

## Project Update: May 2018

We are making good progress with our project. To date, we have successfully created a small giant kelp patch of about 180 m<sup>2</sup> with some individuals of up to 8 m in length. Two months ago we started monitoring the development of our planted seaweeds as well as some of the fauna associated with our patches.

Because the giant kelp is an ecologically and economically important marine organism, our project has gained local popularity. We now have a group of volunteers that work with us on a permanent basis, participated in workshops and several interviews, and even have an undergraduate thesis and doctoral dissertation associated with our restoration project. Of course, we have been very diligent in acknowledging the support provided by The Rufford Foundation.

Here are three links to newspaper articles related to our project. The first one is from a local newspaper (El Vigia) and the other two from regional newspapers (Mexico). All of them in Spanish:

<http://www.elvigia.net/general/2018/2/15/sargazo-gigante-para-reforestar-296061.html>

<http://www.conacytprensa.mx/index.php/ciencia/mundo-vivo/20089-sargazo-kelp-uabc-cicese>

<https://www.pressreader.com/mexico/el-universal/20180402/282711932588233>



Young adults of up to 8 m that we planted in March.



The algae have developed their own adhesion to the artificial structures.



Bringing young algae to be installed on the structures.