

Project Update: February 2013

After the first trip to Brazil in September and October 2012 in which I spend 6 weeks in the field visiting several reservas extrativistas marinhas (Resex) in Rio and Bahia to appraise how they were performing on the ground, I recruited a graduate student to conduct a more in depth study in one of these Resex which has an interesting combination of formal and informal rules in use in its small-scale fisheries (Resex Arraial do Cabo, Rio). The study (to occur in March and April 2013) aims to reveal the current informal practices and institutional arrangements used to allocate access and resource use inside the Resex, analysing how these arrangements combine with the formal rules established for the management of the reserve. Results will be reported to the Resex authorities and will be included in a peer reviewed publication. Research in Peninsula Valdes started in November of 2012, following the participatory revision of the management plan of the Natural Protected Area, contacting key stakeholders to interview and collecting relevant information of this MPA. The bulk of interviews and the collection and revision of legal documents about this MPA is planned to take place in autumn and winter (southern hemisphere) of 2013.

