

**CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME COMMISSION
NOTICE OF FINDINGS**

Mountain Lion
(*Puma concolor*)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the provisions of Section 2074.2 of the Fish and Game Code, the California Fish and Game Commission (Commission), at its April 15-16, 2020 teleconference meeting, accepted for consideration the petition submitted to list an evolutionarily significant unit (ESU) of mountain lions (*Puma concolor*) in southern and central coastal California as threatened or endangered under the California Endangered Species Act.

Pursuant to subdivision (e)(2) of Section 2074.2 of the Fish and Game Code, the Commission determined that the amount of information contained in the petition, when considered in light of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (Department) written evaluation report, the comments received, and the remainder of the administrative record, would lead a reasonable person to conclude there is a substantial possibility the requested listing could occur.

Based on that finding and the acceptance of the petition, the Commission is also providing notice that the Southern California/Central Coast ESU of mountain lions is a candidate species as defined by Section 2068 of the Fish and Game Code.

Within one year of the date of publication of this notice of findings, the Department shall submit a written report, pursuant to Section 2074.6 of the Fish and Game Code, indicating whether the petitioned action is warranted. Copies of the petition, as well as minutes of the April 15-16, 2020 Commission meeting, are on file and available for public review from Melissa Miller-Henson, Executive Director, California Fish and Game Commission, 1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1320, Sacramento, California 95814, phone (916) 653-4899.

Written comments or data related to the petitioned action should be directed to the Department contact via email (Esther.Burkett@wildlife.ca.gov); include "Mountain Lion ESU" in the subject line. Comments may also be submitted by mail, addressed to: California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Wildlife Branch, Attn: Esther Burkett/Mountain Lion ESU, P.O. Box 944209, Sacramento, CA 94244-2090. Submission of information via email is preferred.

April 21, 2020

Fish and Game Commission

Melissa Miller-Henson
Executive Director