

## The Rufford Foundation Final Report

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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](mailto:jane@rufford.org).

Thank you for your help.

**Josh Cole, Grants Director**

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Grant Recipient Details	
Your name	Mark Bowler
Project title	Community Conservation of Red Uakari Monkeys ( <i>Cacajao calvus ucayalii</i> ) on the Yavari River, Peru.
RSG reference	14801-B
Reporting period	
Amount of grant	£11995
Your email address	mark@markbowler.com
Date of this report	30-6-2015

**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
Reduced hunting of red Uakari monkeys.			Yes	The members of the only community on the Rio Yavari-Mirin signed an agreement to not hunt uakaris, largely in recognition of international interest in the species and the potential for it to attract tourism and research (and therefore employment, and sustainable development projects, such as have benefited communities in the past).
Fewer families dependent on logging.			Yes	In collaboration with FONDAM/Fund Amazonia's sustainable fisheries project, 24 families now have the opportunity to extract valuable fish exclusively, legally and sustainably from the concession and around. Many have decided not to participate in logging any more. Furthermore, we employed six field assistants during our 2 months of monitoring and research on red uakaris.
Greater awareness of the national and international knowledge of the community conservation efforts on the Yavari.			Yes	Most of the community and all the school children have now seen a translated version of the documentary featuring their community seen on the BBC and Animal Planet. Our workshops and classes further explained the global reach of uakaris in various media
Further protect the special mammal populations of the Lago Preto			Yes	We have motivated protection of the local area from external hunters by deriving employment from research and development

Concession from subsistence hunting, thus providing opportunities for ecotourism and biological research in the future.				projects. The vigilance of the fisheries project provides the logistics to protect the concession's wildlife with little extra effort. Most previous primate hunting in the concession was subsistence hunting by fishermen

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

The continued presence of loggers in Nueva Esperanza leads to an atmosphere of tension and mistrust. Workshops, interviews and activities in Nueva Esperanza are therefore harder to implement than in other parts of Loreto. Persistent malaria made long stays difficult, and our Community Liaison Officer contracted malaria on the third entry and could not participate in the forth. We completed the activities, but supplemented these with one-on-one conversations and by emphasising the concrete benefits of increased employment opportunities arising from red uakari research and conservation. We used these periods of employment to develop stronger relationships with these community members, and explain more fully our work.

Unprecedented high water levels impeded work on the last trip to the Yavari (June 2015). Even though we had delayed the trip, the flooding meant that the fishery work did not start until the end of the month and we could not coordinate the uakari monitoring work with the community protection of lakes.

Delays in the construction of the boat and the installation of its electric motor and solar system meant that this was only just ready at the end of the reporting period. Although we have not been able to use this for vigilance this season, we are fully committed to testing and implementing this solution to reduce current dependence on gasoline. This will not reduce community protection this season, since the USAID-funded fisheries project has supplied gasoline for a full year following the recent conclusion of their work. The solar boat will be important in the following season when no funding will be available for vigilance, aside from that generated by extraction of fish.

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

1. There is now no, or only minimal, hunting of red uakarís *anywhere* by community members of Esperanza.
2. Through arranging employment in research projects by Peruvian and international graduate students (funded by other sources), and by encouraging links with tourism that

we hope will initially result in one tourist group per year hiring local assistants at premium rates, we have highlighted a modest economic value in red Uakari monkey that has inspired a subsection of the community of Esperanza to actively protect the concession from outside hunters.

3. The Red Uakari Monkey Project has grown. We have made new solid contacts with researchers and students from the institutions listed below (and have indeed done collaborative research with them funded by the Los Angeles Zoo and San Diego Zoo Global). We have dispersed 'ownership' of the Red Uakari Monkey Project' across these groups and more, and hope this will result in more research projects on the uakaris and the other wildlife at our remarkable research site.

- Universidad de los Andes, Colombia.
- Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Colombia.
- Universidad Nacional del Amazonia Peruana, Peru.
- Instituto Yavari, Brazil.
- Instituto de Desenvolvimento Sustentável Mamirauá, Brazil.
- Reserva Natural Palmari, Brazil.
- George Mason University, USA.
- Imperial College London, UK.

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

This project is built around the community activities and focuses on changing unsustainable extractive practices to more sustainable ones, and providing alternative incomes to logging and the impending threat of palm oil plantations. A more direct benefit comes from the employment in research activities and tourism that we have facilitated.

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

Yes. We are now looking ahead to a number of research and conservation activities. We will encourage tourism and research that employs community members. We will survey a large area of the Yavari and Yavari-Mirim for Uakaris and other wildlife to determine the effect of logging, now that the extraction of timber is slowing as high-cost species become rare. We are also planning to utilise a scheme whereby we can fund trainee teachers to do their compulsory work placement in Esperanza whilst incorporating a significant programme of environmental and conservation education designed by ourselves.

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

We will amplify our international media presence, utilising the results of the related project and our new partners and project members to promote the project for tourism and to influence public opinion.

- Short film in English – YouTube.
- Short film in Spanish – shown in communities in Loreto, conferences in Peru and Colombia and YouTube.
- Results from the project will be reported on our Red Uakari Monkey Project website and Facebook pages spread over the course of several months.
- We will produce posters on our conservation work to be presented at National conferences by our student members
- Research we have completed during the project will be published in international journals.

Perhaps most significantly, at the end of our project, President of Conservation International Prof Russell Mittermeier, who has a far reach in the media and in Primatological and conservation circles, visited us in the field. Prof Mittermeier was accompanied by a journalist who we hope will produce high profile articles relating to our work.

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

April 2014 to June 2015. We planned four visits to the Yavari and Yavari-Mirin that related to logging and fisheries activities in the region, from April 2014 to April 2015, but record flood levels delayed the third and fourth trips and we ran until the end of June. We were fortunate to receive some research funding for work on red uakari ecology and behaviour from the Los Angeles Zoo and from the San Diego Zoo Global Institute for Conservation Research. This has enabled us to keep an international research team (Peru, Brazil, Colombia, UK) in the field, and employing community members from Esperanza. They will remain until August 2015. After which we will be looking for means to continue further and increase the self-sufficiency of the community conservation efforts.

**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.**

**We assume a mean exchange rate of 1.555 USD**

Item	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
Salary 'Community Liaison (Peruvian biologist) - Four 6-week periods (\$850USD per month pro rata)	3148	3344	+196	Minimal difference due mainly to strengthening of the dollar

<b>Solar charged electric boat motor</b> - includes solar panel and battery	2650	3591	+941	We spent a little more to allow us to get extra battery, converter and extra solar panels. Improving the range of the boat.
<b>Transport to Yavari-Miri</b> - 4 return journeys for four people. (NB the site is one-week from Iquitos by boat)	2839	3549	+710	The costs came in higher than expected due to a need for a slightly larger boat
<b>Food</b>	1591	1006	-585	We were able to reduce costs by buying local produce on the Yavari. Especially helpful was the provision of fish at zero cost by our collaborators from local communities.
<b>Camp supplies</b>	250	188	-62	
<b>In transit costs</b>	180	317	+137	Some extra days in town in Leticia were necessary
<b>Fuel for generator</b> - local travel (available in the village)	185	0	-185	We were able to take advantage of local peoples and other projects' movements to get around on the Yavari Miri. We minimised generator costs by using batteries and solar power
<b>Educational materials</b>	200	0	-200	These were supplied by FONDAM (USAID) and San Diego Zoo Global. Enabling us to divert money to improving the sustainability of the community vigilance without compromising education
<b>Outdoor signs</b> - 5 large signs, 6 small signs	360	0	-360	WCS produced a series of signs for the concession. To avoid duplication work, we diverted funds to cover in-transit costs. However, we hope to upgrade these signs in the future.
<b>T-shirts and hats</b> - printed, 200	592	0	-592	FONDAM USAID financed hats, and waistcoats for the Fishing Association and a batch of t-shirts for the rest of the community. Although we did not pay for them, we took on job of

				arranging participatory design of the logo, incorporating the red Uakari monkey. All done on a voluntary basis – thus no cost. We elected to divert this money to improving the sustainability of the vigilance – investing in the solar system
<b>Total</b>	<b>11995</b>	<b>11996</b>	<b>+1</b>	

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

Now that the fisheries project has finished (hopefully leaving the association self-sustaining), we are the only group working to motivate continued protection of lakes and primates. We need to assist in this process, using the solar system supplied by Rufford, until the community see the rewards of protection and the process is fully sustainable.

We need to develop further the relationships we have forged with the tourist lodge 'Palmarí' and Instituto Javari, from the Brazilian side of the river. This river is an international border and an international solution is important. These groups also have good contacts with Brazilian and Colombian Universities and host research projects at their site downriver. They are very keen to collaborate and bring both researchers and tourists to The Lago Preto Concession and the 'Lake Uakari Research Camp' that we have established. Making Lago Preto and its accessible primates and other wildlife an attractive open and affordable research destination will bring employment for local people and a much-needed outside presence and influence to this remote area. Note, however, that we are not proposing a 'biological station' model with the associated ongoing costs – researchers will supply their own logistics, coordinating with us and other groups where possible. We propose no research fees, and only local employment as a key benefit to conservation. Tourist groups will be less frequent and shorter term, but should pay higher wages. Occasional tourism, even if one group per year, should be enough to make the uakaris and other primates worth protecting, since the costs associated with protection are low.

The Yavari valley has never been completely surveyed for red uakaris, we know they are present in some areas and absent in others. The *Distance* census method has proved very problematic for monitoring this and other species. A comprehensive survey of uakaris, is long overdue, and we propose using an *Occupancy Modelling* approach, combined with participatory mapping in the communities of Esperanza on the Yavari-Miri and Frey Pedro on the Yavari, where the presence of uakaris is as yet unconfirmed. This will also allow assessment of the impact of logging in the area.

**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?**

Our pioneering use of the electric solar-charged boat should generate considerable interest from other conservation groups and general boat users/enthusiasts. This boat (Huapo Rojo II) will have prominent logos of the Red Uakari Monkey Project and The Rufford Foundation. Videos and photos of the boat in action will be available on-line in reports of our experiences with the system. We will be sure to include prominent shots of the Rufford Logo.

The Rufford Logo and links are on our project website [www.uakari.org](http://www.uakari.org)

**11. Any other comments?**

The results of independent assessment of our work by questionnaires done by non RUMP researchers should be reported shortly.

RUMP are still on site at Lago Preto studying uakari behavioural ecology and employing local people (funded by LA Zoo and San Diego Zoo Global). This expedition finishes in August, when we will continue to seek funding to continue our work.

The design of logos for hats and t-shirts was combined with environmental education in the UK with primary school children.