

Darwin Initiative for the Survival of Species

Half Year Report Form

Project Title	Establishment of Penguin Monitoring Programme
Country	Chile
Organisation	Environmental Research Unit
Project Ref. No.	162/10/007
Report date	October 2002

1. Outline progress over the last 6 months against the agreed baseline timetable for the project.

Fieldwork takes place between October and March, so the last 6 months have involved the preparation and production of reports and training material. The results of the first season's data have been drawn up and presented to the host country along with a press release (code 12A and 15A). Discussions with CONAF have taken place to evaluate the first season of research, and training material is being updated (code 7). Comparisons of breeding success and chick survival has been made for areas with tourists and those without, and the first season's data shows no significant impact from tourism. Production of a web site to promote the project has begun (code 17A). This is currently displayed at www.seabirds.org/magdalena.htm but will eventually have its own domain when more material is added. A series of meetings have been held to discuss future progress, including the preparation of display boards for tourists using information gained from the project so far.

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 effect the budget and timetable of project activities. Have any of these issues been discussed with the Department and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?

No problems have been encountered.

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

The original quote given by the auditors was \$ [redacted] per annum, which was the figure included in the projected expenditure, however the auditors presented a bill for [redacted] for auditing the first year's accounts. Because they had quoted [redacted], they agreed to accept [redacted] this year, but for the remaining years the auditing costs will be [redacted].

The Falklands bank deducts a commission for processing UK cheques. Because this year grant payments have been made by cheque rather than bank transfer, the amount credited is slightly lower than the amount of grant.