

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. 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. 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	Aventino Kasangaki
Project title	Effects of anthropogenic disturbance on stream fish assemblages of Bwindi Impenetrable National Park and implications for their sustainable use
RSG reference	02.01.03
Reporting period	2003-2006
Amount of grant	£ 5000
Your email address	aventinok@yahoo.com
Date of this report	15 th September 2008

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
Determine significant environmental, biological and social predictors of fish assemblage structure			Fully achieved	This was fully achieved as the fieldwork was carried out to cater seasonal variation over an 18 month period. The factors affecting this were level of human disturbance and fishing pressure
Assess the link between the stream food web and forest resources			Fully achieved	Terrestrial food sources such insects, leaves and fruit were identified and formed a major food source of <i>Barbus altinialis</i> the largest species of fish reported
Evaluate fishing pressure in Bwindi rivers and the relationships between fishing pressure and key fish stock characters			Fully achieved	High fishing pressure negatively influenced fish size. Fishes caught outside protected area were generally of small size due to uncontrolled access to the rivers outside the park

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

There was difficulty in identifying some un-described species of fish because of lack of local expertise. Consultations were made with experts from the Royal Museum for Central Africa, Tervuren.

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

A comprehensive fish species list for Bwindi National park. Previously, only four species were recorded but now the list is of 18 species.

Two new species of catfish were recorded. *Amphilius* sp. nov is in the final stages of being described while the other could not be described because of having only one voucher specimen.

The project identified species of fish such as *Barbus altianalis* that can be used in stocking fishponds of the communities around the park

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

The local communities were engaged as research partners especially in providing local names to the species. In addition they were very valuable in providing the history of fishing activities within the studied rivers.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, I plan to discuss with relevant authorities possibilities for allowing communities' access to fish within the protected area and to explore the potential for translocation of some species across natural barriers. In addition, I plan to continue this work in other streams and rivers that remain unexplored.

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

I have already shared my findings with stakeholders during information for managers workshops in addition to presenting the findings at international conferences. One publication has already been published in Freshwater Biology Journal and three more are in preparation.

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 over three years, one year above the anticipated time. This is because there was delay in confirming identifications of some of the specimens.

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
Equipment/field supplies	1158.09	900.00	258.09	Some equipment was donated to the project
Subsistence/fieldwork expenses	2927.92	3520.00	-592.08	Fieldwork took long than anticipated time to cater seasons
Local travel	1157.50	1200.49	-42.50	Local travel was more frequent than anticipated
Vehicle/fuel expenses	1298.70	1100.00	198.70	Mileage moved was less than expected
Report production/books	1298.70	950.00	348.70	Few books were bought, I also depended on online literature
Field assistance/consultation	1623.70	1800.00	-176.30	Number of samples was higher than expected
TOTAL	9464.61	9470.49	-5.88	

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

I look forward to surveying the southern part of the drainage system that I did not study to get a comprehensive picture of the fish fauna of the park. Another important step is to engage the various stakeholders with the aim of achieving sustainable use of the stream fishery.

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?

The RSGF was acknowledged during presentations at conferences and in addition it was acknowledged in the Freshwater Biology article as a funding agency.

11. Any other comments?

I highly appreciate the support from the RSGF to conservation projects in developing countries; please keep up the good work as it is difficult to raise funds locally for conservation initiatives.