

The Rufford Foundation

Final Report

Congratulations on the completion of your project that was supported by The Rufford 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	Slobodan Ivkovic
Project title	Research and Conservation of 3 Attractive Bushcrickets: <i>Bradyporus dasypus</i> , <i>Callimenus macrogaster</i> and <i>Saga natoliae</i> in the Steppe Habitats of Southern Serbia
RSG reference	13545-1
Reporting period	July 2013-July 2014
Amount of grant	£5252
Your email address	marko.idvor@yahoo.com
Date of this report	30.11.2014.

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
Studying the presence, abundance and population status of <i>Bradyporus dasypus</i> , <i>Callimenus macrogaster</i> and <i>Saga natoliae</i>		+		Unfortunately, we found only <i>B. dasypus</i> on study area, we count number of specimens and record their song. We hope that in the next years we will be successful in finding and protecting and other two species.
Collecting valuable data about other Orthoptera species		+		We marked this as partially achieved, because we didn't record song of all species that we catch, and we think that we need to do more investigations to get full picture about Orthoptera fauna in this area. Beside finding of population of <i>B. dasypus</i> , important is finding of <i>Saga pedo</i> , which is classified as Vulnerable on IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, and four new species for Serbian fauna
People involvement			+	People was interested in these species (<i>Bradyporus dasypus</i> , <i>Callimenus macrogaster</i> and <i>Saga natoliae</i>) when we showed them pictures, because in they never seen anything similar to these species. They helped us to collect some species, there were common species, but it was nice to see that people want to help us.
Presentation of the results			+	All data that was gathered during this research will be presented in scientific journals. Two papers are in preparation. Also some of pictures that are taken will be used for posters about Orthoptera fauna in Serbia.

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

Accommodation and food - before beginning of the project we talk with managers about accommodation in Landscape of exceptional characteristic "Pcinja River Valley", but on first field research, building where we supposed to be accommodated was renovating. Nearest place where we found accommodation was motel in Vranje, where we also had and food. Money for fuel was redirected for accommodation and food.

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

- Large amount of scientific data and sound recordings of species are collected, and previously unexplored areas of the Serbia were investigated, which is important for future conservation plans.
- Popularisation of Orthoptera in our country.
- Cooperation with people and institutes that has the big scientifically practical value for continuation of the study Orthoptera fauna in Serbia.

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

These three species are something that people in our country didn't see, and they didn't believe that something of that size live here, so they helped us in searching for them. Collecting was not so successful, because they always collect same species (mostly that common), and for *Acrida ungarica* they thought it is *Saga natoliae*.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Of course, because this is short period to collect all valuable data on uninvestigated areas like these. Solar power plant project is cancelled in the beginning of our project (reason is the termination of the contract between America and Serbia), but there are many other factors that endanger habitats of these rare species.

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

Beside promotional brochures and t-shirts, publications are in preparation. Material that is collected is deposited to Zoological Collection of the Department of Biology and Ecology (ZZDBE) at the University of Novi Sad, so other students can see what is collected during this field surveys. Also final results will be presented to relevant institutions that are responsible for the nature conservation.

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

The Grant was used from July 2013 to July 2014 as it was anticipated.

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
Fuel + travelling cost (8000 km)	1840	1300	-540	We spend less money for fuel and travelling cost, but that doesn't affected on number of

				field surveys
Accommodation + food	890	1330	+440	As we have problems with accommodation, we transferred money for fuel to this item
Head lamp 4 pcs.	168	168	0	Except headlamps, for night field trips we used and car lights, which shows also very useful for some species
Field microscope	160	160	0	Grasshoppers (mainly) have details that we must see with microscope. Field microscope was useful for that, so we do determination on field, and there was no need to capture and kill all specimens and do determination in laboratory.
Bat detector	147	147	0	Bat detector is very useful for finding species which song is in ultrasound range. After finding we recorded song with bat-detector which was connected to recorder.
GPS device	177	177	0	-
"Shotgun" microphone	340	340	0	-
Sound recorder	740	740	0	Today, calling songs are one of the most important characters for species determination. It is important to have good audio equipment. Sound recorder and microphone that we bought recorded plenty songs, not only from this area, but also in other areas, where we recorded some species for the first time, and future researches will show that among them are and new species.
Digital camera – BenQ GH700	0	100	+100	One of members who had camera couldn't always go with us on field surveys, which is reason why we buy one camera
Hand nets 3 pcs.	140	140	0	-
Entomological supplies	95	95	0	-
Printing of 50 T-shirts	380	380	0	-
Printing of 1000 brochures	175	175	0	-
Total	5252	5252		

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

The RSG supported first step for protection these rare species and habitats in Serbia, so in our plan is to continue with field research and gathering data. Also, it is important to continue collaboration with managers of protected areas and popularisation of Orthoptera in Serbia.

**10. Did you use The Rufford Foundation logo in any materials produced in relation to this project?
Did the RSGF receive any publicity during the course of your work?**

Yes, we used RSGF logo on promotional material (t-shirts, brochures). Also, we mentioned RSGF during public presentation. Of course, that RSGF receive publicity, many of our colleagues who are interested in nature protection heard for the first time for your foundation, and colleagues from neighbouring countries was asking for our project and also for RSGF.

11. Any other comments?

This is my first project, so this all challenges were something new for me. I am glad that I have only positive experiences from field surveys during it. It is great that RSGF supported research of Orthoptera fauna in our country. Many future works and results will be possible with equipment that we bought thankfully RSGF.