PUBLIC NOTICE

December 21, 2011

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Pursuant to Section 2074.4 of the California Fish and Game Code (FGC), **NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that on October 21, 2011, the California Fish and Game Commission accepted for consideration the petition submitted to list the American pika (*Ochotona princeps*) as threatened (Section 670.1, 670.5, Title 14, California Code of Regulations) as follows:

Species	Proposal
American Pika *(Ochotona princeps)*	List as Threatened

The California Endangered Species Act (FGC, Chapter 1.5, Section 2050 *et seq.*) requires that the Department of Fish and Game notify affected and interested parties that the Commission has accepted the petition for the purpose of receiving information and comments that will aid in evaluating the petition and determining whether or not the above proposal should be adopted or rejected by the Commission. The Commission's October 21, 2011 action has resulted in this species receiving the interim designation of "candidate for listing", effective October 26, 2011, under the California Endangered Species Act. The Department has up to 12 months to review the petition, evaluate the available information, and report back to the Commission whether or not the petitioned action is warranted (FGC 2074.6). The Department's recommendation must be based on the best scientific information available to the Department.

Therefore, **NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that anyone with data or comments on the taxonomic status, ecology, biology, life history, management recommendations, distribution, abundance, threats, habitat that may be essential for the species, or other factors related to the status of the above species, is hereby requested to provide such data or comments to:

California Department of Fish and Game
Nongame Wildlife Program
Attn: Dr. Scott D. Osborn
1812 9th Street
Sacramento, California 95811

Please submit 2 hard copies and a digital copy. Comments may also be sent via email to:
pika@dfg.ca.gov

Detection information on the American pika should be sent directly to the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB). See general data submittal instructions at this link or contact CNDDB staff directly:
http://www.dfg.ca.gov/biogeodata/cnddb/

It is requested that responses be received by **March 15, 2012** to allow sufficient time for inclusion in the Department's final report to the Fish and Game Commission. If the Department concludes that the petitioned action is warranted, it will recommend that the Commission adopt the proposal. If the Department concludes that the petitioned action is not warranted, it will recommend that the Commission reject the proposal. Receipt of the report will be placed on the agenda for the next available meeting of the Commission after delivery. The report will be made available to the public at that time. Following receipt of the Department's report, the Commission will allow a 30-day public comment period prior to taking any action on the Department's recommendation.

If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Scott Osborn, Staff Environmental Scientist, by telephone at (916) 324-3564 or by email at sosborn@dfg.ca.gov.

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