

From: Carlos F. Mena, PhD, Director USFQ Galapagos Campus; Co-Director, Galapagos Science Center, Professor, School of Biological and Environmental Sciences.

To: Carlos Valle, PhD; Dean and Professor, School of Biological and Environmental Sciences.

Re: Manuscript “Health status of the red-billed tropic bird (*Phaethon aethereus*) determined by hematology, biochemistry, blood gases, and physical examination” submitted to PeerJ

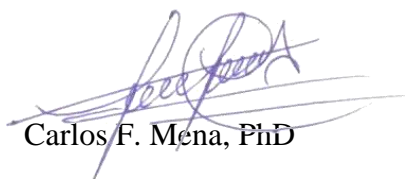
Date: September 30th, 2022

Dear Dr. Valle,

This letter is to confirm that the study “Health status of the red-billed tropic bird (*Phaethon aethereus*) determined by hematology, biochemistry, blood gases, and physical examination” was developed under an Ecuadorian Government Research Permits, given by the Galapagos National Park, numbers PC-57-16 and PC-59-17, to C.A. Valle. The official permit regulates access, manipulation, and wellbeing of wildlife. In this specific case, of red-billed tropic bird (*Phaethon aethereus*) species. All protocols related to the manipulation of wildlife were in absolute compliance with established protocols.

I am ready to respond any further questions,

Sincerely,



Carlos F. Mena, PhD

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