

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	Claudia Esther Ascencio Elizondo
Project title	Interaction of marine mammals with artisanal fishing communities from Puerto de La Libertad, El Salvador
RSG reference	18340-1
Reporting period	October 2015 – June 2016
Amount of grant	£ 4700
Your email address	c_a.e@hotmail.com
Date of this report	October 29 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
Determine the composition of marine mammals that interact with fishermen from Puerto de La Libertad, El Salvador			X	
Identify operational type interactions occurring between associated marine mammals and fishermen in Puerto de La Libertad, El Salvador			X	
Register perception and knowledge about marine mammals from fishermen in Puerto de La Libertad, El Salvador.			X	

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

For a month where bad weather conditions meant the fishermen couldn't go to work, with that delay I have to increase one month for the sampling so the timing wouldn't chance with the proposal.

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

1. The knowledge from the species of the marine mammals how uses the coastal area of La Libertad.
2. The interaction between marine mammals and fishermen has to be with absolutely indifference to the presence of their fishing nets.
3. Fifty percent of the fishermen interviewed knows the importance of protecting these organisms.

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

By working side by side with the fishermen it has been known all the problems the community has. During my work period I can tell the artisanal fishing from La Libertad does not affect the marine mammals. In every opportunity I explained the importance of these aquatic organisms, because they have heard about it but

didn't know what the real context were for them. They have been such a wonderful people, all of them were open to help with the investigation, and they have open mind for a tourism problem.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, I do. I want to implement the same methodology on deep waters so I can see the difference between species and interactions at this level. At the same time, I want to do it regional, so this information would increase the national information.

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

With a scientific paper, which I will share it for free.

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

It was used on the first stage, where I have to buy the equipment needed and without it, it wouldn't be possible the fulfillment of the project. And this instruments are going to be used for further research.

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. Local Exchange rate used: \$1: £0.769

Item	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
Canon Camera EOS Rebel T6i	609.00	596.73	-12.27	Price included taxes.
EF 24 – 70mm f/2.8 II USM	1,250.00	1428.85	178.85	When I want to find the offer I present, it was already finished. Price included taxes.
Binoculars Canon 15x50 All weather	1,122.00	1247.6	125.6	Price included taxes.
GARMIN GPSMAP 78S	320.00	197.28	-122.72	Price included taxes.
Laptop Asus Ci5 1TB 8GBRAM W10	513	1,130	617	I had to buy it in El Salvador because I need it as soon as possible.
Total	3,814	4600.46		

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

Keep working in the area, no matter how difficult it could be, and searching for people how like these mammals, we can create a network of people that can help to indicate any specimen seen. Also work with the communities so they have the proper knowledge of the animals, so they could work in a sustainable tourism protect.

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, I did. I used it in a banner that I left in the restaurant who help me during the field work, also one in the cooperatives that help during the project. In any material I used, such as the collecting papers, the interview, etc.

And the foundation will appear in the acknowledgements of the project and further scientific paper.

11. Any other comments?

There is no word to describe how thankful I am for the opportunity but thanks you so much, I feel so blessed with your support in my project.