



State of California -The Natural Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE  
Office of Spill Prevention and Response  
Marine Wildlife Veterinary Care & Research Center  
151 McAllister Way  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
www.wildlife.ca.gov/OSPR

**GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor**  
**CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director**



10/22/2020

Dr. Anderson and Dr. Ruhl  
California's Ocean Observing Systems  
*Southern California Coastal Ocean Observing System*  
*Central and Northern California Ocean Observing System*

Dear Dr. Anderson & Dr. Ruhl:

On behalf of California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Office of Spill Prevention and Response (CDFW-OSPR), 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), located at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California San Diego (UCSD) and the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI), respectively.

The OSPR-CDFW Seabird Health Program at the Marine Wildlife Veterinary Care and Research Center, employs a goal to monitor the health and pathology of marine birds to support the best achievable care of oiled wildlife and detect emerging threats to seabird populations. Because seabird health and population trends often track in tandem with oceanographic conditions, we believe SCCOOS and CeNCOOS provide invaluable tools to aid our investigations. The benefits of public-facing ocean observing information is vast, and our uses are multifaceted. We regularly have a need for oceanographic hindcasting, nowcasting, and forecasting to examine seabird mortality events and oiling events statewide. This type of information is also crucial to other regional state biologists and non-profit organizations that examine the causes of morbidity and mortality in marine wildlife populations.

As a science-based decision support program, the California Ocean Observing Systems (CeNCOOS and SCCOOS) collaborate with local, state and federal agencies, tribes, 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 and CeNCOOS focus on high-priority regional requirements to provide the information necessary to address marine operations, coastal hazards, climate variability and change, and ecosystems, fisheries, and water quality.

Sustained funding for SCCOOS and CeNCOOS is crucial to the maintenance of the state's ocean observing network and to continue the delivery of important data products and services that these observing systems enable. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

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