

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	Brent R. Loken
Project title	Protecting the biodiversity of Wehea Forest in Borneo through research, education and conservation
RSG reference	11196-2
Reporting period	1 January 2012 - 31 December 2012
Amount of grant	£5952
Your email address	ethicalexpeditions@gmail.com
Date of this report	13th December 2012

***Note:** The non-profit organisation referred to throughout this report, Ethical Expeditions, changed its organisational name in September 2012. The name is now Integrated Conservation. For purposes of this final report, we still refer to Ethical Expeditions (EE) and will begin using Integrated Conservation in the next grant application.

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
Enhance conservation efforts to protect the endangered Miller's grizzled langur by conducting research on the distribution and ecology of this monkey and implement a long-term biodiversity monitoring project.			X	To investigate population size and distribution of Miller's grizzled langur, EE scientists placed camera traps and conducted direct observation at mineral springs in Wehea Forest. The combination of photo, video and direct observation is allowing researchers to collect data about group behavior and family size. EE scientists were able to record three unique calls used by Miller's grizzled langur. These recordings may be the first recordings of these calls and will be used for population monitoring and estimates in 2013. For the biodiversity monitoring project, camera traps were set along old logging roads, border areas, and within a recently logged area bordering Wehea. Initial results have revealed a healthy mammal population in Wehea with numerous mothers and babies recorded in July and August. This may indicate the possibility of a fruiting season in the forest next year.
To reduce human impacts that threaten the survival of Miller's grizzled langur and other wildlife species.		X		We marked this level of achievement as partially achieved because we believe our work to reduce the human impacts that threaten Wehea Forest will never fully be completed. However in 2012, with the help of RSGF, we were able to make huge strides in reducing these impacts. Three rediscovery programmes were completed, successfully bringing greater awareness to Wehea youth about the importance of preserving Wehea Forest. EE signed an agreement with a local logging company whose concession borders Wehea Forest to conduct research and education activities within their concession area. This agreement includes education about the impact of hunting and the importance of protecting endangered species. Research activities will focus on helping to develop sustainable logging

				practices for the logging company. The environmental education facility in Wehea is under construction. Phase I is complete and phase II is well underway.
To protect critical habit necessary to sustain viable populations of Miller's grizzled langurs and other wildlife species and establish a monitoring, evaluation and reporting program.			X	Wehea rangers are being trained in how to implement a monitoring, evaluation and reporting programme. Multiple training sessions were held and rangers began to independently implement this monitoring programme in October 2012. To learn from other indigenous communities who have successfully implemented similar programmes, EE sponsored a visit to Canada for representatives from Wehea to learn from other indigenous communities who are sustainably and successfully protecting natural resources. In Wehea, EE is continuing discussions with key stakeholders, such as the aforementioned logging company and the local government, toward establishing a greater conservation area around Wehea Forest. Establishing this conservation area is a long-term goal, and important steps were taken in 2012 to achieve this goal.

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

Studying the extremely elusive Miller's grizzled langur is taking longer than anticipated. We had teams of researchers in Wehea Forest sitting in observation blinds and following family groups from May to December 2012. Critical baseline information was gathered during this time, which will be used for population surveys in 2013. However due to the challenges of studying this monkey, no population surveys were done in 2012.

Initially, we anticipated the Wehea Environmental Education Center (WEEC) to be completed in 2012. However during initial construction we quickly noticed that the community, including children, was taking an interest in the carving of the main posts for the center. We realised that this was a great opportunity for traditional knowledge on carving to be transferred to the Wehea Dayak youth. It was also a great opportunity for the community to learn more about Wehea Forests and the Forest rangers by hanging out during the carving process. Therefore, we anticipate the center will take longer to complete than originally anticipated. However, the intangible benefits from this delay are enormous. We anticipate the center to be completed in 2013.

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

- *Miller's Grizzled Langur Research*: EE was able to successfully identify two Miller's grizzled langur family groups and steps were taken to habituate one of the family groups. This

habituation will allow EE scientists to learn more about the behaviour of this monkey and the size of their home range. We were also able to successfully record 3 different calls used by Miller's grizzled langur. This is critical in identifying other populations of this monkey in Wehea Forest.

- *Implementation of the Rediscovery Program:* The Rediscovery Programme in Wehea is the first programme of its kind in East Kutai and was piloted with support from RSGF. This programme has gained remarkable buy-in from the local community and surrounding villages. During our three initial programmes into 2012, elementary students from Wehea spent a week living in Wehea Forest learning from Wehea rangers and village elders about the cultural and ecological importance of Wehea Forest. Children returned to the village as ambassadors for Wehea Forest and the shared the importance of protecting it for future generations.
- *Independent biodiversity monitoring by Wehea rangers:* Our shared goal in Wehea is for the Wehea Dayak to independently and sustainably manage Wehea Forest. EE's training activities in 2012 were an important step in this direction. In October 2012, Wehea rangers independently began monitoring biodiversity along critical border areas in Wehea. In addition, they began a collaboration with a local logging company to monitor the impacts of logging on animal activity. This collaboration includes setting camera traps within newly logged area bordering Wehea and monitoring animal activity over time.

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

The shared goal of EE and the local community is for the Wehea Dayak to independently and sustainably manage Wehea Forest. To this end, EE is investing in the development of human resources in Wehea. A team of Wehea rangers received training and now plays a lead role in EE's camera trapping studies. This training is being passed on as Wehea rangers work with employees from a local logging company to monitor the impact of logging on animal abundances and activity. The shared goal by the Wehea rangers and the logging company is to use knowledge from this project to develop more sustainable logging practices. In addition, five Wehea Dayak are currently attending university and will return to Wehea to work at the Wehea Environmental Education Center and help manage the forest. In 2013 training courses are being planned for business management, eco-tourism, English language and information technology.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

The RSGF has been part of EE's sustainable development and conservation work in Wehea since 2010. EE plans to continue this work in Wehea for the long-term, and is investing in local capacity building in order to ensure the sustainability of conservation work in Wehea.

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

The Wehea Dayak chief's visit to Canada allowed EE and the Wehea Dayak to share their conservation efforts with international audiences. While in Canada, support was generated for the conservation effort in Wehea through various presentations at universities and other venues. Meetings were conducted with indigenous communities in Canada and representatives from First Nations groups plan to visit Wehea in 2013 to continue and exchange best practices for forest and cultural conservation.

EE scientists are in the process of publishing articles highlighting 2012 research results in both lay and scientific publications. Presentations, such as speaking with students in Jakarta, Indonesia, are a regular activity for sharing results. Results are also shared through videos, photos and information on the EE website and we have a large social media presence.

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 from January 2012 - November 2012. This time period represents the completion of Phase II of EE's work in Wehea Forest. Phase III is underway and builds upon last year's work.

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
20 camera traps	2130	2130	0	Originally budgeted this amount for 10 camera traps. After further research, we chose the Bushell brand and were able to purchase twice as many cameras.
120 rechargeable batteries	79	86	7	Slight difference in quoted price
2 Battery chargers	81	81	0	
Pelican case	157	236	79	A larger hard sided case was needed for the additional camera traps
Supplies to build Wehea Environmental Education Center	2442	2442	0	
Training expenses for monitoring, reporting and evaluation program	438	438	0	
Costs associated with initial planning and organizing for greater conservation area	625	539	(86)	Fewer meetings were held than originally anticipated. These meetings are planned for 2013.
Total	5952	5952	0	Local Exchange Rate: 1 USD = 0.625604 GBP and 1 USD = 9250 IDR

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

- **Continue ranger training:** The next phase of ranger training will help prepare the local community to manage Wehea Forest through management training workshops. Additionally, EE is working with community members to develop an agro-forestry programme, with the long-term goal of providing a sustainable funding source to manage Wehea Forest.

- **Scaling up research efforts:** We will continue to expand EE's research programme to include camera trap research in the logging concession that borders Wehea Forest. We are also currently preparing to set camera traps in the remote primary forested areas in Wehea Forest. In addition, we will continue research on the clouded leopard, orangutan and are collaborating on a gibbon study.
- **Education:** EE will continue to run at least four Rediscovery Programmes each year for local school children to understand the importance of protecting Wehea Forest and the biodiversity contained therein. EE is also supporting Wehea university students to pursue university degrees and return to Wehea to assist with forest management, land rights, and governance.
- **Legal protection of Wehea Forest:** EE will continue to provide information and work with the government to achieve legal protection status for Wehea Forest and to develop a sustainable forest management plan.
- **Wehea Environmental Education Center:** The completion of the WEEC will be a focus in the first part of 2013. EE will capitalise on the success of community involvement in building the first phase of the center and carry the momentum to complete the educational facility.

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?

EE always credits RSGF for their generous support at speaking engagements and presentations and will do so in upcoming publications. The RSGF logo is on the main page of the EE website and on EE's organisational summary sheet. We are proud to receive support from RSGF and when possible, share the important role RSGF has played in supporting our work in Wehea and helping the Wehea Dayak to protect their forest.

11. Any other comments?

The future of Wehea Forest, and the long-term success of this project, depend on building human resources within the local Wehea community to successfully and sustainably manage the forest. Research shows that local forest management alone does not guarantee successful conservation outcomes, but that long-term conservation success relies on building capacity within local communities to manage their forests. EE's overall program goals integrate research, education and development in order to achieve sustainable forest management. Programme goals for the upcoming year include:

- Protect and manage critical habitat necessary to sustain viable wildlife populations in Wehea and surrounding forests.
- Reduce human impacts that threaten the survival of Wehea Forest.
- Delineate critical habitat and assess minimum spatial requirements to protect the biodiversity of Wehea and surrounding forests.
- Network with local and global communities to help sustain the Wehea Forest conservation initiative.
- Use Wehea Forest as a catalyst to develop economic opportunities for the Wehea Dayak community.

EE is honoured to work in Wehea and help the community protect its incredible forest. Thank you to RSGF from the entire Wehea community for making this work possible.