

Darwin Initiative for the Survival of Species

Half Year Report Form

Project Title	Sustainable management of the Rupununi: linking biodiversity, environment and people
Country	Guyana
Organisation	Royal Holloway University of London and The Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust
Project Ref. No.	162/12/019
Report date	31 st October 2003

1. Outline progress over the last 6 months 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).

The project formally commenced in September 2003. However, press releases announcing the project award occurred in April 2003. An e-mail discussion group was also set up amongst project partners in June 2003. A series of project meetings between UK partners and the key Guyanese partner of Iwokrama International Centre for Rain Forest Conservation and Development have continued throughout the six month period. Dr. Graham Watkins visited the UK in June and gave a presentation to The Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust staff, Royal Holloway University of London project staff and Open University project staff concerning management issues within the project study area. In September 2003 work commenced on developing the training manuals and presentations required later on in the project. Advertisements for the nine field based positions and the MSc student position have been written in October 2003 and will be circulated within Guyana in view of recruiting staff in December 2003.

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?

There have been no notable problems or unexpected developments encountered by the project as it has only been formally running for two months.

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

There are no other issues to raise at this early stage of the project as all the tasks are proceeding in accordance with the project timetable.

Please send your **completed form by 31 October each year per email** to Stefanie Halfmann, Darwin Initiative M&E Project Manager, Email: stefanie.halfmann@ed.ac.uk