

U.S. Department of  
Homeland Security

United States  
Coast Guard



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United States Coast Guard

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November 24, 2020

Dr. Anderson and Dr. Ruhl  
The California Ocean Observing Systems  
Southern California Coastal Ocean Observing System  
Central and Northern California Coastal Ocean Observing System

Dear Dr. Anderson and Dr. Ruhl:

The U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Office of Search and Rescue (SAR) supports the operation of ocean observing and modeling systems along the California coastline provided by the Southern California Coastal Ocean Observing System (SCCOOS) and the Central and Northern California Ocean Observing System (CeNCOOS), located at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California San Diego (UCSD) and the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI), respectively.

The USCG employs the Search And Rescue Optimal Planning System (SAROPS) operationally for search and planning. The measured and forecasted ocean currents, produced by the California Ocean Observing Systems (SCCOOS and CeNCOOS) and accessed by SAROPS through the Environmental Data Server (EDS), are of enormous benefit to the USCG's SAR program.

The USCG has been using the real-time prediction system for the California state-wide ocean circulation over the past decade. The surface current nowcast and forecast fields from your forecasting system provide key information for reliable and accurate drift modeling during our search for survivors and survivor crafts lost off the California coast.

Furthermore, the expanded data network and advanced numerical ocean modeling system supported by SCCOOS and CeNCOOS have greatly improved the Coast Guard's ability to optimally plan searches for lost mariners and crafts in the California coastal region, thus saving time and lives. Our ability to accurately and consistently predict trajectories for search and rescue depends on the invaluable uninterrupted delivery of observational data and state-of-the-art predictive modeling and tools.

The USCG Search and Rescue program looks forward to SCCOOS and CeNCOOS continuing operations, growth and enhancements to the marine observational network and modeling systems along the California coast in support of the critical Coast Guard search and rescue mission.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "M Forbes".

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