



## FINAL REPORT RUFFORD SMALL GRANT

Project title ref. 38.02.07:

### **Disease risks for native deer species, associated to exotic ungulates (red deer (*Cervus elaphus*) and wild boar (*Sus scrofa*) in Nahuel Huapi National Park, Northern Patagonia, Argentina**

**Researcher:**

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**Rufford Small Grant Budget:**

ITEMS	COST £ \$	
	Approved £\$	Spent £\$
Disposable material	\$ 1000*	\$ 715
Laboratory analysis	\$ 900*	\$ 600
Travel and lodging for principal investigator and collaborators	\$ 1000	\$ 1000
General office expenses and communications	\$ 300	\$ 295.2
Developing educational material and training of locals	\$ 250*	\$250
Adittional field equipment	\$ 950*	Nitrogen tank \$949.81 GPS \$292.79 Radios \$291.66 Subtotal= \$1534.26
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£\$ 4400</b>	<b>£\$ 4394.46</b>

\* The price of additional field equipment was more expensive than expected. We decided to buy a larger and more expensive nitrogen tank to allow longer preservation times during fieldtrips, a larger tank can storage extra number of samples for a longer time (30 to 40 days at the field). The Garmin GPSMAP 60Cx was also purchased for providing better features than the other outstanding highly-popular GPS, the product we acquired adds a removable microSD™ card and has a high-sensitivity GPS receiver. Therefore the amount difference of £ \$584.26 was withdrawn between items Disposable material (£\$285) and Laboratory analysis (£\$300). All obtained equipment had importation tax fee in Argentina that also increased the price of the product.

\* A small amount of the grant was used (£\$350, RSG approved request in April 2008) to make minor improvements to a small hut to use as a basic laboratory. This small room in the National Park's building “Ayecán” had been abandoned for a long time (see photos below) and needed improvements for minimum working conditions. The Nahuel Huapi National Park funds (£\$500) all materials used for the room improvement and funds from my grant budget (£\$350) were used only to pay the labour job. Therefore this small amount was withdrawn from among the items Disposable material, Laboratory analysis, and Training. The majority of the lab analyses belonging to the project were run at no cost so far and this amount did not affect my overall budget or my ability to provide quality and timely results. This small investment greatly enhanced my capacity to process samples in a safe and timely matter, and provided a sheltered and appropriate working area for future follow ups of this study. I am gratefully indebted to the Rufford Foundation for this financial support.

Photos of Nahuel Huapi National Park’s room that was improved in order to use as a basic laboratory for the Exotic Ungulates Diseases Project.



A. Entrance before (left) and after (right) painting and door and windows improvements.



B. Inside the room. Before (left) and after (right) painting and door change.



C. Entrance of the National Park building called “Ayecán”. Left: The small room is showed on the photo behind the cars, meanwhile the first door seeing on the left side of the photo is another room used as entomology laboratory (recently improved with funds of the Darwin Initiative).