

## Project Update: February 2022

In this fieldtrip I recovered several camera traps that I have left due to the pandemic. I am sending you a few pictures from those recovered. In this fieldtrip I covered a large area of the study region where I searched for evidence of the presence of the giant armadillos (see attached photo) and identified different sites to focus future capture attempts in order to achieve my proposal objectives. I also trained park rangers and local inhabitants to identify giant armadillo signs and in the use of camera traps (specially park rangers) to record giant armadillos. I had several meetings with the colleagues from Brazil, specialists on the species, to adjust capture methodology. I am going to visit one of their sites in April 2022, and one of their vets is going to participate in our first capture attempt in Argentina, scheduled for May 2022. We designed and manufactured a contention case and a live trap for giant armadillos, that are essential to achieve the objectives of my proposal. I wrote an article that is currently in review process in the Journal for Nature Conservation. In this article I analysed habitat selection data obtained from the beginning of my project, including those acquired thanks to my first Rufford Small Grant, back in 2017, and the present grant.

My main limitation has been the impossibility to purchase GPS devices and other telemetry equipment, which are an important part of my budget, as purchases abroad have been severely limited by new regulations in Argentina. At the moment it is progressing, so I hope to have the equipment in place by March 2022, so that I can start with the scheduled captures.



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