

Update

Marine Protected Area Management Program e-news

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Issue 5



EAGL EYES ON CALIFORNIA'S NETWORK!

In August 2018, the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) began training [17 individuals](#) on how to evaluate California's marine protected area (MPA) network against global protected area performance criteria. These individuals represent California ocean stakeholders from a range of sectors, and were selected by the IUCN from a total of 56 applicants interested in being part of the Expert Assessment Group for the Green List, or EAGL. The EAGL team members will hold evaluation meetings and site visits to assess how California's MPA network aligns with the IUCN's [Green List program](#).

The IUCN Green List program recognizes both marine and terrestrial protected areas around the world for their conservation of nature and related economic, social, cultural, and spiritual values. If the [Marine Life Protection Act](#) goals closely align with the Green List [criteria](#), California's MPA network may become the first protected area network in the world added to the Green List!

According to Becky Ota, Program Manager of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's MPA Management Program, "Whether or not California's MPAs are recommended for addition to the Green List, we will learn a great deal about how to improve our management of the network through EAGL responses to several criteria for meeting global protected area standards."

Since the Green List program aims to support effective, equitable, and successful protected areas worldwide, this evaluation process represents a unique opportunity to bring recognition of California's leadership in ocean management to a global scale. Plus, if California's MPA network is added to the Green List there is an opportunity for California to work with global innovators in marine science, management, and conservation. With the help of our EAGL team to determine if California's MPA network should be recognized and certified on the Green List, the durability and success of California's MPA network will continue to grow.



Why would a protected area want recognition and certification through the Green List program?

- Global recognition for local success, compared to a credible global standard
- Tailored support from conservation experts and practitioners, access to guidance modules, and global community interaction through a digital information management platform
- Recognized for contributing to achieving global targets for biodiversity conservation

This newsletter provides updates about the [MPA Management Program](#). California's MPA network is managed collaboratively through the MPA Management Program, which includes four focal areas: outreach and education, enforcement and compliance, research and monitoring, and policy and permitting.

QUESTIONS?

Please send all inquiries to ASKMPA@wildlife.ca.gov



LEARN!

Watch this [video](#) to learn how MPAs work to protect our resources.