

# BACKGROUND

- **Part of SCCWRP's success is having people most affected by our work at the table when we select, design and implement our research**
  - Helps us frame implications of the research early in the process
  - That is why we added the stormwater agencies 20 years ago
- **However, there are many organizations affected by our research not at the table**
- **This discussion item is about how we should address that**
  - We have invited some guests to help us with those discussions

# SOME ENTITIES NOT AT THE TABLE

- **Other POTWs**
  - Northern and small POTWs
- **Other stormwater agencies**
  - Northern and inland stormwater agencies
- **Drinking water utilities**
- **Environmental advocacy groups**

# PLEASE WELCOME OUR SPECIAL GUESTS

- **Northern and small POTWs**
  - Jared Voskuhl, California Association of Sanitation Agencies
- **Northern and inland stormwater agencies**
  - Karen Cowan, California Association Stormwater Quality Agencies
- **Drinking water utilities**
  - Jason Dadakis, Orange County Water District
  - Darrin Polhemus, State Water Resources Control Board
- **Environmental advocacy groups**
  - Sean Bothwell, California Coastkeeper Alliance

# SOME OPTIONS FOR ENHANCED INTERACTION

- Improve communication
- Conduct collaborative projects
- Establish stakeholder advisory committees
- Invite participation in CTAG
- Invite membership in SCCWRP

# IMPROVE COMMUNICATION

- **Greater distribution of our communication vehicles**
  - Quarterly Director's Report
  - Webcasting Commission meetings
- **Sector-specific briefings**
  - We presently do regular briefings at, and even host, CASA meetings
  - We are active participants in the annual CASQA conference
  - We just sent three scientists to the Coastkeeper Alliance annual meeting

# CONDUCT COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS

- **Working together enhances communication and creates trust**
  - Our regional monitoring programs are a great example
  - That is how we began our relationship with the stormwater agencies
- **We have a few collaborative projects with CASA**
  - Conducting wastewater treatment plant microplastics sampling
  - CASA is funding the expert review panel for our ROMS-BEC modeling
- **We work with some external stormwater management agencies through the Stormwater Monitoring Coalition**
- **Can/should we do more of this?**
  - Are there similar opportunities with other sectors?

# INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE ON CTAG

- **CTAG is where most of our research planning is done**
- **CASA presently attends CTAG meetings**
  - However, they are observers, not full participants
- **We previously had a Coastal Commission representative on CTAG as a full voting member**
  - It didn't work because attendance was sporadic
  - Without financial investment or a Commissioner, they didn't have skin in the game

# INVITATION TO BECOME A MEMBER OF SCCWRP

- **During my tenure, we have added five member agencies**
  - Four stormwater management agencies
  - California Ocean Protection Council
- **These additions have been a huge success**
  - Our work is more well-rounded and the conversations about outcomes more extensive
- **There are challenges though**
  - Need to identify enough topics for which there is mutual interest
  - Too many members dilutes the voices for each Commissioner and CTAG member
  - The finances of who pays what would need to be resolved



# SOME AREAS OF OVERLAP WITH DRINKING WATER

- **Microplastics**

- We developed the lab and collection methods they will be required to use for monitoring
- We are even conducting the first year of microplastics monitoring for them

- **Emerging contaminants**

- The cell-line assays we developed are now part of reuse monitoring

- **Ecohydrology**

- Our stream flow tools are being used to determine the amount of water available for reuse

- **Pathogens**

- Our antibiotic resistance in waste-streams work is characterizing their reuse input water

# LET'S START BY HEARING FROM OUR GUESTS

- **How is our current relationship/interaction with your sector?**
  - Which mechanisms should we focus on for enhancing interactions?
- **Should SCCWRP expand its mission to include drinking water?**
  - If so, should it focus on limited topic areas, such as reuse?
- **Other thoughts on SCCWRP's future directions?**