

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

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|----------------------------|--|
| Your name | Fan Pengfei |
| Project title | Conservation status assessment of Hoolock gibbons in China |
| RSG reference | Jiang Xue-long; Yan Lu; Lynn Duda |
| Reporting period | August 2009 |
| Amount of grant | £5000 |
| Your email address | Fanpf1981@gmail.com |
| Date of this report | September 11, 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. Assessing the current population size, distribution, habitat, and threat factors of hoolock gibbons in China | | | Yes | We conducted an intensive survey covered all known possible hoolock gibbon populations in China and we obtained the new information of current population, distribution, and threats of hoolock gibbons in China. (see research report) |
| 2. Providing conservation suggestions to management bureau | | | Yes | Whenever we finished the survey in an area, we reported the information of population, threats and conservation suggestions to the management bureau and we provided the final research report to Yunnan Provincial Forestry Bureau, Gaoligongshan Nature Reserve and Yingjiang Forestry Bureau. |
| 3. Sharing information with researchers and NGOs | | | Yes | I sent the final report to Professor Long Yongcheng, working as chief scientist in TNC; Yan Lu, Paul Insua-cao and Frank Momberg in FFI; and to Professor Jiang Xue-long, the main gibbon expert in China. And I am going to submit it the <i>Oryx</i> . So this information will be available to everyone interested in gibbons. |
| 4. Staff training | | | Yes | Around 40 rangers and staff of the nature reserve and forestry bureau participated in the survey. They were trained with the gibbon knowledge and gibbon survey methods. |
| 5. Improving local people's knowledge and awareness | | | Yes | Before this survey, most of the local people did not know that hoolock gibbon is an endangered species and is listed as class I in Chinese animal conservation law. We are sharing the knowledge with local people when we did interviews and field surveys. We also put an education post in Sudian township. After our survey, local people have more knowledge of gibbons. |
| 6. My team and myself | | | Yes | We obtained new information of hoolock gibbons in China. During this survey, we established new relationship with Yingjiang Forestry Bureau, and |

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| | | | | consolidated the relationships with Yunnan Provincial Forestry Bureau and Gaoligongshan Nature Reserve. We also chose a study site in Datang as our long-term behavioural and ecological study site. |
|--|--|--|--|--|

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

Because we have already collected much information before this survey, most of activities were under control during the survey. When we did the first survey in Sudian in March 2009, we knew that the population in Sudian and Zhina was more scattered than expected, so we need more surveyors to conduct the survey in each site. We recruited several students from Dali University and staff from Yingjiang Forestry Bureau, and revisited Sudian and Zhina in August 2009.

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

- A. We obtained the new information of current population, distribution, and threats of hoolock gibbons in China. This information is very important to formulate a conservation plan.
- B. We provided conservation suggestions to forestry bureaus and nature reserve. They realized that hoolock gibbon conservation is very important and urgent.
- C. Based on this survey, I chose a study site and will start a long-term research. I believe it will provide important insights on the gibbon conservation in the future.

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

The local communities obtained the knowledge of gibbons and environment conservation. If our report can attract the attentions of governments and NGOs, they will benefit from the sustainable economy in the future.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes! As I mentioned above, I am going to do a long-term research focused on the feeding ecology in Datang. Nearly all gibbons' habitats outside the reserve have been degrading by tsaoco plantation. It has a positive effect on gibbon conservation at present but may has a negative effect in a long time (for more detail information, please see the research report). And I am very interested in the effect of tsaoco plantation on the gibbons' behaviour. I hope RSG can provide the second funding for my coming research.

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

I have already sent the research report to Professor Long Yongcheng, working as chief scientist in TNC; Yan Lu and Frank Momberg in FFI; and to Professor Jiang Xue-long, the main gibbon expert in China. And I also sent it to Yunnan Provincial Forestry Bureau, Gaoligongshan Nature reserve and Yingjiang Forestry Bureau. And I am going to submit it the *Oryx*. So this information will be available to everyone interested in gibbons.

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

The anticipated schedule for this survey in the proposal was from April to August 2009. But it took much more time than expected because the gibbon population was fragmentally distributed in tens localities in remote areas with very bad roads, belong to several different counties in two prefectures. There were a lot of works of transportation, communication, interviews and fieldwork. In fact, this survey has been started in March 2008 when we did a survey for primate diversity in Nankang. And we conducted the interview inside Gaoligongshan Nature Reserve from 19th October to 4th November 2008. We then conducted the field surveys inside the reserve, and in Heinitang, Husa and Sudian between March 17th and April 17th, 2009. Because the population in Sudian and Zhina was more scattered than expected, we revisited these two towns from August 8th to 16th 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.

I applied £5395 but received £6000 from RSG, while the exchange rate decreased from 13.5 in the proposal to about 10.0 when I received the money. So, I have 60,000 RMB for the survey.

| Item | Budgeted Amount | Actual Amount | Difference | Comments |
|--|---|--|------------|--|
| Training courses (a training course for students in Dali University on 15 th March, a course in Gaoligongshan Nature Reserve, a third training course in Yingjiang) | Meeting room: 60 Materials: 80 Accommodation: 240 Food: 240 Total: 620 | Meeting room: 0 Materials: 120 Accommodation: 60 Food: 400 Total: 580 | - 40 | Because the gibbon distribution areas are scattered in different counties, we opened training courses in different sites. Dali University, Nature Reserve and Yingjiang Forestry Bureau provided meeting room for us freely. Most of staff could find a room for free in their resident counties. But food was more expensive than expected. |
| Interviews (19 th October to 4 th November 2008) | Transportation: 400 Communication with cell phone: 40 Food: 160 Total: 600 | Transportation: 1900 X 0.3 = 570 Communication with cell phone: 40 Food: 220 Accommodation: 100 | +330 | Because the gibbons live in remote area without bus, we rent a jeep for the interview survey. The price was 0.3/km. In addition to a driver, food price |

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| | | Total: 930 | | increased. |
| Field surveys (Mar. 17-28 th : 4 per; Mar. 29-Apr. 7: 13 per Apr. 8- 15: 24 per Apr. 15-17: 3per. Sep. 8- 15: 27per) | Insurance: 15 X 15person = 225 Medical supplies: 40 Maps: 40 Food: 4 X 15person X 20 days = 1200 Stipend: 1200 Transportation: 400 Equipments: 580 Total: 3685 | Insurance: 20 X6=120 Medical supplies: 60 Maps: 0 Food: 4 X (12 X 4 + 10 X 13 + 8 X 24 + 3 X 3 + 8 X 27) = 2380 Stipend: 4 X (12 X 4 + 10 X 13 + 8 X 24 + 3 X 3 + 8 X 27) = 2380 Transportation: 3000 X 0.3 = 900 Equipments: 100 Total:5940 | +2255 | Because more rangers participated in the survey and it took much long time than expected, so we spent more money in food and stipends. But we save some money in insurance, maps and equipments. |
| Contingency | 490 | | | |
| TOTAL | 5395 | 7450 | | We spent more money than expected mainly because our survey covered more areas and took more time. Fortunately, I got a funding from Provincial Natural Science Foundation of Yunnan (£ 2500). This funding covered the £ 1450 beyond the budget. I am going to continue my research with the rest £ 1000. |

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

So far, the population outside Gaoligongshan Nature Reserve is not under protection. Establishing a new nature reserve is very important for the long-time survival of gibbons in these areas. Nearly all gibbons' habitat outside the reserve have been degrading by tsaoco plantation, research focused the effect of tsaoco plantation on gibbons' behaviour will provide important insights for gibbons' 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?

Yes. I used the RSG logo in my training course. I acknowledged RSG in the first place in my research report. Yunnan Provincial Forestry Bureau, Gaoligongsan Nature Reserve and Yingjiang Forestry Bureau knew that RSG's funding is contributing to the hoolock gibbon conservation.

11. Any other comments?

I have been working with FFI to formulate a transboundary conservation plan of hoolock gibbon. I really hope RSG can provide a second funding for my future research. And I will also apply funding from NGS and PCI for the future research.