

H. Guaymas de Zaragoza, Sonora, January 21, 2016

Bren School Group Project Proposal Selection Committee
Bren School of Environmental Science and Management
2400 Bren Hall UC Santa Barbara, CA 93106-5131

Dear Bren School Group Project Proposal Selection Committee:

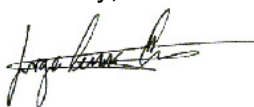
I am writing in support of the Bren School proposal to perform an evaluation of the effectiveness of Territorial Use Rights for Fisheries (TURF)-Maine Reserve Reserves (MR) in Mexico. Based on my preliminary discussions with Juan Carlos Villaseñor-Derbez and my review of the proposal, I believe that this project will help our Sustainable Fisheries and Marine Reserves Programs to continue to support projects that build the foundations towards sustainable fisheries management and conservation in Mexico.

While TURF-MR has shown to be an effective approach to preserve biodiversity and sustainably manage fisheries, we acknowledge that not all coastal communities are able to invest in conservation. This project is important to Comunidad y Biodiversidad, A.C. (COBI), as it will allow us to better understand which communities are more suitable for the implementation of TURF-reserves.

We expect this project to require a group to work with different types of biophysical, socioeconomic and governance data that we have been collected over a decade in three marine priority regions in Mexico (Pacific Baja California, Gulf of California and Mesoamerican Reef). The project will likely incorporate tasks such as data management and analysis, GIS mapping, computer programming, report writing, developing public presentation materials, project management, and developing of scientific publications.

As the client for this project, COBI will provide data on the location and status of the established TURF-MR, and help the group to connect with contacts (e.g. other NGOs or fishers) that could provide other data and expertise. Additionally, we can provide more than one summer internship position at our different regional offices. Nevertheless, we can only provide financial support to one intern, covering travel expenses and accommodation for the length of the internship. The intern(s) will work under the Marine Reserves Program of the respective region

Sincerely,



Dr. Jorge Torre
General Director
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