

May 16, 2008

**Project progress report:**

*Forest harvest effects on bird communities in Chiloe Archipelagos – implication in small, medium and large islands in relation to human progress*

In order to make clear and fluent the information regarding by **Rufford Foundation**, we prepare this first advance report at the time that had been achieve different goals systematize into the initial proposal.

Because the main scope of the proposal is to know everything concerning the natural resource status in Chiloe's archipelagos, we have had seek for any information that could be find, whether on scientific publication or technical report, and belonging from Municipalities actions in their own counties.

Organize and set up the information available is our main occupation for the time being. Otherwise, we are preparing the database corresponding to landscape characterizes of each island and the whole archipelagos.

The first phase project had assign a schedule of meeting with the involve parties, such as those incorporate in the proposal and others.

The detailed work sheet is the following:

1. - February 08. Meeting in Castro city Municipality to expose the objectives and discuss the reasons of the project. It was people in authority of Environmental office, Forestry National Corporation, Association of the firewood producer and a delegate of State Governor.

2. – Subsequently, we begun to gather any information pertaining to the environmental and social status of archipelagos, furthermore it was compile data of industry and commercial activities progress.

3. - Since is necessary to build an environmental variables database and its changes running the time, has been develop a GIS layer with Landsat satellite image from 70', 80' and 00' decades; modeling over the variables and searching into the changes that generate the forest fragmentation and resource loss.

4. – Respect point 3, every information it's been analyzing together, both the social and environmental. The complete of variables analysis will allow us produce an a priori environmental assessment toward the bird community conservation plan.

5. – May 13, meeting with people representing 5 counties of Chiloe Province. It was discuss on the subject of arrangement, collaboration, information sharing and future perspective of the investigation.

Until today, we could validate that the project it is going in time, with a good receiving for the governmental people, without setbacks and a good coupling joint between researchers. Otherwise, could be appropriate say that it was add a new research in the project, whose mission will be support in the GIS system. He is Forest engineer of Universidad de Concepcion of Chile, Mauricio Aguayo, who works in EULA Institute.

Major changes in methods are not noticeable, only we could state that even it was adding a foremost scope into the archipelagos survey, which is the assess of its ecological status by no means that will be going in weakness of proposed goals. In fact, the great consideration attended by different institutions, will improve the outcome of the project.

The following points are part of the next project phase:

a) Set up a banding station in group 1 of island in the Butachauques archipelagos (see map attached). This work will be starting in the second week of June.

b) To finish a baseline publication with the ecological status of each island of the Chiloe's archipelagos. We pretend to conclude this work on August.

c) Because the work on different environmental variables will be ready at all with the information collection and analysis before carry out, the most of the research will be focus on the habitat fragmentation, bird communities and archipelagos dynamics.

Certainly point a) it wasn't include in the proposal, however the adding of this new objectives only means a better approximately to the goal proposed with anteriority. The setting up of this station is in order to get additional information about the bird dispersion between islands. Different passerines and colour bands will be part of our aim. To get a number upper than 100 individual is our goal to reach. As part of our institutional policies, sustain on governmental permit to capture bird is strictly, because that we hold the standard permit to capture and band birds with mistnet.

Concerning to the budget statement, it's haven't inconvenient, and we are not incur in overcharges and just overheads such as some fuel for the pick-up truck to visit any county, some office and that's all.

We would be grateful if you permit us to make some change in part of the fund, incurring in spending in bands and misnet purchase. Only little equipment will be necessary because our Chiloe Bird Observatory (part of CECPAN) has the most of the tools and equipment that we will be needed, nevertheless should be useful count on additional and replacement nets.

Anyhow, we will be preparing an expenses rate report after the first semester when we finish the fieldwork and ecological status report.

