

Dear Colleague,

Please consider participating in our survey to help assess the perception of long-term data in marine conservation biology. We are seeking participation from a wide-range of professionals and academics, including senior researchers with decades of experience and biologists just beginning their careers. We hope to include participants from many fields, including those working in fisheries, marine systems and estuarine systems. The survey will be published in an upcoming edited book on marine conservation paleobiology that will be part of Springer's *Topics in Geobiology* series. Our study focuses on finding ways to integrate long-term data from paleontology with other ecological sources in marine conservation.

In our survey, we address questions such as the following: how is "long-term" defined within the marine conservation community?; what types of long-term records do marine conservation biologists use?; and what are the shortcomings of long-term data in their opinions? Answering these types of questions will be essential: 1) assess the conception of long-term data within marine conservation biology; 2) identify types of long-term data that marine conservation biologists need; and, 3) recommend corresponding outreach and research directions in conservation paleobiology that are likely to improve the integration of paleontological and long-term ecological data into ongoing conservation and restoration practices.

The survey, which has been reviewed by the Cornell University Institutional Review Board, will be open from September 15, 2015 – October 31, 2015. It will take 25–30 minutes to complete and progress is saved, so respondents can leave the survey page and pick up where they left off at a later time if needed. Respondents who submit their answers will receive a link at which the survey results will be made public once the study is finished. To access the survey, please use the following link: <http://longtermdataperspectives.priweb.org>. You will be prompted to provide a username and password to access the website, they are as follows:

Username: LTDsurvey
Password: ocean2015

Thank you for participating in our survey!

Jansen Smith
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