

The Rufford Foundation Final Report

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

We ask all grant recipients to complete a Final Report Form that helps us to gauge the success of our grant giving. The Final Report must be sent in **word format** and not PDF format or any other format. 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. Please note that the information may be edited for clarity. 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.

Thank you for your help.

Josh Cole, Grants Director

Grant Recipient Details	
Your name	Angela M. Maldonado Rodriguez
Project title	Enhancing environmental law enforcement and conservation awareness at the Colombian-Peruvian border using the night monkeys as flagship species
RSG reference	1096-C
Reporting period	1 st March-2015 to 29 th February-2016
Amount of grant	£15,000
Your email address	lllugens@gmail.com
Date of this report	8th-March-2016

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
<p>1. To balance the importance of law enforcement to protect biodiversity, while continuing improving living standards, providing clean drinking water and advances in waste management, enabling local people to implement sustainable livelihoods.</p>			X	<p>We installed 40 household filters in the indigenous community of Chinería, Peru, and 17 household filters in the community of Villa Andrea, Colombia. We also supervised the construction of 20 household filters in the community of Nuevo Paraíso, Colombia, and three communitarian systems in Palmeras, San José and San Antonio de Los Lagos, Colombia. During each one of these projects, inhabitants of the community were trained in the use and maintenance of their household filter and a water master was trained to operate and maintain communitarian systems. We undertook 12 fieldtrips (one per month) to revise existing systems and solve any issue that may arise. Currently, we have a total of 14 communities with filters (148 household and 10 community filters), benefiting approximately 3,300 people.</p>
<p>2. To continue our community-based data collection to monitor wildlife populations and their harvest, helping the Amacayacu National Park (ANP) in the implementation of their Management Plan.</p>			X	<p>Our database spans from March 2005 to date and is currently the most complete census database of large vertebrates in the Amazonian border between Colombia and Peru. Our census database of primates in the area was published on the 23rd July 2015 on the website of the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF; link to the database) and is freely available to the scientific community. Participatory monitoring at ANP: Two groups (one per community) consisting of hunters (youth, adults and seniors) were organised to conduct census fieldwork together with Entropika's team. The groups are each composed of approx. 15 people that were trained in the use of GPS and wildlife monitoring techniques. Data has been given to the ANP for their Management Plan.</p>
<p>3. To increase our knowledge in the genus <i>Aotus</i>, collecting ecological and genetic</p>			X	<p>Although this part of the project was not funded by the RSGF, as it was included in the additional budget of £10,000, we carried out the ecological study with funds from other sources.</p>

<p>information for the design of a management plan for <i>Aotus nancymaae</i>.</p>			<p>We followed a group of night monkeys (<i>Aotus vociferans</i>) in the Tanimboca private reserve (Colombia) for 92 actual days, corresponding to 172.37 hours, for a total of 566 activity registries. We determined that the group is active on average 11 hours per day, leaving the nest around 6 PM until 5 AM, and that its home range is of approximately 8.11 ha. The frequency of activities shows that the group spends 50% of the time foraging, followed by 30% in travelling, 15% in resting and the remaining 5% in vocalizing, grooming and encounters with other groups. Around 60% of their diet consists in fruits and seeds, 30% of insects and 10% was not determined. We are currently polishing our protocol in order to get more details on the behaviour of the group.</p>
<p>4. To maintain our law enforcement activities at the Colombian-Peruvian border.</p>		X	<p>Complete reports and oral presentations given to SERFOR (Ministry of Agriculture and CITES), Peru and NGOs, Environmental Police from Iquitos, Peru. Information submitted continuously to Corpoamazonia regarding wildlife trade. Please see appendix 1.</p>
<p>5. To implement an awareness campaign disseminating project's results at regional, national and international level.</p>		X	<p>9th February 2016, Forum "<u><i>Towards the definition of a public policy in Colombia to regulate the use and care of animals used for academic purposes</i></u>", <u>Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Bogota</u>: Entropika is part of the working group for legislation review.</p> <p>18th January 2016, <u>Meeting Rufford Foundation, Lima</u>: Oral presentation (given by Sam Shane from NPC): "<i>La necesidad de cooperación internacional para mitigar el tráfico de fauna en la tri-frontera amazónica Brasil – Colombia – Perú</i>".</p> <p>7th December 2015, <u>V International Encounter of Teaching and Research in Science, Universidade do Estado do Amazonas, Tabatinga, Brazil</u>: Oral presentation: "<i>A necessidade de cooperação internacional para mitigar o tráfico de primatas na tríplice fronteira amazônica Brasil – Colômbia – Peru</i>".</p> <p>19th and 20th November 2015 <u>Workshop of the National Programme for the Conservation of Primates in Colombia, Bogota</u>: Participation in the design of the strategy.</p> <p>12th November 2015, <u>XVI Brazilian Congress of Primatology, Federal University of Amazonas,</u></p>

			<p><u>Manaus, Brazil</u>: Oral presentation: <i>“The necessity of international cooperation to mitigate the trafficking of primates in the Amazonian tri-border frontier between Brazil, Colombia and Peru”</i>.</p> <p>31st August 2015, <u>New policy on trade in primates captured in the wild from the IPS (International Primatological Society)</u>: Please see further information in point 3.</p> <p>5th June 2015, <u>First Congress of the Colombian Association for Animal Protection and Conservation, Armenia, Colombia</u>: Oral presentation: <i>“Retos para controlar el tráfico de fauna bajo un poder judicial debilitado: El caso de los monos nocturnos en el Amazonas”</i>.</p> <p>3rd and 20th February 2015, <u>Meeting with Environmental Authorities from Loreto department and SERFOR/CITES, Iquitos and Lima, Peru, respectively</u>: See Appendix 1.</p>
<p>6. To improve capacity building at local level, through the training in administrative processes related to community and wildlife tourism.</p>	X		<p>Local capacity was improved in waste management and handcrafts elaboration from recycled material, rather than tourism, as this work was done by the ANP and the SENA (National Service for Education), please see point 2. We carried out 90 workshops in the schools of Pacho Vela and Selvalegre and with a group of women from La Esperanza, a vulnerable neighbourhood in Leticia. Of these workshops, 48 consisted in the re-use of waste materials (i.e. for making bags, toys, vertical gardens, flower pots, booklets from recycled paper, etc.) and of lectures in environmental education (i.e. recycling, climate change, natural resources, primates, bats and dolphins). The remaining 42 workshops were undertaken in participatory video activities based around the theme of waste management and contamination. The videos show the view of the children on the issue of waste management in Leticia. These will soon be available on Youtube.</p> <p>These activities complement objectives 1 and 5.</p>

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

- **Objective 3** - To increase our knowledge in the genus *Aotus*: We haven't been able to conduct the genetic study yet; fortunately, we have obtained the necessary research and trapping permits

from Peruvian Authorities in 2016, so we expect to conduct the genetic study in October 2016 – 2017.

- **Objective 4** - To maintain our law enforcement activities at the Colombian-Peruvian border: Please see Appendix 1 for more detailed information.

- **Objective 6** - To improve capacity building at local level, through the training in administrative processes related to community and wildlife tourism: As explained in point 1, the ANP, with the SENA, trained people from Mocagua and San Martin in hospitality, cooking, and accounting. The ANP did a remarkable work during 2014 – 2015 to record all the touristic services provided by these communities as they are currently waiting from funding from the Colombian government (DANE) to implement the project in eco-tourism with six indigenous communities. Thus, Entropika focused efforts in improving capacity building in Leticia as explained above. Unfortunately, we could not invest time in Chinería as, owing to the level of the river, the community was flooded longer than expected, increasing cases of dengue and chikunguña. We hence limited our visits to guarantee the health of our team.

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

- Improving species conservation:
The publications and data gathered by Entropika were summarised in a report that was submitted to the IUCN/Primate Specialist Group for the assessment of neotropical primates in 2015. This information was used to include Colombia as part of the distribution of *Aotus nancymae* and to upgrade the species from “Lower Risk” to “Vulnerable”¹.

- Improving local living standards:
We surpassed our expectations as we installed 17 more household filters than planned and also supervise and manage the existing installation in 14 communities. We regularly receive requests from other communities for the installation of the bio-sand filters. The initiative is very successful and we have tightened the collaboration with Ancla Foundation, an NGO from Sweden who has financed the materials for this part of our work.

- Dissemination and raising awareness:
 - Entropika won the “Animal Defender of 2015” award, a tribute created 11 years ago by Defenzoos, an NGO from Medellín with the support of the University of Antioquia, Colombia, which recognises the outstanding work of individuals and entities in the promotion of respectful coexistence with animals. Entropika received this award for the protection of night monkeys and their ecosystems.
 - Entropika lead the working group "On the use of primates and their trade", created during the last International Congress of Primatology in Hanoi, Vietnam. This group proposed a policy statement to IPS that seeks to regulate the use of primates in research, zoos and parks, amongst others. The proposal provides recommendations on the trade of primates, to prevent the use of wild animals, asserting the exclusive use of animals bred in captivity. The new policy was approved by the IPS in August 2015 with 205 votes in favour and 3 against.

¹ **NOTE:** Up to now, the IUCN website does not have any information from the 2015 assessment; however, the information can be confirmed by Dr. Russell Mittermeier: rmittermeier@conservation.org. This information should be updated soon.

- We consolidated strategic alliances with several institutions in Leticia such as the Library of the Banco de la Republica, schools in Leticia, Police, Municipality of Leticia, etc., and NGOs that facilitated the implementation and funding of projects.

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

With regards to improving access to clean drinking water, today, approximately 3,300 people from 14 indigenous communities benefit from this part of our work. Providing clean drinking water to the communities means that they can offer eco-touristic services. On top of drinking water, the water project also seeks to improve sanitation (i.e. toilets) by teaching people of the communities the basics of plumbing (construction, use and maintenance of these filters); this in turn has the effect of diminishing the extraction of natural resources, reducing pressure on local biodiversity, as local people find other ways of financial sustainability. Moreover, since we go each month to communities located along the Colombian part of the Amazon River, both in Colombia and Peru, we are able to directly monitor the state of the illegal trafficking of fauna and flora in the communities on a constant basis; this is something not even the environmental Police do. People from the communities trust us, as the water project is directly benefiting them, which hence makes it possible to converse more openly with them.

In addition, with the participation of Fundación Amazonas Sin Límites (first recycling facility of Leticia) and the directors and staff members of Pacho Vela and Selvalegre, we have managed to implement a recycling program in both schools. Today, Pacho Vela and Selvalegre are the first schools of Leticia to recycle. Since its implementation in October 2015, the program has recycled approximately 300 kg of waste material (plastic, cardboard and paper). This year, we hope to get the Mayor to certify both schools as “green schools”.

Capacity building with the group of women from La Esperanza is increasing their skills in the elaboration of handcrafts made of recycled material. We are looking for ways to commercialise these products to provide and income for this group of women.

Furthermore, as we always state in our reports, most of the funding granted by the Rufford Foundation is allocated for local salaries, thus improving the economy of the local co-investigators.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, we will continue with the follow up and extension of all the activities of the Aotus Project.

The next step of this project is to consolidate a *“Binational strategy for the implementation of a management plan for Aotus at the Amazonian Colombian-Peruvian border”*. This will be achieved together with the collaboration of Peruvian NGOs and institutions (IVITA, Iquitos, SERFOR, Neotropical Primate Conservation, Peruvian Primatological Association), as well as other Colombian institutions (Universidad de Antioquia, Colombian Association of Wildlife Veterinarians, ANP and Environmental Police).

We are currently also in conversations with the Universidade do Estado do Amazonas (UEA), from Tabatinga, Brazil. Professor Luciane Lopes de Souza is our collaborator with whom we are preparing a research symposium at the UEA in April 2016. The aim of the symposium will be to evaluate the

risks to wildlife conservation at the Brazil – Colombia – Peru border area in order to find solutions and establish collaborations. We will wait for the results of this symposium in order to explore the possibilities of including Brazilian institutions and authorities in this project.

Moreover, we aim at maintaining our current conservation activities: i) wildlife monitoring using the night monkeys as flagship species; ii) ecology of *Aotus*; iii) monitoring wildlife trade at the border area; iv) installation and monitoring of water filters in indigenous communities; v) building local capacities to improve living standards and livelihoods.

In addition, we expect to implement a genetic study to clarify (or at least improve our knowledge on) the taxonomy of *Aotus* at the border area. This will facilitate a better understanding of the species distributed in the border area, critical to designing a conservation strategy.

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

We do this continuously as you can see in the results of Objective 5. In addition, we publish our results in popular and peer-reviewed journals, newspapers and radio stations.

Scientific publications:

- Maldonado AM., Lafon T. (2015). Fundación Entropika's dataset of visual detections of primates at the Colombian-Peruvian Amazonian border (2005–2015). Global Biodiversity Information Facility, [Dataset], doi:10.15468/27uumu.
- Maldonado AM. (in rev.). Retos para la conservación de primates en la frontera colombo-peruana: El caso de los monos nocturnos (*Aotus* spp.). In: *La Primatología en Latinoamérica*, Urbani *et al.* (eds.), [Book chapter].
- Maldonado, AM., Waters, S. (in rev). Trade of primates in the Neotropics. In: *The International Encyclopaedia of Primatology*, Fuentes A. *et al.* (eds.), [Book chapter].
- Maldonado AM., Lafon T. (in rev.). Biomedical research vs. biodiversity conservation in the Colombian-Peruvian Amazon: Searching for law enforcement under lack of accountability. In: *The theft of nature and poisoning of the land: Environmental crime and green criminology in Latin America*, South N. *et al.* (eds.), [Book chapter].

Popular articles:

- Ankarbladet, 11th December 2015, Thomas Lafon - Belgaren med hjärtat i Amazonas.
- Notimani, November 2015, Garantizando el mínimo vital de agua potable para las comunidades indígenas del Amazonas by Thomas Lafon.
- Notimani, November 2015, Comprometidos con el bienestar de los perros y gatos de Leticia by Tamara Bonilla.
- Radio Macondo, 26th June 2015, Patarroyo intimida para evadir la ley colombiana.
- MiPutumayo, 24th June 2015, Corpoamazonia no se opone al desarrollo de procesos de investigación científica y en diversidad biológica en la región.
- El Espectador, 7th February 2015, El expediente Patarroyo by Pablo Correa.
- Semana, 4th February 2015, La mujer que insiste en batallar contra Patarroyo.

Media:

- [Entropika, 21st October 2015, Video of the work of Entropika.](#)
- [W Radio, 4th February 2015, En caso Patarroyo tenemos pruebas que sí hubo tráfico de animales.](#)

7. Timescale: Over what period was The Rufford Foundation grant used? How does this compare to the anticipated or actual length of the project?

The Rufford Foundation grant was used for the period March 2015 - February 2016. As mentioned above this is a long-term project and we allocate the funding from each donor for the period of time we planned and included in our initial application.

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. Access to clean water	2,557	2,557	0	
2 & 3. Systematic research and monitoring of illegal trade	11,641	11,641	0	We allocated funding from local salaries in Peru to local salaries in Colombia (£450) because we had to decrease our fieldwork in Peru since the trail systems were flooded longer than expected.
4. Environmental awareness campaign	802	802	0	As explained in point 1, we did not train local guides in tourism, but instead used £222 in the workshops at schools.
Total	15,000	15,000	0	

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

We have been working for several years to engage Colombian and Peruvian environmental authorities in controlling the wildlife trade at the Colombian-Peruvian border. As you can see, over the past 5 years, law enforcement was only achieved in Colombian using legal tools and suing authorities. On the other hand, Peruvian authorities have been receptive to our denunciations but they have taken little action to curb the trade.

Our experience is that civil society can make a substantial impact in law enforcement when joining forces with several groups. For this reason we have been contacting institutions in Colombia and Peru to be part of the *“Binational strategy for the implementation of a management plan for Aotus at the Amazonian Colombian-Peruvian border”*. An outstanding result is having a research and trapping permit to work in Peru, as we convinced the SERFOR and CITES Peru of the importance of doing a genetic study of *Aotus* for further management plans. So, as stated in point 5, the next step is continuing with our work to curb wildlife trade, while improving living standards.

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

Yes, every time we give an oral presentation we include the RSGF logo. We also include RSGF as the first donor in the acknowledgements of our publications.

11. Any other comments?

As stated in previous reports, thanks to the long-term support of the RSGF we can see the evolution of our *in-situ* conservation work. After 10 years of being part of the grantees of the RSGF, looking back at the results brings gratification since long-term species conservation, law enforcement and improvement of local living standards have been achieved, and that, despite of the ever-persisting corruption. Thank you very much for being part of our long-term work and witnesses of the difficulties and challenges we have faced in the last years, but also of our success in maintaining a long-term project with continuous monitoring.