

## The Rufford Small Grants Foundation

### Final Report

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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**

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#### Grant Recipient Details

<b>Your name</b>	Nan Yang
<b>Project title</b>	Conservation and ecology of buff-throated partridge, in Yajiang county, Ganzi Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Sichuan, P.R. China.
<b>RSG reference</b>	RSG 10.03.08
<b>Reporting period</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2008 to 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2009
<b>Amount of grant</b>	£5780
<b>Your email address</b>	<a href="mailto:Yangnan0204@gmail.com">Yangnan0204@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:yangnan0204@126.com">yangnan0204@126.com</a>
<b>Date of this report</b>	September 2009

**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
Survey buff-throated partridge in sacred and non-sacred forests.			√	At the beginning of the project we found point count surveys weren't suitable for all seasons and changed to other methods, using direct techniques such as recording the number of signs of partridge presence (e.g. feathers, pecks, dusting sites and faeces) along designating trails and found average encountered efficiency (no. /hour) in any habitats in sacred areas was more than those in non-sacred areas. However, the differences were not statistically significant.
Compile a list of other bird species present in the sacred and non-sacred forests.			√	7 times field work was carried out in this area and members of local partners took part in the field survey. There were 133 species in Sacred Area and 82 species in Non-sacred Area.
Assess threats to buff-throated partridge, other birds and the habitat.			√	Several threats factors or pressures partridge and their habitats are facing: forest and stone exploitation, fires, snow, disease, predators. Fire is the most serious threat. Additional factors include eroding traditional Tibetan culture and modern lifestyle that are potential threats.
Assess the conservation value of the culturally protected forest at Pamuling.			√	A good cooperation with all team members and local partners, all field works, poster display and meeting were conducted smoothly, 7 times field work were carried out ,2 meetings were conducted with local partners, poster displays were conducted in local school, communities and Pamuling Monastery. Relationships with local partners and NGOs were developed and are positive.

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

With the rapid development of the Chinese economy, the traditional Tibetan Culture is eroding and monks yearn towards a modern lifestyle; this will be adverse to conservation of biodiversity and

increase threats; tourism and pilgrimage areas have been established in scared area and putting tourists into this area of high biodiversity will increase pressure. Plastic garbage is influencing and threatening wildlife. We discussed the pressures with Pamuling Wildlife Conservation Association and Mountain & Water Nature Conservation Center and are going to clean the garbage up and carry out environmental conservation education around local communities.

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

(1). Collection of data on partridge and bird species in scared area and non-scared area and threat factors to partridge and their habitats. This helped us assess conservation value in this area and help the local government and Pamuling Monastery to come up with a new strategy (establishing a wildlife conservation reserve) for the protection and management of partridge and other wildlife and their habitats.

(2). New survey skills and knowledge developed with local partners and conservation consciousness of local school children and teachers enhanced.

(3). As a high great biodiversity and historic protection site, it has attracted lots of conservationists and researchers and ecology tourists. It is listed as “One of the most harmonious nirvana for Bird watching for people in China” on the WWF-BBS. (<http://www.wwfchina.org/bbs/viewthread.php?tid=532354&extra=page%3D8%26amp%3Borderby%3Dreplies>). Pamuling is a demonstration site for conservation biodiversity and its conservation experience and value will be popularized around the Tibetan area.

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

The team received much support from local partners; the forestry bureau, chief of Pamuling Monastery and other monks, and local Tibetan people. Staff of Yajiang Forestry Bureau and monks of the monastery took part in fieldwork and gained some knowledge and new skills through our field survey, meetings and poster display, and enhanced local school children and their teachers’ conservation consciousness who will take active role in conservation of wildlife and their habitats in the future and will make pragmatic and long-lasting effect to nature conservation in this area.

The Yajiang Forestry Bureau and Pamuling Monastery will connect wildlife and their habitat conservation with Buddhist Tibetan culture, and are going to carry out some awareness raising in Scared Mountain of Pamuling Monastery in some ways which are represented through Buddhist Tibetan culture.

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

Yes, the project aim is cooperative with Yajiang Forestry Bureau and Pamuling Monastery Wildlife Conservation Association and other local partners to developing new strategies which will establish a wildlife conservation reserve in the future and generate funds for conservation of wildlife and their habitats and Buddhist Tibetan culture, and expand conservation value around the county. The new strategies will also to be a conservation of nature and environment protection education site; these activities will promote stakeholders awareness of the important of maintaining Buddhist Tibetan Culture and conservation wildlife and their habitats.

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

The final report and technical report will be distributed to World Pheasant Association, and our local partners, such as Yajiang Forestry Bureau, local community, and Pamuling Monastery Wildlife Conservation Association, NGOs, Mountain & Water Nature Conservation Center which has a conservation project going on in this area, The South-west China Photography Association and the Chengdu Bird watching Society.

The final report and technical report will be distributed to some experts and colleagues who are attracted to this area: Dr. Philip McGowan, UK, WPA; Dr Simon Dowell, UK, Liverpool John Moores University; and Natalie Clark, UK, WPA who provided technical support; and to three referees, Dr. Siegi Klaus, Germany, Dr BS Yue, China, Dr Wang Ying, Taiwan China and to Dr. Ramesh, India and Will Stein, Canada who gave good advice on the fieldwork, and also to Prof. Dr. Jochen Martens, who visited Pamuling on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2009, and Dr. Wang Nan who is working on a similar project in this area and other stakeholders where the results of the project will be disseminated to wider group.

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

The RSG was used for 14 months from July 2008 to August 2009 instead of 12 months.

## 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
<b>Equipment</b>	<b>£800</b>	<b>£716</b>	<b>+£84</b>	
1. Mountain shoes, sleeping bags, etc	£300	£250		
2. Hand-held GPS	£300	£198		
3. Consumables (including batteries, microphone, etc.)	£300	£268		
<b>Travel and Subsistence</b>	<b>£3780</b>	<b>£3,984</b>	<b>-£204</b>	It was used for 14 months.
1. Field work subsistence	£1,600	£1767		
2. Local town subsistence	£500	£472		
3. Long-distance travel	£1,000	£1081		
4. Local travel	£600	£584		
5. Medical insurance	£80	£80		
<b>Administration</b>	<b>£1200</b>	<b>£1226</b>	<b>-£26</b>	
1. Awareness materials	£400	£460	-£60	
2. Meeting (make strategy of conservation and staff training )	£400	£445	-£45	
3. Local town administration (telephone calls, internet)	£100	£115	-£15	
4. Report production	£150	£90	+£60	
5. Photography	£150	£116	+£34	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£5780</b>	<b>£5926</b>	<b>-£146</b>	

Exchange rate: £1=¥13.67 (2008.6) the difference expenditure £146 provided by College of Life Sciences of Sichuan University.

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

We will discuss our findings with local partner and NGOs and other people involved in nature conservation and develop a strategy for its long-term conservation, establish a wildlife conservation reserve in this area and generate funds for conservation of wildlife and their habitats, and Buddhist Tibetan culture. I have discussed our findings with Dr. Wang Nan who is working on a similar project, we will work together and combine conservation wildlife with Buddhist Tibetan Culture and carry out conservation wildlife consciousness education in local communities.

**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?**

We used the RSGF logo on the conservation awareness education and awareness material produced, printed and distributed to local communities, schools, local forestry bureau, Pamuling Monastery and other NGOs such as Mountain & Water Nature Conservation Center (MWNCC), The South-west China Photography Association and Chengdu Bird watching Society. We also used the RSGF logo on the College of Life Sciences, Sichuan University, 10<sup>th</sup> China Ornithological Society Symposium, and 8<sup>th</sup> Straits Intercoastal Ornithological Symposium in August 2009 in Herbin, we also distributed awareness material to visitors who come from National Taiwan Normal University.

**11. Any other comments?**

We are grateful for the support of RSGF we received, without this support this work would not have been and so results achieved. Many thanks should also go to WPA-UK, MWNCC-China and Dr. Philip McGowan, Dr. Simon Dowell, Dr. Stephen Brown, and our referees, Dr. Siegi Klaus, Dr. BS. Yue, Dr. Ying Wang, and my friends K. Ramesh and Will Stein, thank you for your help on my project.