

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE PUBLISHES UPDATED LIST OF CANDIDATES FOR ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT LISTING

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The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service today published a revised list of species of plants and animals that may warrant protection under the Endangered Species Act, including 26 new candidate species added since the Candidate Notice of Review was last published in 2002.

If the Service has sufficient information to propose listing a species as threatened or endangered, but is precluded from taking action by other, higher listing priorities, the species becomes a candidate species.

The Service publishes an updated Candidate Notice of Review primarily to solicit new information on the status of candidate species and threats to their survival. Service biologists rely on a variety of sources for the scientific determination of whether a species may warrant listing under the Act, including information from private, university and government scientists, local, State and Federal land management and planning agencies and private citizens.

The Notice also informs the public about species the Service is considering proposing for protection, and it encourages conservation of candidate species. In addition, the Notice includes 24 domestic animal species that have already been proposed for addition to the list of endangered and threatened wildlife and plants, but for which a final listing determination has not been made. A proposal undergoes public review and comment before a final decision is made.

"The candidate list is an important tool, helping to identify imperiled species and focusing attention on the need to conserve them before they have to receive Endangered Species Act protection. By working to recover these species now, in partnership with states, local communities and individuals, we can implement flexible, cost-effective conservation measures that put them on the road to recovery," said Service Director Steve Williams.

The Service has removed 19 species from the Candidate Species List since the lists were last revised in 2002:

- One species was removed because currently available information does not support a listing proposal.
- Four species were removed because the proposal to list them was withdrawn.
- Fourteen proposed species became listed as endangered.

The complete Notice and list of candidates and proposed species appear in today's Federal Register. Species added to the candidate list since 2002 are listed below.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the principal Federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting and enhancing fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. The Service manages the 95-million-acre National Wildlife Refuge System which encompasses more than 544 national wildlife refuges, thousands of small wetlands and other special management areas. It also operates 69 national fish hatcheries, 63 fishery resource offices and 81 ecological services field stations. The agency enforces Federal wildlife laws,

administers the Endangered Species Act, manages migratory bird populations, restores nationally significant fisheries, conserves and restores wildlife habitat such as wetlands, and helps foreign governments with their conservation efforts. It also oversees the Federal Aid program that distributes hundreds of millions of dollars in excise taxes on fishing and hunting equipment to State fish and wildlife agencies.

- FWS -

*For more information about the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,
visit our home page at <http://www.fws.gov>*

Species Added to the Candidate List Since 2002:

	Region
MAMMAL	
Fisher, West Coast Population (<i>Martes pennanti</i>) <i>California, Oregon, and Washington</i>	Pacific
BIRDS	
Kittlitz's Murrelet (<i>Brachyramphus brevirostris</i>) <i>Alaskan coastal waters</i>	Alaska
Xantus' Murrelet (<i>Synthliboramphus hypoleucus</i>) <i>U.S. and Mexican West Coast</i>	Pacific
AMPHIBIANS	
Mountain Yellow-Legged Frog (<u><i>Rana muscosa</i></u>) <i>Sierra Nevada Distinct Population Segment</i>	Pacific
Yosemite Toad (<i>Bufo canorus</i>) <i>California</i>	Pacific
MUSSELS	
Seven Gulf Coast Mussels	
Round Ebonyshell (<i>Fusconaia rotulata</i>)	Southeast
Southern Kidneyshell (<i>Ptychobranthus jonesi</i>)	Southeast
Narrow Pigtoe (<i>Fusconaia escambia</i>)	Southeast
Southern Sandshell (<i>Lampsilis australis</i>)	Southeast
Fuzzy Pigtoe (<i>Pleurobema strodeanum</i>)	Southeast
Choctaw Bean (<i>Villosa choctawensis</i>)	Southeast
Tapered Pigtoe (<i>Quincuncina burkei</i>)	Southeast

Three Other Mussel species

Rayed Bean (*Villosa fabalis*)

Entire Tennessee River system; southern Ohio River

Midwest

Sheepnose Mussel (*Plethobasus cyphus*)

Mississippi River system streams

Midwest

Spectaclecase (*Cumberlandia monodonta*)

Streams in the Mississippi, Ohio, and Missouri Rivers

Midwest

Region

INSECTS

Five cave beetles

Coleman Cave Beetle (*Pseudanophthalmus colemanensis*)

Montgomery County, Tennessee

Southeast

Fowler's Cave Beetle (*Pseudanophthalmus fowlerae*)

Clay County, Tennessee

Southeast

Insular Cave Beetle (*Pseudanophthalmus insularis*)

Davidson County, Tennessee

Southeast

Soothsayer Cave Beetle (*Pseudanophthalmus tiresias*)

DeKalb County, Tennessee

Southeast

Noblett's Cave Beetle (*Pseudanophthalmus paulus*)

Monroe County, Tennessee

Southeast

One other insect

Nevares Spring Naucorid Bug (*Ambrysus funebris*)

Inyo County, California

Pacific

FLOWERING PLANTS

Hala Pepe (*Pleomele fernaldii*)

Hawaiian Island of Lanai

Pacific

Brand's Phacelia (*Phacelia stellaris*)

San Diego County, Riverside County, California

Pacific

Churchill Narrows Buckwheat (*Eriogonum diatomaceum*)

Lyon County, Nevada

Pacific

Orcutt's Hazardia (*Hazardia orcuttii*)

Encinitas, California

Pacific

Everglades Bully (*Sideroxylon reclinatum* ssp. *austrofloridense*)

Miami-Dade County, Florida

Southeast

Species Removed From the Candidate List Since 2002:

MAMMALS

Pygmy Rabbit (<u>Brachylagus idahoensis</u>) <i>Columbia Basin Distinct Population Segment</i>	Pacific
Reason for removal: Listed as endangered	
San Miguel Island Fox (<u>Urocyon littoralis littoralis</u>) <i>Channel Islands</i>	Pacific
Reason for removal: Listed as endangered	
Santa Catalina Island Fox (<u>Urocyon littoralis catalinae</u>) Pacific <i>Channel Islands</i>	
Reason for removal: Listed as endangered	
Santa Cruz Island Fox (<u>Urocyon littoralis santacruzae</u>) <i>Channel Islands</i>	Pacific
Reason for removal: Listed as endangered	
Santa Rosa Island Fox (<u>Urocyon littoralis santarosae</u>) <i>Channel Islands</i>	Pacific
Reason for removal: Listed as endangered	

BIRD

Mountain Plover (<u>Charadrius montanus</u>) <i>Western U.S., Canada, Mexico</i>	Mountain-Prairie
Reason for removal: Proposed listing withdrawn	

AMPHIBIANS

California Tiger Salamander (<u>Ambystoma californiense</u>) <i>Sonoma County Distinct Population Segment</i>	Pacific
Reason for removal: Listed as endangered	
Mountain Yellow-Legged Frog (<u>Rana muscosa</u>) <i>Southern California Distinct Population Segment</i>	Pacific
Reason for removal: Listed as endangered	

FISH

Coastal Cutthroat Trout (<u>Oncorhynchus clarki clarki</u>) <i>Southwestern Washington/Columbia River Distinct Population Segment</i>	Pacific
Reason for removal: Proposed listing withdrawn	

SNAIL

Tumbling Creek Cavesnail (<u>Antrobia culveri</u>) <i>Missouri</i>	Midwest
Reason for removal: Listed as endangered	

INSECT

Carson wandering Skipper (<u>Pseudocopaeodes eunus obscurus</u>) <i>California, Nevada</i>	Pacific
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Reason for removal: Listed as endangered

FLOWERING PLANTS

Ambrosia (Ambrosia pumila) Pacific
San Diego

Reason for removal: Listed as endangered

Slick Spot Peppergrass (Lepidium papilliferum) Pacific
Idaho

Reason for removal: Proposed listing withdrawn

Large-flowered Woolly Meadowfoam (Limnanthes floccosa grandiflora) Pacific
Oregon

Reason for removal: Listed as endangered

Cook's Lomatium (Lomatium cookii) Pacific
Oregon

Reason for removal: Listed as endangered

No Common Name (Nesogenes rotensis) Pacific
Mariana Islands

Reason for removal: Listed as endangered

No Common Name (Osmoxylon mariannense) Pacific
Mariana Islands

Reason for removal: Listed as endangered

No Common Name (Tabernaemontana rotensis) Pacific
Mariana Islands, Guam

Reason for removal: Proposed listing withdrawn

FERN

No Common Name (Dryopteris glabra var. pusilla (=Dryopteris tenebrosa)) Pacific
Hawaii

Reason for removal: Information currently available does not support listing