

## 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	Cindy Cosset
Project title	Avian Community Changes after Logging in a Malaysian Rainforest.
RSG reference	19675-1
Reporting period	1 June 2016 to 2 Sept 2016
Amount of grant	£4918
Your email address	ccpcosset@gmail.com
Date of this report	5/10/2016

**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 determine the ability of logged forests to retain biodiversity over time.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		The 2016 field season yielded 800 birds that were marked with individually numbered rings. We obtained more than 400 recaptures. An ongoing effort will provide a very robust data set to look at biodiversity over time. Thus, I will strive to pursue this objective as part of my PhD, which will commence this October.
To determine whether differences between logged and unlogged forest impact bird movement (non-migratory).			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	We have collected sufficient data to conduct data analysis.

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

A collapsed bridge prevented us from reaching three of our six study plots in June 2016. We compensated for this by increasing the sampling effort in all plots (adding one additional transect of 15 nets in each plot). We were still able to access the missed plots twice during the field season, in July and August 2016.

The presence of elephants on two plots forced us to reduce netting effort by 1 day at each plots for safety reasons. Several aluminium net poles and one net were destroyed by elephants, which we must replace.

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

1. We will be able to determine whether bird movements are restricted in logged forests and thus whether the survival of these bird populations is at risk of extinction.

2. We captured, ringed, and measured a large sample of birds. We will continue this large-scale and long-term netting effort and the expected robust body of data will enable us to determine the value of logged forests in the long term by their ability to retain biodiversity over time.

3. Additional standard measurements taken of each captured bird (morphological features, body condition and reproductive status) provide the opportunity to investigate physiological and behavioural aspects of the sampled species; again, we will continue to build this data set.

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

The local research assistants had the chance to learn and practice mist-netting and other field skills.

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

Yes. I will be commencing my PhD in October 2016 which will hopefully allow me to continue this work as well as address many unanswered questions about the effects of selective logging on biodiversity; not only in Sabah, Malaysia, but also throughout the tropics worldwide. Whilst doing this, I intend to be involved, through publication and outreach, with informing local decision makers on policies regarding logging, regeneration, and tropical forest conservation, using the information I will have obtained from this project and my PhD. This is especially important in highlighting the long-term value of logged forests, which is still threatened by conversion to plantation, and in guiding the locations within logged forest that require forest restoration activity.

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

The results will be published in scientific peer-reviewed journals as well as being submitted to several agencies for use in conservation strategies. These include the Danum Valley Management Committee and Sabah Forestry Department. These agencies have an influence in the future management of the forests of Sabah, and particularly Danum Valley, which is probably the most pristine remaining piece of rainforest in lowland Southeast Asia. The results will also be shared via presentations and conferences, which I intend to attend in the near future.

**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 from June to the beginning of September 2016. We commenced fieldwork at the start of June and used some of the grant prior to the field season for field gear. Use of the grant was within the anticipated time period, also the project is planned to extend into future years.

**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
UK to KK return flight	600	588.24	11.76	
US to KK return flight	1180	1127	53	
KK to Lahad Datu return flight	240	227.24	12.76	
Lahad Datu to DVFC Minibus	150	148.5	1.5	
DVFC scientists' housing	1000	566.01	433.99	Change in price due to change in management of the Danum Valley Field Centre.
DVFC student housing	1020	1290.6	-270.6	Change in price due to change in management of the Danum Valley Field Centre.
Food (self-catered)	500	819.84	-319.84	Change in price due to change in management of the Danum Valley Field Centre.
KK transfer lodging	100	97.28	2.72	
DVCA Conservation fee	128	98.28	29.72	Change in price due to change in management of the Danum Valley Field Centre.
<b>Total</b>	4918	4962.99	-44.99	
<b>Exchange rate approx: 1 GBP = 5.26 Malaysian Ringgit</b>				

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

We are presently analysing the data collected during the 2016 field season. It will be important to collate results in reports for the entities listed in Item 6, above, as well as to begin manuscripts for submission to journals. Planning for the next field season and acquiring funding for the coming season is a priority. Critically, we need to sample in 2017 to provide us with the recapture time-steps required to allow survival analysis.

**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?**

A team member has produced a PowerPoint presentation, which includes The Rufford Foundation logo, for use with the public and involved entities. The Rufford Foundation will be thanked for their support in all presentations and publications. Brief summary reports to other small-grant funders include The Rufford Foundation and logo on the title page.

**11. Any other comments?**

The team and I are very pleased with the success of this project so far. All field helpers have become very skilled, plot location and netting proceeded largely as planned, sample sizes were high, and data accuracy should be high. This seems worth mentioning, as biological fieldwork does not always go as planned.

Thank you for your support of this project. I plan to have a long and busy career in conservation of Malaysia's wildlife and rainforest habitat, and The Rufford Foundation is instrumental in making that happen.





