

Mexico City, March, 19th 2015

MR. GREG ALKER
DIRECTOR / CEO GRUPO CLEOFAS
SANTA BÁRBARA, CA.

Distinguished Mr. Alker,

As you are aware, the Mexican Government has invited NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) under the direction of Dr. Barbara Taylor (NOAA) and Dr. Lorenzo Rojas Bracho to conduct a survey in the fall of the Vaquita or Desert Porpoise which is now in danger of extinction and it is thought that only 50 individuals are left on the planet. Vaquita is the smallest porpoise in the world with mature adults reaching a mere four feet in length and babies born the size of a loaf of bread.

The purpose of the survey is to get an accurate count of the animals remaining and also get videographic footage, both underwater and aerial of these shy creatures to assist in a worldwide media campaign to raise awareness and support. The Mexican Government, in an effort to curtail shrimp netting activities, which have been proven to inadvertently kill the animals, is putting forth millions of dollars to stop netting activities and have developed a "Vaquita friendly" net system that is now being offered to fisherman as an alternative to the archaic "red chinchorro", or gill net.

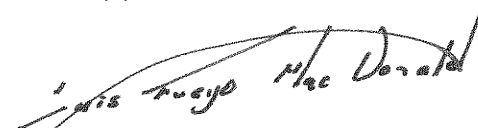
Our offices have been made aware that your vessel, the Maria Cleofas, has been outfitted with a solar system that will allow you to sit silently during daylight hours without generator noise. Due to this fact, we feel the vessel will be ideal for use as a photographic assist vessel as the NOAA vessel will be able to locate the animals with hydrophonic equipment, however will not be able to approach them. The goal would be to have the Maria Cleofas get into position based on the NOAA vessel data and get aerial (via drone) and underwater footage for use in our media campaign. However, beyond that we are hoping for some kind of short (20 minute) documentary film that would cover this survey cruise, how it developed, the human interest side, ie fisherman, scientists and other stakeholders involved in Vaquita conservation.

We will be on site in the top of the Sea of Cortez with the NOAA vessel beginning the 1st of September through the end of October and would like to extend to you a formal invitation to participate in this very worthy project. We believe that through heightened public awareness combined with fisherman participation we can actually save an animal species for future generations to enjoy.

Please respond at your earliest convenience whether or not you will be able to participate and if so, what are the dates that you will be able to set aside as much planning and permitting will be necessary prior to September 1. Please look at this link that will give you an idea of the kind of efforts taking place to save the vaquita, particularly the alternative fishing gear. <http://vaquita.tv/for-media/video/>

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely yours,



LUIS FUEYO MAC DONALD
NATIONAL COMMISSIONER OF NATURAL PROTECTED AREAS