

STARTING POINT

- **SCCWRP's Executive Director serves under contract to the Commission**
 - My contract ends this month
 - You are considering awarding me a new 5-year contract
- **You asked me to summarize accomplishments over the last 30 years**
- **You also asked me to suggest my aspirations for the next 5 years**

WE HAVE COME A LONG WAY IN 30 YEARS

- **SCCWRP had nine member organizations**
 - We now have 14
 - The conversations are better because of that
- **CTAG was newly formed, replacing an external scientific advisory board**
 - CTAG was still figuring out how to operate
 - Now it is crucial to guiding SCCWRP's research and ensuring our managerial relevance
- **SCCWRP was 100% paid for by the POTWs**
 - POTWs now pay about 30%, with more than 40 diverse organizations paying the rest

NUMEROUS SCIENTIFIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- **Lead the world in development and application of beach water quality monitoring tools**
- **Appointed a National Center for Excellence in stormwater research**
- **Developed cell bioassays and transitioned them into application**
- **Hosted the Second National eDNA conference and is a world leader in its application**
- **Environmental Flows Framework is the foundation for flow decisions in California**
- **California is the only place with standard microplastics measurement methods**
- **Our Regional Monitoring Program is widely recognized as one the best in the world**

VISION FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS

- **Revolutionize how we monitor the environment**
 - eDNA
 - Artificial intelligence
- **Enhance our regional monitoring product**
- **Become more solution-oriented**
- **Create a seamless transition following my retirement**

EDNA AND AI

- **The way we monitor the environment is about to drastically change**
 - I envision SCCWRP and its member agencies as leaders in that transition
- **The science of eDNA is maturing**
 - The focus now is shifting towards pilot applications and building a support system
 - Technology transition from research to application is SCCWRP's biggest strength
- **Artificial intelligence is advancing exponentially**
 - I hope to influence thought leaders in the field to focus on our member agency needs
- **Trawl Alternatives Committee is the right forum for considering both**
 - Want to see trawl alternatives implemented before I retire

ENHANCE OUR REGIONAL MONITORING PRODUCT

- **Regional monitoring is more than the Bight Program**
 - Want to better integrate with the freshwater and estuarine programs SCCWRP coordinates
 - Enhanced integration with external programs, such as MARINe, CalCOFI, SCCOOS, etc.
 - Help develop state-wide programs that place SoCal in perspective
- **Refine the funding model**
 - Membership dues presently pay for most of SCCWRP's regional monitoring expenses
 - Many other groups benefit from that expenditure
 - We should be able to obtain other base funds
 - Supplemental Environmental Projects provide one potential mechanism
 - We are exploring another with the Coastal Commission

BECOME MORE SOLUTION-ORIENTED

- **One of our determinations following SCCWRP's 50th anniversary was to become more solution-oriented**
 - Our first 50 years focused on identifying and quantifying problems
 - We want to enhance focus on solving those problems
- **Continue to establish our Engineering Department**
 - Becoming a National Center for Excellence in our first five years is a large accomplishment
 - We want to expand its focus beyond stormwater BMPs
- **Shift emphasis from monitoring to modeling**
 - Models allow for “what if” scenario analysis
 - Already recognized for ROMS-BEC modeling and becoming so for hydrologic modeling
 - Many other areas where there is potential modeling value for our member agencies

SEAMLESS TRANSITION

- **Ensure the organization functions as well, or better, after I retire**
- **Solidify leadership**
 - Ensure that leadership team has complete grasp of the Director duties
 - Find replacements or replacement strategy for anyone who is likely retiring shortly after me
- **Cement improvements we've made in CTAG and Commission functionality**
 - In particular, continue to refine CTAG's readiness assessment process

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