

CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS FOR AMENDMENT OF APPENDICES I AND II

Other proposals

A. Proposal

Deletion of the Mexican populations of collared peccary (*Tayassu tajacu*) from Appendix II of CITES.

With reference to Resolutions Conf. 9.20 and 9.24, this proposal seeks to permit trade in this species, regulated by Mexican legislation, taking into account the fact that populations of this species are stable and that it is not considered an endangered species in Mexico.

B: Proponent

Mexico

C: Supporting Statement1. Taxonomy

1.1 Class		Mammalia
1.2 Order		Artiodactyla
1.3 Family		Tayasuidae
1.4 Genus		<i>Tayassu tajacu</i>
1.5 Scientific synonyms		<i>Dicotyles tajacu</i>
1.6 Common names		
	Spanish	Pecarí de collar Cochino salvaje Jabalí de collar Puerco de monte
	English	Collared peccary Javelina
	French	Pecari à collier
	German	Halsbanpekari
	Italian	Pecari dal collare
1.7 Code numbers		A-119.002.001.002 (1986)

2. Biological Parameters

2.1 Distribution

The collared peccary is widely distributed on the American continents, from southern United States to northern Argentina (Swols 1966, 1978). In Mexico, it is found throughout the country, except on the peninsula of Baja California and on part of the central plateau.

This species is relatively abundant in the states of Aguascalientes, Campeche, Coahuila, Durango, Nuevo León, Sonora, Tamaulipas and Yucatán where it is hunted. However, in the states of Chiapas, Colima, Guerrero, Jalisco, México, Michoacán, Nayarit, Oaxaca, Quintana Roo, Tabasco and Veracruz, the populations are small.

The collared peccary (*Tayassu tajacu*) adapts well to a wide variety of vegetation: semiarid zones, primarily xerophytic scrub woodlands of mesquite and palo fierro, Encion pine forests on the temperate plateau, meadows, mountain mesophytic and tropical forests, as well as cultivated fields or areas with secondary vegetation.

It should be mentioned that in many parts of Mexico, it is considered a pest in maize fields, orchards and pastures. This is evidence that it very adaptable to coexisting with human activities.

The principal role of the collared peccary (*Tayassu tajacu*) in the ecosystem is the aeration and turning over of soil. It uses its feet to dig in the soil looking for food, leaving behind paths of upturned, loose soil. The name peccary comes from the Brazilian Indian word meaning "animal that makes paths through the forest."

The omnivorous peccary uses its elongated snout to dig up bulbs, roots, and other food such as fruit, leaves, roots, seeds and shoots. It also eats insects, ground-dwelling birds, reptiles and small mammals.

It is an animal that helps to cull other animal populations, preying on infants and elderly or ill individuals. Its mobility makes it an ideal vector for the dispersal of seeds that stick to its body and of seeds that it eats requiring a breaking down of the outer cover. Although it is not predominantly a browser, it trims plants and helps to promote their healthy growth.

This animal is an important link in the food chain and its primary natural predators are the coyote (*Canis latrans*), the ocelot, (*Felis pardalis*) and the jaguar (*Felis onca*) which prey on young, elderly or weak animals. The domesticated dog is a potential enemy.

The main threat to the survival of the collared peccary is its over-exploitation owing to clandestine hunting, the modification of its natural habitat and poor practices for controlling peccaries in cultivated fields. These factors have led to its dispersal and elimination in certain areas. On the other hand, an equilibrium formerly existed between the local community and the peccary population where the indigenous community hunted the peccary as a source of protein. Now, this equilibrium no longer exists owing to the introduction of new agricultural techniques, the replacement of this source of food by domestic animals (primarily domestic pigs, *Sus scrofa*) and the expansion of cattle ranching that has encroached on its habitat. Nonetheless, in the absence of pressure by natural predators and humans, the peccary population has increased, remaining stable in some regions and increasing at an uncontrolled rate in others. In some cases, federal and state authorities have requested the national government to deal with a problem of overpopulation.

3. Utilization and Trade

The proposal to allow the exploitation of the collared peccary is motivated by several considerations. In some indigenous communities it is one of the most frequently consumed animals (Slows, 1984). Donkin (1985) states that it is a favourite food source of many indigenous groups in America and in other cases is hunted for pleasure. The collared peccary (*Tayassu tajacu*) is hunted in most of the Mexican states where this species occurs, although the animal itself is not highly prized as a hunting trophy. The number of animals allowed to be hunted during each hunting season is determined using use rates established state by state and published in the Diario Oficial.

In response to the problem of decreasing wild animal populations in previous years, the government began a programme during the 1980s to improve reproduction rates in order to meet the demand for this species. At the present time, there are fourteen teams (UCMA) for the conservation, management and use of this species in the states of Chiapas, Mexico, Quintana Roo, Tabasco and Veracruz. It should also be pointed out that there are 522 UCMA teams working in the states of Chihuahua, Coahuila, Nuevo León, San Luís Potosí, Sonora and Tamaulipas among others, in a total of 3,319,000 hectares where hunting of this species is protected and managed. The only international trade in this species is by foreign hunters.

4. Conservation and Management

The following articles of the federal law on ecological balance and environmental protection were changed during 1996: Articles 79-85, 87, 87bis, 87bis 12, 87bis 2 as well as Articles I and V in Chapter six in which the illegal use of wild fauna and flora is made a federal crime punishable by up to six years in jail and a fine of up to the equivalent of 20,000 times the daily minimum wage.

Furthermore, the "Programme for the Conservation of Wildlife and Productive Diversification in the Rural Sector" establishes two basic activities: the carrying out of plans for the management and conservation of the ecosystem and the implementation of programmes for the recovery, conservation, management and

use of prioritized species. In addition, the network of UCMA teams for the conservation, management and use of this species supports these activities.

5. Information on Similar Species

The collared peccary is similar to the whited-lipped peccary (*Tayassu pecari*) with which it shares a habitat in southern Mexico.

6. References

Bodmer, R.E. and L.K. Swols. 1993 The Collared Peccary (*Tayassu tajacu*). IUCN/SSC Pigs and Peccaries Specialist Group. Ed. Oliver, L.R.W. ;7-13pp

Ceballos, G y A. Miranda. 1986. Los mamíferos de Chamela, Jalisco. Instituto de Biología. Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México. México, D.F., 436pp.

Green, Galen E.; W.E. Grant and Ernie Davis, 1985 Effects of hunting on javelina in south Texas. Wildl. Soc. Bull. ; 13(2): 149-153.

Grubb, P., 1993. Order Artiodactyla. in Wilson, D.E. y D.M. Reeder. Mammal species of the world. 2a. ed. Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington, D.C., E.U.A. Pp: 337-414.

Lochmiller, R.L., E.C. Hellgren y W.E. Grant 1984 Selected aspects of collared peccary (*Dicotyles tajacu*) reproductive biology en a capture Texas herd. Zoo Biology Diseases. 20:47 - 50.

March, I.J., 1986. Crianza experimental del pecari de collar *Tayassu tajacu* en la Selva lacandona, Chiapas. Informe Técnico final para el Consejo Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología (CONACYT). INIREB No publ. 214pp

Martinez-Romero. L.E. y S. Mandujano 1995 Hábitos alimenticios del pecari de collar (*Pecari tajacu*) en un bosque tropical caducifolio de Jalisco, México. Acta Zool. Mex. (n.s.) 64: 1 - 20pp.

Mayer, J.J. y P.N. Brandt, 1982. Identity, distribution and natural history of the peccaries, tayassuidae. in Mares, M.A. y H.H. Genoways (eds.). Mammalian biology in South America. Pymatuning Simposia. University of Pittsburg, Pp.433-455.

Mayer, J.J. y P.N. Brandt, 1982. Identity, distribution and natural history of the peccaries, Tayassuidae. in Mares, M.A. y H.H. Genoways 8 eds.9. Mammalian biology in South America. Pymatuning Simposia. University of Pittsburg, Pp. 433-455.

Mayer, J.J. y R.M. Wetzel. 1987 *Tayassu pecari* Mammalian Species. 293:1 - 7 pp.

Merediz, A.G. 1994 Abundancia, distribución y posibilidades de aprovechamiento sustentable del jabali de collar (*Tayassu tajacu*) y otras especies faunísticas en la zona maya de Quintana Roo. Tesis de licenciatura. (borrador)

Ole Seno, Simon Kasaine, 1987. Habitat requirements and population status of javelina in southwester New México. M.S. thesis, N.M. State Univ. ; 67pp

Swols, L.K., 1984. The peccaries. The Univ. of Arizona Press, Tucson. 251 pp.

Theimer, Tad C., 1991 Aspects of the feeding ecology and genetics of collared peccary en Arizona. Ph. D. dissertation, North. Ariz. Univ. ; 97pp.

Vickers, W.T., 1984. The faunal components of lowland south american hunting kills. Interciencia. 9: 366-376.

Wilber, James P.; Patricia G. Hannon and William E. Grant, 1991 Effects of seasonally varying diet quality on collared peccary population dynamics - A simulation study. Ecol. Modell. ; 53(1/2): 109 - 129.