

United States Department of the Interior

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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AESO/SE

2-21-00-F-344 (Amend)

June 12, 2001

Mr. John McGee, Forest Supervisor

Coronado National Forest

300 West Congress Street

Tucson, Arizona 85701

Dear Mr. McGee:

This letter will serve as an amendment to the June 6, 2001, biological opinion (our file # 2-21-00-F-344) issued for the Montana Allotment permit renewal.

On page 42 of the biological opinion, under the Amount and Extent of Take section, the second paragraph, fourth sentence should read, "Anticipated take will be considered to have been exceeded if: (1) immediate action is not taken to remove, as soon as possible, any livestock found on National Forest lands in the existing exclosures within California Gulch, (2) long-term trends in range condition in the allotment deteriorates, and livestock grazing cannot be ruled out as a cause of the deterioration."

On page 45 of the biological opinion, under Terms and Conditions section (1a), the sentence should read, "All reasonable efforts should be made to remove any livestock from the existing exclosures as soon as discovery of fence damage and livestock intrusion occurs. The Service shall be notified within 24-48 hours upon observation of livestock intrusion."

All other aspects of the biological opinion remain unchanged. The Service appreciates the Coronado National Forest Staff for bringing these corrections to the attention of the Service. If you have any questions, please contact Ann Watson (520) 670-4618 or Sherry Barrett (520) 670-4617 of my staff.

Sincerely,

/s/ David L. Harlow
Field Supervisor

Mr. John McGee, Forest Supervisor

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cc: Regional Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Albuquerque, NM (ARD-ES)
Forest Supervisor, Coronado National Forest, Tucson, AZ
District Ranger, Coronado National Forest, Tucson, AZ
John Kennedy, Director, Arizona Game and Fish Department, Phoenix, AZ

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