

# PROTECT OUR OCEAN

## Expand Marine Protection in Laguna Beach

### JOIN US

Attend the **Regional Stakeholder Meeting**  
hosted by the California Fish & Game Commission

**Tuesday, May 19 • 8:00 AM**

Arrive early for seating

*Holiday Inn Express San Clemente  
35 Via Pico Plaza, San Clemente, CA*

### OVERVIEW

The **Laguna Bluebelt Coalition** is working to expand the **Marine Protected Area (MPA)** off the coast of Laguna Beach. By attending this meeting, you can voice your support for **stronger ocean protections**.

### WHY IT MATTERS

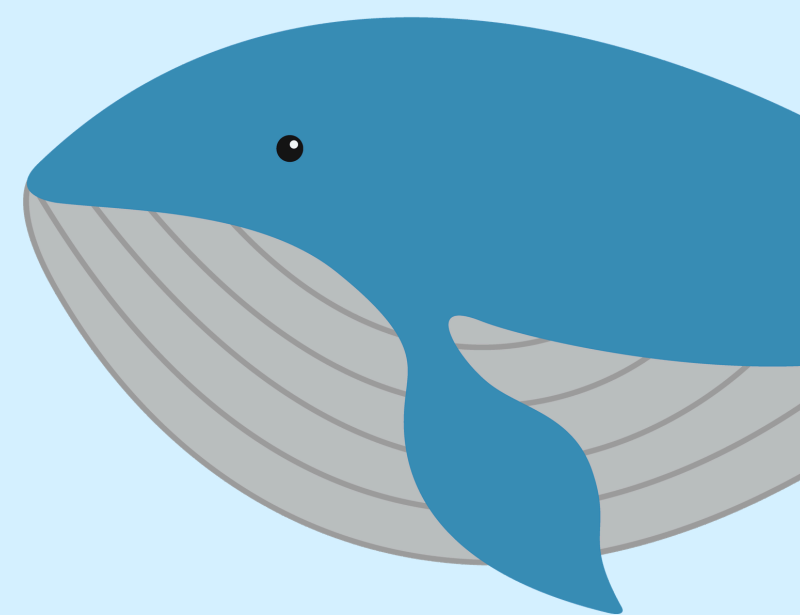
Recent scientific studies show that **reefs inside marine protected areas are healthier** than those outside protected boundaries. **Expanding MPAs** is one of the most effective ways to restore marine ecosystems and increase biodiversity.



# TALKING POINTS

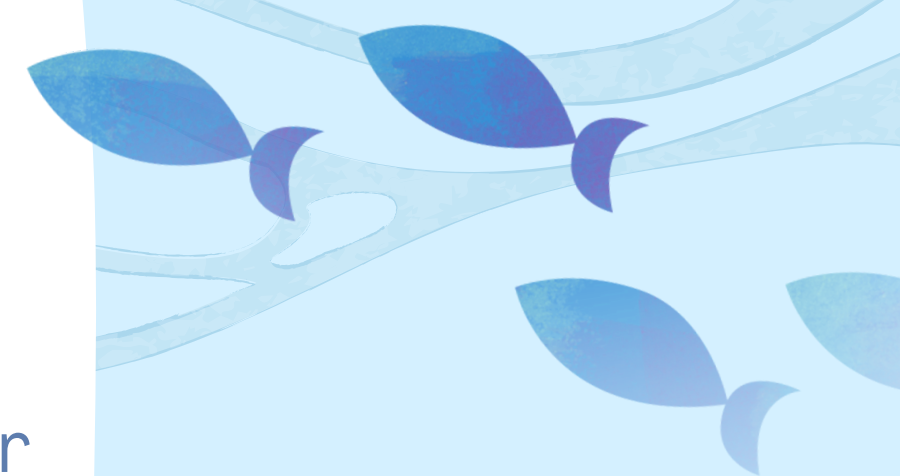
## PROTECT REEFS

Protected areas provide **significant ecological benefits**, including healthier kelp forests, more abundant marine life, and stronger reef systems. Science shows that **reefs are healthier and more resilient when protected!**



## WHALE MIGRATION

Protected areas **eliminate the risk of whale entanglement**. Migrating whales get trapped in fishing gear, leading to severe injury, hunger, and even death. Protected areas prevent fishing gear from entangling whales.



## PUBLIC FISHING

It can be **difficult to distinguish** where the public can and cannot fish. This petition will create **clearer boundaries** so the public can better understand where fishing is allowed in Orange County waters.



## FAQS

### CAN I STILL GO TO THE BEACH?

**Yes, beaches remain open to all your regular activities!** In fact, stronger protections can help support **thriving coastal ecosystems**, enhancing the coastal experience.

### HOW WILL THIS IMPACT FISHING?

MPAs **do not stop anyone from fishing**. Fishing can still occur in surrounding waters and protected areas help support long-term fish populations through **spillover effects!**

