

## The Rufford Foundation

### Final Report

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Congratulations on the completion of your project that was supported by The Rufford 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**

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Grant Recipient Details	
<b>Your name</b>	Sergey Domashevskiy
<b>Project title</b>	Conservation of the Population of the Spotted Eagle ( <i>Aquila clanga</i> ) of the forest zone of Ukraine
<b>RSG reference</b>	13183-1
<b>Reporting period</b>	May 2013-September 2014
<b>Amount of grant</b>	5993 pounds
<b>Your email address</b>	<a href="mailto:birdsfundgroup@gmail.com">birdsfundgroup@gmail.com</a>
<b>Date of this report</b>	15 Sep 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	Comments
- To investigate areas where the spotted eagle was discovered and to determine state of the population of spotted eagle in forest zone of the right-bank of Ukraine;			Fully achieved	Employees of Ukrainian Birds of Prey Research Center installed artificial nesting platforms in areas promising for settling of the spotted eagle ( <i>Aquila clanga</i> ) in the autumn and winter 2013-2014. During breeding period in 2014 the established platforms were checked. 13 points were visited where spotted eagle was observed, or nesting was occurred. Out of this, on eight points birds were observed and nests were checked. In three cases nesting pairs were successful. New point was found, which was visited by spotted eagle and five new points where lesser spotted eagles nested. During 2013-2014 eight spotted eagles were marked, five of which were spotted eagles and two hybrid offspring pairs and one lesser spotted eagle.
-To identify factors that currently affect the Ukrainian population of the spotted eagle;			Fully achieved	During expeditions and communication with local people the main factors that influence Ukrainian population of spotted eagle were identified. Among them: poaching, logging and collecting berries. In order to eliminate harmful effect, it was recommended to develop a protected area.
-To identify habitats and hence conservation areas for spotted eagle.			Fully achieved	Letter to the Minister of Ecology of Ukraine with a request to establish protected area in order to save spotted eagle habitats was sent. It is recommended to establish protected areas with radius of 500 m around following points where spotted eagle's nests were found. N 15126'52.5" E 2654'21.1" N 35144'52.5" E 2706'19.8" N 15148'88.3" E 2687'97.9" N 15144'38.2" E 2689'43.8"
To develop database and to submit it to			Fully achieved	The database was developed and submitted to the Ministry of Ecology and

the Ukrainian Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources, Shmalhausen Institute of Zoology in Ukraine, and IUCN Red List				Natural Resources and Shmalhausen Institute of Zoology in Ukraine. These institutions are responsible for sharing information with IUCN Red List.
To raise awareness of local people in order to protect habitats and species of spotted eagle.			Fully achieved	Poster on protection of the spotted eagle in Ukraine was released in the beginning of spring 2014. The posters are distributed among all organisations that were visited by the team. Training programmes were conducted on monitoring and protection of spotted eagle at 3 universities, 11 forestry's, and nine schools in the north-western regions of Ukraine - where spotted eagle is present. In order to help distribute information about the project among the local people, volunteers were chosen from the universities' biology departments. Lectures about the project and the protection of the spotted eagle are conducted regularly in the regional museum of local culture. Scientific articles on biology, rarity and value of the spotted eagle were published in two regional newspapers. Employees of regional nature reserve took part in the radio programme where the activities of the project were discussed. A seminar on spotted eagle took place in the beginning of spring where the results of the project were discussed.

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

The most important difficulties that arose during the project were lack of awareness of local people and local institution on the value of spotted eagle and its habitats. However, most people were very proactive and helped us a lot in realisation of project aims.

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

- The real state of population of spotted eagle was determined;
- An extensive work with local communities and institutions was conducted;

- Area for conservation of spotted eagle habitat was identified and application was submitted to the Ministry of Ecology and Natural resources.

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

Lectures about the project and the protection of the spotted eagle are conducted regularly in the regional museum of local culture, which is visited by local schools, university students and local and tourist families. Local schools received materials on value and conservation need of spotted eagle and use those during biology lessons. Three people from local communities participated as volunteers in the development and establishment of artificial platforms. Students from the university helped us to distribute materials through local communities. We also had training and discussions at 11 forest administrations in order to help people to inform staff about conservation measures. So, local communities became aware of a species, its value and necessity to conserve species' habitat.

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

There are definite plans to continue this work. First of all, we would like to receive an official approval of the protected area that we recommended to create based on our data. Secondly, we continue development of artificial platforms to encourage nesting of spotted eagles. We also plan to expand our work to additional territories. We also plan to continue monitoring of the previous territories in order to keep track of the population status. Finally, we would like to continue working with local communities and institutions which play vital role in conservation of species habitats.

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

We shared the results with our colleagues from adjacent countries who work on spotted eagle too. The data base was created and submitted to the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources and Institute of Zoology in Ukraine. These data will be submitted to the IUCN Red List. Moreover, information about the project was shared through social networks and our site <http://raptors.org.ua/en/>. Ministry of Ecology is distributing posters among different stakeholders, namely schools, natural departments of Ukrainian universities, and representatives from protected areas. We also plan to submit an article on our findings to the international journal and share the results during international conference.

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

The grant was used for 16 months as it was planned by the project. Even though that funding has been started later than it was planned, the project we started with our own funds end of May and have been finished mid-September.

**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.**

There were no breakdowns

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

We consider following steps for further work:

1. Approval of a protected area in order to conserve species habitat;
2. Establishment of new artificial platforms in order to attract nesting species;
3. Monitoring of existing population of spotted eagle;
4. Search for new populations or individuals on new territories;
5. Work with local communities on awareness raising and on current and additional monitoring territories.
6. Participation in international conference in order to share our findings and data with international scientific community.
7. Submission of scientific papers to local and international scientific journals.

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

Yes, we produced poster where Rufford Foundation logo was used. The poster was distributed at 3 universities, 11 forest administrations, and nine schools in the north-western regions of Ukraine. Lectures about the project and the protection of the spotted eagle are conducted regularly in the regional museum of local culture. Scientific articles on biology, rarity and value of the spotted eagle were published in two regional newspapers. Employees of regional nature reserve took part in the radio programme where the activities of the project were discussed. A seminar on spotted eagle took place in the beginning of spring where the results of the project were discussed. Information about the project and hence RSGF was shared in social network and on our site