

High Hopes for the High Seas

Protecting biodiversity in the global ocean

Saturday 4 September, 18:00-19:30 (CET)
Virtual Channel 3

<https://www.iucncongress2020.org/programme/official-programme/session-43542>

The deep and distant waters of the high seas cover half the planet and host considerable biodiversity – from migratory whales and tunas, to hydrothermal vents where life itself may have originated. As States move towards finalising a new treaty, we have a unique window of opportunity to protect life in the global ocean. This session will provide an opportunity to reflect on the future of the high seas treaty, highlighting possible challenges and solutions for effective implementation and enforcement.

Chairs

- **Lisa Speer**, Natural Resources Defence Council (NRDC)
- **Glen Wright**, Institute for Sustainable Development & International Relations (IDDRI)

Panellists

- **Kristina Gjerde**, International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- **Peggy Kalas**, High Seas Alliance
- **Harriet Harden-Davies**, University of Wollongong
- **Guillermo Ortuño-Crespo**, Stockholm Resilience Centre

Agenda

- Welcome (5 mins)
- Overview of the high seas negotiations (10 mins)
- Panellist presentations (30 mins)
- Discussion (45 mins)