

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	Sun Guozheng
Project title	A survey of the <i>Nomascus concolor</i> in Yongde Daxueshan National Nature Reserve of China
RSG reference	Jiang Xuelong, Yan Lu, Matthew Durnin
Reporting period	December 2010 to November 2011
Amount of grant	£5905
Your email address	sunguozheng_2003@163.com
Date of this report	2011-11-21

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
Clarify the numbers of furvogaster gibbon groups in Yongde Daxueshan NNR.			√	We found four groups in Yongde Daxueshan National Nature Reserve. Group four may be made up of only one single individual. Group one includes five individuals with two adult females.
Draw a map for the distribution of each group and the gaps between them.			√	We know the exact location of these four gibbon groups in Yongde Daxueshan NNR. They are distributed in a small area and neighbour each other.
Select a more efficient range route for the rangers.		√		We got a more efficient range route for the rangers to monitor the gibbons, however it's still too far for rangers to get to the distribution area of gibbons and turn back to home within one day. So, we need to construct three simple-built houses for rangers to stay in the forest at night.
Evaluate the intensity of human activities in the nature reserve.		√		During this survey we found many traces of human activities, which include two dead red muntjacs (<i>Muntiacus muntjak</i>) shot by hunters, twice gun shot, more than five abandoned camps and cook wares, fur of flying squirrels and feather of unknown birds beside the camps, four ferrous clamps, four ringing traps, more than 300 farm animals were grazed in the forest every day. We found more camps and traps of hunters during the last survey; however, it's difficult to calculate the intensity of human activities.
Evaluate the threats for gibbons and make well targeted measures.		√		According to this survey we found that human activities are the most serious threat for gibbons in Yongde Daxueshan NNR.
Train more than 12 rangers for the reserve.			√	We trained 13 rangers to monitor the survival gibbons.

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

We planned to evaluate the intensity of human activities in the nature reserve according to record the number of local people and their active traces. However, the local people, especially the hunters were always trying to avoid us. Most camps are located in a concealed position and we don't know the frequency of the camps was used by the hunters. Many hunters go back to home in the same day, and do not use camps. Normally, the hunters go to the forest to check their traps once or twice a week. However, we are not sure if those traps we found belonged to three or more hunters. With so many variables the intensity of human activities is difficult to estimate. We only know exactly the number of herdsmen and their farm animals active in the forest.

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

Firstly, we clarified the numbers and distributions of furvogaster gibbon groups in Yongde Daxueshan NNR; secondly, we surveyed the whole area and assessed the threats for furvogaster gibbon groups in Yongde Daxueshan NNR; thirdly, we trained 13 rangers to monitor the dynamics of gibbon groups.

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

We spent one week to interview the local people around the Yongde Daxueshan NNR. In this process we introduced the endangered gibbons and other wild animals in this NNR and distributed around 100 propaganda calendars designed by FFI to local villagers. The local people, especially the retired hunters we interviewed, provided the information of distribution of furvogaster gibbons in history and today in Yongde Daxueshan NNR.

Joseph D. Orkin, a graduate student at Washington University in St. Louis joined us for this survey. After the interview, we came to a local middle school (Yalian middle school) to communicate with the students. The middle school students had learned English lessons for more than 3 years however they had no chance to contact with foreign teachers. We spent one day there to communicate with them in English and introduce the gibbons and other wild animals in Yongde Daxueshan NNR.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

We plan to construct three simple-built houses in the home range of three gibbon groups. These buildings will be helpful for the rangers to stay in the forest to observe the gibbons and reduce the threats of local hunters.

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

Beside the final report, I am preparing an article to introduce the status of furvogaster gibbons in Yongde Daxueshan NNR. The local government already got the map for the distribution of each gibbon group. This map will help them to management the reserve more efficiently.

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

December 10 to 18, 2010. We interviewed 32 local villagers and retired hunters around Yongde Daxueshan NNR.

December 22, 2010. We went to Yalian middle school to communicate with local middle school students.

December 23, 2010. Training courses for survey team members was held.

December 24, 2010 to January 10, 2011. We spent 18 days in the forest to survey the number and distributions of furvogaster gibbons' groups in Yongde Daxueshan NNR.

January 11, to November 10, 2011. I spend 11 months analyzing data, drawing historical and today's distribution map of furvogaster gibbons in Yongde Daxueshan NNR, preparing the article of "The status of furvogaster gibbons in Yongde Daxueshan National Nature Reserve", and writing final report of RSG. Its 10 moths more than anticipated length of the project for preparing the article.

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
Meeting room rent for training course	60	58.94	-1.06	
Materials for training course	80	51.08	-28.92	Include 15 compasses
Accommodation for training course	240	255.42	15.42	12 rooms, two nights
Food during the training course	240	216.13	-23.87	22 people. Include 4 researchers, 13 rangers and 5 staff of local reserve.
Transportation for interviewers	800	825.22	25.22	
Communication with cell phone	80	49.12	-30.88	
Food during the interview	320	314.37	-5.63	5 people, 9 days
Accommodation during the interview	0	275.07	275.07	3 rooms, 9 days
Insurance for field survey	225	225.00	0.00	26 people. Include 4 researchers, 4 guides, 13 rangers and 5 staffs of local reserve.
Medical supplies	40	34.38	-5.62	
Maps	40	0.00	-40.00	
Food during the field survey	1200	1611.14	411.14	10-26 people, 18 days.

Stipend for local guides	1200	1839.05	639.05	10-26 people, £7.84 /person /day.
Transportation during the field survey	400	216.13	-183.87	
Contingency (10% of total)	500	500.00	0.00	
Tents, Sleeping bags, Batteries, Headlights, Walkie-talkies, GPS receivers, Binoculars and Digital cameras	480	235.78	-244.22	We did not buy GPS and Digital cameras.
Total	5905	6706.83	801.83	

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

The biggest threat to furvogaster gibbons in Yongde Daxueshan NNR is hunting behaviour of local hunters. Dead animals, ferrous clamps, camps of hunters and gun shots can be found or heard very frequently. Furthermore, we and local people found single individuals of gibbons in the forest for more than three times, which may be caused by hunting behaviour. It's urgent to construct simple-built houses and enhance ranging frequency in the distribution area of gibbon groups in Yongde Daxueshan NNR. More researchers may also have the chance to come there to do research works after the simple-built houses are finished.

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?

Not yet. But we plan to paint the logo of RSGF at the simple-built houses in the forest. During the training courses we were interviewed by local TV, however only Joseph's (the graduate student of Washington University) part was shown on TV, my part (introduce the RSG and this survey) was deleted, because the foreigner is more rare and popular there.