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Fish and Game Commission



Wildlife Heritage and Conservation Since 1870 Melissa A. Miller-Henson Executive Director P.O. Box 944209

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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 December 18, 2024 the California Fish and Game Commission (Commission) received a petition from the Center for Biological Diversity and the Endangered Habitats League, to list quino checkerspot butterfly (*Euphydryas editha quino*) as an endangered species under the California Endangered Species Act.

The quino checkerspot butterfly is found in grasslands, open chaparral, and coastal shrublands with sparse vegetation surrounded by bare patches up to 5,000 feet in elevation. Habitat is best defined by presence of larval host plants, nectar resources, microtopography, cryptobiotic crust, and presence of episodic disturbances. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service defined primary constituent elements of quino habitat as: (1) Grassland and open-canopy woody plant communities, such as coastal sage scrub, open red shank chaparral, and open juniper woodland, with host plants or nectar plants; (2) undeveloped areas containing grassland or open-canopy woody plant communities, within and between habitat patches, utilized for quino checkerspot butterfly mating, basking, and movement; or (3) prominent topographic features, such as hills and/or ridges, with an open woody or herbaceous canopy at the top determined relative to other local topographic features.

On December 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 pursuant to Section 2073.5. The Commission will publicly receive the petition at its February 12-13, 2025 meeting. Unless an extension is requested, the Department's evaluation and recommendation relating to the petition is expected to be received by the Commission at its April 16-17, 2025 meeting.

For information about the petition or to submit information to the Department relating to the petitioned species, interested parties may contact Pete Figura, Wildlife Diversity Program Manager, Wildlife Branch, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, P.O. Box 944209, Sacramento, California 94244-2090, or by email at wildlife.ca.gov.

California Fish and Game Commission

January 8, 2025

Melissa Miller-Henson Executive Director