

The Rufford Foundation Final Report

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

We ask all grant recipients to complete a Final Report Form that helps us to gauge the success of our grant giving. The Final Report must be sent in **word format** and not PDF format or any other format. 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. Please note that the information may be edited for clarity. 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	Pablo Grilli
Project title	Conservation of the critically endangered Copper-lizard (<i>Pristidactylus casuhatiensis</i>) in Ventana hills, Argentina.
RSG reference	12738-1
Reporting period	Oct-2013 to Mar-2015
Amount of grant	£ 5730
Your email address	pablogrilli@gmail.com
Date of this report	6 – Apr - 2016

1. Please indicate the level of achievement of the project's original objectives and include any relevant comments on factors affecting this.
- 2.

Objective	Not achieved	Partially achieved	Fully achieved	Comments
Assess main ecological and natural history features of the species		x		Because the rarity of the species we could not estimate some basic parameters (e.g. density). However, we gathered new important information not originally included in our objectives.
Categorise the species at IUCN Red List			x	We achieved categorizing the species as Critically Endangered (CR) at the IUCN Red List.
Update distributional status of the species		x		We successfully created a map of potential distribution of the species. However some hills were not visited yet.
Contribute to creation of a new Natural Protected Area in the species' habitat			x	Our information was of key importance to promote the creation of Sierras Grandes Natural Reserve
Raise awareness among local people			x	

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

A massive fire affected the area during our fieldwork. This contingency delayed several months, but it was useful to identify an unknown threat for lizard.

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

a. Categorise the species at IUCN Red List: We summarized previous and new information that was presented in the last specialist workshop of the IUCN. Our proposal was accepted, and the species was listed as CR. This list will be published during this year.

b. Contribute to creation of a new natural protected area in the species' habitat: By confirming the existence of this species at the Sierras Grandes area, we promoted the declaration of the area as a natural reserve.

c. Raise awareness among local people: We successfully achieved engaging local people and encouraged them to actively promote the protection on Cooper-lizard and its habitat.

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

We performed several activities aimed at awareness among local people: workshops with stakeholders; meetings and conferences at local schools, media (e.g. Fanpage, newspapers), and outreach material (e.g. video, pamphlets, poster). Several people became engaged with the conservation project and currently they are promoting the protection of the Cooper-lizard and its habitat.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

We continue working for implementing the Conservation Action Plan. For this aim we are searching for new sources of funds, including a second RSG.

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

We are sharing our results by through the media source enumerated above. Moreover, scientific results are being included in a manuscript that will be sent to a peer-reviewed scientific journal.

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

We used the RSG for 17 months. We delay some months beyond of our original plan due to the fire.

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
Field expenses	1320	1320	0	
Vehicle	1300	1300	0	
Field supplies and equipment	1100	1100	0	
Posters and pamphlets	450	450	0	
Trail signs	270	0	270	We used this money to pay the drawing and edition of an educative video for children
Educational Campaign	1290	1290	0	
Total	5730	5460	270	

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

- a. Continue gathering key information about the species and effect of threats.
- b. Build a Conservation Action Plan for the species.



c. Build Capacity among local people in order to train local leaders.

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

Yes, we included the RF logo on outreach material developed.

11. Any other comments?

We are writing an application for a second RSG in order to continue working on this project.