

ROSE MOFFGROD, Governor

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# ARIZONA GAME & FISH DEPARTMENT

2222 West Greenway Road Phoenix, Arizona 85023 942-3000

November 2, 1988

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Humberto Tapia Sanchez, Subdirector  
Promocion Corporativa  
Casa de Bolsa Cremi, S.R.  
Boulevard Juan Navarrete  
No. 137-2º Piso Col. Valle Verde  
C.P. 83200  
Hermosillo, Sonora  
Mexico

Dear Humberto:

I very much appreciated the opportunity to meet with you and other members of DUMAC-Sonora last week while we were in Hermosillo. I was immensely impressed with the enthusiasm of your group and your resolve to make a difference in wildlife management activities.

During the all too short period of our stay in Hermosillo, you posed several questions that I told you I would attempt to follow up on.

First, with regard Sonoran antelope. Enclosed for your information is a copy of the Sonoran Pronghorn Recovery Plan. As I believe I mentioned to you, we suggested last year, at a meeting between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and SEDUE in Albuquerque, New Mexico, that the Arizona Game and Fish Department work with SEDUE to census antelope in Mexico and assess the quality and quantity of Sonoran antelope habitat in Sonora. Follow up discussions on such a project have occurred between Biol. Sandalio Reyes Osorio of SEDUE and Raymond Lee, Big Game Supervisor for our Department. No actual work has yet taken place.

You should be aware that there is some concern on the part of Arizona wildlife managers regarding what we believe may have been private importation and release of pronghorn antelope from Colorado onto a ranch north of Hermosillo. While we understand that a government permit was issued for the transplant, the concern is with possible cross breeding and dilution of Sonoran antelope genetic pools.

I have talked with Raymond Lee of our staff regarding work being done by the Bighorn Research Institute. Ray believes that the progress attributed to the Institute by Mr. Matthews' article in

Action  
12/5/88  
Raymond Lee  
follow up  
to Chapin  
Bioscience  
Antelope

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the July 1988 issue of "Peterson's Hunting" magazine is somewhat overstated. A group of bighorn sheep researchers and managers, including Jim DeForge, the Institute's Executive Director, met within the past several weeks and there was no indication at that time by the Institute that an inoculant capable of creating antibodies not only in the inoculated animal but also its offspring had been discovered.

You may wish to initiate contact directly with Mr. DeForge at the Institute or, if it would be more convenient, please feel free to contact either Raymond Lee, Big Game Supervisor, or Jim DeVos, Research Branch Supervisor, at the Arizona Game and Fish Department in Phoenix. Or if I can be of assistance in any way, I will be pleased to do what I can.

I have begun inquiries with regard the name and availability of a lion hunter with dogs who would be willing to come to Sonora. Up to this point I have no information to share with you.

You asked about a contact from the Arizona Game and Fish Department in Tucson with whom you might be able to talk periodically. Our Regional Supervisor, Mr. Tom Spalding, is a competent wildlife professional who would be pleased to assist you. He has a staff of specialists in the areas of wildlife habitat, game and fish. His address is Arizona Game and Fish Department, 555 North Greasewood Road, Tucson, Arizona 85745, Telephone (Area Code: 602) 628-5376.

With regard the masked bobwhite quail, I have spoken with Mike Spear, Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, in Albuquerque, New Mexico. He tells me that SEDUE provided 15 pair of breeding age birds for the recovery effort in 1987. The birds were used in the Services' captive breeding program. I am advised that the Fish and Wildlife Service would be pleased if additional wild trapped birds could be made available, possibly for direct release into Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge. The Service has also indicated that it would be willing to provide some captive reared birds to Mexico in exchange for wild trapped stock. Obviously, as we discussed, any program associated with trapping and/or transplant masked bobwhite quail would have to be carried out through agreement with SEDUE.

Mr. Spear has also indicated that he would be pleased to work directly with you to provide assistance in evaluating possible masked bobwhite quail habitat near the Hermosillo Reservoir.

I suggest that you communicate directly with Mr. Spear's Office at 500 Gold Avenue, S.W., Room 9018, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103. Please mark the correspondence to the attention of Jack Woody.

Humberto Tapia Sanchez

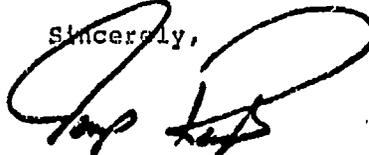
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You also indicated an interest in visiting the Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge near Sasabe, Arizona. I am informed that the best time for a visit would be during the period July through September when birds are nesting or captive raised birds are being released. The area is, however, open for visitation at any time. Please make contact directly with Refuge Manager Wayne A. Shifflett, P.O. Box 109, Sasabe, Arizona 85633. Mr. Shifflett's telephone number is (Area Code 602) 823-4251.

I hope the above information will be of value to you and your organization in working with SEDUE and Sonoran government. If I can provide additional information, please don't hesitate to call on me. After November 8, you can reach me at 14802 N. 17th Drive, Phoenix, Arizona 85023; telephone (Area Code: 602) 993-2025 or at P.O. Box 417, Page, Arizona 86040; telephone (Area Code: 602) 645-2025. We continue to look forward to spending at least part of the coming winter season in San Carlos but that depends on selling our home here in Phoenix. In any event, we plan to be in San Carlos from November 22 through November 27, 1988. If time permits, I will call you when I reach Hermosillo.

Sincerely,



Temple A. Reynolds  
Director

TAR:mk

Enclosure:

cc: Mike Spear, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service