

## 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](mailto:jane@rufford.org).

Thank you for your help.

**Josh Cole, Grants Director**

Grant Recipient Details	
<b>Your name</b>	Danielle Krebs
<b>Project title</b>	Sustainable management of freshwater protected areas for the critically endangered Irrawaddy dolphin in the Mahakam River, East Kalimantan, Indonesia
<b>RSG reference</b>	34.02.10
<b>Reporting period</b>	1-07-2010 – 31-06-2011
<b>Amount of grant</b>	£6000
<b>Your email address</b>	<a href="mailto:yk.rasi@gmail.com">yk.rasi@gmail.com</a>
<b>Date of this report</b>	1-07-2011

**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
<p>1. Sustainable management of a 4,100 ha large and 80 km-long protected dolphin area (PA) in West Kutai District</p>				<p>Two district workshops were held, one in Sendawar, West Kutai, East Kalimantan that was held on the 6<sup>th</sup> of October 2010 and another one on the 9<sup>th</sup> of May 2011 in sub-district Muara Pahu, West Kutai in order to establish a multiple stakeholder management plan for the protected dolphin area in Muara Pahu sub-district with inter-institutional task division and coordinated action. All input of the community has been incorporated and now only these regulations and management activities need to be legalised and implemented. It is difficult to predict when this will be ready as this is government process. The strategic district assignment for conservation will help to reduce further forest conversion schemes for oil palm or coal mining and consider its impact on the area. Nevertheless, in 2009, when the decree for the PA was made at the same time several permits for oil palm industries were provided and it remains a challenge to reduce their current impact on the ecosystem.</p> <p>Final management plan and regulations developed, which were both community and governmental supported. In addition, the area is now also assigned as the district strategic conservation area and the government will develop and manage the area accordingly.</p>
<p>2. Establishment of another PA of 2,800 ha size and 60 km length in Central Kutai district</p>				<p>Initial socialisation and coordination with government departments was conducted in Central Kutai for the second proposed protected dolphin area and a community workshop in Kota Bangun, Central Kutai where a community agreement was obtained for the establishment. This result will be handed to the Regent of Central Kutai to obtain an official decree for area protection.</p> <p>Community agreement for the establishment obtained and positive response by local government. Official decree this year expected.</p>
<p>3. Educate the local community including younger generation on the importance of protection and</p>				<p>Awareness campaigns with a main focus on the conservation of the pesut were conducted in January 2011 involving 13 elementary schools in the middle Mahakam area and our visits were received with great enthusiasm.</p>

sustainable use of natural resources			
4. To contribute to community development, through sustainable aquaculture, which will also reduce the pressure on natural resources			Initiating sustainable fisheries in Central Kutai District in primary dolphin habitat in the form of helping 15 selected poor fishermen that depend on direct fishing with gillnets to engage in aquaculture while using non-piscivorous fish species to reduce pressure on natural fish resources and obtain local awareness and support for dolphin conservation
5. To monitor the dolphin population and train staff from local conservation department			Two extensive abundance monitoring surveys were conducted between 21 September and 30 September 2010 and 26 October and 4 November 2010 using photo-identification of dorsal fins for mark-recapture analysis. In addition, several interviews were conducted with fishermen daily to obtain new information on threats, mortality and distribution patterns. All results are presented in a separate report
6. Threat reduction in a daily narrow dolphin migration passage in Pela by installing speed-signboards			After the initial socialisation with the communities inside the proposed PA in Central Kutai was done and after the workshop in June 2011 in mutual agreement with the communities about installing signboards was obtained. They are being prepared and will be installed at the entrances of the narrow Pela tributary, which connects between Mahakam River and Semayang Lake as this is an important daily migration passage for the dolphins. The boards will be finalised after the formal decree by the regent has been issued so we can mention the number of the decree on the board. The signboards have not been installed yet because we want to issue the number of decree for the PA on the board
7. To control the water quality and determine pollutant factors within the PA of Muara Pahu, West Kutai			Since September 2010, monthly water samples are being collected in the PA of Muara Pahu to check for the water quality, because of the close vicinity of oil palm and coalmining activities, which are considered to impact on the water quality in this area. The 30 samples are still being analyzed but results are expected in first week of July 2011. 30 samples have been collected through different months but not yet analysed.

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

For the establishment of the PA in Central Kutai, the only shortage is the delay in official decree because the community meeting was only held in June 2010, and the results still need to be socialised with the regent, which was not possible after the meeting due to two large national and international events that was hosted by the district. We anticipate no problems though as the regent

informally already stated her support for the dolphin conservation to the district forestry department, which have updated the regent of RASI's proposal for a dolphin PA in Central Kutai.

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

- Community agreement on the management plan and regulations for the PA in Muara Pahu and assignment of the area as district strategic conservation area in the spatial planning, so that all new developments have to be analysed according to this status.
- Local governments and communities' positive response and support towards establishing a new PA in Central Kutai.
- Due to two extensive dolphin monitoring surveys together with interviews in 2010, it was found that the dolphin distribution area had shifted away from the established PA in Muara Pahu because of the oil palm plantation activities and canals through which the pollutants directly impacted in the ecosystem and caused a reduction of fish resources making the area less of interest for the dolphins. These results and threats were detected and directly addressed in the workshops and meetings held during the workshop and habitat improving measurements were incorporated in the management plan.

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

For all the meetings and workshops that addressed the existing or new dolphin PAs, local communities were directly involved and their aspirations and local knowledge were also incorporated in the management plans and regulations/ policies for habitat protection.

Moreover, a contribution to increase fishermen's livelihoods in the newly proposed PA was made after an earlier project in Muara Pahu that provided 44 fishermen with means to set up sustainable aquaculture business. Similarly, in Pela 10 fishermen were already provided with similar means - 900 juvenile fishes, 70 kg pellets and two cages that will be returned in cash after 1 year to aid new fishermen. The first harvest was successful and on average 85 % (75%-95%) of the 900 fishes provided to each project fishermen survived until harvest. Each fisherman produced on average 260 kg with a price of 20,000 Rupiah per kg obtaining a total price of 5,200,000 Rupiah. All fishermen now wait for new fish stock since the supply is not always available. When the new juvenile fish the new pellets will be purchased and will be reduced from the total price above, the net benefit for each fisherman is between 1.6 million and 2 million rupiah per set. If they would expand with another set of aqua-culture cages then the monthly benefits would be enough to sustain their livelihoods.

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

Yes, several more meetings are required to finalise the management plan and district protected status in Central Kutai. Also, RASI would like to continue some activities within the sustainable aquaculture project. Because the stock of juvenile fish supply is so low RASI, wants to set up its own breeding facilities in collaboration with the local community so they can provide their own breeding stock and do not depend on the limited and expensive fish stock in downstream area of Loa Kulu.

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

We will upload our activity report in both English and Indonesian language on the website. Results that are relevant to authorities or communities will be shared and socialised such as dolphin monitoring results, water quality tests, management plans, aquaculture fisheries results.

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

The RSG was used over the entire project period corresponding the anticipated length.

**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.**

Total actual expenses: 30,265 GBP. Total received funds including Rufford: 30,244 GBP. Because of the additional funds, some additional items were added such as water quality sampling and additional workshops.

Item	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
Stakeholder meetings in 2 districts for PA regulations, establishment and management body	2,173	3,266	-1,093	Additional money was spent on the workshop preparations such as villages visits and community discussions/interviews
Socialisation PA Central Kutai prior to establishment	677	468	209	Because the official decree was not achieved yet, we have not done any socialisation of protected status for this area yet.
Speed signs in Pela River and installation	1,400	607	793	We decided to shift the money initially budgeted also for demarcation signs in west kutai because there may be extension of the PA. Therefore the money was only used for speed signs as this was considered more urgent.
Dolphin monitoring and training	3,267	3,618	-351	Fuel prices and boat rent have increased.
Elementary environmental education campaign	1,220	1,329	-109	
Sustainable fisheries: aid 15 gillnetting fishermen each with fish cages (2), fish spawn (800), pellets (70kg)	6,583	7,242	-659	
Preparation- reporting, project staff honoraria, 12 months	8,000	9,649	-1649	Honoraria of staff have raised

Communication, rent, electricity, cartridges, paper etc, 12 months	2,400	3,169	-769	Office rent has increased
Water quality sampling and analysis in PA Muara Pahu	-	917	-917	Because of additional funds, we decided to allocate it to this item as there were frequent reports on pollution coming from connecting oilpalm fields.
<b>Total</b>	<b>25,720</b>	<b>30,265</b>	<b>Budgeted Amount (1GBP = 15.000 IDR) Actual Amount (1GBP=13.680)</b>	

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

To continue collaboration with larger NGOs such as WWF Indonesia in order to get politically stronger and to make sure that all the management plans will be effectively executed by the government in collaboration with local NGOs. Especially rehabilitation of previously important dolphin core areas will be an important objective by improving surrounding land-use.

**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 used the RSGF logo during balihoos during our campaigns and workshops and on the speed board sign. Also, the report that will be made available online will bear the RSGF logo.

**11. Any other comments?**

We are most grateful for the support of The Rufford Small Grants Foundation, which together with other funds enabled us to conduct these activities, which are considered crucial for the long-term preservation of the Pesut Mahakam, its habitat and other wildlife. Therefore, on behalf of Yayasan Konservasi RASI, we would like to thank you most sincerely for your contribution. We hope for your future support towards long-term survival of Indonesia's only and critically endangered freshwater dolphin population.