

Ocean Rainforest, Inc.
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November 16, 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 Ocean Rainforest, Inc. (ORI), a subsidiary of Ocean Rainforest, Sp/F, 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.

As the prime contractor for the MacroSystems initiative of Advanced Research Projects Agency – Energy (ARPA-E), ORI plays a key role in the establishment of seaweed aquaculture industry in the US. ORI works closely with existing agencies and stakeholder to help shape this pioneering industry in such a way that can coexist exist with our fellow industries or stakeholders that rely on the marine environment for their livelihood. In order to do so, ORI depends on the scientific information that SCCOOS provides to inform decisions that shape our practices.

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 will be 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. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "CSchatz", is written over the typed name and title.

Courtney Schatzman
Environmental Scientist and Data Manager

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