

WHAT IS SCCWRP? (AND WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?)



Presentation to CSU-Water

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April 13, 2023

WHAT IS SCCWRP?

- **Joint Powers Agency founded in 1969**
- **Our mission: Provide an unbiased scientific foundation for ambient water quality management in California**
 - We don't do policy
 - We don't do regulation
 - However, we judge success on whether our science is being used by those who do policy and regulation
- **Diverse membership**
 - Member organizations include city, county, state, and federal agencies
 - Unique combination of regulators and dischargers

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Wastewater utilities

Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts

City of Los Angeles

Orange County Sanitation District

City of San Diego

Stormwater management agencies

Ventura County Watershed Protection Division

Los Angeles County Flood Control District

Orange County Public Works

County of San Diego

Regulatory and management oversight

San Diego Regional Water Quality Board

Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Board

Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Board

State Water Resources Control Board

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

California Ocean Protection Council

SCCWRP COMMISSION

- **Governing board that includes leaders from each member agency**
 - Meets quarterly
- **They are supported by the Commission's Technical Advisory Group**
 - Lead scientists from each member agency
 - They meet eight times per year and help guide our research priorities
 - They also serve as our primary point of intersection for technology transfer
- **The Commission and CTAG provide a powerful interface between science and management**
 - The real strength of the organization

ORGANIZATIONAL SIZE

- **50 full-time staff**
 - 28 of whom have a Ph.D.
- **Almost all our projects are conducted collaboratively**
 - Partners add to and diversify our scientific thought process
 - They are also critical to achieving scientific consensus
 - We published scientific papers with 188 other institutions in the last year alone
- **We have a 27,000 square foot facility**
 - Four conference rooms with high-end video hosting capacity
 - 10,000 sq. feet of laboratory space with specialized chemistry, toxicology and molecular capacity

WHY IS SCCWRP AT YOUR MEETING?

- **Steve Blumenshine and I agreed there is potential synergy**
- **You have skill sets we do not (or not enough of)**
 - Social science
 - Economics
 - Stormwater engineering
- **We bring a connection to the management community**
 - Helping focus your research on things they want to know about
 - A forum for communicating your findings
 - Context for some of their funding calls
- **We also hire**
 - Quite a few of our part-time employees (interns) come from CSU
 - Most of our full-time hires start with word-of-mouth

RESEARCH THEMES

- **Bioassessment**
 - Index development
 - Casual assessment
 - Genomics
- **Eutrophication**
 - Nutrient targets
 - Harmful algae
- **Ecohydrology**
- **Contaminants of Emerging Concern**
 - Non-targeted analysis
 - Cell-line assays
 - Microplastics
- **Microbial Water Quality**
 - Genomic method development
 - Source identification
 - QMRA
 - Antibiotic resistance
- **Climate Change**
 - Acidification
 - Sea level rise
- **Stormwater BMPs**
 - Engineering evaluation of potential solutions
- **Regional Monitoring**