14 May 2019

Revista Mexicana de Biodiversidad Instituto de Biología, UNAM Apartado postal 70-153 C.P. 04510 México, D.F.

Dear Dr. Fernando Álvarez Noguera:

Please consider our manuscript entitled *Distribution and habitat of the Golden Eagle (Aquila chrysaetos) in Sonora, Mexico, 1892-2019* for publication in the *La Revista Mexicana de Biodiversidad*. Information presented in our manuscript has not been published elsewhere and is being submitted for publication exclusively to *La Revista Mexicana de Biodiversidad*.

The Golden Eagle is a threatened species in Mexico and among the national symbols of Mexico. Nonetheless, there are little information on the distribution and ecology of the species in Mexico to guide conservation and management. Although current information on the species is increasing in some portions of Mexico, there are very little data from Sonora and the status of the species across Sonora has not been updated in over 20 years.

We gathered records of the species in Sonora from the literature spanning a period beginning in the late 1800s and combined this information with 51 observations obtained during intensive field work by the authors between 1984 and 2016. We evaluated large-scale patterns of distribution, status, and habitat use of the species in Sonora, and implications for management and conservation. Information presented in our manuscript should be useful for monitoring the species in Mexico and for understanding its ecology.

We are submitting our manuscript to *La Revista Mexicana de Biodiversidad* because it is an excellent journal, and in our opinion, the most appropriate outlet to rapidly reach biologists, managers, and policy makers in Mexico. We hope you will find our contribution useful and of interest to your readers.

Please contact me at <u>flesch@ag.arizona.edu</u> if you have questions and thanks for your consideration. Additionally, we have suggested 2 reviewers below

Sincerely,

Aaron D. Flesch

Appropriate reviewers for our manuscript are as follows:

Jorge Nocedal, Consultores Ambientales, 34217 Durango, Dgo., México. nocedal.j@gmail.com

Verónica Farías González, Facultad de Estudios Superiores Iztacala, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, <u>v.farias@unam.mx</u>