

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	Saroj Panthi
Project title	Distribution, Population Status and Conservation Awareness to Conserve the Red Panda (<i>Ailurus fulgens fulgens</i>) in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve, Nepal.
RSG reference	12809-1
Reporting period	12 months
Amount of grant	£5980
Your email address	mountsaroj@gmail.com
Date of this report	April 10, 2014

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
To find out the current status of red panda in DHR.			*
To find out habitat suitability of red panda in DHR.			*
To know the distribution of red panda in the DHR.			*
To raise conservation education in local level.			*
To conduct the local workshop and to distribute the community outreach materials for red panda conservation.			*
To list out the immediate and long-term threats for red panda conservation.			*

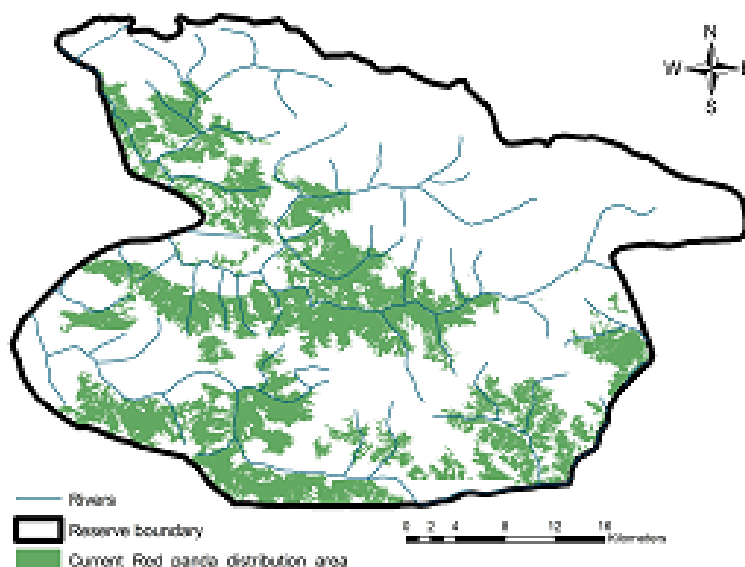
2. Please explain any unforeseen difficulties that arose during the project and how these were tackled (if relevant).

We phased the high-altitude sickness during the field study. As I am a permanent government ranger of Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (DHR), I had managed all kinds of difficulties.

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

Three most important outcomes of my projects are:

1. Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve is the potential habitat of red panda.
2. We discovered the dietary species of the red panda in DHR.
3. Distribution map of red panda is prepared.



4. Local people, herders, teachers and students of DHR area have got knowledge to conserve the red panda and its habitats.
5. Habitat destruction, fire and poaching are major threats of red panda in DHR.

This type of study wasn't conducted before in DHR. The people of the DHR area got knowledge about the importance of this species. They were committed to use bamboo (main food of red panda) sustainably.

We produce posters and pamphlets to motivate the local people to conserve this species and its habitats. DHR office will prepare plan to conserve the identified habitat of the red panda in high priority.

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

Local peoples were involved in field visit and social works. One regular guide, three labourers and some local herders for guidance for special remote area were with us in field. All of them are benefited financially according to our project rule.

Information about threats of this species was collected through field visits and informal discussions with local people and project staff. After identifying potential habitats, the population status, feeding species and threats the local people targeted awareness programmes were conducted. Meetings were conducted at all Village Development Committees (VDCs) around DHR, viz. Gurjakhani, Lulangkhoriya, Bongadovan, Adhikarichaur, Bobang, Nisi, Takasera, Hukam and Ranmamaikot as described in proposal. The school teaching programmes were also conducted in four secondary schools of Dhorpatan area. During the work the local people and reserve staff had got the skills to handle the GPS, cameras and other equipment.

Finally, some local peoples are benefited financially, and all peoples of this area are aware to conserve this species and its habitats.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Government of Nepal, i.e. Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (DHR), will continue to this work. Community forests of this area will conduct the awareness programme regularly. DHR staff will add the red panda conservation awareness programme with their regular programmes. I am also planning to conduct to continue for this work.

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

I will present a paper in DHR office and Api Nampa Conservation Area (ANCA) office, Nepal. I am searching international conferences for presentation of this work. We will publish this paper in an international journal.

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

S.N.	Description	Months (1-12)											
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	Literature review and research design												
2	Habitat survey												
3	Scats collection												
4	Diet analysis												
5	Data analysis												
6	Report preparation and dissemination												
7	Awareness program												

The project was conducted as timescale of proposal.

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 Accommodation	4500	4500		
Travel cost	300	300		
Consumables	180	180		
Community Outreach Materials	700	700		
Data management, Analysis and Reporting	300	300		
Diet analysis		100		My Personal fund
Nutritional analysis of vegetation of diet		500		My Personal fund
Total	5980	6580		I have spent my salary for conservation

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

This project plays the vital role to manage the red panda in DHR. The very important step is management of red panda and its habitat through local community. I will request to Government of Nepal to allocate the fund to conduct these kinds of projects.

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?

Yes, I have used RSGF logo in my all community outreach materials. I have presented this work update in Smithsonian Mason School of Conservation, USA. At that time RSGF logo is used and RSGF

was acknowledged. I will present this work in ANCA, DHR, and DNPWC. I am working with other scientists to prepare technical paper. This paper will be published in an international journal having good impact factor. RSGF will be acknowledged in all presentations and paper.

11. Any other comments?

The contribution of RSGF is highly appreciated. I am working with other scientists to prepare a technical report. The report will be submitted again to Rufford and will be published in peer review international journal. Rufford Small Grants Foundation will be acknowledged in publication.