

MARINE LIFE PROTECTION ACT GOALS

California Fish and Game Code Section 2853

- (a) The Legislature finds and declares that there is a need to reexamine and redesign California's MPA system to increase its coherence and its effectiveness at protecting the state's marine life, habitat, and ecosystems.

- (b) To improve the design and management of that system, the commission, pursuant to Section 2859, shall adopt a Marine Life Protection Program, which shall have all of the following goals:
 - (1) To protect the natural diversity and abundance of marine life, and the structure, function, and integrity of marine ecosystems.
 - (2) To help sustain, conserve, and protect marine life populations, including those of economic value, and rebuild those that are depleted.
 - (3) To improve recreational, educational, and study opportunities provided by marine ecosystems that are subject to minimal human disturbance, and to manage these uses in a manner consistent with protecting biodiversity.
 - (4) To protect marine natural heritage, including protection of representative and unique marine life habitats in California waters for their intrinsic value.
 - (5) To ensure that California's MPAs have clearly defined objectives, effective management measures, and adequate enforcement, and are based on sound scientific guidelines.
 - (6) To ensure that the state's MPAs are designed and managed, to the extent possible, as a network.