

# Darwin Initiative: Half Year Report

(due 31 October 2007)

<b>Project Ref. No.</b>	15-029
<b>Project Title</b>	Certifying Peccary Pelts in Peru: Catalysing Community-based Wildlife Management
<b>Country(ies):</b>	Peru
<b>UK Organisation</b>	Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology (DICE), University of Kent
<b>Collaborator(s)</b>	WCS (Wildlife Conservation Society), INRENA (Instituto Nacional de Recursos Naturales ) and UNAP (Universidad Nacional de la Amazonia Peruana)
<b>Project Leader</b>	<b>Dr. Richard Bodmer</b>
<b>Report date</b>	31/10/2007
<b>Report No. (HYR 1/2/3/4)</b>	HYR 2
<b>Project website</b>	<a href="http://www.kent.ac.uk/anthropology/dice/research/peccary">http://www.kent.ac.uk/anthropology/dice/research/peccary</a>

## 1. Outline progress over the last 6 months (April – September) against the agreed baseline timetable for the project (if your project has started less than 6 months ago, please report on the period since start up).

### Project start up date: 1 July 2006

Three workshops were held with biologists and community representatives of participating communities to evaluate the progress of the pilot programme. The objectives of the workshops were a) to evaluate the progress of the peccary pelt certification programme, b) to verify if the participant communities are incorporating the certification guidelines in their wildlife management plan, c) to monitor the hunting registers, d) to update and re-adjust hunting and non-hunting areas, and d) to evaluate if the participant communities are ready to apply for certification. The workshops included a total of 9 rural communities, 97 community members and 9 Peruvian biologists working with community-based wildlife management.

The first workshop was conducted between 7-10 July 2007 and involved the communities of Nueva Esperanza and Carolina (Yavari-Miri river). Both communities have continued participating in the certification programme. Results of the evaluation indicated that both communities need more time before applying for certification, because of unmanaged hunting by timbermen.

The second workshop was held between 28 August-3 September 2007 with the communities of El Chino, San Pedro, Buena Vista, and Diamante-7 de Julio (Tamshiyacu-Tahuayo rivers). All four communities have been actively participating in the peccary pelt certification programme and plan to continue their wildlife management activities in order to gain certification. All four communities are incorporating the wildlife management guidelines of the certification programme and the results of the evaluation workshop showed that these communities are ready to apply for certification. An additional meeting was held with the communities on 30 September to coordinate the application for certification.

The third workshop was held between 10-15 September 2007 with the communities of Puerto Tangama, Puerto Barranquillo, Puerto América, Ihuacui Cocha and San Ramón (Pastaza river basin). All five communities are actively participating in the peccary pelt certification programme and plan to continue their wildlife management activities. They have made good progress towards certification, but still require more time before applying to the certifying body, because non-hunted areas still need to be consolidated.

A Peruvian MSc student, Pedro Perez, completed his MSc studies in September 2007, and his final results will be evaluated during the Board of Examiners meeting in late November 2007. He is expected to do well. Pedro studied the MSc programme in International Wildlife Trade at Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology (DICE), University of Kent. Pedro's dissertation is on "Refining the guidelines

of the peccary pelt certification programme”. His research assisted the certifying programme by refining the guidelines by elaborating ways to determine the size of non-hunted areas, incorporating variability in sustainability analysis and determining hunting limits for species vulnerable to overhunting.

A Peruvian student, Claudia Rios, who works on community-based wildlife management was selected in August 2007 for the MSc programme in International Wildlife Trade at Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology (DICE), University of Kent. Claudia began her training at DICE in September 2007. Claudia will conduct her MSc dissertation on community involvement in implementing the peccary pelt certification programme.

The second draft of the Peccary Pelt Certification Manual was completed and the book will published in Lima, Peru as planned. This manual will help disseminate the certification programme more widely throughout the Peruvian Amazon.

Members of the Certification Committee have been selected and the committee will meet in November to evaluate the communities of Tamshiyacu-Tahuayo who are applying for certification.

Research continued on the bushmeat markets and peccary pelt sales in Iquitos.

Regular visits to participating communities by project staff continued.

The co-PI of the Peccary Pelt Certification Project, T. Fang, gave a presentation of the of the pilot programme during the Fourteenth meeting of the Conference of Parties of CITES in the Hague (Netherlands), between 3-15 June 2007 and met with the Peruvian delegates of INRENA to coordinate activities.

Ten MSc and BSc students from UNAP and UPI participated in a wildlife monitoring field course organised by the project in the Pacaya-Samiria National Reserve between 26 July – 21 August 2007.

The PI, R. Bodmer, met with the Princess Royal Anne of England and the British Ambassador to Peru, Catherine Nettleton, and her staff to describe the Darwin project, at the Ambassador’s residence in Lima on 7 July 2007.

The project continued its collaboration with Dr. Pedro Mayor of the Autonomous University of Barcelona on researching the reproduction of peccaries in the Peruvian Amazon.

**2. Give details of any notable problems or unexpected developments that the project has encountered over the last 6 months. Explain what impact these could have on the project and whether the changes will affect the budget and timetable of project activities.**

The field-based course on DISTANCE and CPUE will be delayed until 6 March 2008, because of a strike action at UNAP. This should have no impact on the project or budget, and will not impact the timetable of other activities.

**Have any of these issues been discussed with the Darwin Secretariat and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?** No

**Discussed with the DI Secretariat:** No

**Changes to the project schedule/workplan:** Only as describe above

**3. Are there any other issues you wish to raise relating to the project or to Darwin’s management, monitoring, or financial procedures?** None

**If you were asked to provide a response to this year’s annual report review with your next half year report, please attach your response to this document. (Please see below)**

**Please note: Any planned modifications to your project schedule/workplan or budget should not be discussed in this report but raised with the Darwin Secretariat directly.**

Please send your **completed form email** to Eilidh Young, Darwin Initiative M&E Programme at [Darwin-Projects@ectf-ed.org.uk](mailto:Darwin-Projects@ectf-ed.org.uk) . The report should be between 1-2 pages maximum. **Please state your project reference number in the header of your email message eg Subject: 14-075 Darwin Half Year Report**

**The annual report included the following queries to be addressed in the Half Term Report.**

“The following queries should be addressed in the next half year report to ECTF:

- According to the report, an impressive 116 community members and more university students participated in the field-based training. How many people attended each training and how did the project staff ensure that sufficient support was provided?
- What proportion of the hunters (and the communities as a whole) in each community are supportive of, and involved in, developing, wildlife management plans?
- How does the project intend the certification body to be funded in the longer term?
- It can be a challenge to bring ethical purchasing into the luxury market. How does the project intend to ensure that the European market for peccary pelts differentiates between and clearly demands certified as opposed to non-certified pelts?
- The project has observed that communities working in the vicinity of timber operations will have a greater challenge to make economic benefits of certification work, due to the high demand for bush meat from migrant workers. Demand from outside communities is a common challenge facing sustainable management of bushmeat. Are there any other ‘outside’ threats that the project and local communities will have to address? It will be of great interest to other bush meat management projects, to follow how the problem is addressed, by WWF and WCS, through this project.”

1) According to the report, an impressive 116 community members and more university students participated in the field-based training. How many people attended each training and how did the project staff ensure that sufficient support was provided?

Three fieldcourses were held during the reporting period (see Table). The daily routine of fieldcourses included 4 hours in the morning and 4 hours in the afternoon. General presentations were given to the entire group and small participatory group activities were conducted for specific activities. Field course materials were provided to all participants. Individual support was provided to hunters outside of the fieldcourses. Staff visited hunters and their families and gave additional support for the wildlife management activities during regular visits to the communities.

	<b>Dates of Fieldcourses</b>	<b>Location of fieldcourse</b>	<b>Number of hunters participating in fieldcourses</b>	<b>Number of Biologists participating in fieldcourses</b>
<b>Fieldcourse 1</b>	5-15 October 2006	Pastaza	21	3
<b>Fieldcourse 2</b>	27 January – 4 February 2007	Tamshiyacu-Tahuayo Community Reserve	83	4
<b>Fieldcourse 3</b>	1-7 February 2007	Yavari Miri	12	4
<b>TOTAL</b>			116	

2) What proportion of the hunters (and the communities as a whole) in each community are supportive of, and involved in, developing, wildlife management plans?

An estimated 71% of hunters are involved with the wildlife management and pilot programme. In some communities, all hunters are involved.

Community	Total population	Number of hunters participating	Total (%) Including women and children	Estimated (%) of hunters
San Pedro	70	24	34	100
Diamante 7 de Julio	108	36	33	100
Buena Vista	137	21	15	62
El Chino	263	33	13	51
Nueva Esperanza & Carolina	175	19	11	54
Pastaza communities	98	14	14	58
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>851</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>71</b>

3) How does the project intend the certification body to be funded in the longer term?

The certification body consists of representatives from governmental, non-governmental and academic institutions, including national government, regional government, conservation NGO's, research institutions and universities. All of these institutions have a vested interest in the sustainable development of the Peruvian Amazon, both in terms of conservation and rural development. The peccary certification programme combines conservation through wildlife management and rural development through sustainable resource use. The financial costs of maintaining the certifying body is quite small, since it consists of a committee of professionals from the region. The project is confident that these funds will be provided by the institutions representing the committee.

The major costs are working with the local communities in the rural areas. Many institutions are working with rural communities on sustainable development throughout the Peruvian Amazon. The plan is to have these institutions fund the activities of the communities. The manual that is being produced with the Darwin funds will be key in getting these institutions interested in having the communities that they work with become involved with peccary pelt certification as a means of implementing sustainable development.

4) It can be a challenge to bring ethical purchasing into the luxury market. How does the project intend to ensure that the European market for peccary pelts differentiates between and clearly demands certified as opposed to non-certified pelts?

There are two mechanisms to insure certified pelts are distinguished by the green market in Europe. In the short to mid-term, all certified peccary products will be finished in Peru, and exported to a limited market. Leaflets will accompany the certified peccary products. The tanneries in Peru have been including explanatory leaflets with their finished products for many years, so these will only require editing. In the longer term, CITES hopes that all peccary products exported from Peru will be certified, and that the CITES certificate will actually be the certifying document. This will take time, since it will only be possible to implement this change when a large percentage of pelts being exported are certified.

5) The project has observed that communities working in the vicinity of timber operations will have a greater challenge to make economic benefits of certification work, due to the high demand for bush meat from migrant workers. Demand from outside communities is a common challenge facing sustainable management of bushmeat. Are there any other 'outside' threats that the project and local communities will have to address? It will be of great interest to other bush meat management projects, to follow how the problem is addressed, by WWF and WCS, through this project.

The best way to deal with unsustainable bushmeat hunting in timber concessions is through wildlife management. The project is looking into the possibility of wildlife management in timber concessions as a way to begin to deal with this issue. The project has held talks with INRENA about beginning a pilot study on the feasibility of implementing wildlife management guidelines with timber concessions as a component of timber certification. Thus, timber companies who wish to attain timber certification will need to implement wildlife management, prior to being certified.