

## 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	
Your name	Saroj Panthi
Project title	Conservation Ecology of Himalayan Black Bear in Newly Established Protected Area of Nepal: Api Nampa Conservation Area, Darchula.
RSG reference	16103-2
Reporting period	14 months
Amount of grant	£4980
Your email address	mountsaroj@gmail.com
Date of this report	19 <sup>th</sup> October, 2015

**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
Investigate the distribution of Himalayan black bear in Api Nampa Conservation Area (ANCA), Nepal			*	The Himalayan black bear is distributed in Brahmadev, Byas, Dhari, Ghusa, Guljar, Hikila, Huti, Katai, Khandeswori, Khar, Latinath, Rapla, Sitola, Sipti and Sunsera Village Development Committees (VDCs) of ANCA, Nepal.
Investigate the feeding species of this species in study area			*	<i>Berberis aristata</i> (chutro) <i>Daphniphyllum himalense</i> (satuwa) are the major feeding species of this species in study area.
Investigate the preferred habitat of this species in study area			*	The dense forest with bamboo ground cover is preferred habitat of this species in study area.
Conduct the conservation awareness programmes to conserve the Himalayan black bear and associated biodiversity.			*	The conservation awareness programmes were conducted throughout the conservation area to conserve this species and associated biodiversity.

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

No difficulties were encountered during project implementation phase.

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

The most important outcomes of project are as follows.

- Information on distribution of Himalayan black bear in ANCA was explored. Brahmadev, Byas, Dhari, Ghusa, Guljar, Hikila, Huti, Katai, Khandeswori, Khar, Latinath, Rapla, Sitola, Sipti and Sunsera VDCs are important habitats of this species in ANCA.
- The feeding species and preferred habitats of this species in study area were explored. *Berberis aristata*, *Daphniphyllum himalense*, *Asculus* spp., *Arisaema* spp., *Quercus* spp., *Arundinaria* spp., lichen and *Cythea spinulosa* are major feeding species and dense forest with bamboo ground cover is the preferred habitat of this species in study area. Crown cover, presence of other wild animals and presence of bamboo have positive significant effect whereas presence of fire on its habitat has negative effect on presence of Himalayan black bear in study area.
- The local people are aware to conserve this species and associated habitats due the positive effect of the awareness programs of the project.

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

Local people were involved as labour, field guide and stakeholders. Labours and field guides were benefited with wages and other stakeholders such as herders, community forests users and public were involved in awareness programs. They got knowledge about the importance of this species and biodiversity.

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

I have plans to continue this project at national level to conserve this species, associated habitats and overall biodiversity. I have plans to lunch project to mitigate the human bear conflict in Nepal.

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

I will present the result findings in national as well as international conferences. I am working with international scientists to publish the research findings in international scientific journal.

**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 project was completed within 14 months, 2 months later than designed time scale. I have requested Rufford Small Grants Foundations for additional two months.

**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	3080	3000	-80	Field accommodation was cheap somewhere
Travel cost	350	390	+40	Travel cost was relatively expensive
Technician for diet analysis/chemical cost and lab cost	620	620	0	
Consumables	150	130	-20	
Community outreach materials	700	750	+50	Posters, photos and booklets were distributed during awareness programmes
Data management analysis and reporting	80	90	+10	
<b>Total</b>	4980	4980		

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

It is essential to explore some additional facts to conserve this species at regional and national level. Furthermore, to launch the project to mitigate the human wildlife conflict is mandatory to conserve overall biodiversity.

**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?**

Photos, posters and booklets were distributed during the conservation awareness programmes. The Rufford Foundation logo was used at all these materials and presentation during awareness programs.

**11. Any other comments?**

The financial support of Rufford Small Grants was highly appreciated.