

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. 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	Risk Assessment of Human-Wildlife Conflicts in Western Ghats Protected Areas
RSG reference	9527-1
Reporting period	Feb 2011 to March 2012
Amount of grant	£6000
Your email address	krithi.karanth@gmail.com
Date of this report	April 10 th 2012

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
Historic Records of Conflict and Compensation in Karnataka			X	Karnataka Forest Department granted permission to access conflict and compensation records for all five protected areas. Collected and created database of 40,000+ records over ten years.
Household surveys in Bandipura and Nagarahole			X	Proposed 200 surveys. Completed 1940 surveys.
Household surveys in Bhadra			X	Proposed 100 Surveys. Expected to complete 2000 surveys in April 2012
Household surveys in Kudremukha		X		To be completed later in 2012
Household surveys in Anshi-Dandeli	X			To be completed later in 2012
Data entry		X		Completed for Bandipura and Nagarahole. Ongoing for Bhadra, Kudremukha and Anshi-Dandeli.
Data analysis and writing of reports and scientific articles		X		Ongoing for Bandipura and Nagarahole. To be completed for Bhadra, Kudremukha and Anshi-Dandeli

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

There were no unforeseen difficulties.

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

1. The Karnataka Forest Department granted permission to access conflict and compensation records for the state of Karnataka and access to conflict and compensation records for the five selected parks. I collected 10 years of compensation data. Preliminary analysis suggests that > 90% of conflict and compensation is for crop raiding, 5% for livestock predation and < 5% for human death and injury.
2. I was also given permission to visit the individual wildlife divisions and collect regional level records. I was able to collate information for Bandipur National Park, Nagarahole National Park, Bhadra Wildlife Sanctuary and Kudremukha National Park. The database for these four parks now includes > 50,000 compensation payments for crop raiding, livestock predation and human injury/death around these parks in the past 10 years. These records have been georeferenced

and chronologically organized by conflict type and compensation paid out. We are in the process of compiling these records for Anshi-Dandeli as well.

3. This massive database, along with widespread public interest and support from both Karnataka Forest Department and local NGOs, have led to expansion of the scale and purpose of the study. Originally, I planned to survey 100 households outside each park for a total of 500 households. I have now expanded the study to survey > 1000 villages and ca. 3500 households around these five parks. I have also decided to survey households both on conflict-compensation, and wildlife species occurrence. Therefore, from January to July 2012 the following activities are implemented and planned
 - a. Household surveys and mapping exercises around Bandipur and Nagarahole with help of 22 volunteers and research assistants in January-February. We completed 764 conflict surveys and 1176 wildlife distribution surveys.
 - b. Household surveys and mapping exercises around Bhadra with the help of 30 volunteers and research assistants in March-April. Field surveys completed include ~600 conflict surveys and ~1600 wildlife distribution surveys.
 - c. Household surveys in Kudremukh and Anshi-Dandeli to be planned for later in 2012 once we have organized the database and mapped historic records. We expect to implement 1200 conflict surveys and 2400 wildlife distribution surveys.

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

I work with several local NGOs who have strong on ground presence around these parks. Therefore, once project results emerge they will be consulted to develop, focus and improve existing mitigation efforts and compensation strategies at the village and regional levels.

4. Are there any plans to continue this work?

5.

I have raised additional funding for this project from the National Geographic Society. Therefore, joint support from Rufford and National Geographic has allowed expanding the scale and scope of the study. If the funding support continues I plan to expand this project to other parks besides the original five parks. Human-wildlife conflict has emerged as a very serious issue in this landscape and increased public outcry requires workable solutions.

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

The project results will be disseminated in various ways.

- a. Spatial risk maps and database will be shared with the Karnataka Forest Department and local NGOs in the form of presentations, maps and written report to develop and improve existing compensation and mitigation efforts.
- b. Results will be submitted as three scientific articles to be submitted to international peer reviewed journals at the end of 2012.

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

The RSG was used from Feb 2011 to March 2012. We have expanded the field surveys and scale of the study from 500 to 3500 household surveys around these parks. Along with the original conflict surveys, we are also collecting information on wildlife species distributions and land use around these parks.

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
Research Assistant Salary	3000	2998	2	Trained 4 Indian RAs
Vehicle Rental and Fuel	900	898	2	Supported 4 Indian RAs and 52 volunteers
Field per diem	2100	2100	0	Supported 4 Indian RAs and 52 volunteers
Total	6000	5996	4	

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

Expanding the focus and scale of the study to link conflict and compensation to wildlife occurrence and land use change is major improvement to the original proposed project. This will enable better understanding of conflict around these parks. Disseminating project results to improve existing compensation and mitigation strategies will be critical to ensuring project results have conservation impacts locally. I would like to request Rufford to support expansion of this project to nine more parks in Karnataka state.

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 logo was not used. Presentations and publications from the project will ensure credit to RSGF and copies will be sent to RSGF as well.

11. Any other comments?

I would like to thank RSGF for supporting the work. The RSGF was the first grant this project received and ability to expand the focus and scale was only possible because of support from RSGF. I would like to request Rufford to support expansion of this project to nine more parks in Karnataka state.