Project Update: October 2022

Until October 2022, we analysed data obtained through interviews and participatory mapping exercises from fishermen in the Rio Formoso Estuary (RFE). We also started field research to collect population data on seahorses and their habitats, presented the project at a scientific event, and publicized its actions on social media.

Ecological data collection

We started our field activities, by collecting ecological data on the population structure of *Hippocampus reidi* in the RFE. We collected data at eight sampling points that will be monitored over the next few months. We collected environmental data (e.g., salinity, water temperature, depth) and data on the 40 seahorses found in this October campaign (e.g., sex, size, reproductive stage, colour, behavior, microhabitat used). In addition, we performed some tests to adjust the methodology to map available habitats for seahorses in the RFE using the underwater drone.







Figures 1, 2, 3, and 4. Seahorses (Hippocampus reidi) sampled during project field activities in October 2022.



Figure 5. Collection of ecological data from seahorses in the Rio Formoso Estuary.



Figure 6. Mapping the availability of seahorse habitats in the Rio Formoso Estuary using an underwater drone.

Social networking activity

We are sharing information about the project on social media through Instagram (@cavalosmarinhosapag), where we share information about seahorses and the importance of protecting them, about the environmental protection area (APA de Guadalupe, about research actions and education, and the dissemination materials developed by the project (e.g., information cards, videos).

cavalosmarinhosapag 0 11 185 256 Posts Followers Following Cavalos-marinhos da APAG Nossa missão é promover a conservação dos cavalosmarinhos na Área de Proteção Ambiental de Guadalupe (APAG), no litoral sul de Pernambuco. See Translation Professional dashboard 1.5K accounts reached in the last 30 days. Edit profile **Email** Sobre o pro... New \blacksquare Ô MARINHOS DA APA DE GUADALUPE?

Figure 7. Instagram page of our project (@cavalosmarinhosapag).

CAMPANHA DE DIVULGAÇÃO E SENSIBILIZAÇÃO

Rufford Conference

In April 2022, we present the project and partial results at the II Brazilian Conference on Biodiversity Conservation Projects (supported by Rufford Foundation), in Recife, Pernambuco state, Brazil.



Figure 8. Project presentation at the II Brazilian Conference on Biodiversity Conservation Projects.