

Team
PICOS SERT Target 70hrs

Team activity overview	Hours
Lewis Swadling	72
Ewan Hitchcoe	76.5
Madison Errington	71.1
James Sokolnicki	75.5
Joshua Blaber	75
Katherine Lower	12.5
Hayley Dancer	72
Abby Pidgen	75
Eleanor Carlton	76
Melissa Stephens	74
Abigail Croker	79
Miriam Treadway	70
Keana Aroun-Maxwell	83
Stuart Farrington	73

	Name:	Ewan Hitchcoe		
	Project:	PICOS SERT Target 70hrs	Hours completed so far:	76.5
	Role:			
		Activity Log		
	Date	Work completed	Skills and personal attributes gained or used	Hours worked
1	14/07/16	Travel to first site from UK, set up camp.	After a long day of traveling, putting a tent up that we were not familiar with and in total darkness, took patience, communication skills and good teamwork.	8
2	15/07/16	Bilberry survey. Completing quadrats comparing fenced control areas against unfenced areas in regard to vegetation structure, with particular interest to veg height and Bilberry levels, which provide both cover and an important food resource to Capercaillie, a protected species of some concern.	I improved on my existing identification and surveying skills. Good teamwork was essential again, it became evident that different people have very different working styles and that it would be necessary to find a balance, particularly between working quickly while maintaining a high level of accuracy to collect meaningful data.	9.5
3	16/07/16	Broom survey. Comparing the effects of different Broom removal methods on vegetation community structure and ground active invertebrates, using quadrats and pitfall traps.	After the previous days experience I found that my own pace and accuracy of completing survey work was much improved. I learned the importance of dealing with environmental difficulties (extreme heat) whilst carrying out field work. This was also my first time setting pitfall traps. I learned how to set them correctly so that they would work as efficiently as possible. Today was also an excellent insight into how management decisions in the national park and elsewhere are aided by scientific surveys such as this one.	7
4	17/07/16	Travel to second site, set up camp. Data input for day 2 and 3.	Putting up the tent the second time and in daylight, we worked quickly, efficiently and communicated well, it took less than 5 minutes to complete the task. Inputting data onto a small screen or tablet can be fiddly and tedious, this was good practice for doing this type of work accurately under somewhat difficult circumstances.	7
5	18/07/16	Pollinator survey. Assessed floral diversity and pollinator numbers of different ecotopes using quadrants and 50m transects. Data input.	We observed first hand how human activity can impact negatively on a landscape, such as causing erosion and habitat fracture etc (in this case an out of season ski resort). We also learned the need for balance between ecological issues and the need for local people to live within the land. With this in mind we wanted to assess the ease of which pollinators might overcome geological and ecological hurdles such as mountain peaks and anthropological habitat fracture. Before beginning any practical work we first had to design the experiment. The original plan for the day had become unfeasible due to unforeseen circumstances. Using critical thinking and our experience from the previous days surveys, as a team we were able to formulate and then carry out a workable experiment for the day.	7
6	19/07/16	Travel to third site, set up camp.		7
7	20/07/16	Mine site survey. Assessing the impact of long term heavy metal mining on vegetation structure and the possible effects on herbivorous grazers. Quadrants and 20m dung transect. Data input.	We learned a lot about the effects of mining on a landscape over many years, such as the toxification of soils by heavy metals and how certain plants are able to take up these heavy metals. The purpose of today's work was to take samples of soil and vegetation to assess toxicity levels. Another facet of the day's work was to assess the vegetation structure using quadrats and grazing activity using a 'poo' transect. This was in order to assess possible effects on animals grazing in this location, as well as finding out if plants that take up heavy metals were naturally avoided by grazers, thus making this a useful survival strategy for such plants. By now team cohesion was much improved, excellent communication and coordination meant that the survey work was carried out quickly and efficiently.	7
8	21/07/16	Return travel to UK.		7
9	22/07/16	Upload photos for blogs. Write personal bio statement.		1
10	23/07/16 - 31/08/16	Data analysis and write up of results discussion for Broom removal survey. Final Editing of report	Improving of data analysis and report writing skills.	16
			Total hours	76.5

		Name:	James Sokolnicki		
		Project:	PICOS SERT Target 70hrs	Hours completed so far:	75.5
		Role:			
			Activity Log		
	Date	Work completed	Skills and personal attributes gained or used	Hours worked	
1	14/07/16	Travel to Spain from UK, travel to first campsite and setting up of camp	After a long day of travelling; pitching a tent (something I have never done) in total darkness, took good communication skills, teamwork and patience	10	
2	15/07/16	Monitoring the management of bilberry as a resource for capercaillie. Recording veg and BG % cover, vegetation structure, soil height, vegetation volume, total bilberry ramets, number of branches, number of fruits, flowers and nibbles on bilberry. Blog write up.	Good teamwork was imperative within our group in order to complete the task successfully. Focus and determination was needed to obtain accurate data in somewhat challenging conditions. I also built on my existing identification skills by learning some new species. It was a very empowering feeling that our team was part of a larger team that's helping to conserve the biodiversity of the National Park.	10	
3	16/07/16	Broom - comparison of effect of different methods of removing broom on plant community composition and structure and on ground-active invertebrate communities. Inputting day 1 data onto spreadsheet.	After the previous days experience, I worked at a quicker pace, but just as accurately. I learnt how to set pitfall traps properly, so they fulfill their aim. Its important to take extreme weather conditions into account when working in the field, knowing when to rest and take cover. Using a tablet / laptop to input data in bright sun can be somewhat troublesome and tedious, however I became much quicker at this task through practice and learnt to be patient when the technology failed and needed a rest.	9	
4	17/07/16	Travel to second campsite, setting up camp. Inputting day 2 data onto spreadsheet.	Pitching the tent up was much easier in the daylight, we communicated well to erect it much faster than before. After inputting data the previous day, I performed the same task much quicker.	7	
5	18/07/16	Observing recreational impacts on upland heaths and grasslands. Surveying of heathland ecotopes for pollinator movement for pollen dispersal connectivity in upland heaths.	Due to dogs guarding cattle, the original plan of work had to be changed. It is important to be adaptable as things often change in the field and being safe must be the main priority when carrying out any form of work. We learnt that human recreation can have a negative impact on the surrounding environment by causing erosion and habitat fragmentation, however, visitors bring money to the local rural economy so there are positives too. There are many stakeholders with interests in the management / use of the National Park. We devised an experiment to assess how pollinators react to natural and anthropogenic barriers when foraging for food and its potential impact on flowers that require pollination. I used my previous knowledge of pollinators to help devise the survey and adapted my method of working in order to be more efficient with my new working partner	7	
6	19/07/16	Travel to third campsite, setting up of camp		7	

7	20/07/16	Mine. Monitoring the ecological impacts of heavy metals on grazing livestock	I learnt that former mining sites can be extremely diverse botanically despite having large quantities of heavy metals in the soil. Carrying out plant surveys really improved my knowledge of alpine species and it was really interesting to find out that some species store the toxic metals and others do not. By monitoring the cattle's feeding habitats we could find out if they are consuming the toxic vegetation. Again, safe working practices were paramount here, the poor visibility meant we lost track of the incoming route. Remaining calm and staying together was essential, whilst our leaders navigated us out of the misted valley.	
8	21/07/16	Return to UK from field trip.		8
9	24/07/16	Uploaded images of trip; including pictures of flora and fauna and tasks that we carried out.		0.5
10	24/07/16 - 31/07/16	Writing Bilberry Blog Day 1 & Introduction and Method of Mine survey report.	Writing the blog allowed me to show my sense of humour, reflect on my own experiences and write them down in a non-informal way. In contrast, writing the introduction and method allowed me to use and develop my concise report writing. Being able to write in different ways, for different audiences is an important skill to have.	16
11	26/08/16	Bilberry Blog Day 1 editing	Proof reading. Spell checking. Making sure the layout is aesthetically pleasing.	1
			Total hours	75.5

	Name:	Joshua Blaber		
	Project:	PICOS SERT Target 70hrs	Hours completed so far:	75
	Role:			
		Activity Log		

	Date	Work completed	Skills and personal attributes gained or used	Hours worked
1	14	first time flying and setting up camp	I gained the knowledge and experience on how to set up camp in a quick and efficient way and also on what to expect during flying	12
2	15	billbury survey in woodland and overgrown grassland	I gained the knowledge on how to do vegetation structure surveys and also on how to work efficiently and quickly	10
3	16	vegetation treatment survey	using the same techniques I learnt yesterday completed a vegetation structure surveys and also I learnt how to look after myself during extreme heat	11
4	17	traveling to camp 2	before travelling to the camp I entered data into our computer	5
5	18	vegetation and pollinator survey	during this survey u had improved my plant identification and also learnt how to use the Francis rose l'd book correctly	7
6	19	traveling to camp site 3	spent the day inside the an traveling.	2
7	20	mine site survey and soil sampling	here I learnt that not all sites that may be served are easy to access and also learnt how to take soil samples randomly	10
8	21	travel back to the uk	input the last of the data	2
9	19/8/2016	reaserch into importance of capercaillie use of bilberry	locating important information and recording appropriate citations	6
10	20/8/2016	completing the write up for the introduction	using appropriate terminology and refrencing	3
11	24/8/2016	completion of the write up of the methods	writing up in a manner so that the experiment could be carried out again	4
12	31/8/2016	editing of final completed document	checking the grammar and spelling and terminology	3
			Total hours	75

		Name:	Lewis Swadling		
		Project:	PICOS SERT Target 70hrs	Hours completed so far:	72
		Role:			
			Activity Log		
Date	Work completed		Skills and personal attributes gained or used	Hours worked	
1 14th July	Travel from the UK/set up camp		Practiced team building and communication skills due to the difficulting of erecting the tent in poor lighting and weather conditions. Additional interpersonal skills were required to forge new relationships with the team of researchers, as well as organisation skills used to prepare the kit for the following day of surveying and travel	8	
2 15th July	Billberry survey/travel		Performed botanical survey organised by the University of Leon - focusing on bilberry and vegetation structure. This involved a methodology test for surveying vegetation, including quadrats and timings. I learnt about the ways in which methodologies can be tested, skills in botanical surveys, plant identification and methodology construction. I also learnt the importance of the species to the ecosystem and interacting species.	10	
3 16th July	Broom survey/travel		Performed a vegetation survey concerning cutting methods for broom. I also learnt about the ecological implications of the species. Cutting variables included; hand cut, tractor cut, walking spider and a control - depending on the elevation of the plot. I learnt about different cutting methods, conversation management trade-offs, and important decisions. As well as further identification skills, data collection techniques and methodology testing.	7	
4 17th July	Travel to second site/set up camp/methodology writing		Practiced report writing skills.	7	

5	18th July	Heathland polinator survey/travel	We were required to conduct a pollinator survey on a habitat consisting of variable ecotones; grassland, grassland scrub, heather, heather broom and broom. This included a vegetation survey similar to the previous two surveys. Meaning that I was able to implement the identification skills I had learnt previously. I was also able to use further knowledge gained through heathland surveys as part of my degree and dissertation research- many of the plant species were the same as in the UK. Furthermore I was also able to use knowledge of pollinators gained from another SERT project for the pollinator transect proportion of the survey. To conclude the most important thing I learnt was how to effectively organise and conduct my own research methodology.	7	
6	19th July	Travel to third camp/set up camp/introduction writing	Practiced report writing skills.	7	
	19th July	Data input (broom survey)	Practiced data input skills.	1	
	20th July	Mine site survey/travel	The day involved a vegetation (quadrat and transect based) survey. This required hiking through challenging terrain to reach the mine site, something which I had got used to over the previous week. During the survey I was able to use species identification knowledge acquired as well, and learnt a range of new species specific to the habitat. Interpersonal skills developed between the team members made the process much more efficient than the previous surveys.	6	
7	20th July	Data input (mine survey)	Practiced data analysis and interpretation skills.	2	
8	21st July	Travel/ Completed data input (billberry surveys)	Practiced data input skills	5	
9	22nd July	Write biography statement/upload photos	Reflected on the placement as a whole, skills gained and improved.	3	
10	23rd-30th July	Results/disscussion (mine survey)	Had the opportunity to practice and improve my report writng, data interpretation and presentation skills.	9	
		vey		Total hours	72

Name:		Katherine Lower		Hours completed so far:	12.5
Project:		PICOS SERT Target 70hrs			
Role:					
Activity Log					
Date	Work completed	Skills and personal attributes gained or used	Hours worked		
1 14/07/11	Travelling to and setting up camp		1		
2 15/07/11	N/A - Sick				
3 16/07/11	Vegetation treatment survey	We hiked to a location to investigate the various methods in controlling vegetation for farmers. I learnt the importance of avoiding human conflict.	5.5		
4 17/07/11	Travelling to camp	Gathering and entering the data	2		
5 18/07/11	Vegetation and Pollinators survey	Although the day didn't initially go to plan, I ended up gaining valuable experience in working within the field. Later on I found a tic which wasn't so much fun.	4		
6 19/07/11	Travelling to and setting up at beach campsite [1]				
7 20/07/11	Hiked to mine site and did quadread fieldwork to see the toxic effects of mining on the land and cattle.	I learnt new identification skills with plants and and managed to complete a task even with visual difficulties from the weather.			
			Total hour	12.5	

	Name:	Madison Errington			
	Project:	PICOS SERT Target 70hrs		Hours completed so far:	71.1
	Role:	Research Assistant			
		Activity Log			
Date	Work completed	Skills and personal attributes gained or used			Hours worked
1 14-07-2016	Setting up camp after travelling from the UK	First have a day of travelling to the campsite from Asturias Airport after arrival from the UK. Setting up a tent in difficult lighting conditions with a person I've never met before. Working with both team work and communication skills to effectively construct the tent, which I have never done before. Whilst only a seemingly small task, this was essentially the first team building exercise. This day also included the acclimatisation to a new environment, with new people before the day of research the following day.			6
2 15-07-2016	Completing quadrat survey for Bilbery	Enhancing my personal survey skills when I had to complete a quadrat survey independently as odd numbers of group members. Furthermore learning to identify new plant species in difficult working conditions. New skills gained were identifying when I reached my physical limit in order for me to not become exhausted or get sunstroke. Learning this has facilitated my ability to identify my limits each day since this day in order for me to be able to continue efficient work the following day.			10
3 16-07-2016	Completing vegetation survey and pitfall trap placements	Developing my communication skills to relay data collected to team partners to be entered into tables correctly. Also having never placed pitfall traps that was a new skill I learnt, improving with each one I placed. Experiencing the local Spanish culture in the evening, learning the local villages cultural celebrations and lifestyle.			8
4 17-07-2016	Managing moving camp and ensuring completion of data entry	Effectively packing away the tent in order to conserve space as well as efficient time keeping to be able to be ready to leave camp at the given time. Completing data entry involved sharing the camp laptop for equal times, ensuring communication between team partners and camp members to organise the order for data entry.			7
5 18-07-2016	Completing quadrat survey and transects alongside plant identification to evaluate changes in habitat, alongside further data entry and experimental design for the study	Beginning of this research included a discussion on the experimental design for the pilot study. Using the Alpine Plant Identification books at the site to identify plant species along a transect. Again development of communication skills as working with new team members so identifying each persons strength and weaknesses to effectively complete the task set. Also when identifying unknown plants, being descriptive as a team to work together to later identify them was conducted. Later on in the day the team played games in the field by camp, this deepened the bond between the team, and we had fun which was enriching after a hard day's research.			7
6 19-07-2016	Managing moving camp and ensuring completion of data entry	Again effective time management with the moving of camp with a deadline, which was met. Completing data entry in the time I had to spare made effective use of that time. The laptop used was, at times, challenging due to its age and therefore was sometimes ineffective for entering data. I helped other team members enter their data, of which they previously had but unfortunately the laptop didn't register saving, this made for a stronger team connection.			7
7 20-07-2016	Conducting transects and quadrats to evaluate the amount of grazing by cows at Covodonga, at an old mine site	Walking challenging terrain again, during more difficult conditions as the visibility was hindered by being in the clouds at that altitude. However from the past days of work, this was less challenging than it would've been had I not participated in those activities. Using knowledge from the past days research also came in useful when identifying the plant species, as there were many which we had identified before. This lead to a faster, but maintaing accuracy, survey.			9.5
8 21-07-2016	Leaving camp and checking all required data that was able to be entered was given in before the journey	Checking through the data sheets available to me to ensure all of my available data was entered from the past days, ensuring no errors were present. This was important due to the laptop having technical issues, therefore thorough checks were required with each data entry.			6
9 22-07-2016	Completing required tasks to be conducted on arrival at home and updating LinkedIn	Went through the shared files to add anything that I had not been able to during the trip, sharing photographs for the further use of the University for prospective students on these collaborative fieldtrips. This included adding a photograph and personal bio to be added onto the official SERT website, for future employers and students to see. Updating my LinkedIn profile to link to the relevant SERT links aswell as adding the experience onto my profile, to widen the awareness of its credibility and to also maximise the potential use for my future development and connections with employers.			6

10	01-08-2016	Completing the introduction and methodology for the Report of Day 3 of Research	Completing my section of the report assigned to my team for Day 3 of Research (Introduction and Methodology) and uploading it to the Google Drive to be shared, reviewed and edited by team members and staff.	4
11	30-08-2016	Main editor for Day 6 Blog entry about the Covadonga Mine Site on the Picos SERT Team Blog	Editing and reviewing the blog entry for Day 6, this including correcting any grammatical errors, ensuring the formatting was consistent with the other blog entries (suitable sizes, fonts, photographs).	0.6
Total hours				71.1

		Name:	Eleanor Carlton		
		Project:	PICOS SERT Target 70hrs	Hours completed so far:	76
		Role:			
		Activity Log			
Date	Work completed	Skills and personal attributes gained or used		Hours worked	
1 14/07/2016	Travel to from the UK & setting up camp	Communication and teamworking skills were put to use when setting up camp in the dark.		5	
2 15/07/2016	Campsite survey (Camping el Cares) and writing intro & methods	Exploring the campsite and surrounding area for sites or qualities of ecological significance. Photography of present flora & fauna species for campsite report. Planning the introduction and methods section of the report for the team's billbury survey.		7	
3 16/07/2016	Vegetation survey, pitfall trap laying & blog	Teamwork, communication, ecological survey skills. Coping with physical exhaustion and illness. Digging pitfall traps & data recording. Gathering quotes and photos for blog.		8	
4 17/07/2016	Moved campsite & data entry	Working together to take the tents down and load up all of the gear. Setting up the new camp at a much hotter site. Data entry for the previous day.		7	
5 18/07/2016	Campsite survey: (Camping la Cota)	Exploring the new campsite and its surrounding area for sites and features of ecological importance. Photographing the camp features of interest, as well as the flora & fauna species in the area for campsite report.		7	
6 19/07/2016	Moved campsite & campsite survey (Camping Costa Verde)	Teamwork and communication skills were put to use again to take down and pack away all the tents and gear. Completed campsite survey for the new site, noting features of ecological importance both on the site and in the surrounding environment.		7	
7 20/07/2016	Mine Survey Day: completing quadrats and transects to evaluate the levels of grazing present in a heavy-metal contaminated mine site, Covadonga	Working on difficult terrain today in poor conditions, as the visibility was incredibly poor due to the heavy fog. I learned to identify new plant species that I had not encountered before. However, as we have been doing lots of vegetation surveys over the last week, the operation ran smoothly and we worked quickly & efficiently.		7	
8 21/07/2016	Return to the UK	After we had packed up the campsite, 4 of us (Abigail, Katherine, Hayley and myself) elected to visit the Jurassic Museum of Asturias, which was close by. This trip enabled me to research the ecological history of the local landscape, assisting me with my reports.		6	

9	22/07/2016	Data entry, photo upload & summary	Uploading photographs taken throughout the placement that could be useful for blogs, reports and any other relevant pieces of work. Wrote a short 2 sentence summary of my work on this placement for the bio.	4	
10	22/08/2016	Camp ecological report: Camping el Cares & Santa Marina de Valdeon	A summary report of the areas of ecological significance surrounding the Camping el Cares site and the area surrounding. This gave me the opportunity to put my research skills to use, gathering information from scientific journals to collate a summarising report of the area and traditional agricultural methods.	6	
12	26/08/2016	Camp ecological report: Camping la Cota & Colunga, Asturias	A summary report of the areas of ecological significance surrounding the Camping la Cota site and the area surrounding. This gave me the opportunity to put my research skills to use, gathering information from scientific journals to collate a summarising report of the area.	6	
13	27/08/2016	Campsite ecological report: Camping Costa Verde & La Vecilla, Leon	A summary report of the areas of ecological significance surrounding the Camping Costa Verde site. This gave me the opportunity to put my research skills to use, gathering information from scientific journals to collate a summarising report of the area and its history.	6	
				Total hours	76

		Name:	Melissa Stephens		
		Project:	PICOS SERT Target 70hrs	Hours completed so far:	74
		Role:			
		Activity Log			
Date	Work completed	Skills and personal attributes gained or used			Hours worked
1 14th July	Arriving and setting up camp.	Co-operating with the team in setting up camp during night hours, communication skills were gained through this activity and through travelling to work in a new environment.			6
2 15th July	Bilbury volume and height survey in managed and unmanaged areas to find out the impact of deer grazing. This plant species is very important for the bird species: capercallie's habitat and nesting grounds.	Field research skills learnt: plant identification skills, new research techniques such as volume concentration of areas. I gained personal knowledge which will benefit me personally, such as the history and communal culture of the area.			11
3 16th July	Vegetation survey on plots which have tested different management techniques, all to benefit the National Park and fill the demand for farmer's plans for clearing. Pitfall trap plotting for future research on invertebrates in these areas with different clearing methods, to see what effect the methods will have on species.	I learnt new planning techniques for clearing areas of land for farmer's economic use and how each of these change the area physically and their individual secondary effects. These techniques are hard-cutting for steep slopes, the retro spider for small slopes and a tractor for flatter land, controlled areas can also be used to gain better understanding. I understood why these new techniques are important to test, this will find the best outcome with the least impact on the environment and wildlife, whilst also providing the best economic value for the farmers.			9
4 17th July	Moved to next campsite, data write ups	New data inputting skills on a new online software through gmail. I gained skills writing up data while in new environments and facing distractions in the campsite.			5
5 18th July	Pollinator surveys in different foliage's to identify which species prefer which foliage and density of shrub. Ski slope erosion processes.	I learnt how activities meant for tourists to build the economy, such as ski slopes; can have detrimental effects on the environment. New plant and insect identification skills were gained, insect tracking and population estimating skills were also gained. Field research skills such as haphazard sampling. Increase in understanding of how national parks need to take into account local people to manage the area. Understanding of what pollinators need in an environment, including what they feed on.			9
6 19th July	Moved to a new campsite, further data write ups and report writing.	Travelling skills and patience gained today while clearing the campsite to move to the next site.			5

7	20th July	Mining effects on environment survey. Looking at manganese levels affected by cattle and horse grazing.	Understanding how mining can have an effect on the surrounding environment, in the soils which in turn affect plant and wildlife species abundance. Elemental pollutants can't be broken down but, plants have evolved to absorb these pollutants, therefore creating defence for their own species; being poisonous to eat for animals.	10	
8	21st July	Clearing the campsite ready to travel back to the airport and England!	Being the final day, the morning was taken laid back to enjoy the final time of being together as a team and to conclude the project we had an overrun of the time we spent there, also a talk on the future of the project. In terms of data inputting as individuals and changes as a team, also what research was going to continue after our time in Picos de Europa National Park.	4	
9	22-30th July	Finalising data input throughout all data sheets. Team collaboration on report writing for Day 1 broom data and analysis. Team completion of introduction and methods for Day 2. Blog writing and editing, including photos and what we learnt during day 3 of our trip, this was the ski slope and pollinator survey day. Completion of IWAS logs-personal statement and hours sheet.	Software skills gained through understanding layout and structure of new gmail accounts and spreadsheets. Team communication skills when faced with a short time to complete data write ups, with team members all facing different time availabilities.	15	
				Total hours	74

		Name:	Abigail Croker		
		Project:	PICOS SERT Target 70hrs	Hours completed so far:	79
		Role:			
			Activity Log		
Date	Work completed	Skills and personal attributes gained or used		Hours worked	
1 14/07/2016	Setting up camp	Travelling to 'El Cares' ...We arrived at our campsite very late on Thursday night and it was very dark. Despite the team being very tired after a long journey we all kept each others spirits high and helped one another assemble our tents and get all our belongings into them. Team work and communication played an important role Thursday night.		8	
2 15/07/2016	Billbary study	Billberry is an important indicator species for surrounding wildlife such as deer grazing effects and the impact it has. I gained experience working in a team in physically tiring conditions whilst looking at different species and learning to identify them. It was a valuable lesson to have to work quickly but accurately and working with others who have different styles of learning.		11	
3 16/07/2016	Vegetation Treatment surveying	Working effectively in a team to help towards research which may ultimately help local farmers to decide which treatment method is best to clear the land of Broom. We carried out pitfall traps and 2mx2m quadrats to survey the land. It was very hot on the mountain so working effectively as a team was important and keeping one another motivated. Data entry and report writing in the evening.		7	
4 17/07/2016	Travelling and data completion	Gathering and entering the data.		7	
5 18/07/2016	Vegetation and pollinators survey	Carrying out a pilot study in the mountains to see whether pollinators were able to travel between habitats. I gained experience in working as a team to come up with research that will benefit pollinators and hopefully allow corridors to be established.		7	
6 19/07/16	travelling and data completion	working coaboratively to gather and enter data		7	
7 20/07/16	Mine site survey	I learnt about the effects of mining sites on vegetation (after 50 years) and the effects this has on cattle and livestock. It was interesting to survey the vegetation that existed and the species that livestock did not consume due to poisoning. I progressed my quadratting and surveying skills. Data entry of the results throughout the day.		10	

8	21/07/16	Dinosaur museum and travelling home	Travelling home from Spain to England.	5
9	22/07/16 - 24/07/16	Blog write-up and missing data	Blog write-up for the vegetation and pollinators survey.	2
10	26/08/16 - 28/08/16	Finishing off report entries	Finishing off report entries: results and discussions for the Billberry survey and introductions and methods from the Vegetation Treatment survey	15
			Total hours	79

		Name:	Miriam Treadway			
		Project:	PICOS SERT Target 70hrs	Hours completed so far:	70	
		Role:				
			Activity Log			
Date	Work completed	Skills and personal attributes gained or used			Hours worked	
1	July 14 2016	Traveling to Camping "El Cares", which would be the base camp for the next two days.	Working in difficult conditions. Communicating and working with a new partner.			8
2	July 15th 2016	Bilberry Surveying, this consisted of working in a 2x2 meter set up quadrat or measuring out ones own. Counted and measured bilberry, looked at vegetation cover. Also, data entry input of data collected from the survey.	Learned new surveying skills.Learned about local history and farming in the area .Importance of bilberry to the environment. Data entry skills. Team work and communication skills. How do work in tight spaces. Management of physical exertion. Table making skills on excel.			10.5
3	July 16th 2016	Vegetation Strips and pitfall traps	Learned about different cutting techniques used for removal of broom. How each works and which is more effective. How to work in an area with multiple projects running in the area and not to disturb the other projects. How to plan and plot pitfall traps. Team work. Data entry.			7
4	July 17th	Moving camp/Data entry (putting in remaining data for the broom clearing data and pitfall traps)				7
5	July 18th	Pollination survey	Designing and implementing an experiment. Vegetation, insect,floral identification. Data entry. Team building.			7
6	July 19th	Moving day	Data entry. Team building.			7
7	July 20	Mine impact surveys	Gained a better understanding on how mining effects the environment. Have a better understanding of the local flora.			10
8	July 21	Camp leaving day/Data entry	Data entry. Team building.			6
9	July 22	Data entry/Personal Statement	Communication skills.			3
10	July23	Blog rough draft	Writing skills and communication skills.			4.5
				Total hours	70	

		Name:	Keana Aroun-Maxwell		
		Project:	PICOS SERT Target 70hrs	Hours completed so far:	83
		Role:			
		Activity Log			
Date	Work completed	Skills and personal attributes gained or used			Hours worked
1 14th July	Setting up camp	Gathering all clothing and gear for the next week required organisation skills and forward thinking. I also practiced time keeping and orientation in order to arrive at the airport at the correct time. Once arrived at our destination I used communication skills to set up camp with a new team of researchers.			9
2 15th July	Bilbury Survey	Explored the local area, completed a 3 hour hike to Preva, the largest town near our camp base. This required map reading skills and orientation. I also familiarized myself with the local flora and fauna including a red squirrel and lizards. I also identified butterflies from the guide that I had seen on my hike.			8
3 16th July	Methodology study	Methodology study conducted to investigate the most efficient way of clearing broom from areas in the Picos mountains. I was able to practice my surveying skills and learnt more about plant identification and conservation management. When we arrived back at camp we had a small debate on the problems of enforcing new environmental laws. I learnt that it is difficult for scientist / ecologists to demonstrate their scientific findings in a clear and concise manner for policy makers to understand, ie scientific journals. The most efficient way of introducing new policy ideas based on scientific findings is through the public, this made me think a lot about conservation policy implementation based on science vs public/ policy makers decisions and to what extent conservation policies benefit the environment.			8
4 17th July	Moving camp	Travelling to new campsite across a long distance, having to efficiently take down and pitch up a tent using communication skills. Inputting data from previous day.			7

5	18th July	Pollinator survey	Plan A and B were both cancelled due to unsafe working conditions, so we had to improvise today and develop our own study which was a completely new experience for me on how landscapes support pollinators traveling from habitat to habitat. I improved my plant and invertebrate identification skill and learnt new sampling methods as well as how to design a balanced study. Inputting data (blog entry) and team building.	11
6	19th July	Moving camp	Travelling over long distance to new campsite. Inputting data from previous work and taking down notes of other peoples data. Team building	7
7	20th July	Mine site surveying	Understanding how mining effects soil and in turn how the plants absorb these heavy metals, and the effect on grazers who consume these hyperaccumulators. Taking samples of soil and measurements of grazed vegetation and quadrats. I was able to practice identification of plants. After the work was completed a visit to the local town took place, I learnt how to communicate in basic spanish, such as ordering food and asking for directions.	10
8	21st July	Leaving camp	Last of information input and packing up of tents. Travelling back to England.	7
9	22nd July	Uploading photos and personal statement	Uploading photos taken on the trip and editing personal statement and I WAS log	5
10	25th July	Data input	Finalising input of Covagonda and mining data	5
11	26th July	Blog entry	Finalising blog entry and editing design.	6
			Total hours	83

	Name:	Hayley Dancer			
	Project:	PICOS SERT Target 70hrs		Hours completed so far:	72
	Role:				
		Activity Log			
Date	Work completed	Skills and personal attributes gained or used		Hours worked	
14.07.16	We arrive in Spain and spent the day travelling. When we arrived at the campsite it was already dark so putting up the tent became a challenge.	Team work and communication skills were key in the tent construction while working with a new partner in challenging conditions.		8	
1 15.07.16	We were carrying on a study set up by the university of Leon which involved locating 2mx2m quadrats and counting the abundance and characteristics of bilberry and other plant species. The aim of this was to see the effects of deer grazing in bilberry as this affects other organisms such as the threatened capercaillie. The study would help authorities decide how many deer to cull in the future.	I learnt skills in new research techniques such as volume concentration. I also learnt how to identify new plant species that were needed to complete the investigation. Some of the tasks also required us to work in tight and difficult places so I had to improve my patience and adapt to the new situation.		9	
2 16.07.16	Again we were carrying on a study to help resolve issues between farmers and local authorities. We looked at 3 different types of treatments of clearing the vegetation in three different sites and control areas. These were hand cutting, retro spider and tractor.	I learnt how to deal with farmer and authority conflicts by backing up arguments with data from experiments. I also learnt how to create and place successful pitfall traps.		8	
17.07.16	We travelled from the first campsite to the second and set up camp again. The afternoon was spent doing data input for day 2 and 3 and writing the introduction and method for the bilbury study report write up.	I improved my report writing skills and how to write a single report as a group by combining ideas.		4	
3 18.07.16	We weren't able to carry out our original plan due to hounds blocking the research area, so we had to adapt and come up with a new plan. Instead, we came up with our own pilot study which involved looking at different ecotones and the cover of species within them. We also looked at pollinators along a transect and which plants they favoured. In the afternoon, me and my team wrote the blog for a day and added pictures.	I learnt how to plan and carry out our own unique pilot study. I also learnt how to use aspects of different people's ideas to create one big and successful study. New plants and pollinators had to be identified in the experiment so I had to learn how to identify those.		7	
4 19.07.16	We travelled to the third campsite and set up camp again. The afternoon was spent doing data entry for the previous day and completing our blog entry for day 3 for the team blog.	I now perfected my skills in setting up camp and improved skills in data entry and writing the blog in a creative way.		4	

5	20.07.16	Visited a closed mining site and investigated the effects of mining on the land and cattle years after by using transects to count the amount of cow poo and quadrats to measure vegetation height and identify species.	I overcame personal challenges on the hike due to the weather causing visibility issues and causing the rocks to be very slippery. I think i helped contribute with plant idrntification using the skills ive gained earlier in the week.	8
6	21.07.16	In the morning, a few of us took the opportunity to learn a little more about the history of the area and visited the local dinosaur museum. We then packed up camp and had a final team talk. The rest of the day was spent travelling home to England.	I learnt a lot about about the prehistoric history of the area in the museum and tested my language skills trying too understand the spanish throughout the exhibit. Teamwork skills were gained again with packing up the camp.	8
7	22.07.16	I wrote my personal statement for the SERT page and uploaded a photo.		1
8	23/07/16 - 31/08/16	All data input and analysis was completed and report writing finished. I also became the day 3 blog editor and made the final and changes and improvements to it so that it was finished to a good standard. I aso edited the day 2 method and introduction using suggestion from the lecturers for a title and adding elements to it so that it was of good quality to be added to the whole day 2 report. I also contributed to ideas and the planning of the day 1 results and discussion report.	Improved report writing and data analysis skills. Also communication and teamwork skills improved as the reports were a team project so had to collaborate ideas by communicating through email so was a slower process.	15
			Total hours	71

		Name:	Stuart Farrington		
		Project:	PICOS SERT Target 70hrs	Hours completed so far:	73
		Role:			
		Activity Log			
	Date	Work completed	Skills and personal attributes gained or used	Hours worked	
1	14/07/2016 & 21/07/2016	Travel to and from the airport	This includes packing appropriate equipment for the trip, bearing in mind that I would be carrying my bags from location to location throughout the week, I had to strike the balance between ensuring I had everything needed without encumbering myself with a heavy bag. I also had to arrange my own travel across the country to the airport on a budget. Both of these show good organisational skills and resourcefulness.	7	
2	14/07/2016	Setting up camp.	Setting up camp in low light levels. We arrived late to the campsite after a long day of travelling, and as a result we had to erect our tent, arrange our bedding and ensure we were ready for the following day in difficult conditions. Having not been camping for almost 15 years, this was not a straight forward process.	2	
3	15/07/2016	Mountain hike and bilberry quadrat survey.	Managing physical exertion with a workload. The day involved a long trek up a mountain path under intense heat and little cloud cover. Following the trek, we were tasked with completing quadrat surveys at various locations around the site. As we were lacking a few team members that day, we needed to work quickly and efficiently to ensure all data were gathered before the end of the day.	10	
4	16/07/2016	Cutting strips survey.	New data gathering techniques. Here as well as carrying out quadrat surveys, we created pitfall traps. This is a data gathering technique I have never experienced before and provided a great new experience for me.	3.5	
5	16/07/2016	Cutting strips survey.	Working with a team and delegating tasks based upon individuals strengths and weaknesses. During the day we worked in larger groups so to share the workload. As people naturally excel in different areas, it was important to acknowledge this and assign roles accordingly.	3.5	
6	16/05/2016	Creative writing for blog.	Once we had returned to the camp, we began writing a blog based upon on the day's events. The blog was to be written in a casual language, rather than formal writing, so that it would be engaging for an audience lacking a scientific background. This is requires a skillset I was previously unfamiliar with.	5	
7	17/07/2016	Data entry.	Once data had been gathered during the field activities, it was to be transferred onto a master file for use later on. This requires good organisational skills and a keen eye for detail as mistakes or inaccuracies are not to be tolerated.	3	
8	18/07/2016	Pollinator survey.	Effectively designed a field study. Due to a problem with our scheduled field activity for this day, we had to quickly develop an alternative plan. This involved all aspects of research design, such as determining an appropriate topic to study, identifying a suitable location, and employing the correct data gathering techniques.	5	
9	18/07/2016	Pollinator survey.	As an experiment, we were asked to mix our teams up to see how effective we would be able to adapt to working with people we were unfamiliar with. The successful completion of this task evidences flexibility and adaptability.	5	
10	19/07/2016	Disassembling and reassembling camp.	Managing personal equipment so that we could quickly and efficiently move between locations.	3	
11	20/07/2016	Mine survey.	Compared with the other field days, the weather had turned. Due to altitude, visibility was severely reduced, making it difficult to navigate the difficult terrain. We also had to be accurately aware of our surroundings so not to disturb the local wildlife, which had taken a keen interest in us while on location.	7	

12	20/07/2016	Experiencing the local culture.	Following our final field activity the whole team visited the local town for a group meal. During this time I interacted with locals, learnt the basics of the language and attempted to communicate with it. This included asking for directions and ordering from restaurants and cafes.	7
13	21-30/07/2016	Data analysis of pollinator survey.	Using appropriate data analysis techniques, understanding the implications of gathered data and effectively articulating that in writing.	10
14	22/07/2016	Uploading photos and writing personal biography.	Learning to use new software to share information gathered with other members of the team.	2
			Total hours	73

[1] anonymous:travelling