

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	Dr. Thiri Dae We Aung
Project title	Preliminary population assessment of Green Peafowl <i>Pavo muticus</i> at Central Myanmar
RSG reference	12815-1
Reporting period	From February 2013 to January 2014
Amount of grant	£4962
Your email address	thiridaweiaung@gmail.com
Date of this report	December 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
Estimate the population in a particular habitat within a particular period			Â	About 20 green peafowl were recorded by sighting, hearing and getting information. And total of 201 bird species including five threatened bird species were recorded.
Update the population status of that species in central Myanmar			Â	The status of population and distribution of green peafowl were updated in North Zamayi Reserve Forest, Shwe Set Taw Reserve Forest and Myaung- U Reserve Forest.
Identify key area for green peafowl		Â		According to the survey, I knew the areas where key area for green peafowl. These areas are Myaung- U Reserve Forest near Mone Chaung Reservoir.

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

It was not as easy as we thought for doing survey because of over logging, shifting cultivation and summer season. These are still continuing now. We had faced water scarcity. Being dry and deciduous forest, the weather is too hot, and the birds were also too quite. Having finished the season of rice and bean, the green peafowl are not used to the fields. It was difficult to survey in the cultivation. Therefore, we conducted the survey in other places.

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

- Wildlife research was undertaken in the project area in order to monitor the status of green peafowl and collect more information on non-galliforme species throughout the survey area. In total, 201 species of bird (including 20 birds of green peafowl (Endangered), great slaty woodpecker (Vulnerable), Oriental darter (Near Threatened), great hornbill (Near Threatened) and hooded treepie (Near Threatened) and 12 species of mammals (including northern tree shrew, barking deer, pig-tailed macaque, stump-tailed macaque, rhesus macaque and Phayre') have been recorded.
- The population and distribution status of green peafowl were updated in central and south Myanmar. Threats to wildlife were confirmed which will in turn help an action plan for Myanmar.
- Capacity to work for species conservation enhanced: local villagers, living at the survey in central Myanmar, were trained about the environmental knowledge and conservation of species and nature as well as got acquainted to the awareness raising work among the local communities through direct participation in that.

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

There are no surveys in that area. Therefore, local villagers lack the knowledge about the study of birds. Therefore, we had given the knowledge to the villagers to get the right information and their trust. They were frightened when they saw the binoculars, cameras and GPS. Some of the villagers didn't tell about the product of forest such as the feathers of green peafowl because they thought us that we were governance officials to take action them. As we have done patiently and honestly on the villagers, we gained the trust of villager at the end. This was useful for the conservation of green peafowl in the future. After sharing about the environmental knowledge especially the conservation of species and nature with villagers, we were more respected and trusted by the villagers. There will be no more difficulties to visit the place in next time. It is right that the local villagers believe on the activities of our study because they aware the environmental.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Within its achievement, we plan to:

- 1) Develop community-based environmental services for encouraging local communities in participating biodiversity conservation in project area.
- 2) Conduct the population status survey of green peafowl in northern and western Myanmar.
- 3) Undertake the strict law enforcement within and surrounding the project area for minimising forestry and wildlife crime in increasing population of biodiversity including globally threatened species.

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

We plan to share the results of the project to relevant stakeholders. Additionally, the project results will be published on the BANCA website (www.banca.org) and bulletin of Shwe Phoe Khaung Journal by Myanmar Language.

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

The funds were used one-year period (February 2013- January 2014). The field surveys were conducted in April and May and the information of green peafowl from other organization (WCS, FFI) were collected in the rest period.

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
Staff Cost	2387	2177	210	One full time staff and four part-time staff
Travel	1419	639	780	Long trip for two staff and short trip for three staff.

Accommodation	155	248	93	Long trip for two staff and short trip for two staff
Subsistence	452	354	97	US\$10/day/person for 30 days
Field Equipment	1323	1148	175	Digital camera was used for documentation of project activities, two binoculars for identification of bird species, MP3 recorder for attracting to green peafowl and pamphlet (500) for public awareness were bought.
Contingencies & Administrative Cost	32	396	364	For fax, documents, banking, stationary, printing, telecommunication and medicine for field staff.
Total	5768	4962	606	1£ = USD\$ 1.55

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

- Continue to do the status of green peafowl in northern Myanmar and Rakhine Region.
- Conduct comprehensive surveys every 3-5 years to collect the most up-to date information in order to understand the changing habitat of dry forest in Myanmar.
- Publish data on annual counts and regular surveys in order to share information.
- Carry out capacity building for staff members of wildlife and wildlife-related government agencies to ensure that bird species monitoring is carried out in an official and regular manner.
- Carry out education and awareness programme, such as bird events, regularly to ensure that the public is involved in the biodiversity conservation effort.

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, the support RSGF was acknowledged. The pamphlet printed in the frame of the project contained well visible logo of RSGF. More than 200 copies of it were distributed in stakeholder workshop. The logo was used in the payment vouchers of the local Guide

11. Any other comments?

I am extremely grateful for the extend support to BANCA by Rufford Small Grant Foundation and I think that our achievements in the past year have been impressive. I hope full that RSGF will continue to do the action plan of conservation of green peafowl in Myanmar.