

Project Update: December 2009

This year we had carried out five visits of one week to Sierra del Rosario Biosphere Reserve from May 2009. To date, in the three monitoring sites (El Taburete, La Serafina and Estación Ecológica SR) using mist nets set at ground level, we had captured and marked 336 individuals of 13 species belonging to five families. In these sites we had registered the echolocation calls using Anabat II detectors and recorded onto a compact flash card with a zero-crossings analysis interface module; so far we had recorded 144 hours of nocturnal activity of insectivorous bats. All this information will be compared with previous data to explore the effect of the hurricanes on the bat assemblages inhabiting this reserve. To complement the species inventory and distribution of the bats of the Reserve, we had carried out captures with mist nets, harp trap and under the bridges in several localities of this protected area; we will make a map using GIS with all sampled sites at the end of the project. During this period we had took photos to be used in educational talks as well as to make a poster of the bats of the Sierra del Rosario Biosphere Reserve; many of these images will also be used in the book of the mammals of Cuba (*Mamíferos de Cuba*) that should be printed next year.

