

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	Wang Nan
Project title	Protecting the Tibetan culture of conserving wildlife in Daochen county, Sichuan, China
RSG reference	World Pheasant Association
Reporting period	May 2011
Amount of grant	£6000
Your email address	wangnan761227@yahoo.com.cn
Date of this report	April - August 2009

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
We will visit families, monasteries and tourists in Daocheng and use questionnaires to collect information.			Fully achieved	Legends about 29 local wildlife species and 10 sacred forests were collected through visiting villagers and monks, which increased our understanding of the connection between Tibetan Buddhism and wildlife conservation.
Video footage depicting local conservation culture will be recorded to use for education.			Fully achieved	A large number of videos on local wildlife and the culture of wildlife conservation were taken, which was part of our every day work on behavioural research on white-eared pheasant from January to August 2010.
We will advocate the importance of conserving the Buddhist culture to local families, monasteries and tourists.			Fully achieved	Three sets of interviews have been undertaken respectively in 2 years by two groups of students. During our visits to local families and monasteries, our respect and interest in the local culture made local people be proud of it.
Posters and videos of local conservation culture will be displayed in the region's settlements, including hotels, to raise awareness of its significance to biodiversity.			Fully achieved	In Tibetan culture, people carve words and pictures on stone tablets for prayer and to show their respect to Buddha. The stones are named Mani Stones. In order to attract local people's attention to wildlife conservation, illuminated by the Mani Stone, we asked locals to carve local animals on the Mani Stone and put them in front of a monastery. A projector was specially prepared for showing the videos in monasteries and hostels. Local people were attracted by their own animals and their own culture, and some videos have been copied to the monasteries for future shows once the work is finished.
Negotiations with relevant officials will be carried out concerning the use of two buildings as centres for information dissemination. High		Partially achieved		Because the head of the forestry bureau changed, this aspect of the work stopped, but the data such as pictures, legends, videos, animal information, for publicising have been collecting during the project.

importance will be given to these discussions as use of the buildings will lead to longer-term awareness-raising.				
Increasing the local government's knowledge on the importance of wildlife protection and its relationship with the Buddhist culture will aid in ensuring its survival.	?	?	?	We helped Daocheng government send an application to China Wildlife Conservation Association to apply for designation as "The Hometown of China White Eared-pheasant". In this application, we summarised the achievement of the white-eared-pheasant conservation in Daocheng, and mentioned the large population in Daocheng. The application was accepted and the name awarded to Daocheng on 3rd March 2010. It will give future direction to publicity for the government to aim for.
Reports detailing the local culture towards wildlife and sacred grove protection will aid in this process.	?	?	?	We took a series of reports to the local government. About 40 staff members of the government sat in. The contents of the reports are: The Tibetan culture on wildlife conservation in Daocheng; the culture of birds and sacred forests in Daocheng; the status of black-necked crane in Daocheng; the habitat and behaviour research on Ibisbill in Daocheng; and the survey of Tibetan partridge.

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

There were some misunderstandings amongst the local people about our surveying wildlife in the field, because they are only familiar with hunters spending long times in the field and were afraid of our possible hunting. The concept of studying wildlife for conservation was a novelty.

Our questionnaire work made local people understand how their culture of wildlife conservation is admired by others, and helped them to accept our field work little by little. We also pleased them by enabling them to join our surveys to relieve their worries.

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

We collected legends about 27 local animals and 10 sacred forests, which helped us understand the relationship between the local culture on wildlife conservation and Tibetan Buddhism

Illuminated by the local culture of Mani Stones, we asked local people to carve the local animals on the Mani Stones and put them in front of a monastery, a step welcomed by local people and tourists.

We made a series of reports to the local government, which raised the consciousness of the local government about wildlife conservation and related culture conservation. China Wildlife Conservation Association gave the name “The Hometown of China White Eared-pheasant” to Daocheng, which provides a future publicity direction for the government to aim for.

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

Local people joined our questionnaire work and provided lots of the information about local legends on wildlife, sacred forests and conservation culture. They helped us carve Mani stones and looked for animals we were interested in.

Videos of wildlife conservation from BBC and videos about wildlife taken in the local area were shown to villagers and monks.

Many villagers were keen on finding cases of hunting and wood cutting in the field, and they reported this to us actively, and they believe, due to our close relation with local government, we can stop the hunting when they cannot.

Local people were more proud of their culture of wildlife conservation than before, and they were braver and more confident in coping with hunting and any activity that might destroy their sacred forests.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Based on the local legends of wildlife and sacred forests we collected, we plan to publicise the local culture on wildlife and sacred forest conservation to the people of the county to raise their awareness of how attractive their culture is. The publicity will also be aimed at tourists to attract their attention to conservation rather than consuming local fish and other wildlife. We will help local government enlarge the popularity of “The Hometown of China White Eared-pheasant” and attract more attention to Daocheng, as well as its culture of wildlife conservation. More researches will focus on local wildlife and the relationship between wildlife and local culture.

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

We have submitted a detailed report on white-eared pheasant conservation to local government, and hope it will be helpful for them to publicise “The Hometown of China White Eared-pheasant”. The legends we have collected will be shared with local hotels to attract tourists’ attention to the local conservation culture. The monasteries of Daocheng will be further encouraged to carve Mani stones to publicise the wildlife conservation culture.

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

The work was carried out in July- August 2008, January-February and May-July 2009, and January-August 2010.

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
Communication	£100	£110	£10	More contacts with local people were conducted than had been planned
Books and printing journal articles/materials	£100	£100		
Insurance	£100	£100		
Local guide and translator	£300	£350	£50	Rise in cost of living
Long distance travel	£600	£700		
Accommodation for team members and local guide	£1500	£1500		
Food for team members and local guide	£1500	£1500		
Equipment- 1 Video camera	£500	£500		
1 electronic projector	£600	£600		
1 motorcycle for visiting villages	£700	£700		
Total	£6000	£6060		

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

It will be good to continue publicising Daocheng, as well as other Tibetan areas with similar characteristics. We hope to help local government to further the concept of "The Hometown of White Eared-pheasant". We will continue research on wildlife in the Daocheng area and attract local government and villagers' attention to wildlife conservation.

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?

We have submitted two papers to two journals and mentioned the support from RSG.

11. Any other comments?

More information of the project was recorded in a report special prepared for RSG