

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	Baseer ud din Qureshi
Project title	Conservation of Himalayan Musk Deer (<i>Moschus chrysogaster</i>) and their habitat in Arung Kel Neelum Valley AJK, through research, awareness education and community.
RSG reference	8250-2
Reporting period	One year
Amount of grant	£ 5972
Your email address	baseerqureshi@gmail.com
Date of this report	25-03-2012

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
Field survey conducted to record the population, distribution and density of Himalayan musk deer.			Fully achieved	
Data collection on illegal musk trade.		Partially achieved		Musk trade is illegal business. Some of the illegal musk traders and musk pod collectors did not agree to disclose their information.
Conservation education activities for school children and community.			Fully achieved	
Training workshop for the field staff of Department of Wildlife and Fisheries AJ& K.			Fully achieved	
Development of linkages.			Fully achieved	

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

During course of study it was difficult to agree with the illegal musk traders for the disclosure of information about this business. To achieve the target personal meetings we arranged for their confidence so that they agreed to disclose the information they have. In the end some of them unveiled information about musk trade.

Most of the time unpredictable weather conditions upset the schedule of Project activities which was covered by the commitment of the team by work hard.

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

A detailed research study on distribution, population density, habitat and illegal musk trade is one of the important outcomes of this project. This study will be helpful for the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Azad Jammu and Kashmir to manage the population of musk deer in the study area.

Schoolchildren and college students showed positive change in their attitude towards the importance and conservation of wildlife. That is the result of awareness workshops.

Community members and some illegal hunters turned their mind towards the conservation of wildlife at the end of awareness workshop. It is another positive sign towards the project success.

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

Local community members participated in conservation awareness workshops. They were involved in arranging the workshops. Locals were also the part of research team (porters, guides, technical assistant and local assistants etc.). In this way, the community directly benefited by the project through earning daily wages.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

We are committed to replicate the project in the remaining areas of the District Neelum for the conservation of Himalayan musk deer. All the team members are agree to continue the work for the conservation.

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

Team members have decided to arrange a general public meeting in the project area where the results of this project will be shared.

A research article will be published with due acknowledgement for the Rufford Small Grants Foundation. The scientific information and results will be helpful for the scientists and conservation biologists.

To share the outcome of the project, a copy of the compiled report will be submitted to the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Azad Jammu and Kashmir.

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

The project activities started on April 05, 2011 and completed on March 20, 2012. The total length of the project was one year, which is completed within due length of time. The experience of the previous project was helpful to achieve the targets within time limit.

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
Travelling	180	204	+24	Difference is due to unstable increasing prices of petroleum (petrol, diesel) fare directly increased.
Field Allowance for Investigator	705	705	-	
Local assistant	423	423	-	
Technical Assistance	423	423	-	
Hiring during 10 days for pellet Count and direct count to estimate the population of	1080	1080	-	

Musk deer (12 persons @ £ 9				
Class Materials for Conservation awareness	310	331	+21	Increased prices of material due to incensement in petroleum prices.
Conservation education workshops	615	615	-	
Workshop for the field staff of Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Azad Jammu and Kashmir.	543	543		
Posters and brochures publication	680	705	+25	Due to Increase in the prices of material.
Stationery and supplies, Communication ad report	325	344	+19	Difference is due to unstable increasing prices of material.
Equipments	688	732	+44	Increased price of petroleum(petrol, diesel) results incensement in the prices of material.
Total	£ 5972	£ 6105	£ 133	
	871177.67 PKR	890579. 32 PKR	19224.35 PKR	

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

Forest of the District Neelum harbours the population of musk deer along with other wildlife species. Adjacent to the recent project area there is "Musk deer National park Guraiz". Being an area allocated for musk deer, conservation awareness and research should be carried out there.

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?

I have used the logo of RSGF on awareness material such as posters banners, and other printed material. Community members and students become aware to the RSGF and its contribution towards the conservation. In this way RSGF got publicity by this project.

11. Any other comments?

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries have limited resources to conduct studies. The project that provided scientific information will be helpful for the management of species.