



Darwin Initiative: Half Year Report

(due 31 October 2014)

Project Ref No	19-030
Project Title	Falkland Islands raptors-reducing conflicts with rural livelihoods
Country(ies)	Falkland Islands
Lead Organisation	Falklands Conservation
Collaborator(s)	RZSS,RSPB, Falkland Islands Government, Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, Wildlife Conservation Society, Raptor Research Centre Boise State University and EDM International
Project Leader	
Report date and number (eg HYR3)	APRIL 2014 – October 2014 (HYR3)
Project website	www.falklandsconservation.com

1. Outline progress over the last 6 months (April – Sept) 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 to end September).

A second trip to New Island in the west of the Falklands was made in May to band more striated caracaras and to collect regurgitated pellet for analysis and observe what the birds are feeding on during the winter months on this non-farmed Island.

A trip was also made to Saunders Island to band more striated Caracara and to collect regurgitated pellets from this island which is farmed.

There are now 900 birds with leg bands and the farming community are now showing a marked interest in the birds and actively involved in the reporting of banded birds. This is a significant improvement on what the project has seen in previous years.

The project has been involved in an application by a UK based photographer to come to the Falklands to photograph Striated Caracara and the projects work, this is still in the planning stage, but if the photographer is successful the in his bid his work will be published in BBC wildlife magazine.

The project spoke to a number of farmers on the mainland East Falklands about issues concerning raptors and rural livelihoods. This was not as successful as hoped, as a lot of people were away from the Islands. We are slowly disseminating the data we do have in this area, however we would still like to give farmers a chance to be involved.

Project officer visited project partners in the USA, mainly Hawk Mountain Sanctuary were Project office worked on a couple of papers, including one on movement data from satellite trackers. This is now being finished by Dr. Bildstein. Project officer also did a seminar on the project and the Falklands at Hawk Mountain Sanctuary and at Boise State university in the USA.

A colouring book about Falkland Islands Raptors is being developed for school children.

Information leaflets and band sightings forms have been printed again, these are to be sent to all wildlife tourist destination in the islands to not only give some information to tourists about

Falkland raptors but to hopefully get more sightings of banded Striated caracaras.

Workshops that should have been carried out by this stage have been delayed a little due to stakeholder availabilities and will take place during this next quarter of the project, a benefit is that this will facilitate having raptor experts from USA at these workshops.

The National plan of action for managing conflicts between raptors and rural livelihoods is still in the process of being drafted, this too is slightly behind the schedule of the project.

Species Action plan for Striated Caracara is also at in the early draft stage.

2a. 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.

Workshops have been delayed slightly due to stakeholder availability and the additional benefits of other attendees. It should not affect the budget or timetable.

2b. Have any of these issues been discussed with LTS International and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?

Discussed with LTS: No

Formal change request submitted: No

Received confirmation of change acceptance No

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

Yes No Estimated underspend: £

3b. If yes, then you need to consider your project budget needs carefully as it is unlikely that any requests to carry forward funds will be approved this year. Please remember that any funds agreed for this financial year are only available to the project in this financial year.

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4. Are there any other issues you wish to raise relating to the project or to Darwin's management, monitoring, or financial procedures?
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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 planned modifications to your project schedule/workplan can be discussed in this report but **should also be raised with LTS International through a Change Request.**

Please send your **completed report by email** to Eilidh Young at Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk . The report should be between 2-3 pages maximum. **Please state your project reference number in the header of your email message eg Subject: 20-035 Darwin Half Year Report**