Project Update: December 2015

From August to November 2015:

1. We conducted four field trips for sample collection:

   - To the north-eastern region of Cuba. Ten sites including streams, rivers and dams were visited, but only one river contained Limia.
   - To the south-eastern region of Cuba. Sixty-six sites were visited, we found Limia in 20 of them.
   - To the Archipelago Jardines de la Reina, in south-eastern Cuba. Here we did not find Limia.
   - To various keys at Cazones Gulf, south-western Cuba. Here we did not find Limia either.

2. These samples were processed in our lab and shipped to an international molecular lab for DNA sequencing.

3. We made one oral presentation at the XIX Congress of the Meso-American Society for Biology and Conservation.

The Cuban archipelago has been subjected to a severe drought this year. Thus, a considerable number of watercourses were dry, some of which constitute previous records for Limia. Moreover, there were rivers with apparent appropriate condition for harbouring this species, but we did not find it.

Photo 1. Limia vittata male from Macaca River, at Granma province. Photo by Tomás M. Rodríguez. Photo 2. Selecting Limia vittata specimens from a nylon seine at Yateras River, Guantánamo province. Photo by Tomás M. Rodríguez

Photo 5. Collection of *Limia vittata* by the project leader using a hand net at Miel River, Guantánamo province. Photo by Tomás M. Rodríguez. Photo 6. Searching for *Limia vittata* using a hand net at Archipelago Jardines de la Reina. Photo by Franklin García

Photo 7. Searching for *Limia vittata* at Canarreos Gulf, south-western Cuba. Photograph by Franklin García