

What is SCCWRP?



Southern California Coastal Water Research Project

Steve Meyer

SCCWRP BACKGROUND

- Joint Powers Agency founded in 1969
- Initiated to address regional monitoring and research needs
 - Cumulative impact assessment
 - Methods development
 - Data integration
- Member organizations include city, county, state, and federal agencies
 - Unique combination of regulators and dischargers
 - Provides
 - Unique interface between science and management

Seek approval to recommend the Agreement.

8th JPA – Summary of Changes

- **SCCWRP Name** – Southern California Coastal Water Research Partnership.
 - **Nomenclature cleanup** –
 - Commissioner and Agency references
 - Clarify vote language
 - plain language changes
 - **Associate Member Agencies** – added voting rights at 1/4 vote.
 - **Administrative change process**
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MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

- | | |
|--|--|
| • City of Los Angeles | • San Diego Regional Water Quality Board |
| • Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts | • Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Board |
| • Orange County Sanitation District | • Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Board |
| • City of San Diego | • State Water Resources Control Board |
| • Ventura County Watershed Protection Division | • U.S. Environmental Protection Agency |
| • Los Angeles County Dept of Public Works | • California Ocean Protection Council |
| • Orange County Department of Public Works | |
| • San Diego County Dept of Public Works | |

EVOLUTION OF MEMBERSHIP

- 1969 - Formed by major wastewater dischargers
 - University oversight (Scripps)
 - Intended as a three-year project
- 1990 - Brought regulators onboard to ensure neutrality and enhance policy discussion
- 2003 - Stormwater agencies added
 - Increasing amount of our research focused on stormwater and land use practices
- 2007 - Ocean Protection Council added to enhance interaction with the CA Resources Agency

SCCWRP COMMISSION

- **Our Governing Board**
 - Includes one representative from each member agency
 - Meets quarterly
- **Unique interface between science and management**



MISSION

- 1) Contribute to the scientific understanding of linkages among human activities, natural events, and the health of the Southern California coastal environment
- 2) Communicate this understanding to decision makers and other stakeholders
- 3) Help develop strategies for protecting the coastal environment for this and future generations

FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS

- Is it safe to eat fish?
- Is it safe to swim?
- Are natural resources protected?
- Is the ecosystem healthy?



RESEARCH PRIORITIES

- Criteria with which to interpret monitoring data
- Regional Assessment of Condition
- Establishing Regional Reference Condition
- New Measurement Methods
 - Better, faster, cheaper
 - Methodological consistency (comparability)
- Regional Monitoring
 - Provide big picture assessment of management success
 - Achieve consistency in data collection methods
- Emerging Issues
 - Investigate issues that are too speculative for inclusion in local monitoring programs
- Predictive Models
 - Demonstrate understanding of the system
 - Provide a means for evaluating alternative courses of action

FINANCIALS

- Overall budget: ~\$10M
- Funding sources:
 - 55% - State contracts
 - 29% - Municipal dischargers
 - 10% - Federal grants
 - 6% - Other (e.g., private entities, research institutions, nonprofits)
- About 1/3 of budget goes to subcontractors

