

Support Legal Rights for the Patagonian Sea



Southern right whale (Península Valdés, Patagonia, Argentina), Michael Catanzariti

Keep the Patagonian Sea beautiful for generations to come

The richly biodiverse Patagonian Sea of Southern Chile and Argentina faces increasing threats from commercial fishing, oil drilling and climate change. Earth Law Center (ELC), the recently appointed Hope Spot Champion for this area, is working with local partners to designate this area for the strongest possible protection.

Earth Law Extends Ocean Protection

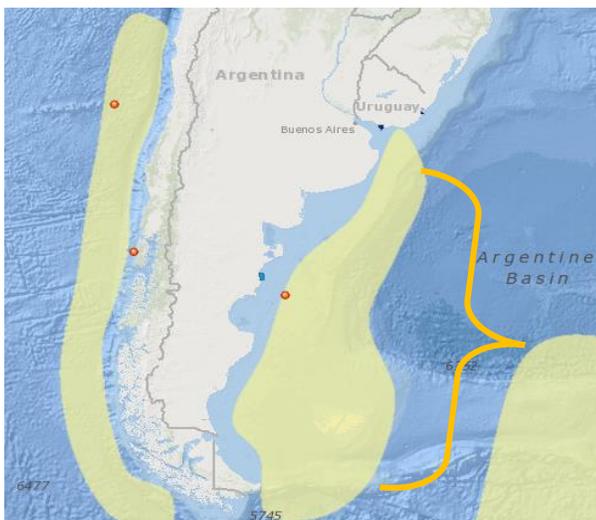
Earth Law recognizes the interconnectedness of all life and values nature for its own well-being and intrinsic worth. The Earth Law movement for nature's rights is growing. Ecuador, Bolivia and Mexico City protect the rights of nature in their constitutions; four rivers have gained legal personhood (the Whanganui, Yamuna, Ganges and Atrato); and the Himalayan Ecosystem and Te Urewera National Park are protected as 'legal entity's' and for their intrinsic value and biodiversity.

Legal Rights for Patagonia means:

- Humans create a sustainable relationship with the ecosystem and species within
- Protection and restoration is a legal responsibility
- Management boards, or 'guardians', ensure that activities do not violate the ecosystem's rights

First Ocean Area to Gain Legal Rights?

We're partnering with a consortium of groups to ask the Chilean and Argentinean governments to adopt legal rights for the Sea when they establish a network of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) for the Patagonian Sea.



MPAtlas.org

Building on ELC's call to action initiative

(<http://bit.ly/ELCori>), your support to reach our goal of \$8,000 means we could:

- Host a side event at the 4th International Marine Protected Area Congress in Chile Sept 4-9
- Help our local partners Organización para la Conservación de Ceteaceos and Instituto de Conservación de Ballenas to join the conference
- Co- host a display table to inform and petition delegates
- Create postcards as a useful and cost effective way to get the word out

For more info: mbender@earthlaw.org or www.earthlawcenter.org

Be part of the solution for the continued vibrancy of the Patagonian Sea!