Darwin Initiative: Half Year Report

(due 31 October 2011)

Project Ref No	18-001
Project Title	Darwin Sustainable Artisanal Fisheries Initiative (Peru)
Country(ies)	Peru
UK Organisation	University of Exeter
Collaborator(s)	Pro Delphinus (PD)
	Instituto del Mar del Peru (IMARPE)
	Federacion de Integracion y Unificacion de Pescadores Artesanales del Peru (FIUPAP)
	Ministerio del Ambiente (MINAM)
Project Leader	Dr Brendan Godley
Report date	31 October 2011
Report No. (HYR 1/2/3/4)	HYR2
Project website	http://www.prodelphinus.org/darwin_initiative.html
	http://www.blogprodelphinus.blogspot.com/

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).

1.1 Workshops (1. Visioning; 2. Fisheries observers; 3. Spatial ecology; 4. Bycatch mitigation; 5. Conservation workshops;

Fisheries observer workshops were organized by PD staff in northern Peru in July 2011 and were attended by fishermen, university students and regional government officers and researchers.

A spatial ecology workshop was held in Lima in June 2011 focusing on seabird tracking and data analysis.

1.2 Darwin Graduate Trainee identified

Two graduate trainee finalists have been identified: Natalia Ortiz and Miguel Romero.

1.3 Darwin-IMARPE Fellow identified

IMARPE Biologist Miguel Romero has been identified as the Darwin-IMARPE Fellow.

1.4 Conference attendance Darwin staff

Project staff attended the International Sea Turtle Society Symposium in San Diego, USA, April 2011 where they presented data on sea turtle bycatch rapid assessment work done in Peru, Ecuador and Chile. Project staff also attended the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels, Bycatch Working Group meeting, Guayaquil, Ecuador, August 2011 where they presented seabird bycatch data for Peruvian and Ecuadorian artisanal fisheries.

2.1 Artisanal fisheries assessment completed

The survey work and an initial assessment have been completed with a more detailed

assessment planned for the next reporting period. This work was conducted in 30% of the fishing ports in Peru (ca. 31 ports and landing sites) and more than 800 surveys of artisanal fishermen were obtained.

2.2 Spatial ecology database established

The database was established, with relevant data to be entered and updated regularly by PD project staff.

2.3 Fisheries observer programme underway

This work is underway in four ports with IMARPE participation at three additional ports to begin pending MOU completion. Observer work in four additional ports in northern and central Peru is also in the planning stages.

2.4 Marine Vertebrate monitoring underway

Marine vertebrate monitoring is underway at all the observer programme ports mentioned above (Item 2.3) with additional wide-area monitoring made possible through a real-time HF radio communication program with at-sea fishing vessels. Weekly maps identifying high bycatch areas are being produced using the information reported by fishermen.

2.6 Scientific papers

Three papers have been published or are in press as of the end of the reporting period, some of which have receive special attention by national and international press:

Alfaro-Shigueto, J., J.C. Mangel, F. Bernedo, P.H. Dutton, J.A. Seminoff & B.J. Godley. 2011. Small scale fisheries of Peru: a major sink for marine turtles in the Pacific. Journal of Applied Ecology. doi: 10.1111/j.1365-2664.2011.02040.x.

Mangel, J.C., J. Alfaro-Shigueto, M.J. Witt, P.H. Dutton, J.A. Seminoff & B.J. Godley. 2011. Post-capture movements of loggerhead turtles in the southeastern Pacific Ocean assessed by satellite tracking. Marine Ecology Progress Series 433: 261-272.

Benavides, M., K.A. Feldheim, C.A. Duffy, S. Wintner, M. Braccini, J. Boomer, C. Huveneers, J.C. Mangel, J. Alfaro-Shigueto, D.P. Caramil & D.D. Chapman. 2011. Phylogeny of the copper shark (Carcharhinus brachyurus) in the Southern Hemisphere: implications for the conservation of a coastal apex predator. Marine and Freshwater Research 62: 861-869.

2.7 Project summary report prepared, presented to stakeholders and decision makers

All current work will inform the preparation of the project summary report.

3.1 Website established

A fully revised and updated project website was released in August 2011 to complement the project blog and Facebook page that have been operating since the project's inception.

3.2 Production of Darwin Newsletters

Our second Darwin newsletter will be produced and released as scheduled in the next project quarter.

3.3 Press releases in Peru and UK

In the past 6 months there have been two Peru and one UK based press releases. These relate to project work on sea turtles and seabirds. The UK based release was particularly noteworthy and related to the Alfaro-Shigueto et al. 2011 publication of sea turtle bycatch rates and was also subject to a BBC radio interview, a journal podcast and was picked up by

numerous local and international conservation blogs and websites.

3.3 Darwin Seminars for key stakeholders

There is no change to this scheduled activity and there are, in addition, regular, informal communications with all key stakeholders.

3.4 Darwin Conference

All current work and lessons learned will inform our end of project Darwin Conference.

4.1 Bycatch mitigation trials and implementation

Multiple bycatch mitigation trials and implementations have been begun ahead of schedule. These include fishery experiments with net lighting and acoustic alarms and distribution of weighted swivels, net cutters and dehookers.

5.1 Darwin reporting

This first 6 monthly report demonstrates our continued progress to date, now 12 months into the funded period.

5.2 Steering Group meetings

In September 2011, Peru staff Joanna Alfaro-Shigueto and Jeffrey Mangel visited the University of Exeter and held extensive steering group meetings with UK based staff and further elaborated the work plan for the rest of the reporting year.

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.

Due to the recent presidential elections and subsequent government ministry staff reorganizations, there has been a modest delay in establishing the MOU with IMARPE. This has delayed implementation of IMARPE led bycatch observer work and graduate student placement. We do not foresee major budgetary changes but IMARPE observer work will be shifted by approximately 6 months from the original project schedule.We have, however, notified IMARPE that if there is a delay extending into 2012 that we will have to return to the DI Secretariat to consider remedial project planning/

Have any of these issues been discussed with LTS International and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?

These issues have not yet been discussed as we hope can be readily accommodated within the overall project structure.

Discussed with LTS: no/yes, in..... (month/yr)

Formal change request submitted: no/yes, in.....(month/yr)

Received confirmation of change acceptance

no/yes in.....(month/yr)

3. Do you expect to have any significant (eg more than £5,000) underspend in your budget for this year?

Yes 🗌 No 🖂

If yes, and you wish to request a carryforward of funds, this should be done as soon as possible. It would help Defra manage Darwin funds more efficiently if you could give an indication of how much you expect this request might be for.

Estimated carryforward request: £

4. Are there any other issues you wish to raise relating to the project or to Darwin's management, monitoring, or financial procedures?

No.

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 note: Any <u>planned</u> modifications to your project schedule/workplan or budget should <u>not</u> be discussed in this report but raised with LTS International directly.

Please send your **completed form by email** to Eilidh Young at <u>Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk</u>. The report should be between 1-2 pages maximum. <u>Please state your project reference number in the header</u> of your email message eg Subject: 17-075 Darwin Half Year Report