

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	Nicholas Michael Bolton
Project title	Habitat requirements, threats and community conservation of the critically endangered Grenada Dove
RSG reference	
Reporting period	2012-2013
Amount of grant	£2342
Your email address	nicholas.bolton84@gmail.com
Date of this report	May 2013

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
Habitat selection		X		It was not possible to prove which plant species are important to Grenada doves but key structural habitat features were established.
Mongoose occupancy			X	Tracking tunnels worked to collect an index of occupancy of mongoose in Grenada dove territories.
Evidence of use of threatened wells			X	Footage of Grenada doves using the well was recorded.
Disease		X		It was not possible to directly test the well water for disease. Evidence was collected that disease, if present, would be easily spread by doves drinking side-by-side with congener species.
Other Threats			X	Trail cameras recorded evidence of feral cats and dogs on numerous occasions in Grenada dove territories.
Capacity Building			X	At least three forestry members of staff were trained to conduct monitoring.
Awareness Campaign			X	14 forestry staff, conservation volunteers and college students attended a presentation of the project. YouTube videos are being developed.
Conservation implications			X	Conservation and management recommendations were prepared in a report. In addition, methods were developed for future monitoring. Manuscripts are being prepared for publication.

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

The duration of the fieldwork was reduced to meet budgetary constrictions.

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

The collection of evidence on Grenada dove habitat and use of man-made wells will strengthen the case to protect these areas. The baseline data has been collected for mongoose activity to compare before and after the mongoose control programme. The project trained employees of the Grenadian Government Forestry department to use tracking tunnels and camera traps.

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

Three members of forestry staff were trained in monitoring. The forestry department was presented with the project findings. At least 14 attended including volunteers and college students. They will use the presentation material to outreach to the community and partners and other government groups.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, there are plans to collect more data on habitat selection and use cameras to monitor nests to see what predated them. Also we will set up predator control and continue monitoring using tracking tunnels, record the predator's behaviour to the tunnels and traps and look to create additional water sources in the Mt. Hartman National Park. It is important to screen congener bird species directly for Trichomoniasis.

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

The master's project has been shared with the Grenada Forestry Department. A poster has been sent to Grenada to be displayed in the visitor centre at Mt. Hartman. A detailed final report will be submitted to the Rufford Small Grant Foundation and will be shared through RSG website. A project video is being prepared to be uploaded on YouTube. A scientific paper with results of the study including conservation and management recommendations will be published in an international journal.

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

Timescale was fine to complete the tasks.

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
Contribution towards international return flights: BA 11th April-13th June	48	48	0	
Travel Insurance (ACE Group Ltd):	70	70	0	
Lodgings (Local let):	540	540	0	
Transport (moped hire+ fuel):	500	500	0	
Bike lock and chain	24	24	0	
Food and consumables	410	410	0	
Rechargeable Batteries: 6x AA 8pk	78	78	0	
Materials for tracking tunnels: £138	138	138	0	
Excess luggage for equipment (1 bag)	34	34	0	
Materials to run additional tracking lines	500	500	0	
TOTAL	2342	2342	0	

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

While it is important to follow up this research, direct steps would involve building capacity in order to deliver the actions to help save this species. This may include working with forestry to carry out: nest monitoring with cameras and predator control; setting up captive breeding; and possibly the translocation of birds to predator-free offshore islands.

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?

Yes, RSGF logo was used in the presentations in Grenada and UK. It is also on the research poster. The logo was also embedded in the project video (). Certainly, RSGF received publicity as it was acknowledgement in the presentations, video and posters.

11. Any other comments?

It is important that this research and action continues on this critically endangered bird. We are very grateful for having Rufford Small Grants as a sponsor.