

CoP17 Prop. 25. [Guatemala] A) Inclusion of the following species of the genus *Abronia* in Appendix I: *Abronia anzuetoi*, *A. campbelli*, *A. fimbriata*, *A. frosti* and *A. meledona* B) Inclusion of the following species of the genus *Abronia* in Appendix II: *Abronia aurita*, *A. gaiophasma*, *A. montecristoi*, *A. salvadorensis* and *A. vasconcelosii*. An annotation is also proposed: a) for zero quota for wild specimens, and b) zero quota for captive bred specimens from non-range States. This annotation would allow for captive-bred exports from range States.

CoP17 Prop. 26. [Mexico and European Union] All *Abronia* species (crocodile skinks) Proposal: Inclusion of all species of Alligator Lizards in the genus *Abronia* in Appendix II

*Both these two proposals address *Abronia* species and are examined in combination.*

Trade levels for *Abronia* species have reportedly increased since the 1990s. Population declines are documented across the genus; a number of species are assessed as highly vulnerable to exploitation with even low levels of offtake potentially detrimental. Although not all species proposed are yet recorded in trade, the high prices and increasing numbers being traded, coupled with documented population declines, justify an Appendix II listing for the whole genus (Prop. 26). There is no authorized collection for trade or export of *Abronia* species native to El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala. In Mexico, trade is regulated for most species. Despite this, a level of unrecorded, unreported and/or illegal trade is taking place.

Of the five species proposed for Appendix I listing, *Abronia anzuetoi*, *A. campbelli* and *A. frosti*, with extremely restricted ranges, clearly meet the biological criteria for inclusion in Appendix I under Res. Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP16). The other two species (*A. fimbriata* and *A. meledona*) have more extensive distributions, although their habitat is reportedly declining. Crucially, it can be difficult to distinguish between some *Abronia* species so these species would also meet the criteria as lookalikes under Annex 2b of Res. Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP16).

An Appendix II listing for the genus should result in improved monitoring and regulation of trade. Furthermore, as the mis-declaration of wild-caught specimens as ranched and captive-bred is a problem for several live herpetological species, including *Abronia*, an Appendix II listing would enable management of international trade should a regulatory mechanism for captive-bred and ranched specimens be adopted.

Prop. 25 includes a zero quota for wild specimens of the species proposed and a zero quota for captive-bred specimens from non-range States. This reflects that no legal export for commercial purposes has been permitted for these species and therefore any founding stock of commercial captive breeding facilities has presumably been imported illegally. However, there is no other example of such a restriction on trade in captive-bred specimens of Appendix-II listed species in the Appendices. While the zero quota for wild specimens does reflect current regulatory prohibitions in the range States, a zero quota on captive-bred specimens from non-range States appears to add little conservation value to the CITES Appendix listings.

ACCEPT *Abroniaanzuetoi*, *A. campbelli*, *A. fimbriata*, *A. frosti* and *A. meledona* for Appendix I listing (Prop. 25)

ACCEPT the zero quota for wild-caught specimens and REJECT the zero quota on captive-bred specimens from non-range States (Prop. 25)

ACCEPT proposal for all other *Abronia* species to be listed as a genus in Appendix II (Prop 26), excluding the species proposed for listing in Appendix I and Appendix II with a zero quota in Prop. 25 if it is accepted.