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# The Future of Marine Megafauna

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# **Message from the Guest Editors**

Dear Colleagues,

Marine biodiversity is rapidly declining due to unsustainable exploitation, invasive species, pollution, and climate change. These impacts disrupt ecosystems, particularly threatening marine megafauna, including sharks, rays, fishes, mammals, birds, and turtles. Species over 10 kg are at high risk, with projections indicating that more than 18% could be lost within the next century if current trends continue.

Urgent action is needed to prevent extinctions and promote recovery by addressing these threats. Significant knowledge gaps hinder effective conservation policies, making research critical for maintaining and protecting resilient marine ecosystems.

This Special Issue invites contributions on topics such as the biology, ecology, and conservation of marine megafauna, the impacts of human activities, and strategies for managing marine biodiversity.

Prof. Dr. Vincent L. Bels Prof. Dr. John R. Turner Guest Editors







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