

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

Your name	Dilip Chetry
Project title	Conservation status of Primates in Mouling National park in the state of Arunachal Pradesh, India.
RSG reference	44.06.09
Reporting period	2010-2012
Amount of grant	£12,000
Your email address	dilip@aaranyak.org/gibbonconservationcentre@gmail.com
Date of this report	29 ^h March 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
i. To know the diversity of primate in the park.		Yes		The study records three species of primate in the park.
ii. To know about the status of different species		Yes		The study confirms the occurrence of Assamese macaque and slow loris through direct sighting. Head trophies and Dao (Knife) cover are the indirect evidence for the presence of the third species i.e. capped langur. Further, opinions of the local people specially the hunters also support the occurrence of these three species.
				Habitat is good yet human interference was recorded in the form of cane extraction and hunting. Sightings of the primates were very rare which can be attributed to extensive hunting.
iii. To identify the threat			Yes	The study identifies hunting as the primary threat for all wildlife including primates in the park. Lack of infrastructure like adequate man power in the existing beat and range offices in the park has aggravated the situations. Additionally any sort of forest camp/beat/range offices are wanting in the western part (Lishing/Suble/Yibuk) of the park.
v. To educate and aware the local people		Yes		The project has also been successful in educating the local people about the values and importance of primate and their conservation.
iv. To share the information of the study			Yes	Necessary points have been identified and incorporated in the final report as recommendations. It has been expected that this will guide the future course of conservation and management of wildlife in general and primate community in particular in the Mouling National Park. This report has already been submitted to the Department of Environment and Forest, Government of Arunachal Pradesh which is the legal custodian of forest and as well as he implementing authority.

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

In the absence of any motor able road, the park boundary was apparently not approachable from all directions. Conditions of the existing approachable roads were also not satisfactory and in fact poor conditions of the road affected the project work to a great extent. The road from Boleng to Suble which is the sole approachable road to the park in the west remained blocked for several time. The walking tract between Suble and Lishing village is risky and our teammate slipped and got injured. Shortage of drinking water in the core region of the park was another unforeseen difficulty. In the absence of any forest staffs the team had to depend entirely upon the fringe area people for guidance in the field.

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

- i. The first and foremost outcome of the project is the registration of the three species of primate viz. slow loris, Assamese macaque and capped langur in the study site.
- ii. Identification of hunting as the major threat for the primates in the park is another major outcome. Remarkably, lion's share of meat for the fringe villages comes from the primates.
- iii. Organising education and awareness camp was successful in brining the students, teachers, forest staffs, other officials, NGO workers and local people to a common platform. It was the first time in the history of conservation of wildlife in the park. Formation of one NGO by name –“Mouling Wildlife Conservation Society” after this programme is also a positive outcome.

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

The local communities especially from Bomdo, Jenging, Suble and Lishing were very helpful during the project period. There were no forest staff to guide the survey team in the field and we had depended entirely upon local people for guidance. Fifteen persons from four villages were directly involved with the survey team in various capacities and though this involvement they came to know about the importance of primate first time in their life. The two education and awareness workshops organised during the project period was also beneficial to the local communities particularly students, teachers, forest staff and administrative people. They came to know about the importance of conservation of wildlife in general and primate in particular. People were motivated to work for the conservation of wildlife and a young group of people even formed one NGO under the name “Mouling Wildlife Conservation Society”.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

I am very much interested in continuing our survey work on primates in the Buddhist dominated area of Dibang –Dihang Biosphere reserve, so that comparision can be made with the area having other belief.

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

As a part of the knowledge sharing, we will submit the final report to The Rufford Small Grants Foundation and the Arunachal Pradesh Forest Department (Wildlife). To share our findings with a

larger section of people we are also planning to communicate one scientific paper to a reputed journal. To reach to the general audience we have also planned to develop one or two popular articles based upon the project activities. We will also present our experience and findings in the right forum whenever possible.

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

1ST January 2010 - 31ST March 2012 and proposed period as 2010 To 2011.

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
TRANSPORT:	£ 3300	£ 3300	00	
SUBSISTENCE	£ 7320	£ 7000	+£ 320	
FIELD WORK	£ 550	£ 550	00	
OTHER	£ 830	£ 1150	-£ 320	
TOTAL	£ 12000	£ 12000	00	

Local exchange rate used: 1£= Rs 74.916

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

- i. More survey of primates is needed in Buddhist dominated areas of the Dibang-Dihang Biosphere Reserve to gather more information of the Indo-Sino species.
- ii. Initiation of community-based programme in all the fringe area of park.
- iii. Launch of education and awareness programme with the target of motivating the student and local community to participate in the conservation of primate in particular and other wildlife in general.

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, The RSGF logo was used in the first page of the report. The RSGF logo was used mainly during educational and awareness camp. It was used in the banner of education programme

11. Any other comments

I really appreciated the fast decision making time of RSGF in particular and RSGF was crucial in supporting the cause of primate conservation in the state of Arunachal Pradesh, India. The Rufford Small Grant Foundation can bring changes in the conservation scenario in Northeast India.