



## Director's Perspective

**T**he past two years at SCCWRP have been eventful. Our Commission has expanded to nine members. It now includes, in addition to representatives from the City of Los Angeles, County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County, County Sanitation Districts of Orange County, and the City of San Diego, representatives from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region IX, California State Water Resources Control Board, and the Los Angeles, Santa Ana, and San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Boards. This unique forum is bound by a common purpose — to better understand man's effects on the coastal marine environment.

We also have a new director. After 10 years on staff and one year as Assistant Director, I was given the opportunity to become Director. My goal is to continue the successful tradition that has made SCCWRP a leader in coastal marine environmental research since 1969. To do this,

we will emphasize the elements that have made SCCWRP successful throughout its history: quality interdisciplinary research, regional scientific expertise, large-scale perspective, technical innovation, and effective communication.

There have been other changes in staffing as well. Old and new staff alike are rising to the challenge to make SCCWRP the premier problem-solving agency working on the fate and effects of anthropogenic wastes in the coastal marine environment off Southern California.

This report features the results of projects conducted over the past two years. These projects increase our understanding of the sources, fates, and effects of anthropogenic contaminants that find their way intentionally or unintentionally into the coastal marine environment. We continue to report on the biological changes in Santa Monica Bay following termination of sludge

discharge. And we continue with our survey of contaminant inputs to the coastal ocean. One salient aspect of several reports is the attempt to distinguish between natural and anthropogenic perturbations.

This is an important time for SCCWRP. Approximately 15 million people live in Southern California and their impact on the shoreline and coastal marine environment has been profound. With each passing year, our research becomes more important to the well being of the coastal marine environment. As we head into our third decade, our mission, — to understand the effects of urban wastes on the marine environment — gives us purpose and direction.

Jeffrey N. Cross  
Director  
November 1992