

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	Nguyen Vinh Thanh
Project title	Behavior and Ecology of Delacour's langur in Van Long Nature Reserve, Vietnam
RSG reference	03.03.06 and 23.06.07
Reporting period	January 2006 – December 2007
Amount of grant	£1638 for 2006 and £2228 for 2007, total £3866
Your email address	Ng_vinhthanh@yahoo.co.uk ; vinhthanh1978@gmail.com
Date of this report	May 20 th 2009

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
Determining home range use of <i>Trachypithecus delacouri</i> in the wild	-	-	X	I have a presentation at International Primatological Society Congress 2008 about the langur's home range use, which indicated home range of <i>T. delacouri</i> has been affected remarkably by stone mining for cement factories near the boundary of the nature reserve.
A list of food plant for Delacour's langur and food availability. A distribution map of food plant species for determining a good habitat to enlarge the langur's distribution inside the nature reserve	-	-	X	Rangers are using the list of food plants in order to make plan to protect these species against invasive plants and fire. Using our food plant distribution map, they also know the areas with food abundance, where the langurs often visit and have plan to guard over the langurs. The management board of Van Long Nature Reserve can use our results to future plan of expanding the langur's distribution inside the nature reserve, as well as broadening the nature reserve.
The langur's social behavior, and time budget	-	-	X	I also had a presentation about social behavior of Delacour's langur at International Primatological Society Congress 2008. Our results, in which one-male unit is common mating system, and the isolated distribution of langur groups raise a warning about the unreproduction of a group or degeneration of population, once the only adult male of each group dies or killed by hunters. This result will make rangers and conservationists reinforce their endeavour in hunting control, as well as in re-connecting of the isolated langur groups.
The relationship between the langur's behavior, especially in feeding behavior and ranging behavior, with ecological factors (food availability,	-	-	X	Despite of the results of relationship between the langur behavior and ecological factors was complex and not really apparent in our analysis, it somewhat provides information for rangers and let they imagine partly about the langur's life.

weather, human appearance)				
Improving local community awareness about wildlife conservation, emphasizing Delacour's langur and protection of its habitat	-	-	X	Especially successful, all people we met in Van Long Nature Reserve now know from us that Delacour's langur is protected by the government. Local people are obtaining benefit when we protect the langur and its habitat together, because the conservation helps for their income from eco-tourism. I also have cooperated with VTV2 Channel, Vietnam Television (VTV), to produce a film about Delacour's langur conservation. It was broadcasted on VTV2 Channel in April 2009. This will help to spread the langur's conservation information among people nationwide. Moreover, I had an article at the cover page of International Primate Protection League (IPPL) newsletter in May 2009, to draw attention of people all over the world about Delacour's langur conservation.

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

The botanists and guides are not used to monitoring phenology and estimating plant biomass by coverage and height categories, analysing and reporting the results. They often study species composition of a study site and estimate plant biomass by DBH (diameter at breast height). I had to work with them and spent time to take part in botanical study, to make them get acquainted with their new methods.

According to Reuters and International Monetary Fund reports, Vietnam inflation rate 2007 suddenly reached a record 12.6 percent, while in 2006 it was 6.7 percent, that caused several difficulties for the project, but it did not affect our final results.

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

- Providing data of Delacour's langur behaviour in Van Long Nature Reserve that helps rangers to protect the species effectively.
- Providing a list of food plant species and a distribution map of these species in Van Long, which helps rangers in planning and expanding protected areas for the langur.
- In conservation aspect, my project has improved local awareness about Delacour's langur conservation. My project also indicated some more threats, which are affecting on the langur's survival, and proposing conservation solutions. Moreover, I have attracted Vietnamese and foreigner's attention to Delacour's langur by the film and the article.

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

Two local people were employed as field guides and one was employed for preparing logistics for our team. Through the work, they were paid, and these incomes were better than their farming work.

We often visit other local people's houses with small gifts, and there we interviewed them, and spread the necessity of Delacour's langur conservation. They were also convinced that protection of Delacour's langur and its habitat is not only the vital condition for their incomes from eco-tourism, it also keeps their environment unpolluted. Our team also bought their agricultural products and rented their motorbikes.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Postural behaviour of Delacour's langur in the wild has not been studied, and it is interested me. I am learning more about this issue and making plan to conduct a study on Delacour's langur postural behaviour.

Stone mining for cement factories is destroying limestone hills surrounding Van Long Nature Reserve. These hills are good habitat for the langurs, but they are not protected because of outside of the nature reserve. I am thinking more solutions to protect limestone hills for the future, when the nature reserve will enlarge and contain these hills.

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

My PhD thesis is available for everybody at Vietnam National Library in Hanoi. It was also sent to almost Vietnamese and international organizations and researchers to obtain comments before.

The Management Board of Van Long Nature Reserve has received a report in Vietnamese about our results.

My results have been shared partly by the two presentations at International Primatological Society Congress 2008, and the film about Delacour's langur conservation on Vietnam Television VTV2 Channel.

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

No.	Activity	Time	Compare to the anticipated
1	Laying botanical plots in the study site	January 2006 – April 2006	Fit
2	Monitoring food plant species in the botanical plots	January 2006 – December 2006	Fit
3	Surveying the other part of the nature reserve to mapping food plant distribution and find appropriate habitats for the langur	January 2007 – December 2007	Fit

4	Observing the langur's behaviours and doing scan sampling	January 2006 - December 2007	Fit
5	Collecting botanical samples	January 2006 - May 2007	Fit
6	Interviewing and disseminating local community about the langur's conservation	January 2006 - December 2007	Fit
7	Data analysis and mapping distribution of Delacour's langur's food plants in Van Long Nature Reserve	December 2007 - May 2008	Longer

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
Food and lodging for the second investigators in 2006	£967.5	£937.14	£30.36	My bank account was just allowed to receive USD. Because of the change of the GBP-USD exchange rate in 2006, I received an amount as much as 1604 GBP at my bank account. I paid the difference by my family budget.
Food and salary for field guides in 2006	£670.5	£666.86	£3.64	The other part of budget for field guides was shared by Primatological Society of Great Britain (PSGB) and Nagao Natural Environment Foundation (NEF)
Food and lodging for the second investigators in 2007	£967.5	£967.5	0	Fit
Food and salary for field guides in 2007	£1260.5	£1260.5	0	The other part of budget for field guides was shared by Nagao Natural Environment Foundation (NEF)
TOTAL	£3866	£3832	£34	

Exchange rate on 26th December 2006: 1£ = 31231.0 VND

Exchange rate on 26th December 2007: 1£ = 31481.65 VND

Source: <http://www.vietcombank.com.vn>

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

Hunting pressure is much reduced by rangers' control. Rangers should maintain and develop the guard station system to ensure the langur is well protected.

In presence, few langur groups have been isolated from each other due to local people's houses and farms. There have been a lot of people living in the protected area of the nature reserve. In the

future, I will make a plan to re-connect these isolated groups and move these houses and farms to the outside of the nature reserve.

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?

RSGF has been mentioned in Acknowledgment session of my PhD thesis as the first and principal funder, and RSGF logo was used in my two presentations at International Primatological Society Congress 2008.

11. Any other comments?

If possible, Rufford website should provide e-books for grantees because many of them living in developing countries are difficult to approach paid scientific journals and books.