



# United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
1011 E. Tudor Rd.  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503



IN REPLY REFER TO:  
MMM

MAY 07 1992

LETTER OF AUTHORIZATION:  
TRANSFER AND PLACEMENT OF A FEMALE ALASKA POLAR BEAR CUB

Mr. Hugo Maciel Gudiño, Director General  
Zoologico De Morelia  
Calzada Juarez S/N  
A.P. 92, C.P. 58000  
Morelia, Michoacan  
Mexico

Dear Mr. Gudiño:

This letter is regarding the polar bear cub-of-the-year scheduled for transfer to the Zoologico De Morelia on or about May 17, 1992. The four month old female cub and a sibling male were orphaned on March 17, 1992, when a young Native hunter shot their mother. The hunter was unaware of the cubs' presence. Unfortunately the male cub died on April 13, 1992, at the Alaska Zoo when it fell from a slightly elevated platform. The female cub remained at the Alaska Zoo, Anchorage, under the care of Dr. Riley Wilson and Chief Curator, Mr. Wayne Ray.

This letter authorizes the transport and permanent loan of the Alaska polar bear cub to the Zoologico De Morelia. In relevant part, this transfer conforms to conditions contained within 16 U.S.C. 1374, Section 104 (c) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). In view of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) continuing interest in this cub, the transfer and long term maintenance is hereby authorized in accordance with 16 U.S.C. 1379, Section 109(h) of the MMPA. Conditions and stipulations are listed below.

Conditions and Stipulations

1. The transfer, care, and maintenance of this bear must be in compliance with the enclosed U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Specifications for the Humane Handling, Care, Treatment, and Transportation of Marine Mammals (9 CFR Part 3 Subpart E).
2. Shipment of the cub from the Alaska Zoo, in Anchorage, Alaska, to the Zoologico De Morelia in the city of Morelia, State of Michoacan and Country of Mexico, is the responsibility of the recipient; the bear must be accompanied by qualified veterinary personnel.
3. The authorized wildlife may not be sold, donated, or transferred unless the recipient has first been issued authorization by the Service's Office of Management Authority (P.O. Box 3507, Arlington, Virginia 22203-3507;

telephone 703/358-2104). The Service is responsible for arranging for any subsequent placement of this animal.

4. The period of care authorized by this letter is for the life of the animal.
5. The Zoologico De Morelia is required to remain in good standing with the Recursos Hidraulicos, under the Secretaria De Agricultura, the Federal agency responsible for maintaining standards for public display facilities in Mexico. Copies of all inspections or evaluations of the zoo facility under existing inspection protocols by the Recursos Hidraulicos shall be provided annually to the Office of Management Authority identified above (3.) and to the Marine Mammals Management Office (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4230 University Drive, Suite 310, Anchorage, Alaska 99508).
6. Reporting Mortality:
  - (a) Death of the polar bear cub during transport from the Alaska Zoo in Anchorage, to the Zoologico De Morelia in the city of Morelia, State of Michoacan and Country of Mexico, must be reported in writing to the Office of Management Authority identified above (3.) and to the Marine Mammals Management Office identified above (5.). The report must be postmarked within 24 hours.
  - (b) The death, regardless of the period of survival, must be reported in writing to the Service offices identified in paragraphs 3. and 5. above, postmarked within seven (7) days.
  - (c) Following death, the polar bear must be necropsied by a qualified veterinary pathologist. The mortality report must include a copy of the necropsy results, clinical histories, histological records, if available, and a full evaluation of the cause of death.
7. Any violation of the preceding conditions and stipulations constitutes grounds for revocation of this Letter of Authorization to maintain the polar bear loaned by the Service to the Zoologico De Morelia. Revocation of the loan results in the Service taking possession of the polar bear.

This is the sole Letter of Authorization you will receive relative to the shipment (CITES permit withstanding) and permanent loan for the care and maintenance of this polar bear. If you have questions regarding this authorization, please contact Jon Nickles, Supervisor, Marine Mammals Management or Scott Schliebe, Wildlife Biologist (Polar Bear), at telephone number (907) 271-2394.

Sincerely,

*Dan B. Alb*  
Acting Regional Director

Enclosure

cc: Chief, OMA  
SAC, LE R-7  
MA