

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA COASTAL WATER  
RESEARCH PROJECT**

**Commissioner Technical Advisory Group  
(CTAG) Report**

---

**SEPTEMBER 11, 2015**

Greg Gearheart, CTAG Chair



# CTAG Agenda – August 13, 2015

- Executive Director's Report
- Contract Review
- New Projects
  - Bioavailability of contaminants in sediment using passive sampling
  - Land-Sea HAB monitoring tools
  - Biological condition gradient model
- Feedback on SCCWRP
- Executive Director's Report (format and content)
- Climate Change Research Summary
- Ten-year Research Plans
- Microbial WQ Research Theme – Intersessional Planning

# Contract Review

- Eight new contracts, only one over \$250K
- CTAG recommends the Commission approve all contracts except nos. 2 and 3 (not reviewed by CTAG)



# Executive Director's Report

CTAG discussed at length the format and content and all generally agreed it was great. Suggestions include:

1. Include some “challenges” (not just “successes”);
2. Provide more data visualizations;
3. Research limitations; and
4. Include Executive Director's message in prominent place.



# Climate Research Workshop Summary

- Detailed presentation provided by Executive Director to Commission at last meeting was provided to CTAG
- Discussion revolved around next steps
  - Decide whether Climate is a standalone research theme or the research needs are distributed across other themes
  - Summary document(s) of research workshop held
  - White paper or other report/document on higher level issues associated with Climate and SCCWRP member agency interests
- **CTAG Chair and SCCWRP Executive Director and staff will work together to seek external funding to pursue white paper topic**
- **Next CTAG meeting will support discussion of Climate research theme topic**

# Ten Year Research Plans

- CTAG discussed the purpose of the ten year research plans, building off the initial request from ED for feedback on Biological Assessment theme
- Format, length and purpose of these documents were all topics that came up in discussion
- SCCWRP staff will draft some candidate, new format plans for November CTAG meeting
- Further discussion of format, length and purpose of plans to occur at November CTAG meeting as well as overall research plan structure (thematic titles, documents, format, web vs paper, etc.)

# Microbial Water Quality Research

- Intersessional scheduled for **October 8, 2015**
- Presentations to prepare CTAG included:
  - Demo of QPCR portable field device (John Griffith)
  - Microbial source tracking (Yiping Cao)
  - Surfer health study (Joshua Steele)
  - External perspective (Ken Susilo, GeoSyntec)
- Terry Fleming (USEPA) will chair the workshop with support from Chris Crompton (County of Orange)



# Questions?

Greg Gearheart (CTAG Chair)

Deputy Director, Office of Information Management and Analysis  
CA State Water Board

[Greg.Gearheart@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Greg.Gearheart@waterboards.ca.gov) / (916) 341-5892

