

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	Victor Hugo Montalvo Guadamuz
Project title	Distribution of jaguar (<i>Panthera onca</i>) and their prey in the landscape of Santa Rosa and Guanacaste National Park, Guanacaste Conservation Area, Costa Rica
RSG reference	8573-1
Reporting period	February 2011 to February 2012
Amount of grant	£5620
Your email address	vmontalvog@gmail.com
Date of this report	27th February 2012

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
1. Determine population changes in relative abundance of jaguar other cats and its main prey in the Parque Nacional Santa Rosa			x	This two points were the technical and scientific base, to make the recommendations in the management action in the Santa Rosa national park, when were compare two punctual samples 2006 vs 2011, show that populations of jaguar and others carnivores have increase in the last 5 years Were collects 38 points of jaguar presence and were recorded 5 videos of jaguars during 8 months of sampling for a total of 588 trap nights and 263 videos in the 2011.
2. Establish relationships between the presence of jaguars and landscape features Santa Rosa National Park			X	
3. Promote professional development and training academic staff involved in the project		x		Were involved in a field work student of the jaguar programme of the National University of Costa Rica and a short field workshop forest ranger that learn techniques of survey and monitoring terrestrial mammals. Also the information generated by this project was used for the main researcher to complete the require to get a master degree, that know the first sketch is under evaluation
Facilitate the use of information scientific in the process of education and training of staff of the ACG and the general public			X	The videos and pictures that has taken in the project are in use by the biological programme of the ACG as a visual material. An informative poster of mammal tracks species in the dry forest was distributed in the education room of the Santa Rosa National Park and the school of Guajiniquil. Preliminary results highlighted the importance of the

				monitoring and ecological aspects of jaguar and their prey were shown in talks.
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2. Please explain any unforeseen difficulties that arose during the project and how these were tackled (if relevant).

The main difficulty was the transportation over the study area that complicated extends the sampling area to others new places. Also, the presence of hunters inside the national park were affecting directly the study by the stealing of camera tramps. In Guanacaste National Park were not possible works by the risk of thievery because five cameras were lost in this way.

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

- We established a database of individual jaguars to follow the changes in a long term of the population, also in prey we developed a digital base of photo captures that will help to understand how carnivores and prey population trend in a dry forest under regeneration.
- 2. The first sketch of master thesis of Victor Montalvo al Guadamuz named distribution and abundance change in jaguar (*Panthera onca*) and prey population in the landscape of Santa Rosa National Park using data generated for this project.
- A partnership of cooperation between the Guanacaste Conservation Area and ProgramaJaguar National University of Costa Rica where the area offers facilities for research with a commitment that researchers are available to assist in improving programmes and projects within the study area.

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

The Santa Rosa National Park is a area were the conservation status only allowed regulated tourism but there are surrounding communities that usually visit the park, in this case we have made talks and a kind of theatre where the staff of the jaguar programme show to the tourists what are we doing and the importance of this kind of work in the conservation action. Besides the information generated was facilitated to the biological programme in the area that work directly with teachers and local schools also as capacitating in this matter.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

The cameras are still set up and we want to continue the study to see how are changing the dynamic of the mammals in the dry forest but the main problem is the lacking of financial support to keep the project going .

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

- Local publicity in the newspapers.
- The publication of a technical article that is under development.
- The final presentation of the master's thesis, with the official document that will be able for the public in general in the official network of the university bookstores

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

The main activities occurred within a 12-month period as originally planned. However, the preparation of the article and the presentation of master thesis were delayed by 2 months more in the field work and the process of revision when is submitted.

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
15 Tramp cameras	£3000	£1779	£1221	Was purchased other model of camera cheaper, (tasco trail 5.0 Mpx), that performing well in the dry forest by recommendation of another researcher.
Bushnell thophy 5.0				
Mpx				
SD memory Scan disk	£120	£107	£13	Were found memory of 4 GB cheaper than we expected
2 GB				
Gasoline/ travel	£300	£439	£-139	In this item we include the gasoline and the transport service to some places when the car of the university was not able
Batteries Duracell	£300	£344	£-44	In this case were necessary more batteries change than we expected
Lodging	£700	£94	£606	We save some money because the national park, help to the project, giving free hosting during the field phase.
Field meals	£900	£2370	£-1470	
Motorcycle	£300	£252	£48	Motorcycle during the project was not available so it made the decision to repair two bikes to be used in the study as a transport when the university vehicle could not access.
Maintenance				
Field equipment		£484	£484	Were necessary got things like a new stuff, refrigerator, cooler,
Posters		£81	£81	Were necessary print four posters to show the project develop in the national park for the biological education programme.
TOTAL	£5620	£5950	-£333	

Some of the budget item were changed to improve the project and other items that were not include before were necessary to keep going the project. For this reason, the exchange rate was for one £ = 1.6US Dollars. With Local money (colons), 1£ = 808 colons.

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

- Survey additional sites where the jaguar still occurs.
- Establish an annual monitoring integrating bases to survey the climate change in a long term and make management and adaptation recommendations.
- Create a technical capacity to develop a monitoring programme integrating the personnel of the ACG.

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?

We used the RSGF logo in a presentation, in a video documentary of the jaguar programme showing the current foundation that gift financial support, asking for more sponsorship. In posters generated during the project also and in the ecoindex the foundation is named as one of the sponsorships (<http://www.eco-index.org/search/results.cfm?projectID=658>).

11. Any other comments?

Thanks for all the volunteers, students, sponsorship and especially Rufford Small Grants Foundation for support this project. We are happy to have represented the Rufford Foundation with this project and hope keep on working with your foundation in a future. Please ask if any further information, photographs or examples of materials and information is needed.