



Subject:
Science Research Colaboration

Bahía de Banderas Nayarit, México **October 25, 2016**

To whom it may concern:

This letter hereby certifies that the US non-profit organization Grupo Cleofas and the US flagged vessel “Maria Cleofas” has been invited to participate in collaboration with PROZONA A.C. (Civil Association/ Mexican non-profit) in the research project entitled *Inicitiva de conservación de Isla Cleofas. Reserva de Biosfera Islas Marias, México* (Conservation Initiative of Cleofas Island in the Biosfere Reserve of Marias Island, Mexico). This research project will assist the Mexican government in general, and in particular, and Mexico’s version of the US Environmental Protection Agency; CONANP (Comision Nacional de Areas Naturales Protegidas) with the primary objective of conserving and maintaining the biodiversity of the Tres Marias marine and terrestrial ecosystems. This project will continue for a minimum of 5 years and was authorized by Mexican Legislative Agreement Number (138.01.00.01/1090/16).

The vessel Maria Cleofas would be instrumental in assisting the operation process of this initiative by way of hosting research scientists and providing safe/comfortable accommodations as well as provisions while researchers perform a variety activities as outlined in tables 1-5 below. Due to the fact that Grupo Cleofas intends participate in the project, it is important to note that the goodwill created between the U.S. and Mexico will be recognized at the highest governmental levels, at least in Mexico (including Secretary of Interior, Secretary of the Navy, Secretary of the Environment, and President Enrique Pena Nieto) as this initiative is extremely high profile and important in advancing Mexico’s reputation as a leader in protecting and managing their the marine environment

The Tres Marias Initiative is scheduled to start January of 2017 and ending in December of 2022. This project is funded by the Mexican government and PROZONA A.C. Funding will be obtained by donations and internships programs.

In the event that you have any questions regarding the Project, please do not hesitate to contact me using the contact information below.

Sincerely,

PhD. José de Jesús Adolfo Tortolero Langarica
Managing Director PROZONA A.C.

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