

November 18, 2020

Dr. Clarissa Anderson
Executive Director
Southern California Coastal Ocean Observing System
Scripps Institution of Oceanography
9500 Gilman Drive, 0206
La Jolla, CA 92093-0214



Dear Dr. Anderson,

On behalf of the grower members of the Pacific Coast Shellfish Growers Association (PCSGA), 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.

The PCSGA was founded in 1930 and represents approximately 100 private and tribal farms, providing over 3,000 jobs in Alaska, California, Hawaii, Washington, and Oregon. PCSGA's members are diverse in both farm size and location where oysters, clams, mussels, and geoduck are grown for both domestic and export markets at a value of nearly \$300 million.

The work of SCCOOS contributes significantly to the region's shellfish industry which in turn supports coastal economies dependent on the industry for jobs. Shellfish have been an essential part of the West Coast communities for over a century. During this time, farming techniques have evolved in response to environmental do citizens and market demands. This current generation of shellfish farmer is reliant upon data and services from SCCOOS.

As a science-based decision support system, SCCOOS collaborates with local, state and federal agencies, 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 focuses on coastal observations and product development to provide the information necessary to address issues on marine operations, coastal hazards, climate variability and change, and ecosystems, fisheries, and water quality.

Sustained funding for SCCOOS is crucial to the maintenance of the program's ocean observing network and to the continuity of the important data products and services that these observations enable. PCSGA and shellfish growers individually enjoy our partnerships regarding monitoring of ocean acidification all along the Pacific Coast. Please keep me posted on your progress and be sure to let me know how I may assist you further.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Margaret A. Pilaro', is positioned above the printed name.

Margaret A. Pilaro
Executive Director