

## The Rufford Small Grants Foundation

### Final Report

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

We ask all grant recipients to complete a Final Report Form that helps us to gauge the success of our grant giving. 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. 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](mailto:jane@rufford.org).

Thank you for your help.

**Josh Cole, Grants Director**

<b>Grant Recipient Details</b>	
<b>Your name</b>	Adriana Bravo
<b>Project title</b>	<b>Frugivorous Bats and <i>Collpas</i>: Activity Hotspots as Conservation Priorities for the Rainforests of Southeastern Peru, PERU</b>
<b>RSG reference</b>	53.09.07
<b>Reporting period</b>	Whole study
<b>Amount of grant</b>	5000 sterling pounds
<b>Your email address</b>	abravo1@tigers.lsu.edu
<b>Date of this report</b>	March 31, 2009

**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
Seasonal patterns of <i>collpa</i> visitation by bats			Fully achieved	
Bat activity rates at collpas, forests, and gaps sites			Fully achieved	
Water mineral content			Fully achieved	
Cafeteria experiments			Partially achieved	We only tested the preference of bats for <i>collpa</i> water. We did not have time to finish all the experiments. Results will be analyzed soon.

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

Not relevant difficulties were encountered during the development of the study.

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

Bats are activity hotspots for frugivorous bats in the Peruvian Amazon  
*Collpas* may play an important role as sources of minerals, which may be limited in the diet of bats, especially during the reproductive period.

*Collpas* are important conservation targets because they seem to provide important sources to frugivorous bats, which are very important for the regeneration and maintenance of tropical forests.

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

We participated actively in the Environmental Education Program lead by Dr. Nigel Pitman, the former director of the Los Amigos Biological Station. In addition, I hired two local people to work with us and to participate in the project. I do not have any doubt that local people as well as us benefit from this interaction. Especially because we valued their knowledge and thus we established a circle relationship instead of a linear one.

**5. Are there any plans to continue this work?**

Hopefully. Right now I am finishing my PhD. and after that I want to work in the conservation of the Amazonian forests for sure.

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

Some popular articles about my research have been published in the *Bats* magazine, and the Newsletter of Bat Conservation International, as well as Mongabay organization. In addition, I have published one paper on the Journal of Tropical Biology, *BIOTROPICA*, I have submitted one manuscript and I am writing scientific publications of my research. My whole dissertation will be available through the LSU library.

## 7. Timescale: Over what period was the RSG used? How does this compare to the anticipated or actual length of the project?

I used the RSG for my study developed from February 2008 to September 2008.

## 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
1 (2) round trip airfare to Puerto Maldonado	125	351.8	-226.8	I paid an extra flight and charges for overweight in July 2008 to collect water for a dry season of 2008
1 (2) student round trip to Puerto Maldonado	125	289	-164	I paid an extra flight in July 2008
Peruvian assistant station fees and food	1000	900	100	Few less days at the station, includes boat transport to the station
1 local research assistant	1000	900	100	Few less days at the station, includes boat transport to the station
Salary for a local assistant	750	800	-50	Rates were a little bit higher to work at nights
Water analysis	880	610	270	
Gasoline	150	206.6	-106.6	Gas prices went up unexpectedly and had to make a couple of extra trips during the friajes
Infrared light	150			
Video camera	150			
Sleeping bag	30	55.2	-25.2	
tent	74			
Lamp for boat	49	43.6	-5.4	
12 V battery	25	37.0	-12	
3000 numbered aluminium bands	194			
1 digital camera, memory, and batteries	298	348.2	-50.2	
Sodium sensor		53.7		
Therm a rest		54.59		
Pelican case		38.7		
Headlamps and torch		55.12		

GPS		159		
Back pack		100.7		
<b>TOTAL</b>	5000	<b>5003.21</b>		

The exchange was 1 dollar = 0.53 pounds.

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

I will suggest the experimental approach to disentangle the causes for *collpa* visitation by frugivorous bats.

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

Yes, I have used the logo of the RSGF on my presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Association of Tropical Biology and Conservation in Surinam in July 2008 and a lecture about *collpas* and bats in the Peruvian Amazon given at the Universidad Agraria La Molina in Peru.

I will use the logo on my exit seminar at the Department of Biological Sciences at Louisiana State University.

**11. Any other comments?**

Thank you very much for your support. It has been a great experience to be a Rufford grantee.