

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	Buyandelger Suuri
Project title	Breeding and none breeding habitat occupancy and movement of Pallas's cat: implication for the conservation of the wild cat
RSG reference	23907-1
Reporting period	Final
Amount of grant	£5000
Your email address	buyandelger@gmail.com
Date of this report	2/18/2019

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
Breeding and none breeding habitat occupancy of Pallas's cat				I collected occupancy survey in May, June, August and September 2018 but my preliminary field data can't show fully habitat occupancy. So I collect additional data in December 2018 and February 2019.
Daily movement and habitat characteristic				I couldn't buy collars for Pallas's cat because I have to collect all winter and summer camp location for my habitat occupancy analysis. So my budget changed in field.
Habitat map				I collect all summer and winter camp location and additional marmot burrow locations. Also we tracked road.

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

After started planning field work, I have to collect habitat map and local herder camp locations. In steppe region herders have having 3-4 camps for moving all year. So there are more winter, summer, autumn, and spring camps than population size. I also collected additional occupancy data in coldest season of 2019 because of not enough data for showing relation of Pallas's cat occupancy and habitat.

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

1. In summer and autumn, Pallas's cat occupancy related rocky area. Especially, female cat uses small rock cave for shelter in their breeding time.
2. In coldest time (from December to February), they use abandoned burrows of other animals such as marmot, red and corsac fox.
3. Unfortunately, burrow availability is harder because red and corsac fox population is higher in steppe region and marmot is really rare. So for the conservation of the Pallas's cat, we have to reintroduce the marmot which is keystone species for Mongolian steppe zone.

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

Two staff from the local community helped with data collection. In September 2018, we organised educational activity for the local community and high school children. We explained about Pallas's cat benefit, conservation and research work and organised wildlife drawing competition of the region wildlife for high school children.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

We plan to set eight GPS collars in May 2019 for Pallas's cat daily movement and habitat characteristic survey (one of my not achieved objective). I found half the funds from Mohamed bin Zayed Conservation Fund.

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

Right now, I am working on my analysis. I will publish the results in English to International Journal.

I plan to organise second educational activity for the high school children and local people. We will explain brief results in the event for local people and school children.

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

Much of the grant money used in field work period. It was used in May, June, August, September, December 2018 and February 2019.

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
Salary for field assistant	1000	1600	+600	We paid salary and food to staffs for extra data collection in February
Food and Accommodation	500	795	+295	
Transportation	2500	3260	+760	We collect local herder's camp location so we spent much money for the petrol.
GPS collar	1500		-1500	We can't buy collar because of none planned field work.
TOTAL	5500	5655	+155	

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

However, I thought my plan is full set completely, it was in short supply. So I couldn't buy collars. I will continue the movement survey with eight collars in 2019. I am planning more carefully in this year. We couldn't find field expenses so I am working on funding right now.

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?

I used Rufford Foundation logo in presentation and poster of educational activity for local people and high school children of the region last September.

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

Buyandelger Suuri – supervise for the field work, prey species abundance and analysis.

Otgonbayar Baatargal – lead field works

Zulbayar Myagmar – collect location of the camp and marmot burrow

Dorjgochoo R – occupancy data collection

Amarsanaa S – occupancy data collection

12. Any other comments?

I showed an image of 100 locations for Pallas's cat occupancy. We collect totally 596 occupancy data in six times.

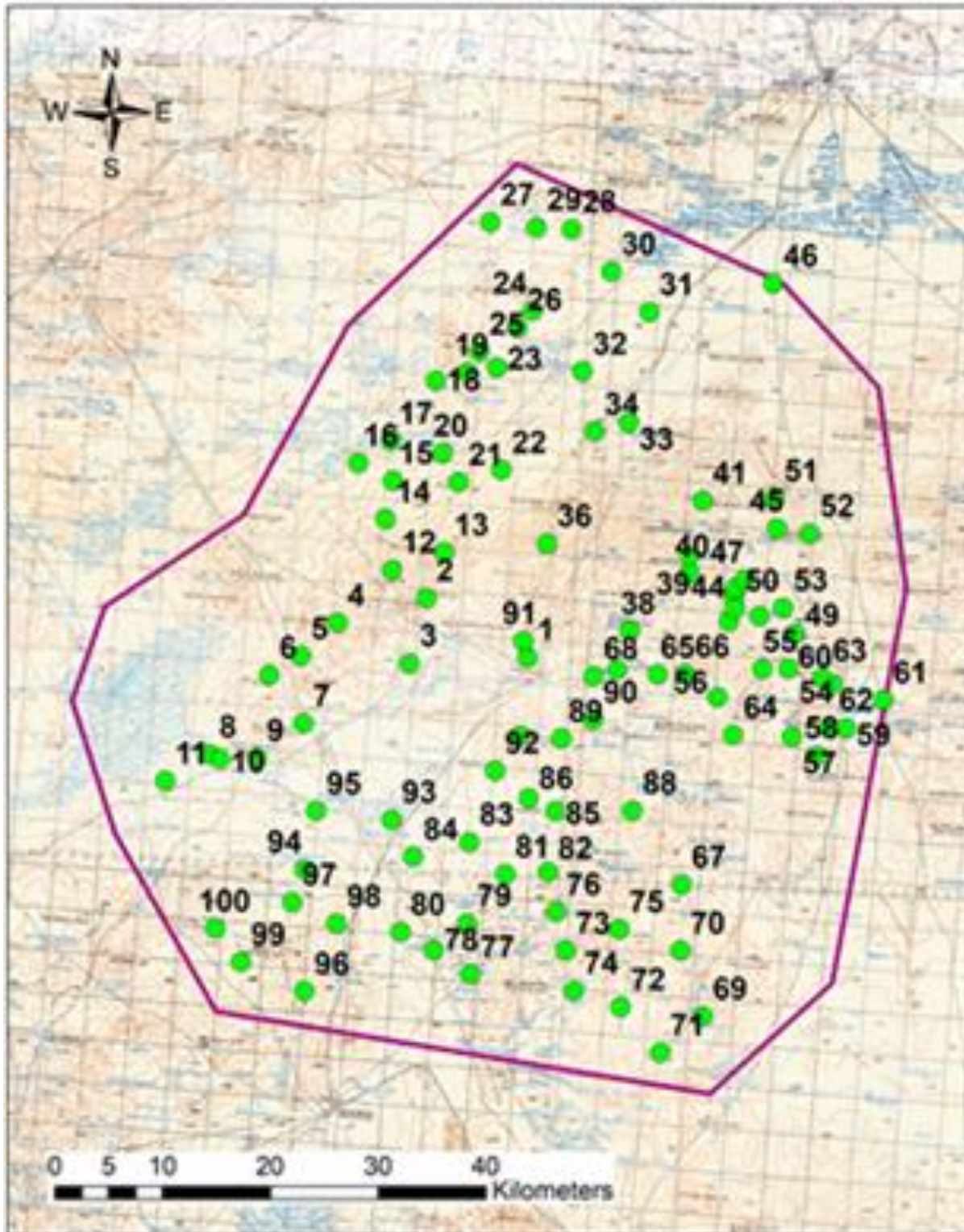


Image 1. Map of Halzan Soum of Sukhbaatar Aimag. Green spots showed 100 location of Pallas's cat occupancy survey.



Image 2. Amarsanaa S, data collection



Educational Activity for Pallas's cat in Eastern
Steppe of Mongolia in 2018



Image 3. Educational activity for Pallas's cat in Halzan Soum, Sukhbaatar Province, Mongolia, in September of 2019.