

Final Project Evaluation Report

Your Details	
Full Name	Boris Davidov
Project Title	Distribution, population research and management of the Hucho populations inside Una river with the important conservation aims
Application ID	24965-B
Grant Amount	£8105
Email Address	boris_sharklab@yahoo.com
Date of this Report	3.26.2019

1. 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
Field expeditions and gathering data				We have completed all 50 expeditions during project and gathered a lot of data. All expeditions were done according to plan and we are satisfied with the results we got.
Lectures and influencing general public				We have held lectures for general public in May to kids from Gymnasium in Novi Grad. Considering general public, we have had several talks with the government officials considering the protected area and management. We have talked with the representatives from municipality of Novi Grad. At the end of September 2018 we presented our work and projects at the conference (First European River's Summit) in Sarajevo.
Web page				We have completed our Danube salmon webpage with the information needed to continue our work and share it to more people and individuals who want to get involved. Since page is new we only added the total number of caught fish and each new one caught in future will be added to the list. More info at: https://www.huchohucho.org

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

The only difficulties we had during our project was in ordering one of our equipment pieces that we had to get for our fieldwork. Since none of the equipment is available to buy in Bosnia we had to order everything from the outside of Bosnia. We ordered a fly rod from a company in Germany through one of our friends who was supposed to buy it and bring it to Bosnia. So the owner of the store said to us to wait until he orders a rod that needed to come from the USA. We waited for 3 months

and each time we contacted him he said that the rod should come shortly but it never happened. So in the end we lost 3 months waiting for fly rod and we had to borrow a rod from our friend. In the end we took back the money and our friend in Austria bought us another rod for same price we asked and brought us couple of days later. In the end we had the rod for the best months for fishing so it was not a bit difficulty for us and it proved as a great part of equipment since we caught six fish on it.

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

1. Our fieldwork that was for the first time spread through the entire habitat allowed us to finally get much needed data and to use it for conservation efforts. By this we just proved that one part of the river has healthy fish population and that other side is heavily overfished with the need of protection.
2. With our conservation work in place for the last 2 years we just continued to push harder the local community and government institutions to do something about the river stretch in municipality of Novi Grad as the area that has been insanely overfished and we managed with the contacts in the major's office to help in adding total fishing ban in 1.9 km stretch inside the city itself. For us this is a huge success since with this we didn't just protected the Danube salmon population but also all other fish species the salmon depend on. In addition the zone has several spawning grounds with perfect conditions in term of water flow and depth which will help the remaining fish to spawn. Since the government plan for the protected area is to add more river stretches to no go zones we plan to continue our conservation work in that direction.
3. One of the most important outcomes for us was making a web page about our research that will be a future database for all research we conduct on the Danube salmon. The web page will help us expand our work, get more contacts and be a central point in data sharing on the abundance and distribution of the populations in Una River. We hope that our web page will one day become main page for data gathering and sharing for all rivers inside Bosnia that are home to this majestic fish.

4. Briefly describe the involvement of local communities and how they have benefited from the project.

Some of the local communities from Bosanka Krupa and Kostajnica were always with hands wide open for our suggestions and our work. Local community in Novi Grad seems hardly interested in our work even when they know what we did for the river. But in the last couple of months things are starting to change and we hope that with the help of government institutions we will be able to reach the people more and let them know what healthy population of fish means for our town and tourism.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

We plan to continue our work but on the more scientific scale in gathering data and staying in contact with the government. We think that the river and the species can only benefit from the long term research on populations and since our work was first and groundbreaking we now have enough experience to add more people and include them in our work. We hope that in future our work will spread to all the rivers in Bosnia and with our webpage we will have a team of experts that will lead and manage conservation of Danube salmon not just in Una but all the rivers in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

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

We continued sharing our results as usual with government institutions since they can use it for legal protection. We also shared our results with people on the conference since many of those present were people from the scientific community. In the end after 3 years of planning we will finally publish scientific papers during the 2019 which will include papers about population trends, overfishing, feeding behaviour, spawning grounds.

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

Grant was used in the period of 12 months. With the just one problem of buying the fly rod all other activities went as planned. All field work was done on time, during 9 months which was most important time scale activity. Everything else was going to plan and was completed in the period of 12months.

8. Budget: 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. It is important that you retain the management accounts and all paid invoices relating to the project for at least 2 years as these may be required for inspection at our discretion.

Item	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
Leader of the project	1500	1500		Fully spent
Web page - database	500	500		Fully spent
Expert fishermen	2000	2000		Fully spent
Volunteers	100	100		Fully spent
Workshop, lectures for general public and media	300	300		Fully spent
Rent a boat	1200	1200		Fully spent
Fuel	1250	1242	-8	A couple of pounds that has

				left we transferred for additional money for the fly rod.
Sage Salt fly rod	465	510	+45	As we have tried in the end to get Beulah switch rod and after several months of waiting it did not arrived we decided to add a bit more money and buy Scott L2H switch rod AFTM #8 for our project and field work. In the end we transferred some of the money that was left while buying other pieces of equipment. The rod was essential piece of equipment and with it we caught 6 fishes on it.
Patagonia foot tractor wading boots	265	255	-10	By the time we ordered wading boots the price got a little down we saved 9.57 pounds from purchase. We decided to transfer those funds for buying Scott switch fly rod.
Patagonia minimalist wading jacket	200	170	-30	We managed to get Patagonia minimalist jacket with new lower price than before so we transferred most of those extra funds in buying a Scott switch fly rod.
Patagonia Gunnison George wading pants	325	315	-10	Gunnison George waders was couple of pounds cheaper since we wrote the project so we saved some money from it.
Total	8105	8093	-12	

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

The most important next step is to continue fieldwork and gather data. We need to continue fieldwork because we know how populations vary annually and since we want to have best data as possible we will just need to continue catching and monitor individuals and all the factors that can influence the change in the number of fishes. We will also try to enlarge the "no go" fishing area for at least the size that is now protected.

We also need to publish the scientific papers in order for scientific community to get more involved in our work and individuals who can help us.

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

We used Rufford logo in several occasions. During lectures and during our presentation of our work at the Riverwatch conference. We also used logo on our webpage.

11. Please provide a full list of all the members of your team and briefly what was their role in the project.

Jan Jankovic - Fishing expert. His job was to participate in expeditions, catch fish, photograph and measure them.

Zdravko Davidov - Fishing expert. Participation in expeditions, catch fish, photograph and measurement.

Anes Haklic - Fishing expert. Participation in expeditions, catching fish, photograph and measurement.

Firduz Halkic - Fishing expert. Participation in expeditions, catching fish, photograph and measurement.

In the end we would just like to thank The Rufford Foundation for the help you provided us and for funding our projects. Without you this would not have been possible and you helped us to get first foothold on the research and conservation of Danube salmon in Bosnia and Herzegovina. For us you are the best foundation in the world and you should know that you helped protect one more little piece of our biodiversity on the planet! Thank you very much!

