

Project Update: February 2018

At this point, the fieldwork of my PhD project is finished.

The following marine campaigns were accomplished in 2017/2018:

- Biological campaigns in dry season (June 2017) and rainy season (November 2017), where coral and fish diversity were monitored (Photos 1 to 4).
- Reef condition campaign (October 2017), where coral bleaching was monitored (Photos 5 to 7).
- Temperature/light intensity sensors and current meter data collection and installation (May, June, August, November 2017 and January 2018; Photos 8 to 9).

The institutions who also supported the fieldwork in 2017/2018 were: Laboratorio de Ecología de Ecosistemas de Arrecifes Coralinos (LEEAC), Coral Reef Alliance (CORAL), Roatan Marine Park (RMP, photo 10), Healthy Reef Initiative (HRI) and Proyecto Marino Costero. In total 22 volunteers were trained and participated in the Cordelia Bank MPA campaigns, which correspond to 30 days of work in the sea, distributed from June 2017 to January 2018.



Left: Fish identification in the biological campaign in June 2017. Right: Benthic identification in the biological campaign in June 2017.



Left: Fish identification in the biological campaign in November 2017. Right: Benthic identification in the biological campaign in November 2017.



Left: Pale and bleached seascape during the October 2017 campaign. Right: Bleached and newly dead *Acropora cervicornis*.



Left: "Bleach Watch" volunteers in the October 2017 condition campaign. Right: Temperature and light intensity Hobo sensor.



Left: Current meter installation. Right: Roatan Marine Park boat and marine rangers.

Moreover, in December 2017, I assisted to the European Coral Reef Symposium (ECRS) in Oxford and presented some advances of the work: Feedbacks and drivers of resilience in Cordelia Bank MPA and the Mesoamerican Reef (Photos 11 and 12).



Left: Presentation in the ECRS. Right: Mentioning the collaborators of my work.

I did two presentations in Roatan Island for key actors and users of Cordelia Bank MPA, with an assistance of 25 people.

Currently I am elaborating a final report for key actors of the MPA (Photo 13) and for Rufford Small Grant and both will be finished before the end of February 2018.

