

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	Maria Teresa Ruiz Vallejo
Project title	An Ecosystem-Based Management (EBM) Proposal for Bahía de los Ángeles, Canales de Ballenas y de Salsipuedes, Biosphere Reserve, Baja California, Mexico.
RSG reference	15796-1
Reporting period	FINAL
Amount of grant	£5000
Your email address	maria.teresa.ruiz.vallejo@uabc.edu.mx
Date of this report	January, 23th 2016

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
Application of the workshops for the different groups involved (NGOs, governmental institutions, fishermen)			√	The planned date for the application of workshops was delayed several months, because the data in the models took more time than expected to complete.
Analyse users perceptions about ecosystem management alternatives, in order to incorporate their suggestions to the final proposal.			√	Although the initial perception of the concept of ecosystem management was not well accepted at first by the fisherman, plans to maintain communications open will continue as part of the project. The decision makers and other parties, understood and accepted the concept of the idea and its implementation. Although, the objective is that the fishermen first adopt the concept to make it part of their decisions process in the field.
Presentation of the results of the workshops to NGOs and government institutions.		√		Partial results were presented to NGOs and the director of the BLA reserves. However, not all decision makers were able to be present.
Final report on perception of the different actors.		√		A scientific article is being written with the results of the workshops, which will be sent probability to the publication Ecology and Society
Final report and conclusions to the EBM.	√			As part of the process in obtaining a PhD in science, a final report on this information is in the process of being completed.

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

- The main obstacle confronted, was in gathering all parties to who the information was directed (government agencies, scientists and social groups), into a single meeting. The intension was to first present the ideas and concepts of the project, then make available the results. In the end, it proved impossible to gather everyone to a single meeting.

- My solution to this problem, was to present the project and concept of the EBM, by institution and only to those most involved at that location, which was an NGO and the director of the MPA (Marine Protected Area).

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

- The ecosystem models presented, were validated by the NGOs as well as the fisherman.
- For the first time, the concept of an EBM was introduced to the three different levels involved in decision making.
- The concept of “indirect effect” was successfully introduced, allowing a more conservative approach in the type of fishing utilized. At least in El Barril, where the previously accepted behavior was abandoned and the use of “hand lining” was agreed to (in place of nets and traps), for cabrilla (*Paralabrax auroguttatus*) and blanco (*Caulolatilus princeps*). In fact, the fisherman also recommended I should analyse the effect of “hand lining”, as there could also be effects which have not been observed.

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

- Workshops were applied to both local communities directly connected with the MPA (photographs included). Understanding the decisions made in the field, can help better the health of the oceans and the quality of the products obtained; including the long term economic betterment.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

- Pronatura-noroeste A.C (the NGO which helped me with the project) were very interested, and have shown a great interest in helping to continuing the project. Primarily in making it a common practice.
- I still plan on presenting my findings to the decision makers for approval, and establish, on a more permanent basis, the ecosystem model validation in the field. Albeit with the approval and help of the local fishermen.

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

- One of the requirements for a PhD, is the production of a thesis, which is in the final stages of completion.
- From my thesis, I am producing three scientific articles that come from three chapters. The plan is to have them published. Ecology, Society, Ocean and Coastal Management are two of my primary publication options.
- Meetings, to discuss the results of my work, with decision makers in the areas involved, are still pending. With the continuing help of Pronatura-noroeste, these reunions will take place in 2016.

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

- Originally, plans were for 1 year, where the funds would be used from RSG. Unfortunately, completion of the work (analysis and elaboration of the models) needed to produce the results for the workshops, ended up taking longer than expected. This disrupted the expected timeline. However, we rescheduled and continued planned activities.
- The last of the activities took place in October 2015 which were originally planned for March.
- The results were presented only to the NGO most involved at the location and the director of the MPA (Jesús Zatarain), taking place at two different locations (Ensenada and Bahia de Los Angeles), and at times, rescheduling meetings to work within their schedules. Resulting in smaller sessions causing repeated visits.
- Unfortunately we were unable to meet with, and present findings to governmental institutions.

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
Fuel for transfers (Ensenada-Bahia de los Angeles-El Barril) between communities for 3 months	600	800	-200	In October 2014, Hurricane Odile seriously damaged many parts of Baja California, especially affecting my area of study. Alternate routes had to be used, due to severe damage to the main road entering Bahia de Los Angeles and El Barril.
Lodging (Bahia de Los Angeles) (280 X month X 3 months)	840	1155	-315	A location was rented in October 2015 for a period of 1 month at £280 (the longest contiguous visit). Prior to that, hotel rooms were rented at £25 per day for a total of 35 days, for shorter stays, while preparing the Project.
Expenses for leading researcher (Ruiz-Vallejo) and an adviser (Navarro-Smith) during the field work (£9.5 X 2 people X 3 months)*	1710	2110	-400	Food expenses are as follows: £22 per person (2) per day for 35 days eating at restaurants (intermittent days), and £9.50 per day per person (2) in groceries for the month of October.
Expenses for the expert in the field (García-Pérez from Pronatura-noroeste A.C.)	Other funding			Jesús García Pérez, gathered field information, especially at El Barril.
Rent a place for workshops and focus groups (Bahia de los Angeles)	Other funding			

Food for the participants in the workshops and focus groups**	440	150	290	Pronatura-noroeste A.C. covered the major portion of this expense to which I contributed £150 of my planned budget. The remainder was reallocated to any unexpected expenses.
Stationery items: paper, markers, erasers, pencils, flipchart paper, tape	60	60	0	
Consumables for the workshops and focus groups	Other funding			
Video camera and tripod	190	140	50	I decide to purchase a camera with the capability to record video.
2 tape recorders and rechargeable batteries (£68 each X 2 + £24 batteries)	160	80	80	I purchased just one digital voice recorder and necessary batteries for the device. Resulting in half the expense.
Camping equipment – El Barril, B.C. ((£40 X sleeping X 2) + 95 tent + £15 lantern + £75 stove + (£15 gas propane X2) + £35 cooler)***	330	150	180	The following items were purchased: a sleeping bag £40, tent £95 and propane gas £15.
Triptychs or leaflet (150 units) (£1 each X150)	150	0	150	A general design of the ecosystem model was created, however, I was unable to print it in a triptych format. I have included the PDF document.
Graphic designer (triptychs/leaflet)	270	50	220	
Print final report (paper, ink, etc.)	50	0	50	This expense is pending the final report.
Stipend for Leading Researcher (Ruiz-Vallejo) Provided by the National Commission of Science and Technology	Other funding			
Stipend for Informant in the fieldwork, and as student in training (Galván-Díaz)	200	250	-50	An additional expense of £50 was allocated to Socde Galván, due to the frequency of the shorter visits. Her time was needed to complete the work successfully. Both she and Jesús García (Pronatura-noroeste) were important in the field in gathering information and as guides. Expenses for Jesús García were paid by Pronatura-noroeste.
TOTAL	5000	4945	55**	

* Distance between Ensenada and Bahía de Los Angeles are 390 miles, and 267 miles between Bahía de Los Angeles and El Barril, when the other route (80 miles) is closed due to repairs after bad weather damage.

** Will be used to print the final report.

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

- There are two topics I would like to continue: 1) Speak with the decision makers over the importance of ecosystem management and their participation in the concept, so it can be included as part of management in the area; and 2) Validation of models in the field to prove the results I am getting from said models, to lend weight to resulting predictions and suggestions to ecosystem management.

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?

- I used the logo in presentation of the model which was used in the workshops, and have included it, in the appreciation section of the scientific articles resulting from this project.

11. Any other comments?

Many thanks!

Taller: Propuestas de aprovechamiento pesquero, basado en el conocimiento del ecosistema

Nombre	Dirección	Teléfono
LINO LIZANDRO SANDER J.	EL BARRIL B.C.	
Javier Perez Marquez	Ensenada BC	
MANO GUADALUPE CONDENO N.	EL BARRIL B.C.	
mano Guadalupe y	EL BARRIL BC	
Ricardo Cordeiro M.	El Barril BC	6154113640
G / A / A	El Barril B.C.	
Gibran Alberto Aguilar G	El Barril B.C.	
B. Alonso Aguilar V.	EL BARRIL BC	
Juan Alberto Castro M-12	EL BARRIL BC	
Antomo Sandoval Toms	EL BARRIL B.C.	
Patsy Yaniret Mezac	EL BARRIL	
Norberto Enrique Marrón C.	El Barril B.C.	
MA DE JESUS VILLARCE	EL BARRIL	

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Patsy Yaniret Mezac	EL BARRIL	
Norberto Enrique Marrón C.	El Barril B.C.	
MA DE JESUS VILLARCE	EL BARRIL	

El Barril, Baja California, a 26 de octubre de 2015

MINUTA DE REUNIÓN DE PESCADORES DE EL BARRIL SPR DE RL Y DEMÁS MIEMBROS DE LA COMUNIDAD

Lugar: kínder de El Barril

Hora: 17:00

Facilitador: Pronatura Noroeste A.C.

Orden del día:

- Bienvenida
- Presentación de resultados de capturas de pesca con diferentes métodos y artes de pesca y su relación con el ecosistema.
- Definir siguientes pasos
- Cierre

Desarrollo de reunión:

Bienvenida e introducción

Christian Portillo, Coordinador de Proyectos de la Región de las Grandes Islas del Golfo de California, dio la bienvenida y resaltó la importancia de las acciones que está implementando los pescadores de El Barril para incrementar su nivel de organización y aprovechar de manera responsable los recursos pesqueros de la región.

Tere Ruíz, estudiante de doctorado de la UABC, implementó una dinámica con los pescadores para que a partir de la experiencia de los pescadores en el sitio, recordar la pesca en la región desde 1950 hasta el 2015. En esta dinámica se observó cómo se ha cambiado de especies objetivo y artes de pesca a lo largo del tiempo: tortuga y tiburón en los años 50's hasta llegar a cabrillas, baquetas en el 2015. Las artes y métodos de pesca que se han usado para la captura de los diferentes recursos son: piola, redes, trampas y buceo; actualmente los pescadores sugieren el uso de piola para realizar la pesca de manera responsable.

Presentación de resultados de capturas de pesca con diferentes métodos y artes de pesca y su relación con el ecosistema.

A partir del análisis de capturas y esfuerzo pesquero de pescadores de El Barril, se presentaron los principales grupos de recursos pesqueros y artes asociadas como trampas y redes de pesca.

**Definir siguientes pasos
Acuerdos:**

- Convocar a una reunión en noviembre para discutir el uso de piola como arte de pesca de escama durante la temporada de noviembre y diciembre de 2015 y enero, febrero, marzo y abril de 2016.
- Solicitar a las autoridades de pesca, CRIP-INAPESCA, CONAPESCA, un plan de manejo pesquero para el recurso escama.
- Presentar en la próxima reunión de consejo asesor de la Reserva de la Biosfera de Bahía de los Ángeles, una solicitud de apoyo para que se gestione ante la autoridad pesquera, CRIP-INAPESCA, CONAPESCA, una evaluación del recurso tiburón para que se determine la viabilidad de excluir a ciertas especies de la veda de tiburón que son capturas cuando se trabajan la redes para lenguado.

Juan Alberto Castro M.

E. Alonso Aguilar V.

Mario Guadalupe Corpeno V.
MARIO GUADALUPE CORPENOV.

GAA

Antonio Sanchez Torres,
LINDO ALVARO SANCHEZ TORRES

PATSY VANIRETH MEZA CASTILLO.

Norberto Enrique Marrón Castillo.

CHRISTIAN PORTALES

Ma de Jesús Villanueva FLORES

Jesus F. Perez

Jesus Fernando Garcia Perez

Ma Teresa Ruiz Velasco