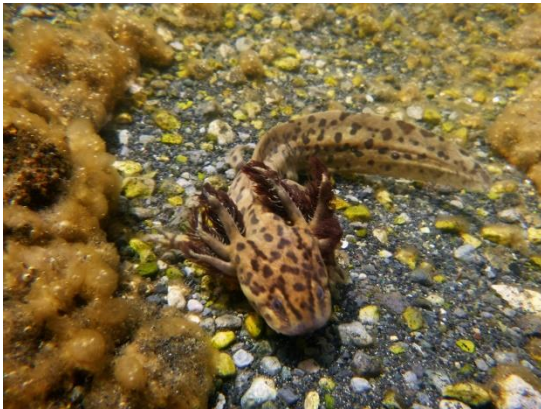


Assessment of the Conservation status and needs of Taylor's salamander.

Project report.

March 2016

During March we did one survey in the field at the beginning of the month. The survey lasted for 6 days, the first day we set a total of 21 traps in the lake, 7 from each range of depth (0-10m, 11-20m, 21-30m) and



then we came back five times to the lake to check the traps and process animals. We caught 17 salamanders in traps and took data from them: svl, weigh, sex, chytrid sample, a dorsal photograph; we also marked each individual using Visible Implant Elastomer (VIE) and samples from one gill for the ecotoxicology tests. For this purpose, salamanders are classified from the area of the lake where they are found, according to the distance from the highway and human settlements.

Last weekend we organized an activity with the community in the lake. There is the tradition to visit the lake, take some water in buckets and throw it at other people during the Holy Saturday. Many people participate in this tradition, local authorities have counted up to 5000 people. Unfortunately these visitors leave large amounts of rubbish in and around the lake. Our activity was intended to explain people about the importance of the lake and the species that inhabit there, especially the salamander. We gave each family a plastic bag and a postcard with an image of the salamander with some information about the lake, and asked them to put their garbage in the bag and, if possible, to help us pick some garbage from the ground. Many people showed interest in the salamander and in our project and were very enthusiastic, and some of them brought back to us their bags with garbage.



Local authorities collaborated with us by bringing plastic bags and coming with us to talk to visitors. In the coming months, we will continue to collect field data and engage with the local community at Alchichica to teach them about the salamander and its habitat.

Many thanks for your support!