

## 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. The Final Report must be sent in **word format** and not PDF format or any other format. 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. Please note that the information may be edited for clarity. 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>	Edgar M. fortune
<b>Project title</b>	Final phase to remove Australian pine from white cay, Bahamas
<b>RSG reference</b>	10643-2
<b>Reporting period</b>	May 8th-20th 2012
<b>Amount of grant</b>	£5,792
<b>Your email address</b>	<a href="mailto:Edgarfortune@islandecosystems.org">Edgarfortune@islandecosystems.org</a>
<b>Date of this report</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> September 2012

**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
Remove all the large and smaller trees from white cay			Removed all large trees	We don't have to bring chainsaw back what a relief. All of the major airlines have restrictions, which made it difficult. This was the most important goal of the project to remove all of the large, small and medium sized trees on the island. From a distance it great too see no Australian pine on the island.
Outreach programmes		Two school programmes		Continue to visit Exuma schools and give programmes about conservation. We made some great contacts in the school district to make the next trip an easy process. The teachers are looking forward to working with us next spring.
Remove small regrowth plants			%70 done	Small confined area left.
Burn all piles of brush			%80 done	2 small piles left
Work with government	x			The person scheduled to help had to leave the country on business. I did get a chance to discuss the project with the Dept. of Environmental Services and they did commit to helping in spring. They wanted me to be in direct contact with them for scheduling the next trip.

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

Shipping the chainsaw was difficult; all airlines don't allow chainsaws anymore. I had to ship it to Miami by mail, and ship it through a shuttle service to Exuma, Bahamas

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

We removed all of the Australian pine trees that needed to be cut with chainsaws.

Community outreach programme that targeted Exuma kids was successful.

For the first time we had a chance to communicate directly to government officials about the work we are doing.

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

The local community is now aware of the importance of conservation on this island and why removing invasive species will benefit species.

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

Yes, we still need to finish removing the small regrowth of pine that is restricted to a small area. This will be accomplished by using hand tools and some local staff. Also, we would like to continue with outreach programmes on the island.

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

We plan to share the work on website; write articles and The Bahamas National Trust will published something on our work.

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

May 8th-22nd 2012 the work was accomplished during the timeline we planned.

**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
Boats	938			
Hotels	938	978	32	Estimation cost
Airfare	2250	2350	100	Cost increase
Food and water	500	540	40	Cost increase, estimation
Chainsaws, Herb. Satellite phone,	1166	1366	200	Extra cost for shipping chainsaw
<b>Total</b>	5,792	<b>6,162</b>		

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

Continue with educational outreach programs and finish removing what's left of the Australian pine.