

ENVIRONMENTAL DNA (eDNA)

- **White House released a national eDNA strategy on Monday**
- **SCCWRP was instrumental in creation of that strategy**
 - Hosted the workshop that called for a national strategy
 - Co-authored the workshop report that outlined the strategy
 - Two SCCWRP Commissioners helped shape the direction of that workshop
- **We are also active in the next steps**
 - I was a plenary speaker at the third national eDNA workshop
 - Susie Theroux was one of four experts selected to provide a congressional briefing



NATIONAL AQUATIC ENVIRONMENTAL DNA STRATEGY

A Report by the

eDNA TASK TEAM of the

INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP ON BIODIVERSITY of the

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OCEAN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT

of the

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PERSPECTIVE

WILEY

Toward a national eDNA strategy for the United States

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WHY eDNA?

- **Efficient way to find rare species**
 - eDNA will soon replace traditional sampling to determine presence of delta smelt, informing operation of State Water Project pumps
- **More comprehensive description of biological communities**
 - Starting to become a preferred method for NEPA documentation
 - Federal agencies see it as foundational for the 30x30 program
- **More spatial-temporal coverage for less money**
 - Autonomous vehicles and continuous monitoring devices are in late developmental stages
- **Non-destructive**

HOW DOES THIS AFFECT YOU?

- **Not much in the short term**
 - The Strategy is an enabling document – a roadmap for the future
 - Will be followed by an implementation plan
- **Five years from now we hope it will be part of your everyday operation**
 - Faster, cheaper, better
- **Tell us what applications you would like developed**
 - SCCWRP is positioned to help prioritize investments in those directions

WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE STRATEGY?

- **Coordination**
 - Standardizing methods
 - Determining and communicating which applications are ready for use
- **Infrastructure development**
 - Creating the workforce to support the anticipated application growth
 - Supporting a nascent private industry
- **Research investments to enhance value of the methodology**
 - Shedding rate and degradation models that improve quantitation
 - Autonomous sampling vehicles
 - RNA to quantify animal health