

November 10, 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:

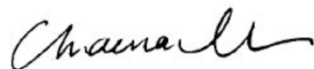
On behalf of California Sea Grant, I enthusiastically endorse the valuable data and services provided by the Southern California Coastal Ocean Observing System (SCCOOS) at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California San Diego and the Central and Northern California Ocean Observing System (CeNCOOS), at the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI).

I am writing this letter of support in my role as the Director of California Sea Grant (CASG), a multi-faceted program funded by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) with a broad series of mandates which include supporting research, extension and outreach, work-force development, education and communication throughout the state of California to increase the understanding of, responsible interaction with, and use of coastal and marine resources. CASG is jointly supporting an Ecological Model and Indicator Postdoctoral Researcher with the California Ocean Observing Systems, who is supporting the curation of datasets (Seascapes, C-HARM, EcoCAST) that provide the backbone of automated data and model output delivery to the long-term MPA monitoring network. The postdoctoral researcher's contributions will generate the development of spatially explicit view of potential risk to a multitude of stressors and changing conditions (sea surface temperatures, variations in acidity, dissolved oxygen, nutrients, harmful algal blooms and marine disease) at an MPA. This very innovative and collaborative project, which includes managers at California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the California Ocean Protection Council and other marine scientists at California universities, aims to integrate data from various investigators, locations, habitats and methods to produce robust assessments of change in key indicators that are useful for MPA management.

As a science-based decision support program, the California Ocean Observing Systems collaborate with local, state and federal agencies, resource managers, industry, policy makers, educators, scientists, tribes 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 issues 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 region's ocean observing network and to the continuity of the important data products and services that these observing systems enable. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Shauna Oh, PhD
Director