

Species Listing PROPOSAL Form:
Listing Endangered, Threatened, and Special Concern Species in Massachusetts

Scientific name: _____

Current Listed Status (if any): _____

Common name: _____

Proposed Action:

____ Add the species, with the status of: _____

Change the scientific name to: _____

____ Remove the species

Change the common name to: _____

____ Change the species' status to: _____

(Please justify proposed name change.)

Proponent's Name and Address:

Phone Number: _____

E-mail: _____

Fax: _____

Association, Institution or Business represented by proponent: _____

Proponent's Signature: _____

Date Submitted: _____

Please submit to: Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program, Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife, 1 Rabbit Hill Road, Westborough, MA 01581

Justification

Justify the proposed change in legal status of the species by addressing each of the criteria below, as listed in the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act (MGL c. 131A) and its implementing regulations (321 CMR 10.00), and provide literature citations or other documentation wherever possible. Expand onto additional pages as needed but make sure you address all of the questions below. The burden of proof is on the proponent for a listing, delisting, or status change.

- (1) **Taxonomic status.** Is the species a valid taxonomic entity? Please cite scientific literature.
- (2) **Recentness of records.** How recently has the species been conclusively documented within Massachusetts?
- (3) **Native species status.** Is the species indigenous to Massachusetts?
- (4) **Habitat in Massachusetts.** Is a population of the species supported by habitat within the state of Massachusetts?
- (5) **Federal Endangered Species Act status.** Is the species listed under the federal Endangered Species Act? If so, what is its federal status (Endangered or Threatened)

(6) Rarity and geographic distribution.

(a) Does the species have a small number of occurrences (populations) and/or small size of populations in the state? Are there potentially undocumented occurrences in the state, and if so, is it possible to estimate the potential number of undocumented occurrences?

(b) What is the extent of the species' entire geographic range, and where within this range are Massachusetts populations (center or edge of range, or peripherally isolated)? Is the species a state or regional endemic?

(7) Trends.

(c) Is the species decreasing (or increasing) in state distribution, number of occurrences, and/or population size? What is the reproductive status of populations? Is reproductive capacity naturally low? Has any long-term trend in these factors been documented?

(8) Threats and vulnerability.

(d) What factors are driving a decreasing trend, or threatening reproductive status in the state? Please identify and describe any of the following threats, if present: habitat loss or degradation; predators, parasites, or competitors; species-targeted taking of individual organisms or disruption of breeding activity.

(e) Does the species have highly specialized habitat, resource needs, or other ecological requirements? Is dispersal ability poor?

Conservation goals.

What specific conservation goals should be met in order to change the conservation status or to remove the species from the state list? Please address goals for any or all of the following:

(a) State distribution, number of occurrences (populations), population levels, and/or reproductive rates

(b) Amount of protected habitat and/or number of protected occurrences

(c) Management of protected habitat and/or occurrences

Literature cited, additional documentation, and comments.