

Channel Islands National Park's Kelp Forest Monitoring Program

Protocol reference guide for
SPECIES LIST



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Abstract

Species list is completed at the end of each day for every site visited. Every diver for the day gives input on the presence/absence of a species by giving an abundance score of 0-4. Many of the species also have notes written about them.

The abundance scores are:

X = present: no relative abundance rating given

0 = noticeably absent: an effort was made to look for an organism that was not found

1 = rare: few organisms found

2 = present: organism found in moderate numbers

3 = common: organism found over most of site or in high density patches

4 = abundant: organism present in higher than normal densities

S = Shell(s) present

E = Eggs present

M = Molt(s) present

The value recorded for each species is a consensus, determined by the chief scientist in conference with all observers using a list of species. The value reflects the potential abundance of that species. For example, sightings of four white abalone at a site would be recorded as abundant (4), whereas 100 purple sea urchins, would probably rate only present (2) or common (3) depending on the site.

