

HELP FIND CAULERPA INVASIONS!



We are counting on you to find the next invasion of the aquarium seaweed *Caulerpa prolifera*. Watch for it!



Caulerpa prolifera is a non-native invasive alga. It can grow quickly, choking out native seaweeds and seagrasses and harming marine life through lost habitat. In 2021, an infestation was confirmed in Newport Bay that may have spread to other locations.

Identify *Caulerpa prolifera* by its bright green color, ~ 4 inch long blades, and long, horizontal runners. Caulerpa does NOT float and is most likely to be found on the seafloor, rather than on docks, boats, seawalls, or beaches.



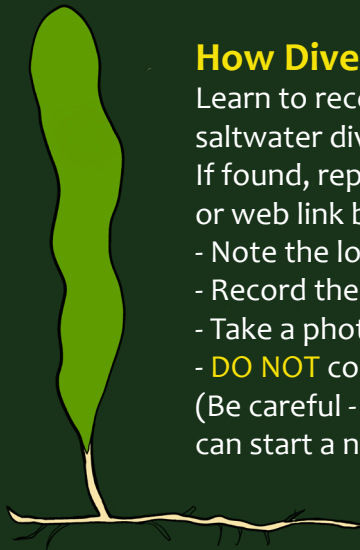
How Divers Can Help:

Learn to recognize Caulerpa. Watch for it on saltwater dives (oceans, harbors, bays).

If found, report it by following the QR code or web link below:

- Note the location, depth, and patch size.
- Record the location with a GPS if available.
- Take a photo if possible.
- **DO NOT** collect or disturb!

(Be careful - even a tiny fragment can start a new infestation).



To See Photos and Report A Sighting:

<https://wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Invasives/Species/Caulerpa>