

Project Update: September 2015

Goal I. To educate local communities for catching and breeding foreign fish species for their diet instead fishing vulnerable endemic species. Activities related to goal I, completed so far:

1. We have started the construction.
2. Installations for breeding foreign.
3. Fish species for the diet of local people.
4. Local people.
5. Initial training activities and installation.
6. Construction works.

Goal II. To link local team members in a pilot program aimed to save threatened fish species in Cienaga de Zapata National Park. Activities related to goal II, completed so far:

1. We have accomplished two field trips to different biotopes in Cienaga de Zapata National Park (50 % of total proposed), and some populations parameters have been assessed for endemic fish species in the area.
2. Vulnerable fish species have been identified to be included in a pilot programme aimed to save them (next stage/phase of the project).
3. Some talks on the topics of life history traits and conservation of live bearing fish have been done.

Other activities supported for the project in this period:

A talk giving by Dr Ingo Schlupp from the University of Oklahoma, US, with participating from Cuban institutions focused in biology and conservation of nature (Photos 11 and 12)



Collecting fish with a seine
1. In the image appears Maydiel Cañizares, member of the project's team and me (wearing a yellow t-shirt and grey cap).



Collecting fish with a seine
2. In the image appear Maydiel Cañizares, member of the project's team and me (wearing a yellow t-shirt and grey cap).



Sex and count fish caught with the seine.



Cubanichthys cubensis a vulnerable endemic fish from Cienaga de Zapata National Park.



Rivulus cylindraceus a vulnerable endemic fish from Cienaga de Zapata National Park.



A view from Los Hondones, a local community where ongoing activities regarding to the project are implementing.



Preparing a new pond for breeding fish. Appears Maydiel Cañizares (member of the work team), Rodet Rodriguez (leader of the project) and a local person from Los Hondones community.



A pond previously constructed with associate poultry farming.



Talk giving by Dr. Ingo Schlupp from the University of Oklahoma.

