

Project Update: January 2020

The second stage of the project includes an expedition to Antarctic waters exploring the acoustical soundscape and focused on the acoustical behaviour of humpbacks whales. This project was approved since 2018 to participate as part of the expedition in the modality of international cooperation, which means the project would be host by a base or ship of another country.

Since June 2019 the logistics of the consecution of the place for the project following this steps: the place in the Spanish base (Juan Carlos I) was approved, however, they expressed the impossibility of transporting researchers to the King George Island to the base, so the logistics of transportation should be coordinated with another country. To solve that inconvenience, we explored other options: the Czech Republic base, which asked for a \$10000 payment to cover the accommodation, food, and transportation. This option was discarded due to the impossibility to cover that amount.

Having the acceptance of the Spanish base, we proceed to ask for transportation to the Spanish base, the request was raised to Brazil, Uruguay, and Peru. However, all three indicated that they would not sail in that area. The last response, from Peru, were received late January 2020.

After all the effort made from June, the Colombian Commission of the Ocean decided to cancel the participation of the project in the current austral summer. Nevertheless, they confirm the approval since now, for the next Colombian expedition (2020-2021) on board of the Colombian ship.

The inconveniences previous mentioned reducing the possibilities to compare with the feeding scenarios, but not limited the reach of the project in the analysis of the acoustic behaviour of the G stock humpbacks whales.