

Project Update: March 2018

Team:

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Achievements to date:

- Land use and land cover map – fully achieved.
- Randomisation of 70 to 90 sampling stations – fully achieved.
- Recognition and assessment of the fragments accessibility in loco (pilot campaign) – fully achieved.
- Establishment of sampling stations (pilot campaign) – fully achieved.
- Data collection of species' presence and absence in loco – partially achieved.- The field work will happen in June 2018.
- Data collection of local variables – partially achieved. Missing collection in some fragments.
- Landscape structure variables – fully achieved.
- Occupancy and detection modelling- not achieved. This part of the work depends on the presence and absence data.

Difficulties found to date:

- Some landowners did not allow us to collect data on their fragments. We cancelled these points, and we re-randomised other points in the same region.
- The authorisation to collect in the protected areas took a long time to arrive, which made us delay the data collection in these areas.
- Some areas were affected by rainstorms out of season, making it difficult for us to do our assessment. We had to delay the data collection at these points.

Timescale:

The Rufford Foundation grant was used throughout the period. The grant is our main resource to carry out the field work.

Continuation of work:

Even when we deliver a final report in 4 months we intend to continue this work, disseminating to the local communities our results, and showing them the importance of conserving biodiversity.

Sharing of findings:

- To the academic community – scientific papers.
- To the general public – web sites about conservation and newspapers.
- To the local communities – workshops.

