

Insights from surveys on SCCWRP's effectiveness

Commission Strategic Planning Meeting

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Background

- In August, the Commission administered 2 surveys to evaluate SCCWRP's overall effectiveness
 1. A staff survey (n=46)
 2. An external survey (n=139)
- In September, you did a follow-up survey to look at just SCCWRP's scientific impartiality
 3. Member agency staff only (n=85)

Take-home messages from original surveys

- Staff overwhelmingly understand our mission
 - They're also satisfied working here
- External audiences say SCCWRP is doing high-quality science
 - They also say the work is relevant to our member agencies
- The section we scored lowest in was impartiality
 - This issue is so important that you asked us to do a follow-up survey

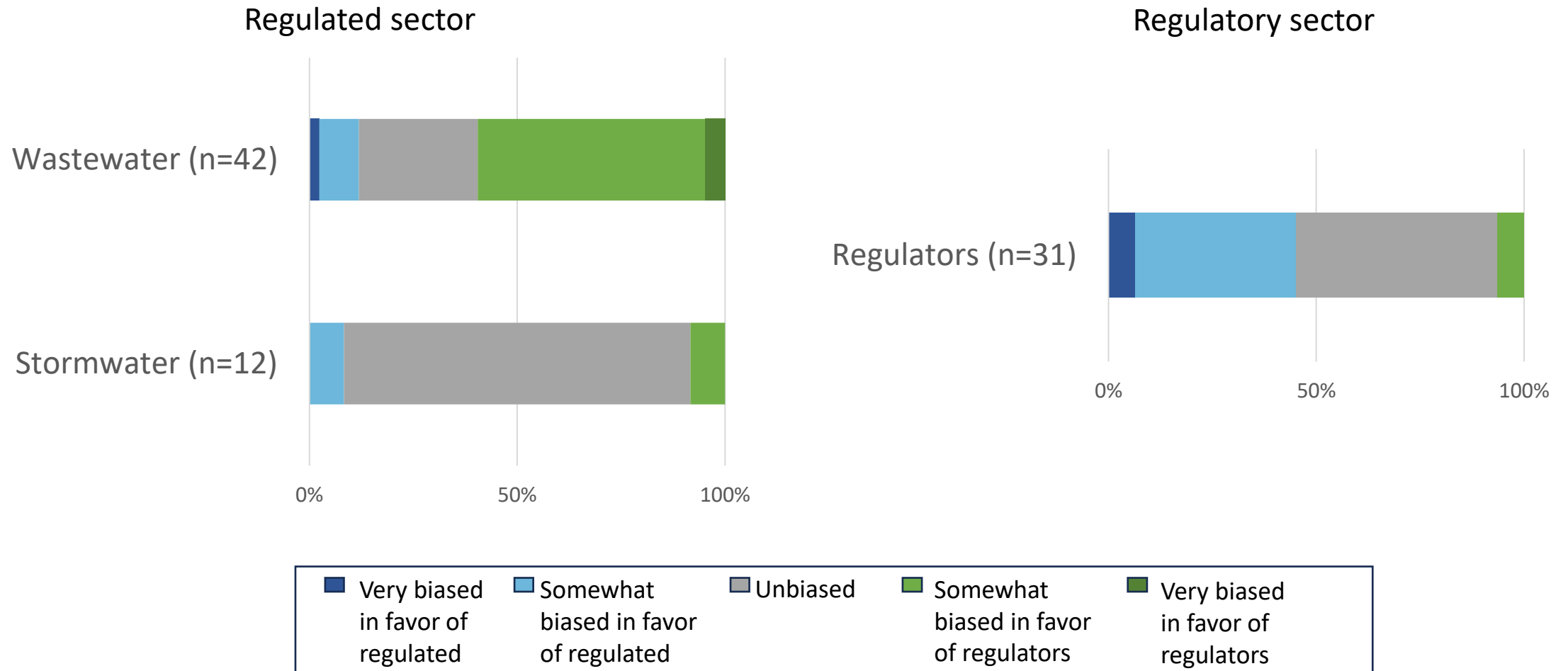
Take-home messages from impartiality survey

- **56%** of member agency staff think SCCWRP is biased

But ...

- The bias is not severe
 - **89%** say it's moderate
- The bias doesn't pervade the entire organization
 - **85%** say it's limited to specific individuals
- The bias tends to be in favor of the sector opposite the one that the survey taker belongs to

Direction of bias



Nature of bias

- There are 3 main places the bias could be coming from
 1. How we do science
 2. How we communicate science
 3. How we transition science into application
- The biggest place member agency staff see bias is in how we transition science
 - But they don't agree if this transition is happening too fast vs. too slow

Transitioning science to application

- 2 divergent views in the impartiality survey's written comments

- “Some studies ... seem to persuade regulators to adopt these findings when the agencies are not ready”

vs.

- “You are too cautious ... Your work is excellent and you should push it into application faster”

- “I am mostly concerned that your ROMS-BEC model is being pushed too hard before it is fully ready for us”

- “Be bolder ... It's almost like they (SCCWRP) want to avoid upsetting regulated parties”

SCCWRP Organizational Goal #4

- Stimulate conversion of science to action