

## The Rufford Foundation

### Final Report

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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](mailto:jane@rufford.org).

Thank you for your help.

**Josh Cole, Grants Director**

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| Grant Recipient Details    |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| <b>Your name</b>           | Tshering Samdrup  |
| <b>Project title</b>       | Habitat use and conservation threats of Blyth's tragopan ( <i>Tragopan Blythii</i> ) in Jomotshangkha Wildlife Sanctuary(JWS) |
| <b>RSG reference</b>       | 19590-1   |
| <b>Reporting period</b>    | June 2016-June 2017   |
| <b>Amount of grant</b>     | £ 5000  |
| <b>Your email address</b>  | tshering.samdrup8@gmail.com   |
| <b>Date of this report</b> | 5/7/2017  |

**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   |
|---|--------------|--------------------|----------------|--|
| To develop a habitat distribution map, nesting site and assessment of Habitat use by Blyth's tragopan in JWS. |              |                    |                | I would grade it as partially achieved as nesting site are not found during the project period and still we are hunting for the nesting sites and awaited for the publication of report in one of the peer reviewed journal of Bhutan. |
| To create awareness on conservation of Blyth's tragopan   |              |                    |                | Awareness covered all the resident of JWS.   |
| To assess threat to conservation of Blyth's tragopan in the study area (JWS).                                 |              |                    |                | The main threats found were the harvesting of bamboo and harvesting the forest resources which led to habitat fragmentation  |

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

The unforeseen difficulties like road blocks due to heavy rain which we were stranded for almost a day and shortage of the porter due to the peak summer season, the farmers were engaged in the farm activities. However, those unforeseen difficulties did not affect the overall qualities of the project activities.

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

Three most important outcomes of this project are:

1. Threats of Blyth's were assessed and made available for the local people for adopting the sustainable conservation strategies. The main threats of the Blyth's tragopan in JWS were found to be the unsustainable harvesting of forest resources like cane, bamboo and timbers which led to the habitat disturbance and habitat fragmentation.
2. The awareness programme covers 90% of residents in the park area, through awareness and implementation of this project, People can now differentiate between Blyth's and other pheasant which they have been considering same with the Satyr tragopan before implementation of projects.
3. Habitat ecology and distribution pattern of Blyth's were documented and available for the park management for the conservation intervention. The main habitat preference of Blyth's tragopan were found to be mostly

associated with canopy coverage of 60-80%, interspersed with bamboo. The main vegetation of the habitat were found to be oak and rhododendron forest and slope percent above 45%.

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

The study area is located far away from the villages, some of the people were engaged as cook and some of them were engaged in carrying the logistic and survey equipment's as a porter. They were paid daily wages as per the existing rates of their localities. Participants involved in the conservation awareness programme were provided with the daily subsistence allowances, working lunch and refreshment that is how they have been benefited from this project.

**5. Are there any plans to continue this work?**

Yes, I have plan to continue this work. Though habitat distribution were known but there is still the field for the nesting of this birds to be studied. So with the collaboration with the park management, nesting sites will be studied in coming year, 2018.

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

The result of this project will be shared in the form of seminar presentation for the both government organisation and Non-governmental organisation, information will be also shared in the form of written report to the local government and other stakeholders advocating the importance of JWS for the conservation of this birds and to reach a wider audience the information will be published in peer-reviewed journals.

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

Rufford Foundation grant were used over the period of 12 months timescales as per the work plan.

**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   |
|---|-----------------|---------------|------------|--|
| 1. Purchase/arrangement of field equipment's (GPS, Tents, Pen and pencil etc.), printing of survey forms)         | 400             | 400           | 0          | The expenses were able to cover with the budgeted amount   |
| 2. Field staff training on survey method, using data sheet, survey protocol, research objectives and presentation | 700             | 700           | 0          | This was an agreed amount by the park rangers so it was just shared among them to carry out the activities under the supervision of the principle investigator     |
| 3. Potential habitat field survey, foding, lodging and Daily Substance Allowances                                 | 1100            | 1400          | -300       | Adjusted from Sl. 7. Required spending more number of days in the field undertaking both social and ecological surveys. which demanded spending more number of day |
| 4. Transportation/mobility cost   | 650             | 650           | 0          | Well spent – covered by the budgeted amount.   |
| 5. Presentation expenses  | 250             | 200           | 50         | Well spent   |
| 6. Daily Substance Allowances for staff of JWS for Social interview survey and conservation awareness program     | 1000            | 1000          | 0          | The expenditure were covered by the office of the Jomotshangkha Wildlife Sanctuary.  |
| Daily Substance allowance for two researchers   | 400             | 400           | 0          | Covered by the budget outline  |
| Designing, production and printing of posters and signboard for conservation awareness program                    | 700             | 400           | 300        | Mostly the office facilities were used except for poster and signboards for awareness program.   |
| Food and refreshment for local communities during awareness program   | 800             | 850           | -50        | An additional expenses incurred were adjusted from the balance of presentation expenses.   |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>6000</b>     | <b>6000</b>   | <b>0</b>   |  |

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

The status of Blyth's has been found very sparse and less in number. Moreover the distribution of this birds are confined to only one location in Jomotshangkha Wildlife Sanctuary which require the intense and immense conservation of habitat. The next important step to initiate bird conservation area in JWS and initiate the community conservation group and strengthen people's participation towards conservation of Blyth's in JWS.

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

Yes, I have used the logo in poster, conservation awareness banner and findings booklets and shall continue to use whenever a talk resulted from this project is delivered. RF has gain popularity in our country for funding in the conservation of flora and fauna of Bhutan. Moreover, Department of Forest and Park Services are thankful for funding this project by Rufford Small Grants and helping in developing the baseline information of Blyth's in JWS.

**11. Please provide a full list of all the members of your team and briefly what was their role in the project.**

| Sl.No | Name               | Roles  |
|-------|--------------------|--|
| 1     | Tshering Samdrup   | Principal research co-ordinator  |
| 2     | Ugyen Tenzin       | Field Survey coordinator (Habitat assessment and threat assessment )                         |
| 3     | Jigme Tenzin       | Protocol officer and arrangement of meeting and halls for the awareness program.             |
| 4.    | Thukten Chopel     | Field data manager and arrangement of data and organisation of field data.                   |
| 5     | Field staff of JWS | Field surveyor for the habitat assessment and threat assessment including the social survey. |

**12. Any other comments?**

The RF has created a platform from many young researcher to conduct studies on different flora and fauna conservation of Himalayan kingdom, Bhutan. Henceforth we shall remain highly grateful if the foundation could continue supporting the young researcher of Bhutan which would contribute in conservation of world flora and fauna.