

**Team**  
**PICOS SERT Target 70hrs**

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<b>Team activity overview</b>	<b>Hours</b>
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





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





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:					
<b>Activity Log</b>					
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	



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











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



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









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



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