



## CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ADAPTED GREEN LIST INDICATORS FOR CALIFORNIA'S MARINE PROTECTED AREA NETWORK

To Whom It May Concern:

In 2012, California implemented one of the world's largest science-based and stakeholder-driven marine protected area (MPA) networks. [California's MPA network](#) spans the state's entire 1,100-mile coastline and includes 124 individual, ecologically connected MPAs. The network is managed to achieve conservation goals specified in its founding legislation, the [Marine Life Protection Act](#).

The California Ocean Protection Council is spearheading an effort to add California's unique and globally significant MPA network to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) [Green List](#), a program that promotes effective, equitable, and successful protected areas worldwide. By evaluating protected areas against a set of globally consistent indicators, the Green List program aims to improve the contribution that these areas make to the conservation of nature and associated social, economic, cultural, and spiritual values.

In 2018, California's MPA network was officially accepted into the Green List program as a candidate site, and IUCN selected members of an expert assessment group (Expert Assessment Group for the Green List, or EAGL) through a public call. The assessment group consists of a diverse array of stakeholders including: local, national, and global experts in marine protected area science; outreach and education professionals; public stakeholders, including both consumptive and non-consumptive users; and tribal members. Since summer 2018, the California EAGL has been meeting regularly to evaluate how California's MPA network meets IUCN's Green List indicators.

As part of this process, the EAGL has adapted the Green List indicators to be more relevant to the California jurisdiction. To ensure that these changes accurately reflect the views of all Californians with a stake in our ocean and coast, we now invite public comment on the adapted

indicators. Please review the indicator list available [here](#)<sup>1</sup> and provide comments using [this Google form](#)<sup>2</sup>. **Public comment must be received no later than 5pm on September 10, 2019.**

Please contact the California EAGL members ([californiaeagl2019@gmail.com](mailto:californiaeagl2019@gmail.com)) with any questions.

We thank you for your insights and your interest in this program.

Sincerely,

The California EAGL:  
Diane Matar, Chair  
Haylee Bautista  
Matthew Bracken  
Cameron Dunning  
Jan Freiwald  
Russell Galipeau  
Marce Gutiérrez-Graudiņš  
Michelle Knight  
Russell Moll  
Steven Murray  
Cara O'Brien  
Richard Ogg  
Suzanne Olyarnik  
Hawk Rosales  
Jennifer Savage  
Lori Walsh  
Jim Webb

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<sup>1</sup>[http://www.opc.ca.gov/webmaster/\\_media\\_library/2019/08/IUCN-Green-List-Standard-1.1-CA-EAGL-Adaptation-Oct-23-2018.pdf](http://www.opc.ca.gov/webmaster/_media_library/2019/08/IUCN-Green-List-Standard-1.1-CA-EAGL-Adaptation-Oct-23-2018.pdf)

<sup>2</sup>[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc4Yz1SP5xoP6HncUXVuafZlIpN3FF1EWGUaWT\\_SeSLWr4cA/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc4Yz1SP5xoP6HncUXVuafZlIpN3FF1EWGUaWT_SeSLWr4cA/viewform)