

The Rufford Foundation Final Report

Congratulations on the completion of your project that was supported by The Rufford Foundation.

We ask all grant recipients to complete a Final Report Form that helps us to gauge the success of our grant giving. The Final Report must be sent in **word format** and not PDF format or any other format. 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. Please note that the information may be edited for clarity. 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	Inti Martín Carro Guichón
Project title	Diversity and state of conservation of medium and large mammal population at the Conservation Area of Quebrada del Yermal, Rocha, Uruguay
RSG reference	18181-1
Reporting period	November 2015 to December 2016
Amount of grant	£ 5000
Your email address	inti.carro@gmail.com
Date of this report	29th January 2017

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
Estimating the richness of the medium and large mammal populations and their conservation state at the protected area Quebrada del Yermal.				A high dedication monitoring was developed. A good degree of coverage of the protected area was achieved.

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

Difficulty in articulating with SNAP (National System of Protected Areas) technical authorities. We seek to strengthen the proposal with an alliance of organisations within a network of refuges of nature. Being part of this network improve the impact of the project in the agenda of SNAP and local government about environmental and conservation aspects.

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

- I. The project registered the presence of 20 mammal species in the protected area. Several of high interest for the SNAP and a few included in international threatened lists.
- II. 150 people from local community participated in conservation and monitoring activities of the project. This represents a greater community knowledge about local mammals biodiversity and a better attitude about its conservation.
- III. The project strengthened a local network of more than 1500 ha of conservation is concreted. This represents 10% of the total area of the high watershed of Rocha's Lagoon.

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

The direct beneficiaries of the action are 150 people (70 women, 50 men, 30 young people and children), members of the local community of the conservation network. These people are nucleated in more than 40 families living in the area, in 10 properties linked to the actions of conservation and monitoring of the project.

The community network, actively participated in the project, as we believe it was very important that they were part of the evaluation, planning and data collection during the participatory sampling process.

Several neighbours linked to the project began to monitor the presence of illegal hunters. Because of this, signs were erected to prevent illegal trespassing and hunting. This action was not initially planned but was considered relevant for responding to the security and conservation concerns of the local community

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

The area and the local community present significant potential to continue working in the line same direction developed by the project. It is considered important to be able to continue the actions and expand the coverage of the monitoring activities to other areas of interest for the conservation of the whole basin of Rocha's Lagoon. At the moment we are doing a census to see the interest of other neighbors in participating in the conservation actions for the present year.

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

We are already disseminating the work done in the project. We use audiovisual¹ tools and the internet to spread the advances monthly. We also participate in congresses and dissemination activities for the general public. During this year we gave talks in educational centers, also radio and television programs. In less than a year our Facebook fan page has more than 1,700 followers and our videos in the internet have more than 2,500 views among all.

¹ AMBA's Youtube channel <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCtdN6eDPT5NNjzSc9LzHAXA>

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

The project initially had an estimated execution time of 6 months. From the good repercussion of the activities among the neighbours of the community we decided to increase the amount of hectares of the monitoring of the 400 initial to 1,500 that were finally covered with the activities. This resulted in the need to resize the proposal times to 12 months of execution. We believe that the extension of the execution time does not mean a negative impact but, on the contrary, we consider that this served to achieve a better reach of the objectives and a greater consolidation of the work in conservation with local participation.

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
Permanent Staff	12.600	12.600	0	Counterpart of Quebrada del Yermal
Temporary Contracts	3.000	3.000	0	Counterpart of Quebrada del Yermal
Equipment	2.300	2.550	+250	Was added to the counterpart another trap camera and a gps
Transportation for monitoring campaigns	1.500	1.500	0	None
Maintenance for personnel at monitoring campaigns	2.500	2.500	0	None
Communications	400	800	+400	Was needed more resources for the communication with the participants of the project. Was covered by a higher counterpart in this item
Unforeseen	100	400	+300	Was used for the preparation and installation of signs to prevent illegal trespassing and

				hunting. Was covered by a higher counterpart in this item
Total	22.400	23.350	+950	There was an increase in the counterpart during the execution We believe that resulted in a greater scope and quality of the project implementation.

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

Improve linkages with local research centers of the Universidad de la Republica (public institution) for mammals monitoring and design community-based management plans in line with national conservation policies. We want to go further in the participation of private sector in the country's conservation strategies and local action about biodiversity and water conservation.

For the continuity of the actions of conservation and monitoring of biodiversity in the zone we received many proposals from the participants of the project. We intend to develop them with new initiatives focused on the management of invasive alien species (e.g. *Sus scrofa*), specific monitoring of umbrella species (e.g. *Leopardus wiedii*). All new actions will seek to cover the 1,500 ha on which work continues and if were possible we will seek to extend this area to others neighbor properties during 2017.

10. Did you use The Rufford Foundation logo in any materials produced in relation to this project? Did the RSGF receive any publicity during the course of your work?

The Rufford logo was included in all the diffusion elements of the project according with its term of use. In each public presentation we take care to talk about the sponsorship of the Rufford grant and to encourage similar organizations to make contact with the The Rufford foundation.

11. Any other comments?

The project took more time than originally planned but could expand exponentially the monitored surface, defining a functional biological corridor and covering a relevant surface (10%) of the surface of the high basin of Rocha's Lagoon. We believe that this area and its environmental health have a key role in the provision of

ecosystem services related to drinking water, biodiversity conservation and climate change adaptation at the local level.

The following table shows the species recorded during monitoring, through trap cameras, tracks and traces:

Common name in spanish	Scientific name
Comadreja mora	<i>Didelphis albiventris</i>
Mulita	<i>Dasypus hybridus</i>
Tatú	<i>Dasypus novemcinctus</i>
Peludo	<i>Euphractus sexcinctus</i>
Guazubira	<i>Mazama gouazoubira</i>
Jabalí	<i>Sus scrofa</i>
Liebre	<i>Lepus europaeus</i>
Lobito de río	<i>Lontra longicaudis</i>
Mano pelada	<i>Procyon cancrivorus</i>
Gato montés	<i>Leopardus geoffroyi</i>
Margay	<i>Leopardus wiedii</i>
Gato de pajonal	<i>Leopardus braccatus</i>
Puma	<i>Puma concolor</i>
Hurón	<i>Galictis cuja</i>
Zorro gris	<i>Lycalopex gymnocercus</i>
Zorro de monte	<i>Cerdocyon thous</i>
Aguará-guazú	<i>Chrysocyon brachyurus</i>
Carpincho	<i>Hydrochaerus hydrocaeris</i>
Aperea	<i>Cavia aperea</i>
Nutria	<i>Myocastor coypus</i>