

C I C A D A P R O D U C T I O N S



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Honorable Governor Schwarzenegger,
State Capitol Building,
Sacramento,
CA 95814
U.S.A.

25th January 2007

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger,

I am the Producer and Director of **CRIME SCENE WILD**, a six-part, television series which has been commissioned by Discovery Channel's *Animal Planet* for worldwide transmission in September 2007. The Series, produced by U.K. based television company, Cicada Productions, is being filmed around the globe.

One of the six films focuses on bear poaching and in October 2006 I was very privileged to be given the opportunity to film with California Fish and Game Wardens and witness first-hand their dedication to duty in combating wildlife crime and promoting conservation. Sadly I also witnessed the frightening lack of resources and support faced by the wardens whom I consider to be one of the most skilful, vital and devoted services I have encountered during the making of the entire Series.

To be frank, when I planned this particular film, I never envisaged that it would take me to the United States and I was astounded by the level of poaching activity that I witnessed and the threat to California's bear population. In addition to filming with the anti-poaching operation in the Sierra Nevada area, I also accompanied officers as they arrested a number of store owners selling illegal bear products in San Francisco. The material I gathered on the ground will form the core of my film on animal cruelty and the trade in bear products.

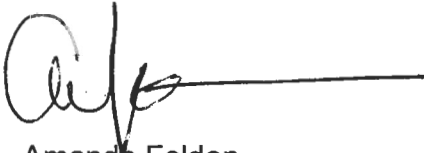
All the people involved in the production of the Series are truly appalled at the evidence we have uncovered and saddened to learn of the crucial staff shortages your Service is encountering, which threatens the efficacy of this vital work. I am particularly shocked to know that this is tolerated in the State of California and I am sure it will cause great consternation when the programme is eventually watched by a world-wide audience.

Incidentally, I am currently filming in Cambodia, South East Asia where two senior members of the California Fish and Wildlife Service are assisting with training of local wildlife crime enforcement officers to deal with wildlife crime in South East Asia and help encourage essential international co-operation between law enforcers dealing with this appalling trade. The Cambodian police and customs officers participating in the course have been greatly impressed by the knowledge and expertise of their Californian counterparts and there can be little doubt that sharing such invaluable knowledge and experience will be of long-term benefit to the survival of the Planet's endangered species.

It is for all these reasons that I am anxious to draw attention to the fact that your officers appear to be so under-funded and under-resourced. It is very upsetting to learn that at a time when the conservation of animals is uppermost in people's minds, key services like these are being allowed to dissipate. It seems that the fish and game wardens in California are of the highest caliber in the world, yet they clearly feel under-valued because their service is not receiving the support and encouragement it deserves.

I hope that my letter may encourage awareness of the situation and if I can assist you in providing any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me. May I also take this opportunity to once more express my sincerest gratitude for the insight given by California Fish and Game Service whose professionalism is, I believe, unparalleled in the area of anti-poaching activity.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amanda', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Amanda Feldon
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