

To Steve Peterson, Dept. Head, Wildlife



From Ken Sowles

Subject Taylor Ranch - Communications

Date 5 September 1980

As agreed during or discussion of September 4, 1980 I am outlining my concerns about the communications gap and misunderstandings which exist over the use and operations of the Taylor Ranch.

First, I want to make it clear I have no intention of trying to dictate who does research at the ranch nor do I feel this would be necessary if we all would have communicated earlier and set down some simple ground rules.

There has been some unnecessary problems develop with Gregg Hayward concerning his remarks to Con & Tina and other people around the back country as to the operation and management of the ranch. This was probably due to his lack of knowledge concerning the history of the ranch and immaturity. I have discussed this with Oz in the past but have had little response.

Following are some suggestions which I hope will elevate our present problems.

1. The Rush Point camp does not belong to the University. The equipment belongs to Con. He has helped us because of his desires to be cooperative.
2. When an agreement is made between someone using the Rush Point facilities and the Forest Service it would be beneficial for either Con or myself to be notified by memo.
3. I would appreciate copies of any correspondence concerning the use of the Taylor Ranch. This would be of great help in planning.
4. I need to know in advance what equipment, facilities and horses people will need when working out of the ranch, again for planning purposes.
5. A little more consideration for Con & Tina would certainly be appreciated and help the situation considerably.

I hope this will clear-up the confusion which exists. Also I assume there will be no more comments by Oz, Wini or Gregg that I am trying to stop their research. To the contrary, the past seven year record will stand on it's own, especially where Wildlife students are concerned.