

## The Rufford Small Grants Foundation

### Final Report

Congratulations on the completion of your project that was supported by The Rufford Small Grants Foundation.

We ask all grant recipients to complete a Final Report Form that helps us to gauge the success of our grant giving. We understand that projects often do not follow the predicted course but knowledge of your experiences is valuable to us and others who may be undertaking similar work. Please be as honest as you can in answering the questions – remember that negative experiences are just as valuable as positive ones if they help others to learn from them.

Please complete the form in English and be as clear and concise as you can. We will ask for further information if required. If you have any other materials produced by the project, particularly a few relevant photographs please send these to us separately.

Please submit your final report to [jane@rufford.org](mailto:jane@rufford.org).

Thank you for your help.

**Josh Cole, Grants Director**

Grant Recipient Details	
<b>Your name</b>	Xiao Wen
<b>Project title</b>	Primates at Nankang, Mt. Gaoligong, Yunnan: Species Richness and Threats to the Community
<b>RSG reference</b>	<b>03.12.07</b>
<b>Reporting period</b>	March 2008 – July 2008
<b>Amount of grant</b>	£5000
<b>Your email address</b>	Xiaowen.dali@gmail.com
<b>Date of this report</b>	2008-07-31

1. Please indicate the level of achievement of the project's original objectives and include any relevant comments on factors affecting this.

Objective	Not achieved	Partially achieved	Fully achieved	Comments
check the richness and population of primates			Fully achieved	The terrain and the vegetation are steeper and thicker than we expect.
specify the threats to the primate community			Fully achieved	

2. Please explain any unforeseen difficulties that arose during the project and how these were tackled (if relevant).

1. The funding can't be received until June. I loaned money from our university to finish all the work. The exchange rate of sterling was decreased from 15 to 13.2 during the project course. We cut down some item and balanced the budget.
2. The weather became very bad in April, we stopped our field work due to poor visibility in the forest, but we do think the data collected was already good enough at that time.

3. Briefly describe the three most important outcomes of your project.

- Species richness and population of primates at/near Nankang corridor was clarified. No comprehensive survey has been done in this region before (Fig. 1). This survey covered about 35 km<sup>2</sup> and proved that Nankang is an outstanding site of primate richness in China especially at high elevation. Estimation of Primate at/nearby Nankang was listed in table 1. Groups and individuals of primates can be underestimated because cliff zone was not covered in this survey.

Table 1. Number of groups and individuals of primates at/near Nankang

		Groups	Individuals
White-browed gibbons	<i>Hoolock hoolock</i>	1	3
Phayre's leaf monkeys *	<i>Trachypithecus phayrei</i>	5	170
Stump-tailed Macaque	<i>Macaca arctoides</i>	3	150
Pig-tailed macaque **	<i>Macaca leonine</i>	1	20
Assamese Macaque	<i>Macaca assamensis</i>	4	60
Rhesus macaque ***	<i>Macaca mulatta</i>	???	???
Slow Loris ****	<i>Nycticebus coucang</i>	???	???

\* Data of two groups was from local people, we only found the trace the next day; \*\* Not found in this survey but we do see them at our preliminary survey in May 2007; \*\*\* Locals people reports that they mainly range near village at lower elevation; \*\*\*\* One was capture by local people in 2007.

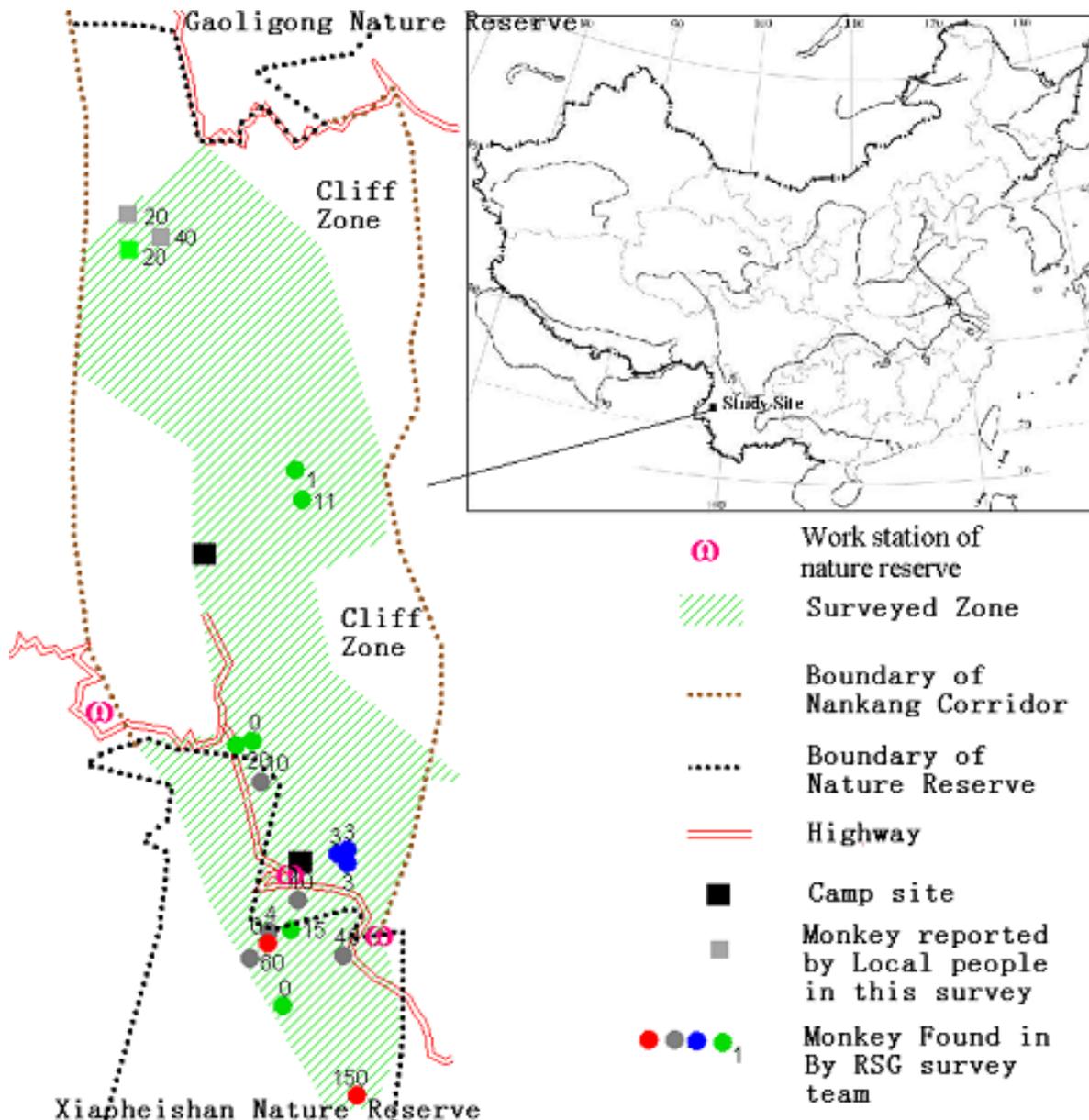


Fig 1. Survey map (This survey covered part of Nankang corridor and part of Xiaoheshan Nature Reserve, cliff zone and highly disturbed habitat near village to the left was not covered; Blue = *Hoolock hoolock*, Gray = *Trachypithecus phayre*, Red = *Macaca arctoides*, *M. assamensis*. Numbers of monkey found was listed nearby, 0 means the group number was not counted. )

- The other object of this survey is to clarify the threat to primate community. We found that:
  - The most severe threat is habitat degradation especially habitat degradation resulting from flavour tsao-ko plantation. Remote sense can't reveal this kind of threat since the way it nibbles the habitat (Fig. 2). Tsao-ko always planted in valley and they almost cover 30-60% ground (Fig 3). Herding and resulted rangeland increasing was an important factor to habitat degradation in this region, so nature reserve banned herding in 2005. But local people start to plant more Tsao-ko to balance their budget (Fig 4). This reminds us to be more careful on management. The example at Xiaodifang can be a good one. People plant mustard instead of corn, the conflict between village and nature reserve was decreased since bear won't graze in mustard land.

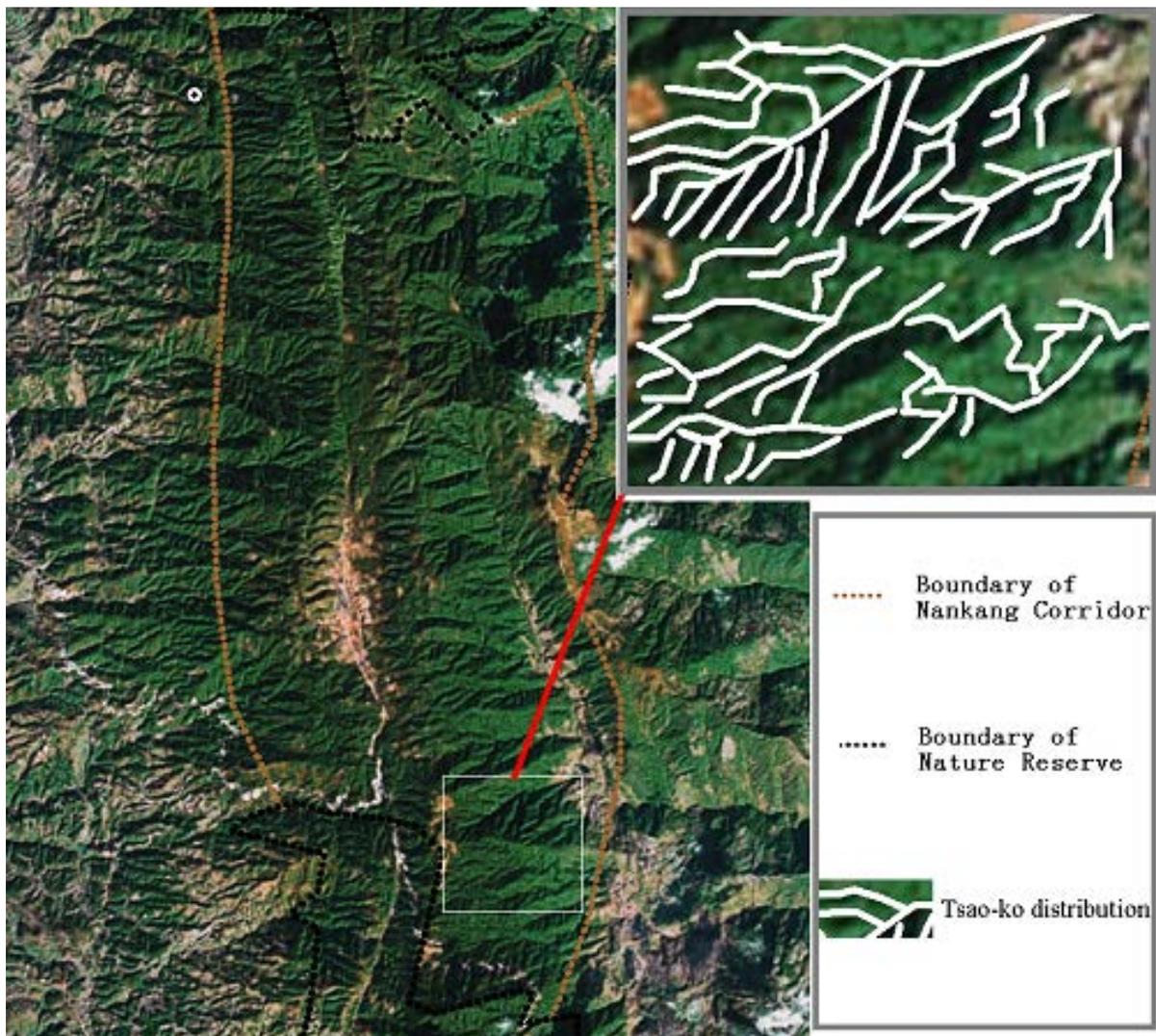


Fig. 2 sketch map shows how Tsao-ko plantation result in habitat degradation

2. Poach is still severe in remote place such as the northern part of Nankang corridor. There are only 3 rangers working in that area where they found 52 traps only in Nov. 2007. Ranger told us it's impossible for them to clear all traps and find poachers in such a big dense forest.
3. There are 18 villages and more than 35 thousand of people live in this area, they demands resources such as fire wood, farmland etc. from the forest, the pressure on forest will not decreased unless population of local people decrease.



Fig 3 Tsao-ko in valley



Fig 4 Trees were cut down for Tsao-ko plantation

- Road is always a disturbing factor to wildlife, high percentage of local people is living in nature reserve in China, and road construction is inevitably in nature reserve. There are several bridges on the highway, monkey faeces were found at one bridge opening. This can be a good example to build wildlife path in protected area. In addition, most primates' population is ranging along/near the road. We think the reason can be that there are three workstation of nature reserve along the road thus patrol density is much higher than other part of the corridor, it's safer for animals to range nearby. So, if the nature reserve increases patrol effort in northern part, Nankang corridor can function better for animal migration between Gaoligong and Xiaoheishang Nature reserve.

#### **4. Briefly describe the involvement of local communities and how they have benefitted from the project (if relevant).**

It will work by simply told local people to protect the wildlife because how much it value and how amazing they are because we found even the rangers was confused on conservation policy. Thus we discussed with the rangers, villagers and teacher of local elementary school during survey/investigation on how conservation issue can result in sustainable better life in the future.

We also persuade the head of Huchong village to setup green gas which was encouraged by nature reserve but not accept by locals. We hope he can be an example to extend use of green gas in Huchong.

#### **5. Are there any plans to continue this work?**

Yes, we want to evaluate behaviour response of primate on habitat degradation resulting from Tsao-ko Plantation and evaluate if Nankang really function as a corridor for primates. Also we want to do a detail analysis on why locals prefer to stay at home instead go to city and live/work outside since local population decreasing should be an ultimate way to remove the pressure on wildlife and their habitat.

#### **6. How do you plan to share the results of your work with others?**

We will send the final Chinese reports to Gaoligong Nature Reserve in August, and we are preparing a manuscript to publish our data on a scientific journal.

**7. Timescale: Over what period was the RSG used? How does this compare to the anticipated or actual length of the project?**

RSG was used from March 20 to April 5, total 17 days. It starts and end earlier then expected but the actual length is close to anticipated.

**8. Budget: Please provide a breakdown of budgeted versus actual expenditure and the reasons for any differences. All figures should be in £ sterling, indicating the local exchange rate used.**

Item	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
Training course & workshop				
Meeting room rent (workshop)	60	0.00	60.00	Training course was done at the study site. So, there is no room fee and food was including in field survey part.
Materials including notebooks, pens etc	60	90.91	-30.91	
Rooms (workshop & training course)	240	0.00	240.00	
Food	360	0.00	360.00	
<b>Field survey</b>				
Insurance	225	102.27	122.73	To finish the survey before Qingming festival. (April 3 to April 10) which is of high fire risk, nature reserve staffs and ranger need to be ground alert, the survey start earlier than planned and training course was simplified to 1 day at Nankang. Nature reserve want the northern part of Xiaoheishan Nature reserve to be included in this survey, we also find it's important to get more people for the area is larger, steeper and dense than we expect. Total 27 people (but most time 25) were working in the field. We are told it's more convenient to stay in nearby village/workstation than in tent. So less tent and sleeping bag was bought. We bring them to the study site in case it's needed. Headlights is too expensive for all people, thus we bought flashlight instead. Other difference is due to exchange rate changing.
Maps	40	45.45	-5.45	
Food	900	1590.91	-690.91	
Stipend for assistants	1080	2004.55	-924.55	
Transportation	450	181.82	268.18	
Tents	560	238.64	321.36	
Compass	24	29.55	-5.55	
Sleeping bags	240	136.36	103.64	
Batteries	60	68.18	-8.18	
Accommodation in village & nature reserve station	0	393.94	-393.94	
Headlights	96	56.82	39.18	
Other				
Contingency (10% of total)	605			
<b>Total</b>	<b>5000</b>	<b>4939.39</b>		1 sterling =13.2 RMB when fund received.

*The exchange rate is about 1 sterling=15 RMB when we applied RSGF and its 13.2 when the fund was received and save as RMB. The survey plan was changed after the nature reserve staff told us we can not do it in April since they must be ground alert in April for Qingming festival. So, it starts immediately in March. We change a lot on plan implement since the exchange rate is continuing decrease to save money.*

**9. Looking ahead, what do you feel are the important next steps?**

Evaluating behaviour response of primate on habitat degradation resulting from Tsao-ko Plantation and evaluate if Nankang really function as a corridor for primates should be important next steps at Nankang.

But detail analysis on why locals prefer to stay at home instead go to city and live/work outside is also important since decreasing local population should be an ultimate way to remove the pressure on wildlife and their habitat. If this can be done, we think the result can be use in all regions at west yunnan.

**10. Did you use the RSGF logo in any materials produced in relation to this project? Did the RSGF receive any publicity during the course of your work?**

RSGF logo was only used on the report sent to Gaoligong Nature Reserve. Local people and staffs/rangers from nature knew that RSGF funded this project and projects on wildlife conservation during the course of my work.