

IMPORTANT DETAILS ON THE CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME COMMISSION JUNE 25, 2020  
MEETING THAT INCLUDES LISTING THE WESTERN JOSHUA TREE AS AN AGENDA ITEM

**From:** [Brendan Cummings <bcummings@biologicaldiversity.org>](mailto:bcummings@biologicaldiversity.org) [\[Edit Address Book\]](#)  
**To:** Brendan Cummings <bcummings@biologicaldiversity.org>  
**Subject:** Joshua Tres CESA listing Fish and Game Commission meeting info  
**Date:** Jun 24, 2020 10:46 AM

Hi all,

As many of you know, the California Fish and Game Commission was scheduled to vote tomorrow (June 25) on whether to advance the western Joshua tree to candidate status under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA). The meeting is online only and you can watch or participate via Zoom (info on that below).

While the Joshua tree decision is still officially on the agenda for tomorrow's meeting, **there is a staff recommendation that will almost certainly be adopted to continue the decision till the August meeting.**

**What does this mean for public participation tomorrow?**

Since the item is still officially on the agenda, the public can still comment in support or in opposition to listing. However, my understanding is that the commission's preference is that people refrain from providing comment tomorrow, and instead only comment at the August meeting. The head of the commission is likely to say something to that effect when the Joshua tree comes up on the agenda.

In such cases I usually try to respect the commission's wishes and refrain from commenting. That said, I also generally want to avoid a situation where people opposed to protection still speak and supporters feel compelled to remain silent. So what I plan on doing is to attend and be prepared to speak, but likely not do so unless there are many opposition speakers. Since you can participate in the meeting via Zoom, you can raise and lower your hand to speak if it feels appropriate to do so (and if there is a technical glitch and you still get called to talk after trying to put your hand down, perhaps say something like "I support listing but will save my substantive comments till the August meeting" or something similar).

The meeting starts at 9am and there are several substantive items on the agenda before it, so it is likely to come up sometime around 10am or a bit later (although I'll be on at 9 just in case things move faster than expected). It will likely be over before noon. You can see the meeting agenda here: <https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=180395&inline>. Full instructions for participating via Zoom are at <https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=180444&inline>. Some of that info is pasted below.

**Most importantly, given the decision on whether to grant western Joshua trees interim protection will be made at the August 20 meeting (also to be held online), please mark that date in your calendar and plan to present testimony in support of listing then.**

Thank you!

Brendan

Brendan Cummings  
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### **Meeting of the California Fish and Game Commission June 24-25, 2020 Instructions for Participating in the Webinar and Teleconference**

The California Fish and Game Commission is conducting this meeting by webinar and teleconference to avoid a public gathering and to protect public health during the COVID-19 pandemic, consistent with Executive Order N-33-20. Click here to view the full meeting [agenda](#). The following provides guidance for how to participate in the meeting with different options based on the technology available to you, and whether you intend to give public comment.

#### **Meeting Viewing Only (no public comment)**

##### ***Watch the Live Stream Webcast***

As always, the meeting will be live-streamed (also referred to as a live webcast) with full audio and video. If you simply want to observe the live stream of the meeting but do not wish to comment on any item, we strongly encourage you to view the webcast available at [www.fgc.ca.gov](http://www.fgc.ca.gov).

#### **How to Join the Meeting (if you plan to provide public comment)**

***Please note:*** When you join the meeting using any of the following options, you will be muted automatically. Your video will not be displayed

##### ***Option 1: Zoom with Computer Audio***

We highly encourage you to join the meeting on your computer via the link below and use your computer audio to participate. You can participate by launching Zoom in your Internet browser or downloading the Zoom app on your computer.

[Join Zoom \(using your web browser, such as Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox\)](#)

Enter the meeting ID: 832 7710 1183

Enter the password: 598957

Meeting URL: <https://zoom.us/join>

[Join Zoom \(using the downloaded app on your computer\)](#)

You will be prompted to enter your email and name, then click "Join Webinar."

(Note: If asked, the password is 598957)

Webinar

URL: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83277101183?pwd=MmxGY0REc01LaHFjc21nZ0w5Nm4UT09>