

160 Wharf # 2  
Monterey, Ca. 93940  
831-646-0350  
www.montereyabalone.com  
andrew@montereyabalone.com

## Monterey Abalone Company

October 19, 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 Monterey Abalone Company, 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.

- Monterey Abalone Company is an in the ocean abalone farm located on Monterey's Commercial Wharf. Our abalone grow-out cages are suspended in the bay and are subject to the tides, storms, swells, algae blooms and temperature swings of the natural environment.
- Ocean observing information is crucial for us to have some advance notice of weather and oceanographic conditions. Parameters such as water temperature, pH, dissolved oxygen are very important locally.
- Because we harvest kelp to feed our abalone, imagery to estimate kelp biomass is very important to us locally and to Fish and Wildlife statewide (CDFW regulates kelp harvesting statewide). While satellite imagery is helpful, the resolution does not enable one to distinguish giant from bull kelp while drone imagery does.
- Your knowledge of benefits provided by CeNCOOS and SCCOOS to regional marine stakeholders and end-users
- Recent concerns about kelp biomass and the explosion of the purple urchin populations have impacted our business and at least a dozen other businesses statewide. Without satellite imagery to assess stands of canopy forming kelps DCFW would not have had the necessary information to regulate the fishery.

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,



Arthur Seavey  
Partner, Monterey Abalone Company