

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. 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. 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	Bhupendra Prasad Yadav
Project title	An assessment of Asiatic black bear (<i>Ursus thibetanus</i>) - human conflicts at Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve, Nepal.
RSG reference	20.07.07
Reporting period	9 months
Amount of grant	£4800.00
Your email address	bhupendra_iof@yahoo.com
Date of this report	June 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
1. Assess the interface between human and Asiatic black bear			Yes	Through field survey and semi-structure questionnaire, it is achieved.
2. Map the distribution and potential habitat area of Asiatic black bear		Yes		General distribution can be seen in the map. The GPS point could not locate at all places.
3. Causes for conflicts and 'high conflict zones'			Yes	Through data analysis, we have ranked some village development committee as high conflict zones and also determined the cause of conflicts.
4. Raising conservation awareness activities				
Poster publication			Yes	It is fully achieved.
Web page design			Yes	It is also designed well but it needs still more effort.
Art, quiz and essay competition			Yes	According to the ranking of high conflict zone, conservation activities were conducted in Rukum district.
Eco-Club formation, and orientation training for Eco-club		Yes		The established eco club has gathered the local youth and it has to be registered for the long term run. The proposed buffer zone programme has promised to support for long term activation in conservation.

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

Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve is situated in a remote area and literacy of people is low. To conduct the fieldwork, there were many challenges due to political instability. The effect of political instability was higher in that area. It has taken longer than proposed in the programme. When the time extends, the expenditure also increase automatically. The number of poor people was high and they have more demands for the livelihood programme.

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

i) The first most important outcome of this project is determination of the cause of bear –human conflicts. This project has determined the cause of conflicts between human and bear due to the crop loss (22%), human loss, and livestock loss.

ii) Determined the conflict zone and performed the conservation education programme.

iii) Determined the status of bear and its distribution.

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

The collected data is baseline information for the Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve. The Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve has expanding the area as a Buffer zone. The Government team has also been working on a management plan. This data is helpful to the Reserve manager for conflict resolution and for the black bear conservation management plan. Local people benefited through the conservation education programme. Community people benefited through series of conservation programme. No other organisation undertook a programme due to the area's remoteness, so people were happy and participated more than we expected.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

I want to find out the corridor status of western Himalayan range. I hope this work will be helpful to make conservation action plan for whole western Himalayan range.

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

It will be published in the national and international journal. The publication and local voices will be disseminated through website: www.brcnepal.org.np

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

Actually the proposed time scale was not sufficient. We have used more time than we proposed. Due to many disturbances we have visited and re-planned many times to conduct the proposed programme. The last programme was finished in February 2009.

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
1.Salaries	1520	1700	180	The proposed working day was 100 but it reached 120 days.
2. Lodging and food	1800	2160	360	
3.Equipment	879	1054	175	
4. Expendable supplies and materials	83	78	5	
5. Conservation programme	735	1568	833	2500 pieces poster published
6.Communications	50	50	0	
7. Travel - local (day)	46.2	75.2	29	
8. Report and map production	514.5	464.5	50	
TOTAL	5,627.7	7,079.7	1,452.0	

The RSG had provided £4800 to conduct this programme. The rest of expenditure was covered from PTES grant. The exchange rate was £1=NRs 133.00.

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

The movement of black bear was through the western Himalayan range. I want to continue my research through all over the parks where black bear are found. What is the status of black bear in all over the western Himalayan ranges? The next step will cover the rest of parks of western Himalayan region and then it would be helpful to make the conservation action plan for the whole western Himalayan region. I want to work at the landscape level.

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, I have used the logo in report, poster and webpage. It was not possible to use in the field. There was used only the name RUFFORD.

11. Any other comments?

I would like to give thanks to the RSG. The RSG has supported this project as a major donor and without the RSG support it was not possible to complete the proposed work because the area was rugged terrain and inaccessible. Many thanks to the research team, local people, Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve staffs, district forest staffs and all the people who supported me by many ways.