



November 10, 2020

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

Dear Dr. Anderson and Dr. Ruhl:

On behalf of The West Coast Ocean Data Portal, we 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 West Coast Ocean Data Portal (WCODP) seeks to increase access to and discovery of critical ocean and coastal data for resource managers and policymakers on the West Coast. The ocean observing information provided by CeNCOOS and SCCOOS are important resources for us to highlight in our data catalog, so that our users (namely the state, tribal and federal agencies represented in the West Coast Ocean Alliance, or WCOA) can access the most up-to-date data and models to inform their decision-making at local and regional levels. The WCODP and WCOA both feel that comprehensive ocean data is extremely important in meeting the needs of this management community. The marine economy contributes over 500,000 jobs and over \$40 billion to California's GDP (OceanReports 2020), and the data provided by CeNCOOS and SCCOOS help decision-makers understand how to make tradeoffs between important ocean uses, and provide context to those decisions. Additionally, as the WCODP works on several upcoming data-derived products, the expertise of those at CeNCOOS and SCCOOS has been invaluable, and we expect to continue this working relationship and utilize data from the observing systems they support and maintain well into the future.

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 us if you have any questions.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andy Lanier".

Andy Lanier
Co-Chair, West Coast Ocean Data Portal

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen B. Weisberg".

Stephen B. Weisberg, Ph.D.
Co-Chair, West Coast Ocean Data Portal