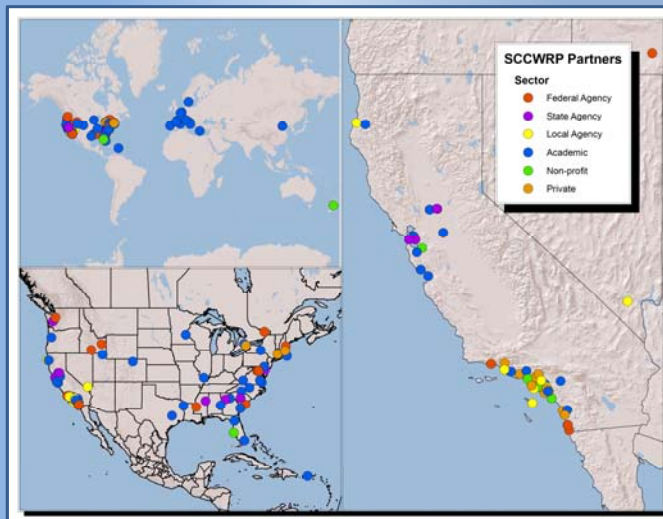# Collaboration is Fundamental to SCCWRP Success

Range of Partnerships

SCCWRP is a joint powers authority formed by 14 member agencies, but the extent of partnerships does not stop there. In fact, SCCWRP has conducted and/or published research with more than 150 different organizations. These groups come from sectors such as academia, federal, state, and local government, private companies, non-profit groups, and even international agencies. As an example, SCCWRP's recent academic partners are listed here:

Auburn University
AZTI Tecnalia (Spain)
California Academy of Sciences
California Institute of Technology
Canadian Centre for DNA Barcoding
Centre for Advanced Studies of Blanes (CEAB) (Spain)
Chinese Academy of Sciences
Colorado State University
Cornell University
CSU Channel Islands
CSU Fullerton
CSU Humboldt
CSU Long Beach
CSU Northridge
CSU San Francisco
CSU San Marcos
Harvard School of Public Health
Louisiana State University
Moss Landing Marine Laboratory
Occidental College
Old Dominion University
Oregon State University
Savannah State University
Skidaway Institute of Oceanography
Southern Illinois University
Stanford University
Texas A&M University
UC Berkeley
UC Cooperative Extension
UC Davis
UC Irvine
UC Riverside
UC San Diego
UC Santa Barbara
UC Santa Cruz
UC Los Angeles
University of Bordeaux (France)
University of Camerino (Italy)
University of Cassino (Italy)
University of Coimbra (Portugal)
University of Crete (Greece)
University of Delaware
University of Florida
University of Georgia
University of Gothenburg (Sweden)
University of Lille (France)
University of Miami
University of Minnesota
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
University of North Carolina, Charlotte
University of Pavia (Italy)
University of Puerto Rico
University of San Francisco
University of South Carolina
University of Southern California
University of the Pacific
Utah State University
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
William and Mary College
Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
Loyola Marymount University
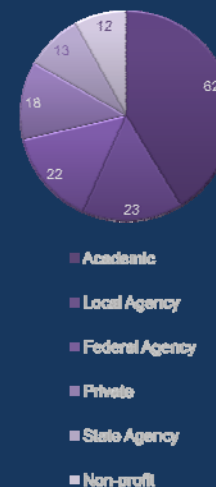Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences (Belgium)

SCCWRP Partners

Sector
- Federal Agency
- State Agency
- Local Agency
- Academic
- Non-profit
- Private

Distribution of partners in different sectors across California, the US, and the world (based on data from 2007-2009).

Number of SCCWRP Partners from Different Sectors

Pie chart values: 12, 13, 18, 22, 23, 62

- Academic
- Local Agency
- Federal Agency
- Private
- State Agency
- Non-profit

Partners in Action

SCCWRP's epidemiology studies partner with UC Berkeley to collect health survey data, while SCCWRP and 9 other research labs process water quality samples.

The 2008 Southern California Bight Regional Monitoring Program kickoff gathered representatives from over 90 different organizations.

Groups of "Regional Teams" assisted in the verification and validation of the California Rapid Assessment Method for wetlands (CRAM).

Benthic ecologists from along the US west coast work together to interpret benthic community data and eventually mesh different benthic indices.

Widen our Expertise

While SCCWRP scientists are well-versed in their fields, it would be impossible to capture the entire range of scientific expertise within a single organization. Through a network of partnerships, the extent of knowledge that can be accessed to support research studies is extended beyond the confines of a single office. SCCWRP is able to maintain a compact organization while drawing upon the skills and experience of other similar agencies to expand the breadth and depth of potential projects.

Virtually all of SCCWRP's projects are conducted in partnership with other organizations.

Partnerships allow SCCWRP to:
- Widen our expertise
- Expand our resource base
- Better communicate our findings
- Develop scientific consensus

Better Communicate our Findings

Interacting with partners builds connectedness in lines of communication, helping SCCWRP to reach the appropriate audience for scientific review and discussion of policy implications. Sharing knowledge with others opens a dialogue about the applications of the research and the need for future studies, often leading to further opportunities for collaboration. Thus, a broad network of partners can enhance the potential reach and impact of research.

Expand our Resource Base

Coordination among stakeholders reduces unnecessary overlap in research and monitoring programs, thus maximizing efficient use of resources. Collaborating on studies and sharing results often allows a greater number of environmental questions to be answered, with little to no increase in expenditures. Partnerships that involve cost-sharing and resource-sharing make larger regional assessments possible.

Develop Scientific Consensus

SCCWRP seeks out partnerships on nearly every project in order to develop consensus-based approaches and methods. Striving for scientific agreement throughout the project's lifespan ensures that efforts are not wasted on inapplicable or extraneous research, and also clarifies the need for management action when the project is finished. When stakeholders are involved, project results are much more easily accepted and adopted by the user community.

For more information on SCCWRP research, check out:
www.sccwrp.org