

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	Krithi K Karanth
Project title	WildSeve: Building Tolerance for Wildlife Using Mobile Technology in India
RSG reference	20576-B
Reporting period	July 2017 - December 2018
Amount of grant	£10,000
Your email address	krithi.karanth@cwsindia.org
Date of this report	Dec 10th 2018

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
Expand WildSeve services from 600 to 800 villages around Bandipur and Nagarhole National parks in India				We serviced 600 village settlements and are in the process of expanding the reach in 60 new settlements in the north-western side of Nagarhole. Given the current field team size we can service only these areas.
Upgrade the reporting system by developing open data kit tools and training the existing team in using mobile application to enter live data from the field				Field data has been collected using Open Data Kit (ODK) deployed on mobile Android devices. This streamlined process which has improved both data management and accuracy. ODK deployment data collection in regions of little or no network connectivity. A data partnership was initiated to make the data management and reporting process easier, resulting in all submissions being displayed in an interactive portal in near real-time to further enhance project management and operations.
Influence and strengthen government agency capacity to provide timely response to and compensation for reported human wildlife conflict incidents				Overall, we have filed 12,000 claims and 6000 families have been compensated \$240,000. The Wild Seve project reached a landmark milestone of attending our 10,000th human-wildlife conflict case in July 2018. With Rufford support, we responded to 4383 cases and helped families file compensation claims. This covered 3472 crop loss incidents, 424 crop loss and property damage incidents, 237 property damage incidents, 237 livestock predation incidents, and 13 cases of human injuries and no human death. Cases filed between April and September 2018 are yet to receive payment. Average transaction cost

				per incident has decreased from Rs 454 to 0. We have responded to 98% of calls within 24 hours and 100% within 48 hours.
Build and evaluate the effectiveness of livestock protection corrals in reducing livestock losses from tigers and leopards in human- wildlife conflict hotspots				We built 20 model sheds, which other people in conflict villages are adopting for their livestock. Average shed cost is £797 with our contribution averaging £329 (41%).
Document the economic and social viability of alternate crops or non-agricultural sources of income in human- wildlife conflict hotspots				This will be continued as part of research project collaborations with UBC and UF.
Document non- lethal local coping mechanisms associated with repeated human- wildlife conflicts				This is ongoing and will be continued as part of research project collaborations with UBC and UF.

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

- a. Field staff have been trained on the use of ODK for data collection. We are in the process of finalising a data management and analysis platform to make project management more efficient. The portal is expected to go live in a few months.
- b. Procurement of compensation claims was an issue due to delays by government staff. This has been addressed through numerous meetings with the staff. We have started to file RTIs to procure compensation documents on a periodic basis.

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

- a. 4383 calls responded and claims filed.
- b. 20 livestock sheds built.
- c. Responding to 100% of cases within 48 hours, zero transactions costs to people and building of community rapport in 600 village settlements.

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

Operational for > 40 months, the Wild Seve field staff have built tremendous good will with the families and communities they service and the prompt handling of claims. The government forest and territorial officers have also been receptive and supportive of our response and verification of claims.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes. We will be scaling to multiple reserves across India in 2019.

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

We have published our results in leading journals (see below), and will continue to do so in the future. We have also created videos and blog posts for our social media sites, and mainstream media to publicise the impacts of Wild Seve.

Scientific publications:

1. Karanth, KK, Gupta, S, Vanamamalai, A. 2018. Compensation payments, procedures and policies towards Human-Wildlife Conflict Management: Insights from India. *Biological Conservation*. doi:10.1016/j.biocon.2018.07.006
2. Margulies, J, Karanth, KK. 2018. The production of human-wildlife conflict: A political animal geography of encounter *Geoforum*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.geoforum.2018.06.011>
3. Johnson, M., Karanth, KK, Weinthal, E. 2018. Compensation as a policy for mitigating human-wildlife conflict around four wildlife sanctuaries in Rajasthan, India. *Conservation and Society*. doi: 10.4103/cs.cs_17_1
4. Karanth, KK., Ranganathan, P. 2018. Assessing Human-Wildlife Interactions in a Forest Settlement in Sathyamangalam and Mudumalai Tiger Reserves. *Tropical Conservation Science* 11: 1–14. doi: 10.1177/1940082918802758

The project garnered coverage in mainstream and online media upon documenting our 10,000th case. This attracted wide media coverage with articles published in outlets like Business Standard, CanIndia News, Conservation India, Daily Hunt, Down To Earth, Geekwire, The Hindu, India Spend, International Business Times, NyoooZ, One India, The Hindu Business Line, The Logical Indian, The New Indian Express, The Quint, Times of India, and others (attached). Articles focusing on the Wild Seve project were also published in Mongabay and Saevus magazine (attached). The Wild Seve film was publicly released in July 2018, and selected by National Geographic to be part of their short film showcase on their website.

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 Rufford Foundation Booster grant was used between July 2017 and November 2018. This is roughly 45% of our current timeline. We have been in operation since July 2015.

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
Field Assistants	5000	5000		Rufford Support
Project coordinator				Supported by others
Phones and platform costs				Supported by others
Fuel and field per diem	2000	2000		Rufford Support
Sheds	3000	3000		Rufford Support
Total	10000	10000		

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

We plan to use the insights gained from 42 months of running this project to expand and initiate this project around other high conflict reserves in multiple states across India. We are working to build partnerships with government agencies and funding agencies to do this.

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, the logo has been named as one of our supporters in the CWS organization website cwsindia.org and in the [WildSeve website](http://WildSeve), and in our presentations.

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

Name	Role	Qualifications/ Experience	Location
Dr. Krithi K Karanth	Chief Conservation Scientist	PhD, M E Sc	Bangalore and field
Ghanshyam Iyer	Project Coordinator	BE, 31 months with WS	Mysore and field
Anubhav Vanamamalai	Research Fellow	MSc, 30 months with WS	Bangalore and field
Chikningaiah Kalaiah	Field Coordinator	M.Com, 40 months with WS	Field
Mahadevswamy	Field Assistant	S.S.L.C, 40 months with WS	Field
Nagachandan HN	Field Assistant	MBA, 30 months with WS	Field

Santosh Kumar	Field Assistant	MA, 40 months with WS	Field
Made Gowda	Field Assistant	B.Com, 27 months with WS	Field
Gopal Raju	Field Assistant	S.S.L.C, 16 months with WS	Field
Somesh GM	Field Assistant	S.S.L.C, 6 months with WS	Field
Vishwanath CD	Field Assistant	B.A, 6 months with WS	Field

12. Any other comments?

We appreciate Rufford Foundation's consistent support to this project over the years.