

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.

Thank you for your help.

Josh Cole, Grants Director

Grant Recipient Details	
Your name	Nabin Bhattarai
Project title	Leopard-human conflict in and around the Capital City of Nepal
RSG reference	11688-1
Reporting period	1 Year
Amount of grant	£4750
Your email address	bhattarainabin5@gmail.com
Date of this report	3 rd April 2013

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
To identify the conflict areas			Fully achieved	Mainly boundary areas of Bhaktapur and Lalitpur are the prone areas where conflict was seen the most. This has been mapped.
Conservation awareness activities			Fully achieved	Now people are aware of importance of wildlife and they can now use some preventive measures to mitigate the conflicts. After the awareness programme, no conflict was heard till the submission of report.
Survey techniques of Wild animals		Partially achieved		Survey technique to forest and park staff was provided but there is uncertainty from government sector whether this effort will continue or not.
Forest cover change			Fully achieved	Forest cover change using satellite image of 1990 and 2010 was calculated. Forest area between 1990 and 2010 was decreased by 9.99 sq km in the project area.
Distribution of common leopard			Fully achieved	Camera trapping survey was conducted twice to get the appropriate distribution and presence of common leopard in five districts which has been mapped.

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

Camera trapping survey near the settlement area was found to be the most difficult work, as there were the problems of losing the camera traps so we had to be in the field in night time as well. But unfortunately we missed one pair of camera traps.

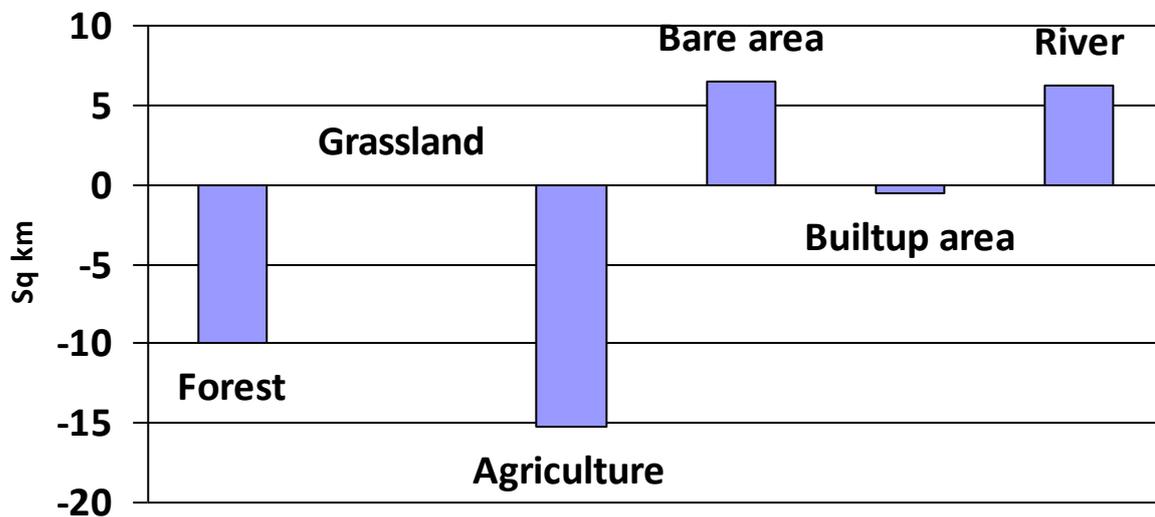
It was very difficult to make old people understand about the leopard-human conflict, importance of conservation of wild animals and mitigating techniques as they have been frustrated due to crop raiding by other wild animal especially wild pig. Those issues were solved by showing the documentary, posters, and pamphlets. Documentary shows were found to be the most effective idea to educate those old people.

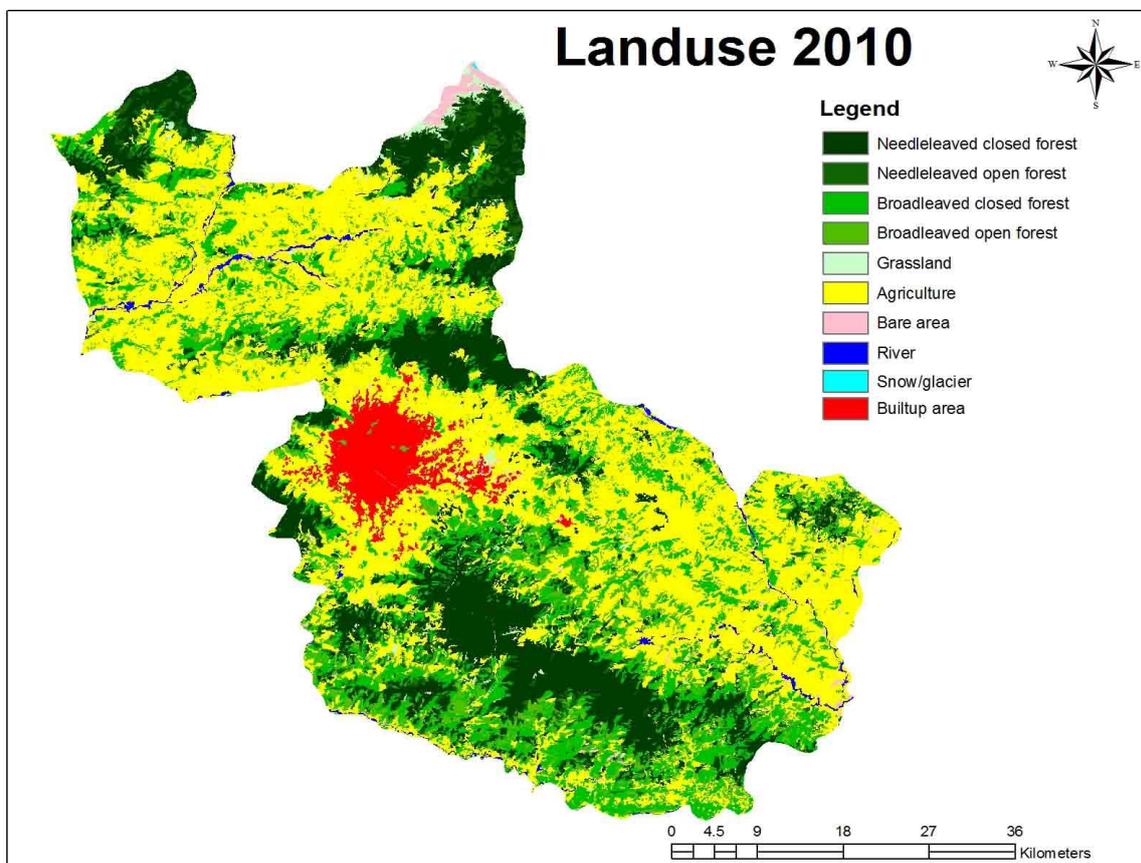
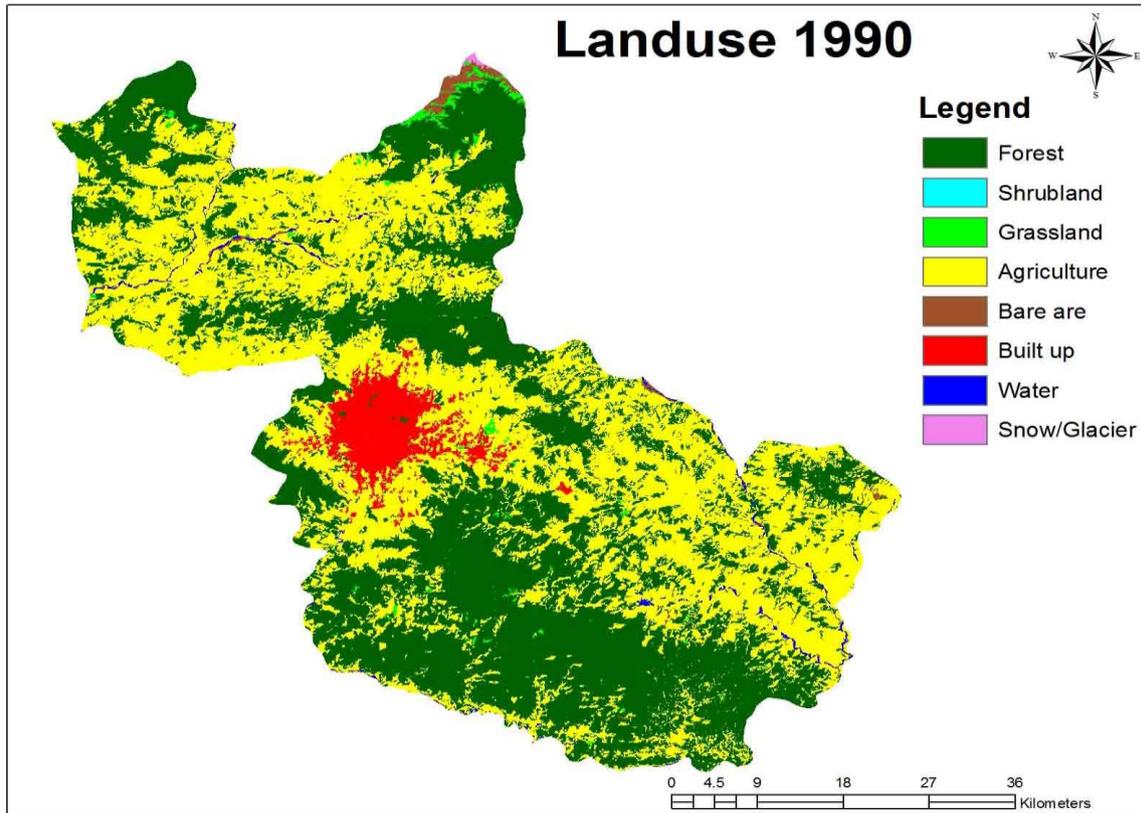
3. Briefly describe the three most important outcomes of your project.

- Conflict prone area was delineated with the forest cover changes in the study area in between 1990 and 2010.
- Shipadol, Thimi of Bhaktapur district which is located around 500 m from the Suryabinayak forest. The forest of that area has been continuously decreasing due to increased settlement and agricultural field. So wild animals of that forest are moving towards the settlement area.

- Bhimdhunga, Gotthatar and Budhanilkhanta area of Kathmandu are the conflicted area of Kathmandu district. In the same way, Godavari is the conflicted area by leopard in Lalitpur district. Asapuri area of Kavre district was the prone area where several times leopard have attacked the domestic animals as well as children. Finally, no evidence of leopard attack observed.
- The below chart clearly shows the change in land use pattern from 1990 to 2010. Negative value indicated the decreasing pattern while positive value indicated increasing pattern.

Land use change in between 1990-2010





- Conservation awareness activities and self-defending techniques among the local communities, school students and relevant organisations to address the threats and preventive measures was achieved.
- Conservation awareness programme was conducted mainly by using Powerpoint slides in three main topics: 1. biodiversity and conservation; 2. wild animals of Nepal; and 3. mitigation techniques for leopard-human conflicts.
- Especially for the self-defending techniques it was suggested not to travel during night, early morning and late evening towards the conflict areas. If there is compulsion to travel then be on group and always carry stick for the self defence. For the self defence we only recommended them to use stick because law and order of our country don't allow killing wild animals.
- Presence of leopard (i.e. distribution pattern of Leopard) was mapped. A total of seven common leopards were captured by the camera traps. Out of seven two were captured in Bhaktapur district viz. Suryabinayak jungle and Gamcha area one in Lalitpur district near Deer research centre, one in Kavre district and three in Kathmandu in and around Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park.

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

The research project was focused to give the awareness programme on how to mitigate the conflicts between wild animals and human. To achieve our expected outcome as designed in our methodology some informal interviews with the locals was conducted. Some level of awareness was raised at that time to locals. A total of 17 awareness programmes were conducted at community level where 517 people took part. In addition, 15 local people were trained for the monitoring of wild animals. Finally, 12 Higher Secondary Schools and 4 Secondary Schools were provided with the conservation awareness programme and mitigation measures where a total of 819 students took part.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

I am very keen to continue this work as this not only the case in the Kathmandu valley but it's the problem of whole Nepal. After the starting of this research project very little cases of leopard attack were observed in our project area, which also may be because of our awareness programme and techniques to mitigate such calamities. Now my target will be to run such kind of project in adjoining districts of my project site.

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

Firstly, process of sharing the results has already been started. During the training and awareness programme all the findings have been shared with locals, stakeholders, students as well as government staff. In addition to this, the final report will be submitted to DNPWC, DoF, District forest offices, NEEDs. They are also one medium who will be sharing the outcomes to different other organisations. An article has been sent and approved by DoF which will be published shortly. In the same way detail analysis of the work is still continuing which will be also sent to an international

journal in short time. In the same way we have still some posters and pamphlets left which will be distributed to different other institutions and we will also be sharing them our work objectives and outcomes. A newspaper article has been drafted to share the outcomes all around the country.

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

The project was initially planned to start from September 2012 to August 2013 but it was slightly late to complete the training and awareness programme in one of the district i.e. Nuwakot and as well there were not good findings from camera trapping because of continuous rain, so, we have to run camera trapping for the second time in one of the prone area. Besides this all the project work was completed on time.

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
Field equipment	850	900	50	Adjusted from contingency
Camera traps and batteries	650	600	50	Additional cost borne by NEEDS-Nepal
Awareness campaign and trainings	750	750	0	
Porter allowance	400	400	0	
Travel cost	550	650	100	Adjusted from field equipment
Sustenance during survey period and travel	1200	1200	0	
Analysis, report preparation and dissemination	850	850	0	
Contingency	150	150	0	Adjusted in travel cost and field equipments
Total	5400	5400	200	

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

During this project period, we provided good training and mitigation measures regarding leopard and human conflict but such kind of issues are not only in Kathmandu Valley but also prevalent to different parts of Nepal, which can be known from the newspaper cuttings. So, such kind of activities should be continued to other parts of the country as well. This kind of step will not only help to mitigate the leopard and human conflict but will help in the conservation of wild animals.

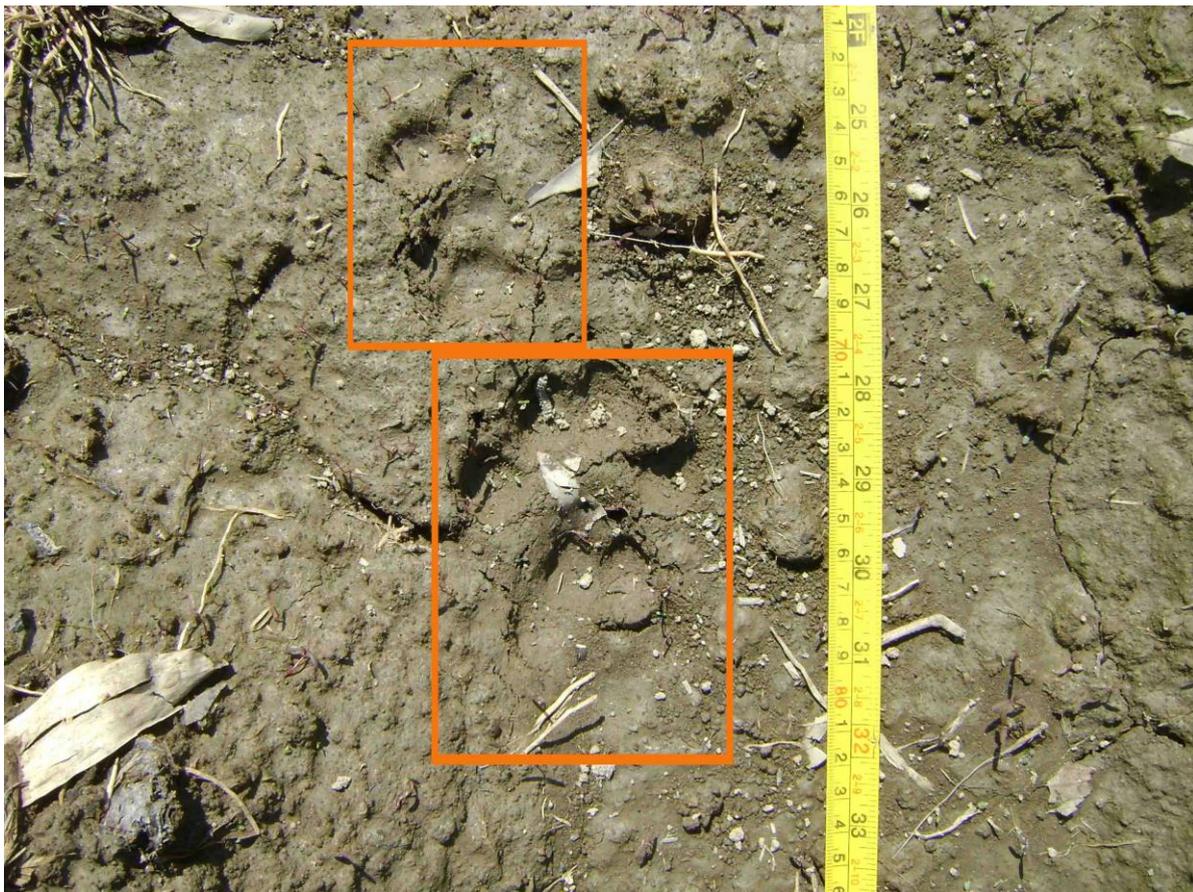
10. Did you use the RSGF logo in any materials produced in relation to this project? Did the RSGF receive any publicity during the course of your work?

Of course, RSGF logo has been used in various places; especially it has been used on posters, pamphlets, and in the report which will be submitted to Department of Forest, Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation, District forest offices.

In addition posters and flex has been kept in various parts of the project area where RSG logo is clearly visible. Finally, social media i.e. Facebook is another publicity of RSG. So, I have to say that RSGF has received good publicity during this project period.

11. Any other comments?

Firstly, thanks to Rufford Small Grants Programme because of which I succeeded to find out the leopard prone areas in and around the capital city. To my understanding and knowledge I think that this is the first ever research of leopard human conflict for Nepal. Because of this research people are aware and can minimise the conflict. I plan to continue this work in the future with other bigger organisations. I am also planning to extend this work outside the capital city.



Leopard tracks



Leopard pugmarks

Firefox | NEEDS - All photographs were from Bha... | YAHOO!

https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=484631764943176&id=188861091186913

Yahoo Search | Search for people, places and things

NEEDS
Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) · 86 Likes | Like Page

All photographs were from Bhaktapur, Surya Binayek. First one (1) was taken in 2012 and another (2) and (3) were taken just few days ago (May 12, 2013). In First photo Mr. Baba is wearing leopards' Skin and in another photos (2) and (3), we can see local persons who were injured by Leopard just few days ago. Reason behind to show these photograph is to think about the conflict between the Human and Wild animal. In these both cases Wild animal (Leopard) was killed. Now, think who is suffering harmful impact from conflict, either human or wild animal?

1 Photo by: S.M. Shrestha, 2012



2

3

about 4 months ago

SUGGESTED GROUPS

- Nepalese Youth for Climate Action** · Purnaman Shrestha and 15 other friends joined
- Natural Resource Management and Ru...** · Prabin Shrestha and 19 other friends joined
- The STOP NEGATIVE... ..THINK POSI...** · K Sasmit Joshi and Shiva Regmi joined
- NYARC (National Youth Alliance for...** · Sanej Prasad Suwal and 10 other friends joined
- THAPATHALI BIDYARTHI UNION** · Ramesh Shrestha and Laxmi Devi joined

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Rashmi Bal | Chat (18)

9:25 AM 9/21/2013