

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	Luciano Hiriart-Bertrand
Project title	Conservation through community: the case of <i>Spheniscus</i> penguins in Chile
RSG reference	18272-2
Reporting period	Final report
Amount of grant	£5,000
Your email address	l.hiriartbertrand@costahumboldt.org
Date of this report	October 10 th , 2016

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
Visitors analysis perception of the implementation of conservation regulation for <i>Spheniscus</i> penguins			X	>250 visitors of Puñihuil islets were interviewed and >95% considered necessary to improve tourism activities, conditions and control of visitor access.
Willingness to pay for conservation initiatives			X	89, 2% of interviewed visitors were willing to pay an additional fee oriented to develop conservation and educational activities and 10, 8% were not willing to pay an extra fee.
Capacity building within tourist operators		X		In the last years the increase of visitors has turned on a critical aspect of local management and control access. Although the Municipality has implemented new regulation for tourism operators, there is still a lack of support to improve practices. We provided results, recommendations and conclusions of our study. In essence, tourism operators who participate on result presentation were capacitated with methodology and recommendation for tourism activities

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

None.

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

- > 250 visitors were interviewed on a face-to-face on-site questionnaire based on the implementation of new regulation for penguin conservation in the area.
- 89,2% of visitors interviewed were willing to pay additional entrance fee to develop an exclusive conservation, education and outreach program for *Spheniscus* penguins, and the additional maximum willing to pay fee was \$4,646 Chilean pesos (£5.70).
- 68,8% of interviewers were agree to increase their willingness to pay a large amount of money if this is oriented directly to penguin population recovery

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

Through this project, local communities help with logistic and coordination. Primordially, our group conducted questioners and daily information were briefly provided to local community.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Although we have been working in the target area for a considerable period, we aim to identify new potential colonies to develop basic ecological information in order to build a strong data set of other relevant mixed-colonies of *Spheniscus* penguins. Particularly, we have identified a community-based project with indigenous communities whom are willing to receive capacity building to protect penguin colonies. Considering that penguins have raise interest for visitors, areas with tourism potential must to develop management plans in order to ensure sustainable practices.

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

Our result has been presented at the XXXVII National Marine Biology Conference in Concepcion, Chile.

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

Most of the grant was used during field activities and congress participation. Period of funds spent were concentrated between January and May of 2016.

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
Field expenses	1500	0	-1500	Field expenses were distributed throughout the period of surveys
Survey development	500	0	-500	Survey design were based on an extenuate research on peer-reviewed journals. Took one month for its final version. Several test were conducted in order to validate methods and results.
Travel expenses	1500	0	-1500	Travel expenses were use to cover flights and bus of four researchers.
Outreach materials	500	0	-500	Printed materials during the survey period were use.
Team salaries	1000	0	-1000	Salaries were distributed among Costa Humboldt research team
Total	5000	0	-5000	

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

We have positioned our organisation as a recognisable national marine conservation group, and in consequence seeking for new opportunities to raise knowledge to promote conservation of key marine species is important. In essence, we planned to continue our work, and expanding our target areas in order to build an ecological network of mixed colonies of *Spheniscus* penguins in Chile. Furthermore, and considering that today the existence of new colonies, the lack of information associated to each colony may alter the structure of these and in cause ecological disruption. For instance, activities associated to aquaculture have expanded in the south of Chile, and additional potential risks have been identified for the conservation of penguins and other relevant marine species. Ultimately, we will design a project to begin working with penguin conservation through indigenous communities-based in south of Chile in order to implement novel conservation instruments.

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?

Yes. We use the TRF logo on all activities, including on-site interviews, national conferences, and outreach materials.

11. Any other comments?

We acknowledge to the The Rufford Foundation for its consideration for penguin conservation in Chile. We also, would like to extend our relation through further supports from the foundation in order to achieve our national strategic and mission.

