

## Summary Sheet

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**Meeting dates:** August 21, 2020

**Agenda item:** Mazama Pocket Gopher Periodic Status Review – Decision

**Presenter(s):** Hannah Anderson, Diversity Division Manager, Wildlife Program

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**Background summary:** On July 31, 2020, Department staff members briefed the Commission on the joint Recovery Plan and Periodic Status Review compiled for the Mazama Pocket Gopher in accordance with WAC 220-610-110. A public hearing was also held at that meeting. The document is the state recovery plan and first periodic status review for the Mazama Pocket Gopher; it provides a status update and guides conservation and recovery efforts. It identifies a recovery goal, specifies population targets for reclassification, and outlines recovery strategies and tasks. It also provides an update on the species' status since the 2005 status report and the 2013 draft recovery plan, based on recent research and monitoring information relevant to Mazama Pocket Gophers in Washington. The document includes information and comments provided by peer scientists and the public. Department staff are seeking a decision on the status recommendation for Mazama Pocket Gopher.

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**Staff recommendation:** Maintain threatened status for the Mazama Pocket Gopher.

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**Policy issue(s) and expected outcome:**

- Protect and conserve Washington's native wildlife
  - Continue recovery actions for these state-listed species
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**Fiscal impacts of agency implementation:**

No fiscal impacts beyond status quo.

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**Public involvement process used and what you learned:**

In February 2016, the agency sent out a press release and posted a request on our website to solicit information from the public to be included in the PSRs. In accordance with WAC regulations, individuals and organizations had one year to contribute information for the reviews. Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) staff included this information as applicable in the status review documents. The documents were then reviewed by WDFW staff and external species experts before 90-day public comment period on the document and our findings. The comments were collated, responded to, and included in the final Periodic Status Review.

Public was also given the opportunity to comment during the July 30-August 1, 2020 WDFW Commission meeting.

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**Action requested and/or proposed next steps:**

Make a decision on the recommendation to maintain threatened status for the Mazama Pocket Gopher as presented in the Periodic Status Review.

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**Draft motion language:**

Motion: I move to maintain threatened status for the Mazama Pocket Gopher.

Is there a "second"?

If so, then motion maker discusses basis for motion; other Commissioners discuss views on motion; amendments, if any, proposed and addressed

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**Post decision communications plan:**

WDFW Website

News Release

*Form revised 2-15-18*