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September 30, 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 Marine Animal Rescue, 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.

Marine Animal Rescue Specialists respond to and rescue marine mammals in Los Angeles County. We use the Ocean Observing data to confirm what we see in the field, which adds a valuable tool to our rescue organization. It is useful to MAR as it helps us respond to the calls, sometimes up to 500 responses/rescues in one year.

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.

I understand that SCCOOS is funded primarily by the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). 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 operations enable. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Peter Wallerstein
President

Marine Animal Rescue Specialist is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, Federal I.D. #27-4203035.
Donations to MARS are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

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