

## 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](mailto:jane@rufford.org).

Thank you for your help.

Josh Cole

Grants Director

Grant Recipient Details	
<b>Your name</b>	Marisol Hidalgo Cossio
<b>Project title</b>	Andean Forest Conservation and Small Mammals in Bolivia
<b>RSG reference</b>	15136-1
<b>Reporting period</b>	1 Year
<b>Amount of grant</b>	£6000
<b>Your email address</b>	<a href="mailto:hidalgocossiomarisol@gmail.com">hidalgocossiomarisol@gmail.com</a>
<b>Date of this report</b>	June 24 of 2015

**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
Identify and contribute to the knowledge of the current status of habitats and species of small mammals in the Andes of Bolivia.			x	Many species of small mammals and cited for these sites were found. Others show differences in morphology and therefore opt for further studies to determine the species. Their habitats with the intervention that have shown low abundance of the species in some of the sites visited
To contribute to the knowledge of other species present and the services they provide habitats of Andean forests.		X		You lack even visit some sites to display our results and the importance of remaining forests in the Andes, especially school children. Species of medium mammals are difficult to observe and some comments of people help us to determine their presence
Disseminate information from the local community and the general public.		X		Failure to deliver the formal and technical information to the communities visited.

**2. Please explain any unforeseen difficulties that arose during the project and how these were tackled (if relevant).**

Unforeseen difficulties were delaying the project authorisation documents, by the authorities of our country, to enter national parks.

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

1. Importance of trees and forests for people and mammalian species.
2. Differences that ordinary people observed among wild rodents and commensal species that live in urban centers. While recognising the importance of animals to understand the ecological balance.
3. Recovering popular knowledge and unite with scientific knowledge, to give correct interpretations of natural events involving wild animals, their habitats and local residents, to guide the conservation of Andean habitats.

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

Members of local communities and national parks were trained to work with small mammals. Members of local communities and institutions of local guides and children were participants in workshops that focus on the importance of forests for the conservation of small mammals. Local

communities are doing activities such as ecotourism and always request more information to strengthen their skills and knowledge about their environment and species.

#### 5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, there are many localities with Andean forests and small mammals that need to be studied.

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

Currently the process of identifying species of rodents and marsupials is the most arduous and now we have input from other specialists researchers with whom we share our information. With the local communities, the results of our work are delivered with simple and easy to understand, through banners and technical reports. And the participants of Rufford Small Grant Conference (Quintay – Chile 2015) we shall form a net to share the result and work, to share experiences and information about our projects.

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

The grant were used in the period of 8 months, because be considered a time minimum (15 days) for that permission of our authorities for the realisation of project. But permission was delayed more than expected and our activities on the dissemination of information are still developing. If this unexpected had happened the project would be carried out within the terms that are 12 months long since been scheduled and settled on a time that received funding from your institution.

#### 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
Travel insurance for team (4 members) and First aid kit (1)	58	65	7	Travel insurance for team five members. This were needed because the field work was difficult
Scientific/field equipment and supplies (pesolas, Traps Sherman, Vernier, Camera Traps, Camera, rules, Sd Cards, Cloth bags) + <b>biosafety material</b>	21	35	14	The excess funding were used for biosafety material
Rodent bait and consumables for fieldwork in four Localities (Bait: Vanilla, Avena, Peanut butter, Flavoring handle and strawberry, Raisin, Sardina.	382	382	0	
Camping equipment (Tents, compass, GPS, insulating, sleeping, alcohol stove, pot,	806	806	0	

knife, rubber boots, backpacks, head torch, AAA and AA rechargeable batteries				
Travel and local transportation (4 localities), Stipends Team 4 members and two rangers and/or guides.	3148	3148	0	Stipends specially were divided among 5 members team
Training for identification and management specimens of smalls mammals in Scientific Collections, but this is after fieldwork)	364	380	16	2 persons more received the training
Workshops and Outreach/education activities and materials	1128	1121	7	Technical reports and banners continue to be made, but the amount of money to use already calculated
Museum documentation	60	60	0	
<b>TOTAL</b>	5967	5997		

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

We should continue with the travels at communities with Andean Forests, study their species and share the knowledge of researchers and people.

**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?**

Yes, we used the RSGF logo in the presentations in workshops and outreach, and the next material of dissemination we shall have the logo.

**11. Any other comments?**

The project was also presented at the Congress of Mammalogy in Bolivia and we hope to continue.