



Santa Susana Mountain Park Association

Dedicated to the Preservation of the Simi Hills and Santa Susana Mountains

P.O. Box 4831
Chatsworth, CA 91313-4831
ssmpa.com

July 12, 2019

To:

Center for Biological Diversity: Tiffany Yap, tyap@biologicaldiversity.org
Mountain Lion Foundation: Lynn Cullens, lcullens@mountainlion.org

Subject: Support for Petition to List the Southern California/Central Coast Evolutionarily Significant Unit (ESU) of Mountain Lions as Threatened under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA)

The entire Board of Directors of the Santa Susana Mountain Park Association (**SSMPA**) wishes to express its strong support for your petition that argues that **“Central and Southern California mountain lions comprise an evolutionarily significant unit that should be declared threatened under the state Endangered Species Act.”**

The SSMPA’s mission is to preserve and protect the Simi Hills, Santa Susana Mountains and open space surrounding the Greater Los Angeles region. Our organization was formed in 1971, and since that time we have continually monitored projects within our region, advocating for open space and the wildlife that use it.

As you well know there are Mountain Lions in our Simi Hills. Just last year researchers found four new mountain lion kittens born to P62. In addition many of us emotionally adopted P64, the lion that gained fame for making multiple safe crossings of the 101 and 118 freeways only to succumb to the Woolsey Canyon fire. These animals are our neighbors.

Time is indeed running out for these magnificent animals here in Southern California and the central coast. While the soon to be constructed Liberty Canyon crossing over the 101 will certainly help with genetic diversity, declaring lions **“threatened” under the state Endangered Species Act** is really their only chance for survival.

On behalf of all of us at the SSMPA and all who live in this region and care for our wildlife, thank you for your advancement of the **Petition to List the Southern California/Central Coast Evolutionarily Significant Unit (ESU) of Mountain Lions as Threatened under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA).**

Sincerely

Tom Nachtrab
President, Santa Susana Mountain Park Association
P.O. Box 4831, Chatsworth, CA 91313
mail@ssmpa.com

Cc: California Fish and Game Commission: fgc@fgc.ca.gov
SSMPA Board of Directors

About Santa Susana Mountain Park Association:

Santa Susana Mountain Park Association is a 47 year-old non-profit organization based in Chatsworth, Los Angeles, California.

We represent approximately 700 members and concerned citizens, and we partner with many organizations to promote ecological and recreational quality in Southern California.

SSMPA's mission is to preserve and protect the Simi Hills, Santa Susana Mountains, and regional open space.

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