

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	Bruce Levick
Project title	Camera Traps Seblat
RSG reference	15548-1
Reporting period	July 2014 - July 2015
Amount of grant	£6000
Your email address	bruce.levick@gmail.com
Date of this report	July 2015

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
Camera Traps placed in TWA Seblat			✓	
Wild Elephant Herds Documented	✓			problems with camera traps being stolen
Tigers Documented	✓			problems with camera traps being stolen
Sun Bears Documented	✓			problems with camera traps being stolen
Tracking of wildlife distribution throughout the TWA Seblat CA		✓		
Assisting in the patrol work			✓	
Training and ongoing dialogue with patrols			✓	
Ongoing dialogue with the local communities		✓		

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

We had a few unforeseen issues. The main issue being the locations we were choosing to capture photos and footage of wildlife. We truly wanted to capture photos and footage of the wild elephant herds, tigers and sun bears. The main game trails these wild herds use is also used by poachers and illegal loggers. So in the first 8 months we lost a lot of camera traps to being stolen from their locations.

I tried to prevent this by purchasing heavy duty protection for the camera traps from the United States but this also proved not to be the solution as the camera traps kept being stolen. At present we are spending more time tracking through the remote jungles to find better locations that are not so frequented by illegal loggers and or poachers but still good game trails to capture the wildlife remaining in the TWA Seblat Conservation Area.

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

1. Confirming the diversity of species that still remain in the TWA Seblat Conservation Area and the need for the patrols to continue being so important.
2. Creating a rapport with the heads of both the local conservation agency and patrol coordinators to make working in conjunction with the patrols a much easier process. This is so very important

to do within the culture of Indonesia and I am now considered part of the patrol unit family and able to continue unhindered.

3. Training the mahouts and patrol units in new skills to complement their patrol work and make the patrols more successful.

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

It is the local communities that are heavily involved in the patrol units and their activities so helping them get involved with an added element to the patrols was rewarding. Giving the local communities updates and awareness on the species captured on the camera traps was valuable to give for a better idea of the remaining species they are protecting with the regular patrols.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes. We are truly only just beginning this project after 1 year with the difficulties we have had so the project will continue to help the local conservation agency and the patrol units to protect the remaining species found in the TWA Conservation Area. There are also plans to improve the programs over the next year to make them more effective.

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

Through consistent reporting to the patrol unit and the staff of the local conservation agency and through public release of information through conservation networks and social networks specifically targeted to conservation minded organisations and individuals.

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

Over 1 year the Rufford Grant was used. This is a long term project to assist the patrol units in achieving their goals and a sustained effort to help turn the conservation issues around in this small corner of Sumatra is required. If successful the project will be used in other protected areas of Sumatra over a period of many years to create a more sustainable standards for the local communities of Sumatra.

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.

Exchange rate: 10,000 rupiah = .48 British pound

Item	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
Camera Traps	1750	2,300		bought extra camera traps
Logistics Mahouts / Patrols	900	760		missed two patrols
Camera Trap Training	950	900		went to plan

Misc Logistics	2142	1600		missed two patrols
GPS	200	290		updated model
Traps Security	0	255		trap security because camera traps were being stolen
Total	5942	6105		

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

It's very important for me as an individual working in partnership with a local NGO to provide further assistance to the elephant patrols of Sumatra. I will continue to collect data with camera traps in assistance to the elephant patrols. These patrols are the only mechanism protecting the wild herds from HEC (human elephant conflict) and certain death for wild elephants if they enter neighbouring villages.

I am also creating a second program to further assist in helping the patrols to be more effective to work alongside this very camera trap project. The new program will use drones to help detect wild elephant herds, poachers and illegal loggers. So the next steps are to continue the camera traps and work on providing better support for more effective patrolling.

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 the logo was used on photos and videos and the same photos and videos were sent with reports to Rufford. Constantly shared the information regarding the camera trap work through social media and any images always had the Rufford logo as a watermark.

11. Any other comments?

I would be eternally grateful to receive another round of funding to continue this project and reach the goals we are yet to achieve in the TWA Seblat Conservation Area. There were some unfortunate unforeseen issues especially with the camera traps being stolen, but now we have a good system set up to overcome that issue. The patrol unit needs all the support they can get from projects like these. The patrol unit is the only thing that is currently mitigating HEC (human elephant conflict).