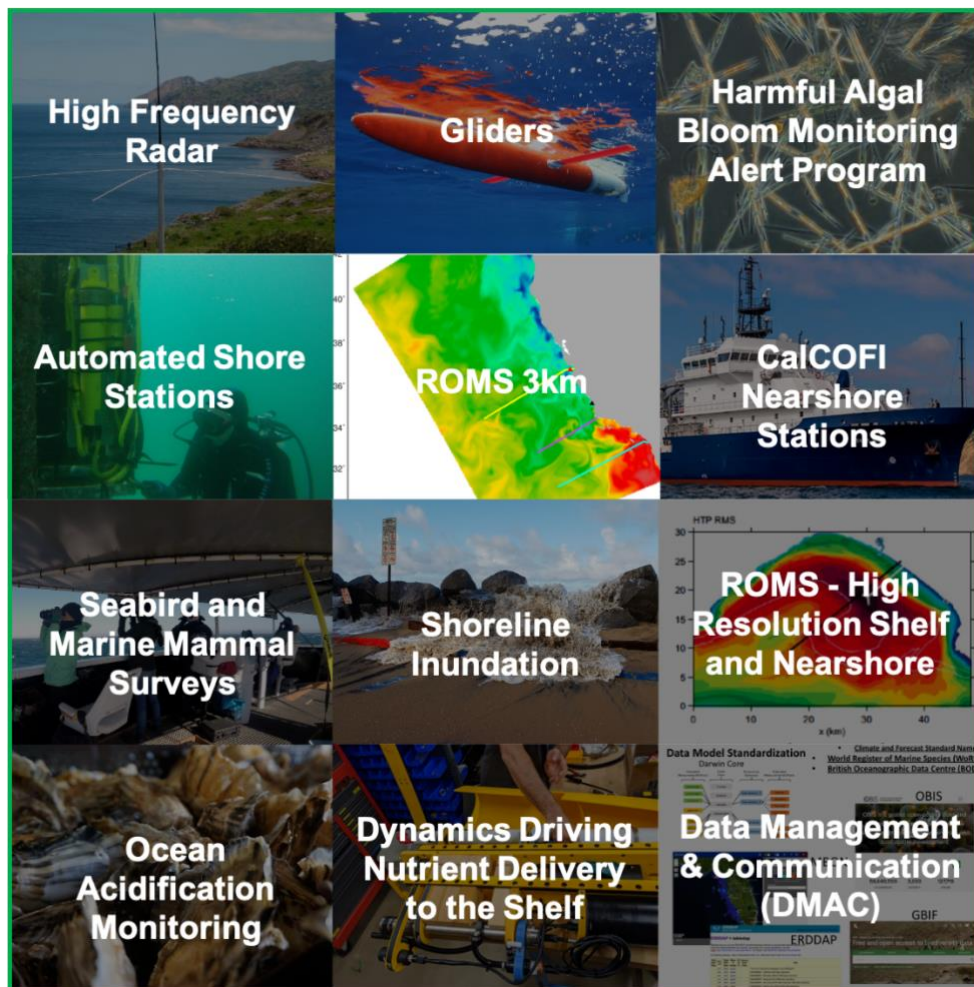
The deadline to submit an EOI is July 8, 2020.

CeNCOOS and SCCOOS will also be hosting a Webinar to review the EOI process and to answer questions on Friday, June 18th at 11 AM. Please register for the webinar here ([link](#)). Additionally, to help foster cross-collaboration and engagement among research scientists in the region, we have created a [spreadsheet](#) to facilitate partnerships during the EOI development process.

Please distribute this call to others who might be interested in submitting an EOI.

## SCCOOS All-Hands Meeting, ESC Meeting, and BOG Meeting

Over two half-days, on May 21st and 22nd, 25 funded [Principle Investigators](#) presented on their projects to [SCCOOS Executive Steering Committee \(ESC\)](#) and [Board of Governors \(BOG\)](#) as part of our five-year Internal Review.



SCCOOS 12 currently funded projects.

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The PIs addressed six questions in their presentations: 1) What are the major goals and specific objectives of your project?; 2) How do these objectives address national or state goals?; 3) Who are the stakeholders, collaborators, and/or users of your data?; 4) What are the major deliverables and/or downstream products that result from your project, and how do you measure your performance?; 5) What sources of funding do you have, in addition to the support from SCCOOS? and; 6) Do you have new initiatives and product ideas for the next five-year award? Here is a [link the PI Presentations](#).

Following the All-Hands Meeting the ESC met on May 28<sup>th</sup> to evaluate the performance of each project and discussed priorities for the next five-year award. The ESC reported their findings to the BOG on June 4<sup>th</sup> and solicited for additional recommendations.

## COVID-19 Operational Impacts

**The SCCOOS Program Office continues to work remotely. Our All-Hands Meeting, Executive Steering Committee Meeting and Board of Governors Meeting were all held remotely.** The [HF Radar](#) team is doing their best to keep the radars operational, but some HFR sites with technical issues are not accessible. The [California Underwater Glider Network](#) is also working to safely retrieve the gliders and is waiting to be able to safely redeploy the [glider lines](#) off California's coast. The alongshore glider was recovered by SIO in March; the glider on line 80 was recovered in April by SIO and, the glider on line 56.7 was recovered by Bodega Marine Lab in April. There has been no interruption to glider lines 90 or 66.7 at this time. SCCOOS and CeNCOOS have suspended weekly water sampling at the nine [HABMAP](#) pier stations, with the exception of Scripps Pier and Cal Poly Pier, where sampling has been allowed to continue in support of State public health. The [CalCOFI](#) Spring 2020 cruise has been canceled, but the next one is scheduled for early July. The battery died on the [SeapHOx](#) transceiver deployed at Carlsbad Aquafarm and has not been collecting data since early April. The Fiber Optic Distributed Temperature Sensing (DTS) deployment was postponed to early May.

## NOAA West Coast Operational Forecast System

**NOAA National Ocean Service (NOS) collaborated with the National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service (NESDIS) to develop the West Coast Operational Forecast System (WCOFS), which will be NOS' first Operational Forecast System (OFS) to incorporate data assimilation capabilities.** More information about the model set-up can be found [here](#). WCOFS is currently in the development and testing phase and is requesting users to participate in an external evaluation from June 15 to August 10, 2020.



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## Red Tide Bulletin: Spring 2020

In response to the prolonged Red Tide event that occurred in Southern California from late March to the end of May, SCCOOS put together a special [Red Tide Bulletin: Spring 2020](#). The Bulletin consolidates over 50 figures of plots, maps, images, and videos from colleagues at SIO/UCSD, NOAA, SCCWRP, City of LA, Orange County, and San Diego and more. Many local [news articles](#) featured SCCOOS Executive Director, Clarissa Anderson, who aimed to answer the public's questions and concerns regarding the event and pointed to the [Red Tide Bulletin](#) for a detailed summary.

To further investigate the prolonged *Lingulodinium polyedra* algal bloom and co-occurrence of low dissolved oxygen [NOAA's National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science](#) (NCCOS) awarded SCCOOS and Scripps Institution of Oceanography (SIO) \$11,000 in Rapid Response Funds. SCCOOS and SIO plan to determine if the bioaccumulation of yessotoxins (YTX) and/or hypoxia led to the deaths of marine organisms that washed up along our coasts and to expand on identification of toxins produced by *Lingulodinium polyedra*.

### Red Tide Bulletin: Spring 2020

Author: Clarissa Anderson, SCCOOS and Megan Hepner-Medina, SCCOOS.

Published: May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

Updated: May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

*More data may be added to the bulletin as it becomes available.*

[Subscribe to the CA HAB Bulletin listserv](#)

[Summary](#)   [Phytoplankton](#)   [Dissolved Oxygen](#)   [Temperature](#)   [Precipitation](#)



Figure 1-5. (Left to Right) Photos of Bioluminescence captured at Scripps Pier on April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020 by Phillip Arndt, UCSD/SIO; Blacks Beach by Austin Blair; Newport Beach on April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020 by Zac Mullings and; La Jolla Shores, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020 by Michael Latz, UCSD/SIO.

### Summary:

In late March, a robotic microscope deployed on a mooring that sits on the continental shelf offshore of Del Mar captured images of the early stages of a spring phytoplankton bloom. It was a fairly typical mixture of microalgae for this time of year when upwelling of deeper water is delivering nutrients to the well-lit surface layer. In the observations from March 31<sup>st</sup> (Fig. 6), the community was primarily

## June 3<sup>rd</sup>: Los Angeles and Long Beach Harbor Safety Committee Meeting

On Wednesday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> Angelica Rodriguez represented CCCIA, SCCOOS and CDIP during the LA/LB Harbor Safety Committee Meeting. Angelica

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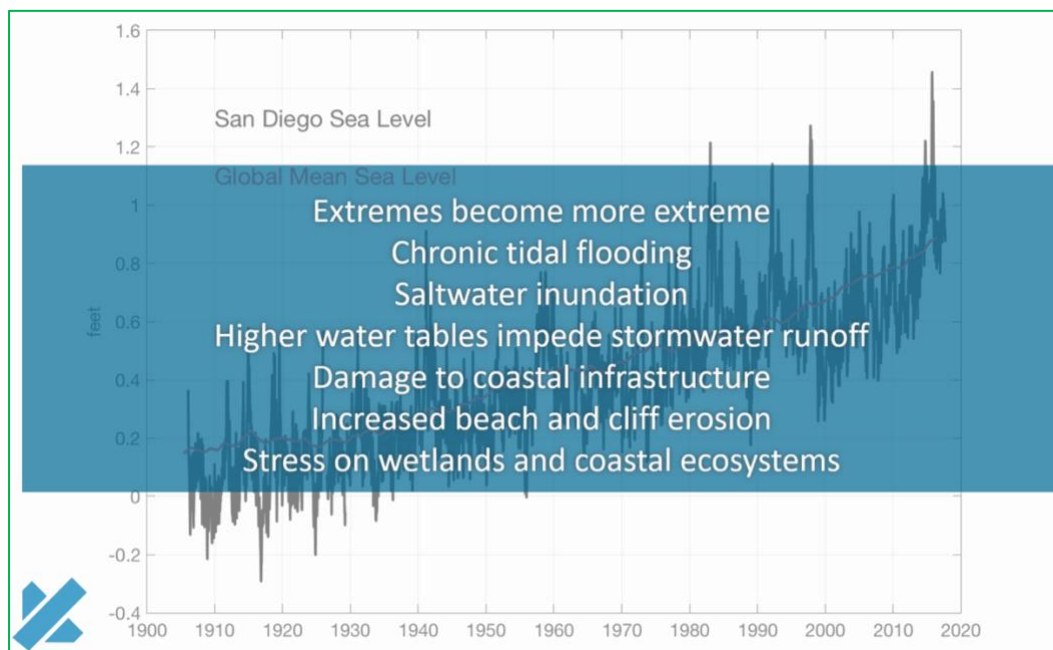
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spoke on issues surrounding ports and sea level rise, inundation/overtopping forecasts, and data/model products to support maritime transport, including the Under Keel Clearance Project.



## IOOS Association Strategic Planning Survey

Here is a [link](#) to a short survey (10 questions) to help inform the IOOS Association strategic planning process and to help them determine priorities for the next five years. The IOOS Association is a nationwide non-profit organization dedicated to improving the nation's ocean, coastal and Great Lakes observing systems by supporting the U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS). The Association is undertaking a strategic planning process to help guide our actions for the next five years and to determine how the Association can best support the IOOS enterprise that includes a robust national network of regional systems. The Association is a non-profit organization comprised of the 11 Regional Associations and is dedicated to fulfilling regional and national needs for observations through implementation of US Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS).

## Publications

- Barth A, Walter RK, Robbins I, Pasulka A (2020). [Seasonal and interannual variability of phytoplankton abundance and community composition on the Central Coast of California](#). *Mar Ecol Prog Ser* 637:29-43.

## News Articles

- [Weather Discussion: The Science Behind Marine Heat Waves](#). *NBC Bay Area*. 26-May 2020.

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- [NCCOS Funds Investigation of Bioluminescent Red Tide Event Off Southern California Coast](#). NOAA's National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science. 26-May 2020.
- [Scientists Identify Climate Change as Major Contributor to Record-Breaking Marine Heatwave](#). Scripps Institution of Oceanography. 26-May 2020.
- [Scientists aren't sure how long the foul smell from red tide will last on San Diego County coastline](#). *The San Diego Union Tribe*. 13-May 2020.
- [San Diego researchers looking into possibility of toxic algae in SoCal ocean](#). *10News San Diego*. 12-May 2020.
- [Red tide causes big stink along local beaches](#). *Fox 5 San Diego*. 5-May 2020.
- [Why Do Waves Glow During Red Tide, Exactly?](#) *Surfer*. 30-Apr. 2020
- [Earth 8: Red tide returns to San Diego](#). *CBS 8*. 27-Apr. 2020
- [Photos: Southern California waters are glowing amid major bioluminescent event](#). *SFGATE*. 28-Apr. 2020
- [Bioluminescence tide captured along San Diego's coast](#). *10News San Diego*. 17-Apr. 2020.

## Upcoming Activities

- June 9, 2020: [Capitol Hill Ocean Week \(CHOW\)](#)
- June 11, 2020: [Marine Technology Society Conference](#)
- June 15-19, 2020: [Group on Earth Observations \(GEO\) Virtual Symposium](#)
- June 18, 2020: [SCCOOS and CeNCOOS Expression of Interest Webinar](#)
- June 19, 2020: [Ocean Protection Council Public Meeting](#)
- July 13-17, 2020: [ESRI User Conference](#)
- July 21: [NOAA West Watch Webinar](#)
- August 27, 2020: [San Diego Climate Summit](#)
- September 29-October 1, 2020: [Restore Americas Estuaries 2020 Summit](#)

## Contact Us:

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