

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

Mohave Desert Tortoise  
(*Gopherus agassizii*)

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 October 14, 2020 meeting, accepted for consideration the petition submitted to change the status of the Mohave desert tortoise (also known as Agassiz's desert tortoise) (*Gopherus agassizii*) from threatened to 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 Mohave desert tortoise 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 October 14, 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 California Department of Fish and Wildlife, P.O. Box 944209, Sacramento, CA 94244-2090, Attn: Daniel Applebee or email [wildlifemgt@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:wildlifemgt@wildlife.ca.gov) (include "Mohave Desert Tortoise") in the subject line. Submission of information via email is preferred.

October 19, 2020

Fish and Game Commission

Melissa Miller-Henson  
Executive Director