Data Management Plan:
Data to be generated from this project will include time series of the abundance, distribution and size structure of sea star populations and their prey in both experimental enclosures and natural habitats within subtidal kelp forests. These datasets and their associated metadata will have corresponding structure and formats to those of pre-existing datasets from subtidal community surveys generated by PI Carr in his affiliation with the Partnership for Interdisciplinary Studies of Coastal Oceans (PISCO) and will therefore be archived and disseminated similarly. Metadata for these data follow the Ecological Metadata Language created by the Knowledge Network for Biocomplexity (KNB) at the National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis (NCEAS) (http://knb.ecoinformatics.org). All pre-existing and newly collected ecological data sets and metadata will be made available online through the PISCO website (http://osu.piscoweb.org/DataCatalogAccess/DataCatalogAccess.html) and metadata will also be catalogued at the KNB website. Data and metadata will be freely available to the academic and general public, however downloads require a data sharing agreement and that users provide their names and institutional affiliations.

Biometric and potential species interaction data generated by this project will be included in the online kelp forest database (www.kelpforest.ucsc.edu). This database is designed to inform the development of ecosystem models (see “results from prior support”). Database is publicly available and can be downloaded through the export section on the website. All data above generated by this project will also be registered with the Biological and Chemical Oceanography Data Management Office (BCO-DMO): (http://www.bco-dmo.org/).