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Fish and Game Commission



*Wildlife Heritage and Conservation
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California Fish and Game Commission Notice of Receipt of Petition

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to the provisions of California Fish and Game Code Section 2073.3, that on July 20, 2024 the California Fish and Game Commission (Commission) received a petition from Dr. Christopher Kofron and Dr. Claudia Tyler to list morro manzanita (*Arctostaphylos morroensis*) as an endangered species under the California Endangered Species Act.

Morro manzanita can be distinguished from other species of manzanitas in the vicinity by its persistent shreddy gray bark, densely hairy lower leaf surfaces and leaf bases that are truncate to somewhat cordate. The plant is endemic to the Los Osos area, San Luis Obispo County, California, occurring predominantly on Baywood fine sand. The area has a Mediterranean climate, with cool moist winters and warm dry summers. Morro manzanita occurs at elevations less than 200 meters and must re-establish from seeds in the soil seed bank.

On July 30, 2024, pursuant to Section 2073 of California Fish and Game Code, the Commission transmitted the petition to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) for review and recommendation pursuant to Section 2073.5. The Commission will publicly receive the petition at its August 14-15, 2024 meeting. The Department's evaluation and recommendation relating to the petition is expected to be received by the Commission at its December 11-12, 2024 meeting.

For information about the petition or to submit information to the Department relating to the petitioned species, interested parties may contact Kristi Lazar, Native Plant Program Specialist, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, at P.O. Box 944209, Sacramento, California 94244-2090, or nativeplants@wildlife.ca.gov.

California Fish and Game Commission

July 30, 2024

Melissa Miller-Henson
Executive Director