

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	Dilara Arslan
Project title	Conservation activities of endangered Marmaris salamander (<i>Lyciasalamandra flavimembris</i>) from Muğla, Turkey
RSG reference	21425-1
Reporting period	Every 3 month
Amount of grant	5000 £
Your email address	kizildilara@gmail.com
Date of this report	28.02.2018

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
1. Collecting data from to field to determine current distribution, abundance and habitat requirements of the Marmaris Salamander.				<p>The climatic factors affect the Lycian salamanders active time during the year. So the fieldwork was executed accordingly to determine the abundance and distribution of Marmaris salamanders within the limited active period. 20 days of intense fieldwork were completed. Scientific paper with results and proposed management plan was submitted to Amphibian and Reptile Conservation journal.</p> <p>We discovered Marmaris Salamander in seven new localities with a new kind of habitats. This data were also shared with national parks</p>
2. Preparing a draft management plan for Marmaris salamander				<p>We have several meetings with Department of Nature Conservation and National Parks Branch every 3 months. We have developed collaboration with Marmaris Municipality. Through this collaboration, the municipality provided economic support (around £2500) for the festival which is one of the project objectives, reaching more people. We have a stakeholder meeting to share our results with national parks, Marmaris Municipality and, NGOs.</p> <p>We prepared a draft conservation plan that will be a part of management plan. We will also submit it a scientific paper in the end of March 2018. We shared all our results and suggestions with all stakeholders in 1-day workshop at the end of project.</p>
3. Having public campaigns to create				<p>We organised training modules for awareness in three different primary</p>

<p>awareness about ecological value and beauty in the region.</p>				<p>schools around Marmaris where salamander habitat exist. We waited 5 days for permission to give this education and have delivered the educational packages in government schools in 10 days. We have reached 400 students with these awareness activities, 200 of whom were reached at their schools and the other 200 at Marmaris Municipality Children Science Park. During the fieldwork we also met many villagers around undisturbed habitats of Marmaris salamander. We have interviews about the villager's social-economic status. The habitat use by locals showed us that there is very strong relation between the salamanders and locals. Most of the villagers doing beekeeping and livestock breeding. Both of them use natural pine forest ecosystem. A day festival was organised with participation of about 1000 children and their families. This organisation reached important awareness target on the Marmaris salamander.</p>
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2. Please explain any unforeseen difficulties that arose during the project and how these were tackled (if relevant).

The most important problem was happened about getting permissions. In the beginning Turkish political situations affected our project timeline.

During meeting with locals, we had to be careful about our conversation to prevent collection of the species as a pet

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

- 1- Public awareness on threats and conservation of Marmaris salamander has very successful outcomes after festival organisation. Responses from public, government and private sector show that the aimed message was delivered. They still want to collaborate with us.
- 2- Many other conservation biologists contacted us and wanted to collaborate with us in the public awareness studies.
- 3- National parks and municipality officials are now aware of the fact that conservation area(s) are very important for conservation and future of the Marmaris salamander.

- 4- Two scientific papers were written and one of them submitted. The first study about ecology of Marmaris salamander and the second one is about current distribution of the salamander.

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

Marmaris Municipality supported our festival organisation. With this collaboration, the municipality had an opportunity being proactive in conservation efforts of an endangered species.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

- Yes, the follow up meetings with the government is still going. We want to create as sustainable conservation action plan in national parks.
- We found new localities and we want to monitor the population in those regions.
- All ecological data that we have informed about the species should be monitored each year.
- We also want to collaborate other municipalities around the region.
- We need to continue public awareness studies to manage threats on the habitats.

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

We have a NGO Mediterranean Conservation Society. The project is already on the web site:

<http://akdenizkoruma.org.tr/>

I submitted one article about current distribution of Marmaris salamander (amphibian-reptile conservation) and prepared an article on Ecology of Marmaris Salamander. We will also put the pdf version of these articles on our web sites.

In addition, we filmed some parts of project shared by YouTube channel and social medias.

Article online: <http://amphibian-reptile-conservation.org/>

YouTube online: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-hFsqLbFdLNvZVYcBatnEA>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/marmarissalamander/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Marmarissemenderi/>

News about the festival:

<http://www.marmaris.bel.tr/Content.aspx?ContentID=4907&CategoryID=44>

<http://www.milliyet.com.tr/marmaris-semenderi-nin-nesli-tukenmesin-mugla-yerelhaber-2204959/>

<http://www.marmaristv.com.tr/haber/marmaris-semenderi-tanitim-senligi/211248>

<http://www.ankahaber.com.tr/yerel/marmaris-semenderinin-korunmasi-icin-calismalar-basliyor-h35893.html>

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

We spent the time equal in each objective.

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
Administration costs	200	156,4	43,6	
Car Rental	1100	1150	-50	
Consumables Materials	720	781,76	-61,76	We need more materials for the festival than originally planned.
Field trips with official	400	417,18	-17,18	
Fuel	750	768,41	-18,41	
Accommodation and Food	530	561,61	-31,61	
Meetings	650	412,4	237,6	
Laboratory Cost	200	200	0	
Printed Materials	450	552,24	-102,24	We need more materials for the festival than originally planned.
Total	5000	5000	0	

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

The most important thing applies the draft management plan. On that point the follow up meetings in Ankara and Muğla department of national parks is very important. The new population especially in new habitats should be monitored. The next important point is that reduce the pet collecting. We plan to collaborate with the rangers of national parks to decrease pet collecting.

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?

We used RF logo in posters we published for the public awareness of the project (also in social media channels). We also used RSGF logo in our supporter part of the Mediterranean Conservation web site.

<http://akdenizkoruma.org.tr/html/destekcilerimiz.html>

We also mentioned RSGF support in our web site

<http://akdenizkoruma.org.tr/html/>

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

Çağdaş Yaşar is other biologist on the project. He helped about Maxent analysing and field works.

Ozan Arslan is monitoring our social media accounts and also helped to create posters and brochures.

Derya Özer is design content of public awareness education.
Volunteers. Around 20 volunteers were helped us in field works and festival time.

12. Any other comments?

Data analyses usually take long time. Therefore, publications resulted from the project will still be sent to RF few months after completion of my research.

Finally we would like to thank to Rufford Foundation to give us a chance make the project is real.

