

DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

news release

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SECRETARY MORTON PROPOSES KANGAROOS AND OTHER AUSTRALIAN ANIMALS FOR ADDITION TO THE LIST OF ENDANGERED FOREIGN FISH AND WILDLIFE

Secretary of the Interior Rogers Morton proposed today the addition of 18 species to the List of Endangered Foreign Fish and Wildlife. Seventeen of the species, including all the large kangaroos, are from Australia and one, the aquatic box turtle, is found in Mexico.

Listing of these species would result in a prohibition against importation, pursuant to the Endangered Species Conservation Act of 1969.

Secretary Morton's announcement concerning the kangaroos was made following consultation with the government of Australia, which announced on January 11 that it would prohibit the export of kangaroo hides and meat, effective April 1, 1973.

The Secretary's proposal is based on evidence gathered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service which shows these animals to be threatened with worldwide extinction due to one or more of the following: destruction of their habitat, exploitation for commercial or sporting purposes, the effect of disease or predation or other natural or manmade factors affecting their continued existence.

The kangaroos in particular have been under heavy pressure by hunters who sell their hides for leather and fur to a worldwide market.

Secretary Morton has also proposed the addition of eight species to the List of Endangered Native Fish and Wildlife. One species, the eastern cougar, has been believed extinct. But numerous reported sightings throughout the Appalachian Mountains give hope that the animals still exist.

Interested persons have 60 days from the date of publication of this proposal in the Federal Register to submit written comments to the Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

The proposed additions to both lists are as follows:

U.S. LIST OF ENDANGERED FOREIGN FISH AND WILDLIFE

Common Name	Scientific Name	Where Found
Yellow-footed rock wallaby	<u>Petrogale xanthopus</u>	Australia
Red kangaroo	<u>Megaleia rufa</u>	Australia
Eastern gray kangaroo	<u>Macropus giganteus</u>	Australia
Western gray kangaroo	<u>Macropus fuliginosus</u>	Australia
Desert bandicoot	<u>Perameles eremiana</u>	Australia
Gaimards rat-kangaroo	<u>Bettongia gaimardi</u>	Australia
Quokka	<u>Setonix brachyurus</u>	Australia
Queensland hairy-nosed wombat	<u>Lasiorhinus gillespiei</u>	Australia
Eastern native-cat	<u>Dasyurus vinerrinus</u>	Australia
Numbat	<u>Myrmecobius fasciatus</u>	Australia
Stick-nest rat	<u>Leporillus conditor</u>	Australia
Gould's mouse	<u>Pseudomys gouldii</u>	Australia
Magpie goose	<u>Anseranas semipalmata</u>	Australia
Freckled duck	<u>Stictonetta naevosa</u>	Australia
Plain wanderer	<u>Pedionomus torquatus</u>	Australia
Bustard	<u>Otis australis</u>	Australia
Ground parrot	<u>Pezoporus wallicus</u>	Australia
Aquatic box turtle	<u>Terrapene coahuila</u>	Mexico

U.S. LIST OF ENDANGERED NATIVE FISH AND WILDLIFE

<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>
<u>Mammals</u>	
Utah prairie dog	<u>Cynomys parvidens</u>
Northern Rocky Mountain wolf	<u>Canis lupus irremotus</u>
Eastern cougar	<u>Felis concolor cougar</u>
<u>Birds</u>	
Mississippi sandhill crane	<u>Grus canadensis pulla</u>
Puerto Rico Whip-poor-will	<u>Caprimulgus noctitherus</u>
Santa Barbara song sparrow	<u>Melospiza melodia graminea</u>
<u>Amphibians</u>	
Desert slender salamander	<u>Batrachoseps aridus</u>
<u>Fish</u>	
Okaloosa darter	<u>Etheostoma okaloosae</u>