

The Rufford Small Grants Foundation

Final Report

Congratulations on the completion of your project that was supported by The Rufford Small Grants Foundation.

We ask all grant recipients to complete a Final Report Form that helps us to gauge the success of our grant giving. We understand that projects often do not follow the predicted course but knowledge of your experiences is valuable to us and others who may be undertaking similar work. Please be as honest as you can in answering the questions – remember that negative experiences are just as valuable as positive ones if they help others to learn from them.

Please complete the form in English and be as clear and concise as you can. We will ask for further information if required. If you have any other materials produced by the project, particularly a few relevant photographs, please send these to us separately.

Please submit your final report to jane@rufford.org.

Thank you for your help.

Josh Cole, Grants Director

Grant Recipient Details

Your name	Francisco Javier Cortes
Project title	Conservation of Black Inca Hummingbird and Apolinar's Wrens and Turquoise Dacnis-Tanager in Tena.
RSG reference	10.02.07
Reporting period	2009
Amount of grant	£2000
Your email address	Francisco_pedagogica@yahoo.com
Date of this report	8 march 2009

1. Please indicate the level of achievement of the project's original objectives and include any relevant comments on factors affecting this.

Objective	Not achieved	Partially achieved	Fully achieved	Comments
Determine their current population sizes and densities		x		For species <i>Dacnis hartlaubi</i> its extremely small population that was thought to be declining through over-exploitation and habitat destruction. Its necessary discovery new populations in Cundinamarca region
Document their principal ecological requirements		x	x	Studying of the biology of the West Siberia population of <i>Dacnis hartlaubi</i> It is essential to study such issues like success of the breeding of the species, factors that determine location and number (for instance, presence of food and population dynamics depending on the level of oak forest and cloud forest), biology of nesting. Finding out this data will allow further understanding the causes of decreasing of the number of <i>Dacnis hartlaubi</i> in the nature from biotic factors.
Identify the major threats to these species and their remaining habitats			x	The level of environmental knowledge of local people is very low. The majority of these people cannot recognize rare bird species and do not know about the importance of their conservation. This is a big threat for birds' conservation, especially because there are 10 officially registered hunters and many illegal hunters in this region
Formulate a long-term conservation strategy with the participation of local communities and governmental organizations as well as other researchers, local and regional institutions and NGO's			x	We think that one of the first tasks for the conservation of the rare bird species in this area should follow be the organization of different educational programs for local people. It is necessary to teach people how to recognize these birds and to inform them about the importance of birds' conservation

2. Please explain any unforeseen difficulties that arose during the project and how these were tackled (if relevant).

I don't have difficulties. Because we identify potential hazards and the associated risks and we identify precautions or control measures that will be taken to mitigate those risks

3. Briefly describe the three most important outcomes of your project.

The success of this project was judged principally by the extent to which conservation action in tena (laguna de Pedro Palo) achieved in Reserve, establishment of local conservation groups, walkers). However this is a long-term goal.

More measurable outputs include:

- Completion of biological fieldwork at the all transects in different habitats at Laguna de Pedro Palo.
- Production of a species inventory in different taxa highlighting threatened and endemic species
- Production of a report with a complete conservation assessment (based on high quality scientific and community work) to hand over to Environmental Ministry, Governmental institutions and NGO's, Local authorities (Mayoralities) and other decision making entities.
- Assessment of ranges and state of populations and ecological needs of *Coeligena prunellei* and *Dacnis hartlaubi*
- Contributing towards training and motivation to participate of community groups through specific project roles and active participation in implementation of a future conservation action plan.

4. Briefly describe the involvement of local communities and how they have benefitted from the project (if relevant).

We was work with local communities at Laguna Pedro Palo, presenting our work and giving group discussions and field-based study. Local people was learn and give their opinions about what the area means to them. They were have the basic skills, knowledge and experience to organise and create ecological walks and similar activities with the same aim in the future.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, I do.

Key project deliverables

In order to meet its goals this project will provide a comprehensive range of outputs:

1. Conservation of *Dacnis hartlaubi* and *Coeligena prunellei* and its remaining habitat;
 - Undertaking censuses and assessing threats during 90 fieldwork days at all sites.
 - Three undergraduate thesis will be produced investigating aspects of the natural history of *Dacnis hartlaubi* and *Coeligena prunellei* ecology and conservation during fieldwork days.
2. Increased awareness;
 - During Phase II five days of each month will be designated to educational activities. The fieldworkers and undergraduate students will undertake workshop activities with schoolchildren, teachers and people from the local community.
 - Increased regional, national and international awareness through peer-review and the publication of results.
3. Increased capacity;
 - Improved cooperation and involvement of local authorities and NGO's within the project.
 - Increased local and regional capacity to implement further conservation actions in the region.
 -

6. How do you plan to share the results of your work with others?

Reports, scientific papers, guides, posters, articles and further educative and informative material based on the results of the project was published. These materials will be used to draw attention to the habitat and species diversity of Laguna Pedro Palo, and highlight the need to protect threatened species and their habitats. Information was target local people, visitors, national and international institutions, and governmental organizations of importance of conservation of Laguna Pedro Palo.

7. Timescale: Over what period was the RSG used? How does this compare to the anticipated or actual length of the project?

The period was 2007- December 2008
It compare is similar.

8. Budget: Please provide a breakdown of budgeted versus actual expenditure and the reasons for any differences. All figures should be in £ sterling, indicating the local exchange rate used.

Item	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
Stipends: Calculate field expenses for team members	980 £ sterling			
Transportation and Guides	540 £ sterling			
Outreach & Education Activities	1000 £ sterling		500 £ sterling	
TOTAL	2520 £ sterling			

9. Looking ahead, what do you feel are the important next steps

- To produce the scientific basis for a long-term and effective conservation strategy for one of the oak forest at Laguna Pedro Palo and all region Cundinamarca last remaining forest refuges - - through (i) inventories and ecological studies of main indicator taxa (birds, butterflies, dung beetles, reptiles, amphibians, mammals) (ii) community work identifying main problems and possible solutions to conservation issues using Research Action Participation strategies.

Objectives:

- To evaluate the conservation status of remaining oak forest in region Cundinamarca, collating fieldwork results, information from local people, satellite maps and GIS work and to identify zones in need of urgent conservation action.
- To produce an assessment of the ranges and ecological needs of threatened and range-restricted species of Laguna Pedro Palo and Cundinamarca region : habits, ecology and vocalizations, focusing

on Black Inca Hummingbird (*Coeligena prunellei*), Apolinar's Wrens (*Cistothorus apolinari*) and Turquoise Dacnis-Tanager (*Dacnis hartlaudi*) in Tena and Cundinamarca as a flagship and "umbrella" species for the conservation.

- To contribute towards the training of local people and community leaders through specific project roles and active participation in formulating and implementing conservation measures and to develop knowledge, motivation and skills in young conservationists in Colombian Andes.

10. Did you use the RSGF logo in any materials produced in relation to this project? Did the RSGF receive any publicity during the course of your work?

Yes, I do. I used the logo RSGF for environmental education in local places the Laguna Pedro Palo

11. Any other comments?

Post-project conservation action

The long-term conservation of the threatened birds and its remaining habitat will be strengthened by this project as a pioneer plan for future research.

Specifically, we will:

- Establish and map priority zones for this birds requiring immediate conservation and further research. These zones will be selected using population densities data from both species.
- Create awareness at local community, national and international levels to promote long-term conservation.

D. Evaluation

The project success will be quantified using two variables:

- Local community knowledge and awareness about this birds and its remaining habitat after the project.
- The currently map status from these two endangered species necessary for further research and conservation plans.



Black Inca (*Coeligena prunellei*)



Local People



Dacnis hartlaubi



Golden Faced Tanager



Children at School



Environmental education