



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

P.O. Box 1306

Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103

In Reply Refer To:
FWS/R2/ES/41526

JUL 13 2009

Dr. Tony Povilitis
5589 Timkin Trail
Wilcox, Arizona 85643

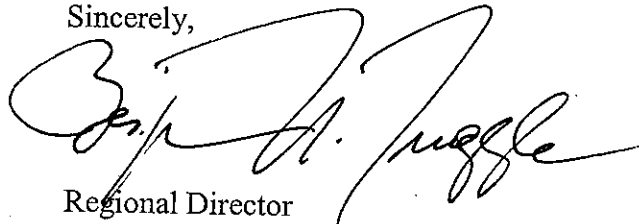
Dear Dr. Povilitis:

Thank you for your correspondence of March 9, 2009, to Acting Director, Rowan Gould, regarding research-related capture of endangered jaguars in the United States. In March 2009, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service embarked on a criminal investigation into all aspects of the capture and death of the jaguar known as "Macho B." There is also an investigation into the issue by the Office of the Inspector General.

We currently have no applications for a permit for the capture of a jaguar in the United States. However, if we receive such a request, we will consider the request and only issue a permit if the proposed capture meets our regulatory requirements; the study design is sound and ensures that information gained will benefit the conservation of the jaguar; and appropriate methodologies and protocols are implemented to minimize, to the maximum extent possible, any potential harm to individual jaguars.

Should you require further assistance or if you have any questions, please contact Steve Spangle at 602-242-0210 ext. 244 or Sherry Barrett at 520-670-6150 ext 223. Thank you for your continued efforts to conserve endangered species.

Sincerely,



Regional Director

Dr. Tony Povilitis

2

cc: Section 10 Coordinator, Fish and Wildlife Service, Albuquerque, NM
Field Supervisor, Arizona Ecological Services Office, Phoenix, AZ
Assistant Field Supervisor, Fish and Wildlife Service, Tucson, AZ
Arizona Game and Fish Department, Phoenix AZ (Attn: Eric Gardner)