

## **Humboldt Marten Status Update**

### **July 31, 2015**

#### **Background**

On June 8, 2015, the California Fish and Game Commission received a petition from EPIC and CBD to list the Humboldt marten (*Martes caurina humboldtensis*) as endangered under the California Endangered Species Act. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) will conduct a 90-day status review of the species. The Commission anticipates receiving the report by the October 2015 meeting whereby the Commission will consider CDFW's report and recommendation along with the petition and will likely make a determination regarding candidacy at the December meeting.

The Humboldt marten is a subspecies of the American marten and member of the weasel family, smaller than fisher and wolverine. Martens are long and slender with short legs and bushy tail. They are forest dwelling carnivores that are generally associated with closed canopy, old-growth forests and utilize snags and downed wood as denning and rest structures.

The historic range of the Humboldt marten in California extends from Sonoma County to the Oregon border within the coast redwood zone. Their current population is mainly in northern Humboldt and Southern Del Norte counties. Researchers estimate the population of the Humboldt marten to be less than 100 individuals.

For purposes of timber harvesting plan (THP) preparation, CAL FIRE recommends incorporating consideration of CEQA significant impacts from any timber operations to the Humboldt marten within their range until the Commission makes a determination on listing the species.

More information can be found at the following link:

<http://www.fgc.ca.gov/regulations/2015/index.aspx#hm>