

## 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	
Your name	Chiranjeevi Khanal
Project title	Conservation of Striped Hyaena in Deukhuri Valley of Nepal
RSG reference	21467-2
Reporting period	June 2017- June 2018
Amount of grant	£5000
Your email address	chiran_khanal2011@hotmail.com
Date of this report	11 <sup>th</sup> June, 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
Den monitoring				A year long den monitoring was done using camera traps. Observation of den reconstruction, feeding and raising cubs, and hiding foods inside den was made. Other behaviour of hyaena pairs and cubs was also recorded. It will take 4-5 months to analyse all the photos and videos obtained from camera trap.
Radio program and Forest Guard Training				A total of six episodes were broadcast. Forest guard training was organised for capacity building of 20 forest guards.
Poster 500 pcs production and distribution				Posters were distributed to school students, local people and conservation stakeholders. Posters were also placed on Nepal Owl festival-2018.

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

Two elections were held in country during project period which changed the schedule of project so awareness program and radio programmes were conducted after both elections.

One of our camera traps was stolen from field; we set up new camera trap in that area. Similarly two camera traps were damaged by hyaena cubs. To prevent further damage of camera traps we increased the height of camera traps from ground surface so that hyaena was unable to reach the camera traps. We lost some data from those camera traps.

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

**I. Denning Behaviour of hyaena**

Camera traps image and video obtained from this research helped to understand the behaviour of hyaena around denning site. Two cubs were born by hyaena pairs in den. Hyaena used the den for around 6 months. This study is the first denning behaviour study of striped hyaena in country so the findings are very important.

## II. Hyanea Conservation Awareness Programs

Radio conservation programme was very helpful to reach the mass of audience at a time. A total of six episodes were very helpful in spreading message of conservation. The success of awareness programme was felt after getting call for rescue of hyaena, 64 km from the project site. Beside hyaena other species of wildlife were also rescued during project period.

School students, youth clubs and stakeholders of study area were also made aware about the conservation of threatened species. Forest guards were trained about the wildlife, conservation importance and techniques to identify the signs of wildlife in forest. Field observation was done together with forest guards. Evidence of hunting was also found in study area and concerned government body was informed to control such illegal activities.

## III. Exploration of Biodiversity

This project has been very helpful for research and conservation activities of hyaena. Beside target species, different findings were obtained which contributed in exploring biodiversity of study area. Some of the findings are also published in various newsletters and national newspaper. Here are some publications.

- First Camera trap record of Four Horned Antelope outside Protected areas in Nepal.  
Published in GNUSLETTER Volume 32 Number 2 (IUCN Antelope Specialist Group)  
[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/323006283\\_First\\_record\\_of\\_Four-horned\\_Antelope\\_Tetracerus\\_quadricornis\\_De\\_Blainville\\_1816\\_in\\_Deukhuri\\_Valley\\_First\\_camera\\_trap\\_record\\_outside\\_protected\\_areas\\_of\\_Nepal](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/323006283_First_record_of_Four-horned_Antelope_Tetracerus_quadricornis_De_Blainville_1816_in_Deukhuri_Valley_First_camera_trap_record_outside_protected_areas_of_Nepal)
- Deukhuri Valley- a wildlife haven in the Shiwalik hills, Nepal  
Published in The Himalayan Naturalist  
[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/324978020\\_Deukhuri\\_valley\\_a\\_wildlife\\_haven\\_in\\_the\\_Shiwalik\\_hills\\_Nepal](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/324978020_Deukhuri_valley_a_wildlife_haven_in_the_Shiwalik_hills_Nepal)
- FIRST CONFIRMED RECORD OF MUGGER CROCODILE (CROCODYLUS PALUSTRIS) IN DANG, NEPAL.  
[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/321161223\\_FIRST\\_CONFIRMED\\_RECORD\\_OF\\_MUGGER\\_CROCODILE\\_CROCODYLUS\\_PALUSTRIS\\_IN\\_DANG\\_NEPAL](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/321161223_FIRST_CONFIRMED_RECORD_OF_MUGGER_CROCODILE_CROCODYLUS_PALUSTRIS_IN_DANG_NEPAL)
- First Confirmed Record of Striped Hyaena (Hyaena hyaena) Den in Nepal  
[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/320284210\\_First\\_Confirmed\\_Record\\_of\\_Striped\\_Hyaena\\_Hyaena\\_hyaena\\_Den\\_in\\_Nepal](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/320284210_First_Confirmed_Record_of_Striped_Hyaena_Hyaena_hyaena_Den_in_Nepal)

## Additional Output of Project

## IV. Interview on Television and newspaper

Project Leader was invited for a talk program in Rapti Darpan Television of Dang and was also interviewed in newspaper.

- V. 11<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Behaviour, Physiology and Genetics of Wildlife**  
Project leader participated in International Conference organized in Berlin, Germany (4<sup>th</sup>- 7<sup>th</sup> October, 2017) for his presentation on striped hyaena research of Nepal.

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

People received the knowledge on wildlife from the project mainly on striped hyaena. In Nepal, mainly people from remote area are unknowingly involved in hunting of wildlife so during our conservation programme we aware them about the rules and regulation of Nepal regarding wildlife conservation. People involvement in hunting is supposed to be minimised.

Local assistant was trained in the field. This project gave him opportunity to learn about setting up camera traps, handling GPS and identification of birds and mammals. Beside this local guide was used during each field work.

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

Yeah we plan to continue this work. Hyaena still needs more attention, research and conservation so continuation of this work is important.

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

We have been sharing the works and updates of the project through different social groups. We had created a Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/HyenaNepal/>) for sharing project updates, activities and other news and information of hyaena. All the video footage obtained from the project will be analysed and article about the denning behaviour will be published in future. Also regular communication and sharing has been done with IUCN SSC Hyaena Specialist Group. Final report will be submitted to Department of Forest and Department of National Parks and Wildlife conservation of Nepal.

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

There was some delay in grant approval so there was little change in timescale as mentioned in proposal but all the activities of the project were completed on time. Due to election, we did not conduct any conservation program at that time so most of the outreach activities were completed at the end of the project.

**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
Travel cost	300	350	-50	Change in project schedule during election
Food cost	960	960		
Living cost	1440	1440		
Allowance	1200	1200		
Research equipment	2200	2200		
Poster	150	200	-50	Printing cost high
Radio programs preparation and broadcasting	1320	1420	-100	Increased rate of broadcasting.
Forest guard Training	1900	1700	+200	
Reporting	205	205		
<b>Total</b>	<b>9675</b>	<b>9675</b>		Grant received from Rufford (5000), matching fund from Narti CFCC (3000) and Kalapani CF (1675)

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

Kill record of hyaena has been recorded in western hills of Nepal. Retaliatory killing, carcasses poisoning are the major reason documented for killing hyaena so conservation programmes should be launched in the districts of mid hills in western Nepal. Ethno-hyaena knowledge is also important to understand for further implication of conservation programmes.

**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?**

The logo of the Rufford Foundation was used in conservation posters (500 pcs) and was also displayed during poster presentation in Nepal Owl Festival 2018 and in banners prepared for awareness program and training. The logo was also used in the presentation made during the International Conference in Berlin, Germany.

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

Sanjeev Baniya: field work and awareness program

Rajeev Dangi: Camera traps monitoring

12. Any other comments?



Striped Hyena in denning site