

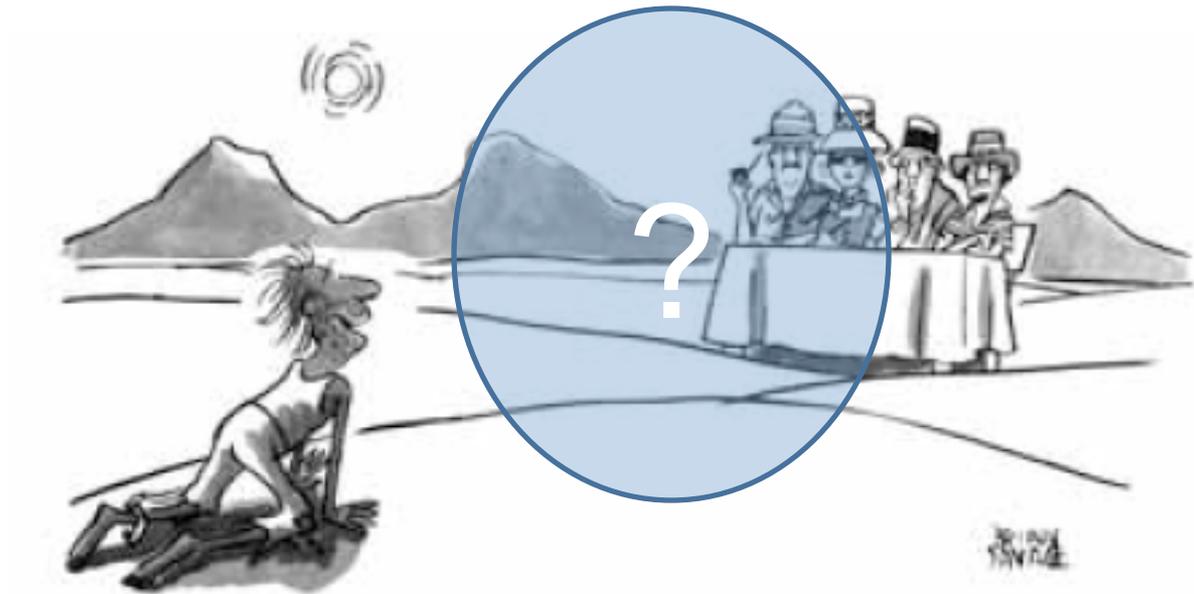


Linking Knowledge with Action

A case for institutional innovation and leadership

Skyli McAfee
Executive Director
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Science is not automatically useful

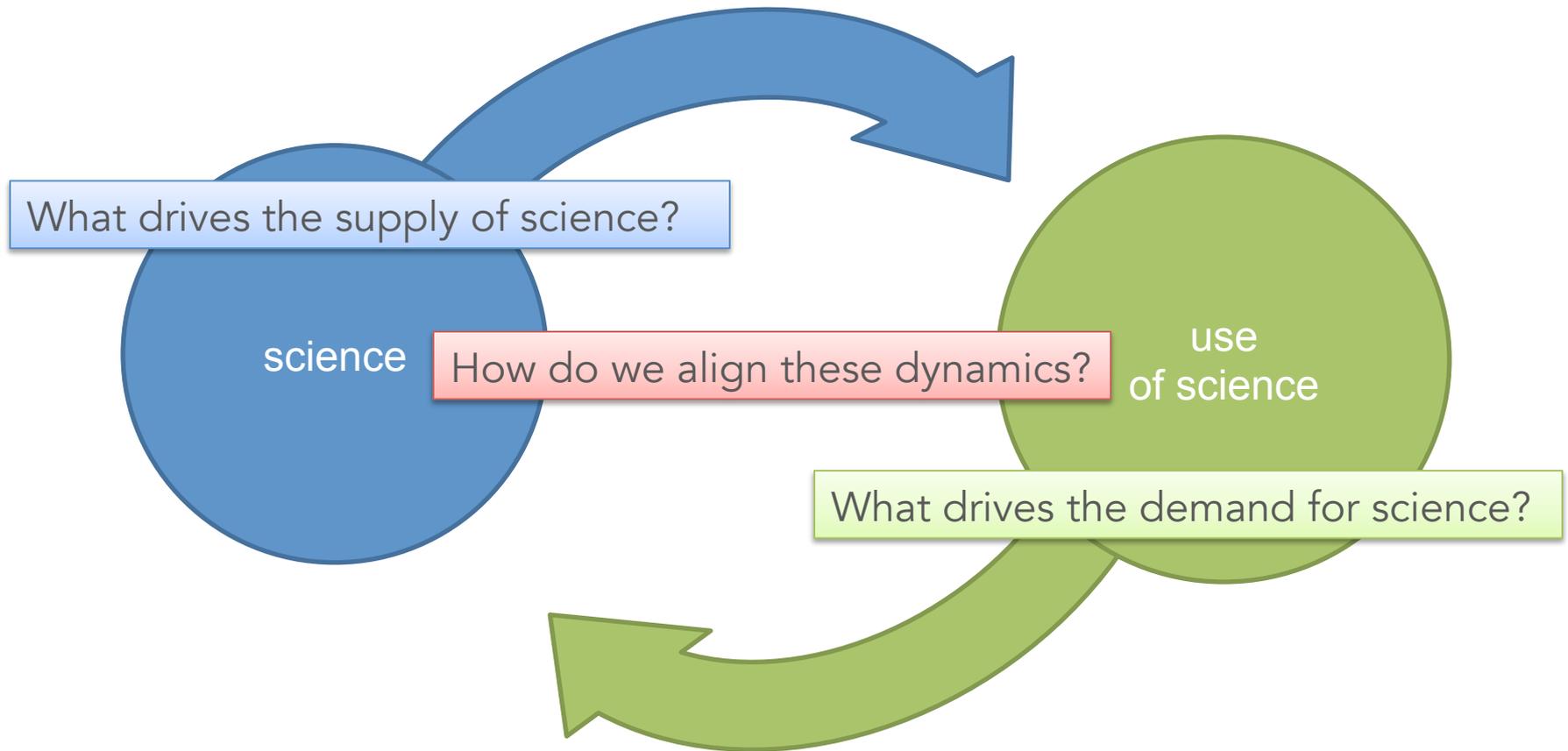


“Thank God! A panel of experts!”

or, reversing roles...

“Thank God! A panel of stakeholders!”

Useful science requires good process.



Many terms for a general challenge (buzz words?)

Science Integration

Boundary-Spanning

Bridging the Gap

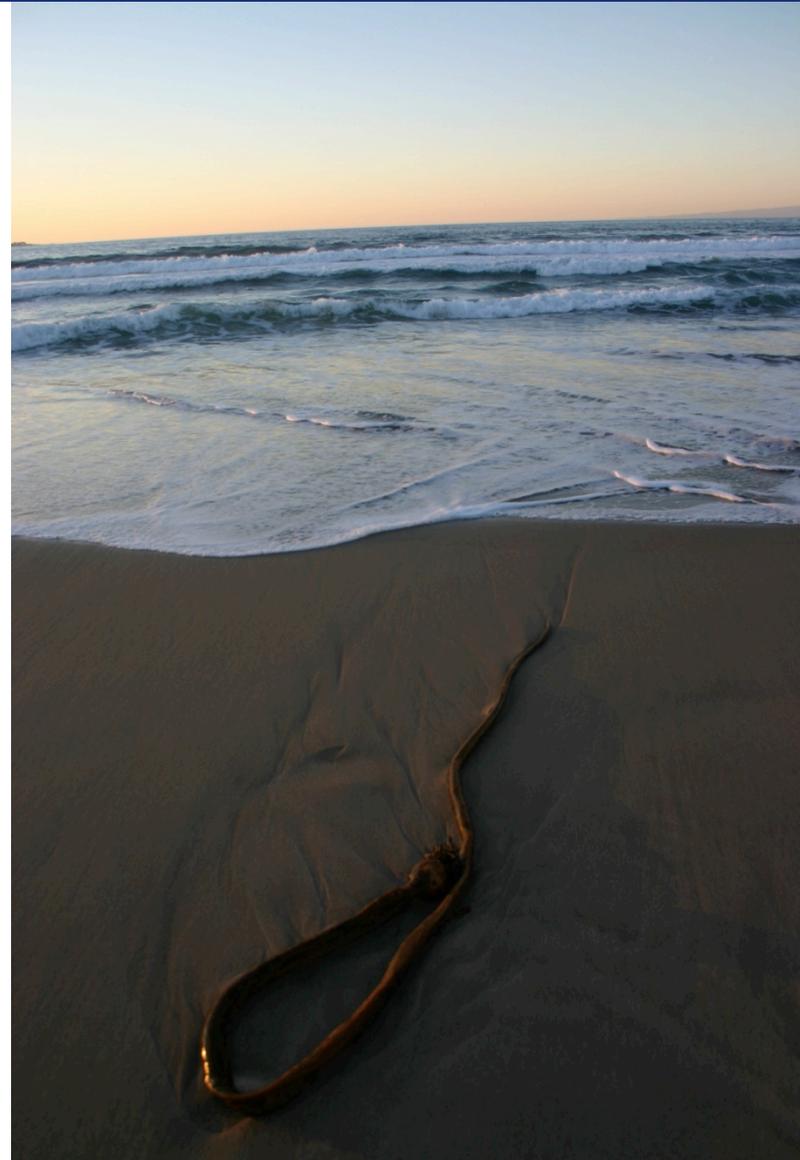
Crossing the Valley of Death

Linking Knowledge w Action

Engaging Decision Makers

Translation, Application

...



Emerging Norms (more buzz words?)

Problem-focused research

Integrate with social science

Interdisciplinary research

Use-Inspired research

Participatory research

Better communication

Boundary organizations



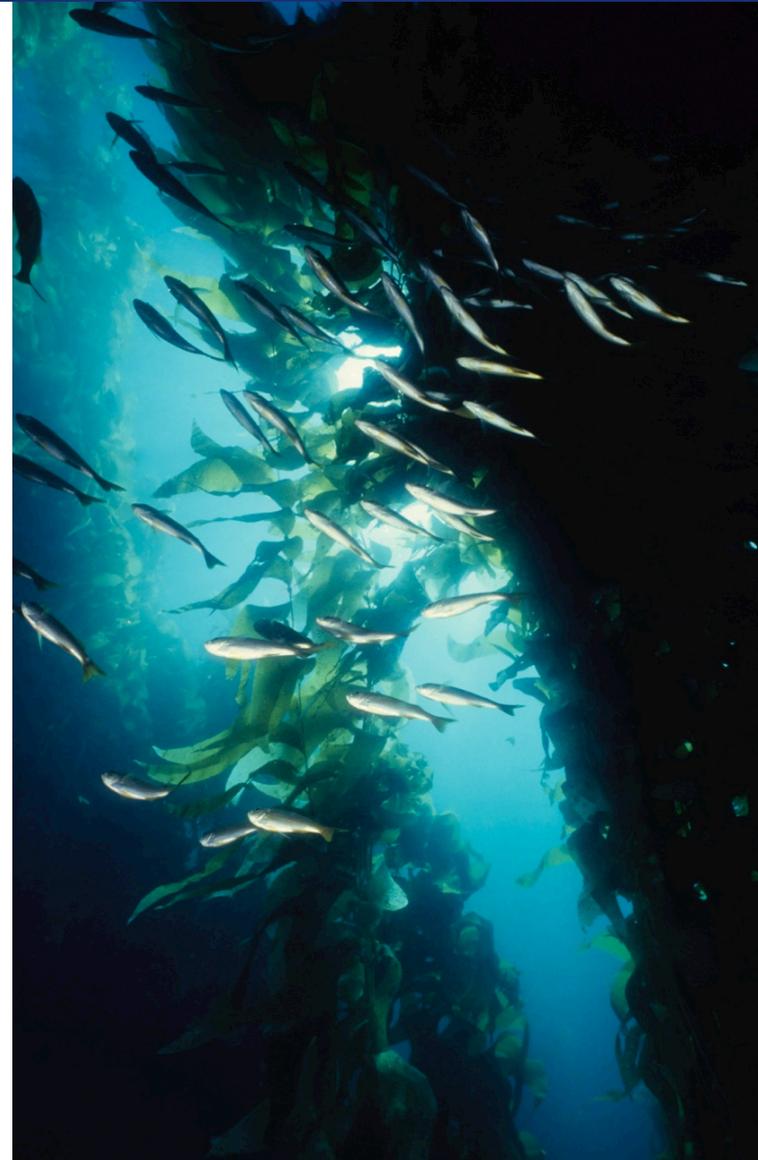
Science Integration Practice

- Co-Production
 - Collaborate
 - Align agendas
 - Shared understanding
- Make information useful
 - Credibility
 - Legitimacy
 - Salience
- Structure incentives
 - Funding regimes
 - Academic norms
 - Agency culture
- Skills and capacity
 - Coordination
 - Communication
 - Facilitation

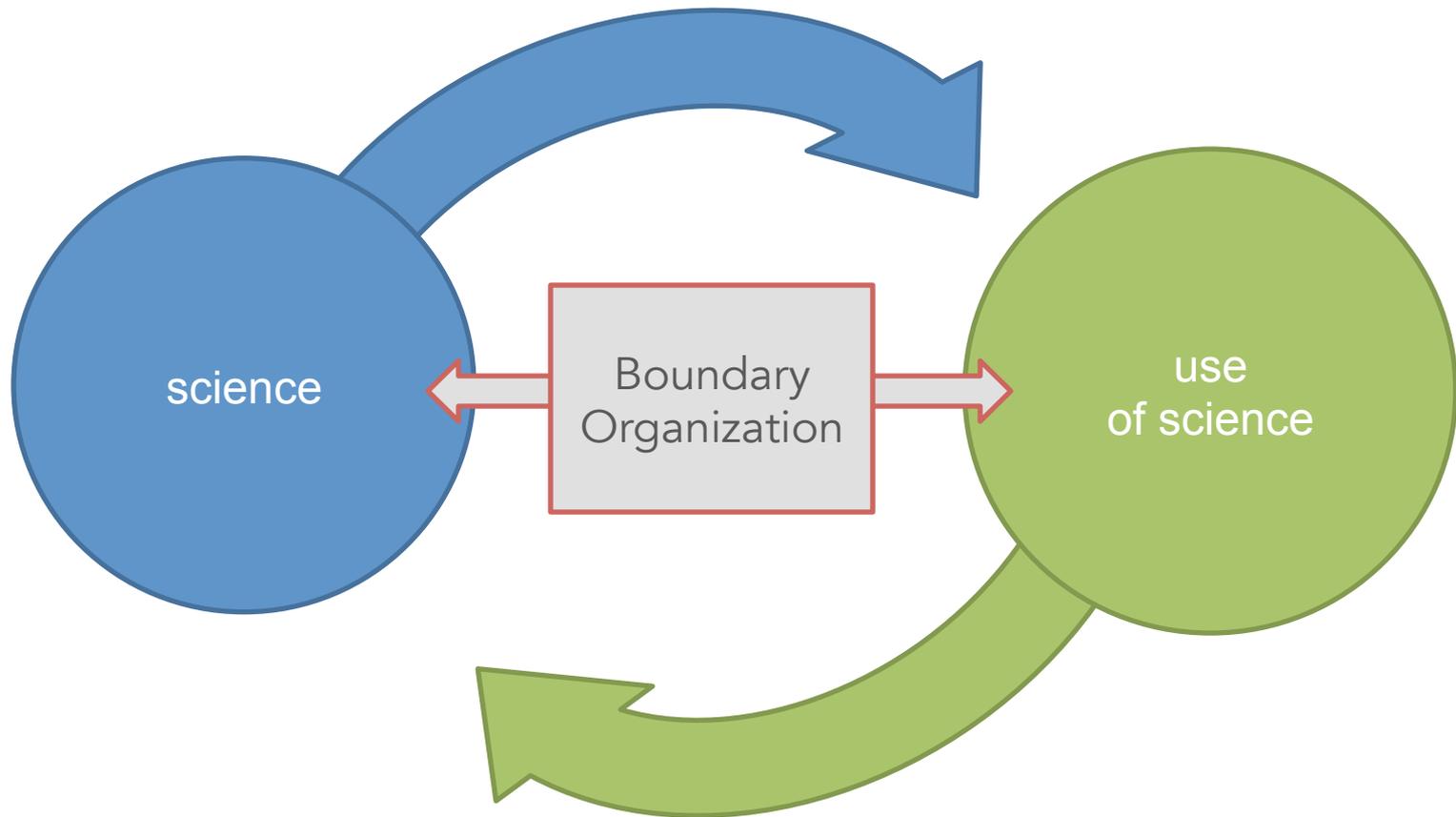
Take-home: Lead by example

Any serious new effort on sea-level rise adaptation should lead by example, making science integration a central aspect of its **research and practice.**

- Design around science integration principles.
- Institutionalize best practices.



Formalizing science integration processes



Example: Ocean Science Trust

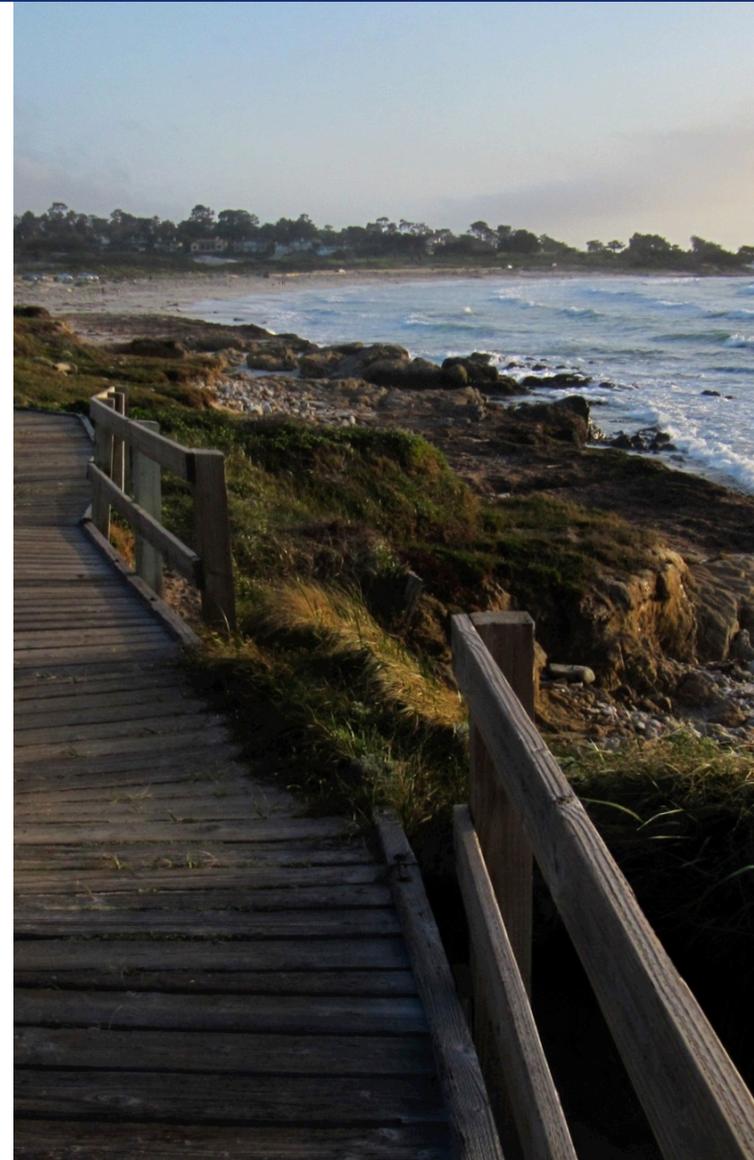
Our core responsibility is to understand how scientific knowledge—and which scientific knowledge—can be used in support of California's aspirations for ocean and coastal ecosystems. Armed with that insight, we help decision makers and scientists work together more effectively.

We are...

- A home for ideas about science policy, and
- a test-bed for their application.

Case: State Level Guidance on SLR

- Executive order: need for consistent, legitimate, science-based guidance on planning for SLR.
- Interagency coordinating process:
 - Ocean Protection Council
 - Climate Action Team
 - OPC Science Advisory Team
 - Ocean Science Trust
- OPC Resolution adopting statewide guidance on SLR planning – a living document to evolve with scientific understanding.



Conclusions

- Science is hard. But so is science integration.
- Everyone in the science-policy landscape needs to rally around the challenge of science integration.
- We need organizations specifically dedicated to science integration to:
 - Institutionalize integrative processes in sensible ways.
 - Own functions that are difficult to implement in other places.
 - Support others across the landscape



Thank you.

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