BACKGROUND

• SCCWRP is approaching its 50th Anniversary in October

• We want to highlight SCCWRP’s “greatest accomplishments” at our celebration event
  – We will create posters and video stations for the evening walk-around
  – They will also be highlights in next year’s Annual Report

• Prioritizing our successes is not an easy task
  – Its in they eye of the beholder so we enlisted help in determining them
  – Here is what we learned
APPROACH

• 

CTAG helped us identify 40 leading accomplishment candidates, which fell four categories
  – Technical accomplishments
    o Scientific products
  – Science discourse
    o Ways in which we help advance the use of science in management
  – Internal processes that supported our success
  – An improved environment
    o Ways in which the environment is cleaner as a result of our activities

• 

We then asked four entities to rank these candidates
  – CTAG
  – SCCWRP Department Heads
  – SCCWRP Senior Scientists
  – 50th Anniversary Planning Committee
VOTING OUTCOME

• 28 of the 40 candidates received votes
  – People told us it was difficult to choose only six
  – Technical accomplishments received more than 300 points
  – Science discourse and internal processes each received about half of that
  – Not many votes for cleaner environment category

• Voting was similar among the four voter groups

• There were eight “successes” that rose above others
  – 50th Anniversary Planning Committee reviewed them and support their use
• Technical accomplishments
  – Enhanced regional monitoring and assessment (Bight, SMC) 143 100
  – Beach water quality monitoring methods and assessment tools 69 67
  – Biological assessment tools (i.e., BRI, CSCI, ASCI) 47 40
  – Sediment quality objectives 29 27
  – Development of model monitoring programs 11 13
  – Quantifying stormwater runoff quality 10 10

• Science discourse
  – Forum for developing consensus around emerging science (Commission meetings and workshops) 86 73
  – Support the establishment of management forums and working groups (BWQWG, SCAMIT, WRP) 17 27
  – Determining when science is sufficiently vetted for management application (Expert panels) 13 13
  – Neutral party to evaluate issues and eliminate red herring issues 11 10

• Internal processes that support our success
  – Diversifying the SCCWRP membership (Regulators/Stormwater agencies) 52 53
  – Emphasis on conducting science collaboratively with other organizations 29 33
  – Collaborative research planning process with CTAG 21 20
  – National reputation for rigor through publication and scientific society leadership 19 23
TWO UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

• Microplastics measurement methods standardization

• Breaking down barriers to routing stormwater through wastewater treatment plants
There are a wide array of methods for measuring microplastics
- Two recent pieces of CA legislation encourage method standardization
- Scientists also recognize the need for standardization

We are hosting a workshop April 4-5, bringing in the world’s leading experts to facilitate methods standardization

Workshop has two goals
- Write a review paper about the state of the science
- Develop a study design to evaluate and compare a range of methods

First day will be public and we have over 100 people registered
- We are full, but will make more room for member agency staff
BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS

• Many groups have interest in routing stormwater through wastewater treatment plants

• However, there are many potential barriers
  – A mix of engineering, regulatory and relationships (or lack thereof)

• SCCWRP will host a workshop bringing together wastewater, stormwater and regulatory agencies
  – Goal is to prioritize the barriers and identify potential solutions
  – Still being scheduled; likely to take place in June/July

• Conducting this in coordination with SCAP and CASQA
  – Lisa Haney is the engine behind this and is here to answer any questions
TOP FEDERAL PRIORITIES

• Aquaculture
• Marine debris
• Harmful algal blooms
• Fisheries
• Coastal resilience