

Project Update February 2025

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Project Title: Mapping Galapagos Invaders with Drones and Machine Learning: An Estimation of Spread Rates of Invasive Plants and Identification of Management Keys for Endemic

Update: As the duration of my project is approximately one year, I am sending an update on the current work and remaining project activities. As described in my last report, the satellite image pre-processing phase has taken longer than expected, which has delayed the project schedule. For this reason, a final project report will be sent once I have completed all project activities. My last remaining project activity is to submit the project results to a scientific journal. This is expected in spring/summer 2025. The actual publication date will depend on the journal, but is expected in summer/autumn 2025. Since my last report, I have been working on processing the satellite images and have started the machine learning phase. During this phase, I will manually identify plant cover classes on the drone images and later use this information to classify and evaluate the results of the classification model. At the same time, I have started working on the scientific paper.