

## CEPF SMALL GRANT FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

Organization Legal Name:	New Zealand Butterfly Enterprises Ltd
Project Title:	Capacity Building to Secure Endemic Samoan Swallowtail Butterfly as a Model For Valuing and Conserving Butterflies Distinctive in the Polynesia - Micronesia Hotspot
Date of Report:	25 April 2010
Report Author and Contact Information	Brian Patrick & Eric Edwards Box 308, Alexandra bpatrick@xtra.co.nz

CEPF Region: Polynesia – Micronesia Hotspot

Strategic Direction: 3. Build awareness and participation of local leaders and community members in the implementation of protection and recovery plans for threatened species.

Grant Amount: \$18,600

Project Dates: 1 February 2009 – 30 April 2010

Implementation Partners for this Project:

*Samoan Government –Ministry for Natural Resources and Environment key partner. Due to prior work MNRE provided strong in kind support; liaison, project design, logistics and investigation. In excess of 40 person working days involved. Cooperation and in kind support also provided by Japan International Cooperation Agency (Samoa Office) and three agencies in American Samoa. In excess of 15 person working days involved.*

### Conservation Impacts

*Please explain/describe how your project has contributed to the implementation of the CEPF ecosystem profile.*

The project has highlighted the special butterfly fauna of the Samoan Archipelago including species endemic to this small area and others possibly threatened with extinction. Ten out of the total of thirty species are only found in the Samoas which is 33% endemism.

**The endemic species and subspecies are:**

- ❖ *Oriens augustula alexina* – Samoan dart – endemic
- ❖ *Hypolimnas errabunda* – Samoan eggfly – endemic
- ❖ *Phalanta exulans* – Samoan ranger – endemic
- ❖ *Papilio godeffroyi* – Pepe ae /Samoan swallowtail – endemic
- ❖ *Deudorix doris* - Samoan cornealian – endemic
- ❖ *Tirumala hamata melittula* – Samoan blue tiger – endemic

- ❖ *Tirumala hamata tutuilae* – American Samoan blue tiger – endemic
- ❖ *Euploea algea schmeltzi* – Samoan crow – endemic
- ❖ *Euploea lewinii bourkei* – Common crow – endemic
- ❖ *Melanitis leda hopkinsi* – Samoan evening brown – endemic



Two Samoan endemic butterflies – Samoan ranger and Samoan eggfly

### Regionally endemic butterflies (Samoa, Tonga, Niue):

- ❖ *Appias athama manaia* – Eastern Pacific albatross
- ❖ *Belanois java schmeltzi* – Samoa, Tonga & Niue
- ❖ *Deudorix armstrongi* – Tonga
- ❖ *Jamides carissima thomasi* – Tonga
- ❖ *Jamides argentina* – Samoa & Niue
- ❖ *Catochrysops taitensis pepe* – Samoa & Cook Is.
- ❖ *Catochrysops taitensis hopkinsi* – Tonga
- ❖ *Tirumala hamata angustata* – Tonga
- ❖ *Euploea lewinii lewinii* – Tonga
- ❖ *Euploea lewinii perryi* – Niue & Cook Is.
- ❖ *Doleschallia tongana tongana* – Tonga
- ❖ *Vagrans egista bowdenia* – Samoa, Tonga, Austral Is. Cook Is.

### Species considered vulnerable to extinction are:

- ❖ *Acraea andromacha* (from Samoa only) – Glasswing
- ❖ *Oriens augustula alexina* – Samoan dart – endemic
- ❖ *Hypolimnas errabunda* – Samoan eggfly – endemic
- ❖ *Phalanta exulans* – Samoan ranger – endemic
- ❖ *Papilio godeffroyi* – Pepe ae / Samoan swallowtail – endemic
- ❖ *Deudorix doris* Samoan cornealian – endemic

***Please summarize the overall results/impact of your project against the expected results detailed in the approved proposal.***



Field team from March 2010:  
E. Edwards, C. Iese, S.  
Turnbull, L. Berry, Joe, Tone  
Simanu

Along with lead agencies and funding agencies we have;

- ❖ Surveyed for Samoan swallowtail butterfly in both Savai'i and Upolu, Samoa and followed-up other later reports
- ❖ Confirmed that Samoan swallowtail butterfly has been extirpated from Samoa, but is still extant in American Samoa
- ❖ Connected with conservation authorities in both Samoa and American Samoa to gain support for medium-term aim to re-introduce Samoan swallowtail butterfly to Samoa
- ❖ Confirmed and located the native larval host-plant of the Samoan swallowtail butterfly in American Samoa
- ❖ Surveyed Samoa for larval host-plant and found reasonable populations on Nu'utele Island and north central Savai'i.
- ❖ Gained the basic information required for agencies to support education and advocacy initiatives for butterflies and their habitats.
- ❖ Provided an additional focus for the existing plant nurseries and conservation re-vegetation projects in both Samoa and American Samoa.
- ❖ Added butterflies particularly Samoan swallowtail to the list of species management programmes considered by different agencies.
- ❖ Researched and confirmed capacity in American Samoa to bred Samoan swallowtail butterfly and its larval host-plant, so that re-introduction is realistic with existing technology
- ❖ Surveyed islands of Savai'i and Upolu, Samoa; Tutuila, American Samoa; and Vava'u, Tonga for Samoan swallowtail butterfly and other special butterflies
- ❖ Located many new island records including ten new country records for these territories
- ❖ Published one paper of finding in international journal and another draft paper prepared for publication
- ❖ Five newspaper reports of project published – Samoa and New Zealand – and newsletter report published (copies attached)
- ❖ Presented four public talks in Samoa, American Samoa and New Zealand
- ❖ Examined collections of Samoan butterflies at USP Apia, American Samoa Community College, American Samoa, Bishop Museum, Hawaii

- and NZAC, Auckland to glean information on Samoan swallowtail and other special butterflies of Samoan Archipelago
- ❖ Set-up official Recovery Group for Samoan swallowtail butterfly with representatives from both governmental and non-governmental agencies from Samoa and American Samoa
  - ❖ Gained recognition for the threatened Samoan Swallowtail in the Key Biodiversity Area publication: Conservation International – Pacific Islands Programme, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme. 2010 *Priority Sites for Conservation in Samoa: Key Biodiversity Areas*. Apia, Samoa.
  - ❖ Submitted an assessment of the Samoan swallowtail butterfly threat status to the IUCN as official New Zealand assessor.

***Please provide the following information where relevant:***

**Hectares Protected:** N/A  
**Species Conserved:** N/A  
**Corridors Created:** N/A

***Describe the success or challenges of the project toward achieving its short-term and long-term impact objectives.***

We encountered amazing co-operation with the project from governmental and non-governmental agencies and the general public. Operationally the survey and inspections went smoothly also.

Samoan government MNRE demonstrated great commitment and desire to establish and support a 'bring back the butterfly' recovery group. The existing native plant propagation capacity now has an additional focus regardless of other opportunities and will help the project endure.

We believe our surveys have been thorough and judging by the fact we found several new butterflies, we can be certain about our conclusion that the Samoan swallowtail butterfly is now extinct in Samoa.

A devastating Tsunami hit both Samoa and American Samoa in September 2009, causing us to delay completion in respect of the personal loss and turmoil associated with rebuilding and grieving.

***Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?***

- 1) New butterfly records for The Samoan Archipelago were found and this had not been anticipated.
- 2) Aside from the swallowtail, two other Samoan butterflies were not found and must be very local and rare in occurrence presently.
- 3) In kind institutional support was more than expected
- 4) Butterfly host plant (talafalu) is currently being propagated in American Samoa.

- 5) The way the **Two Samoa's Initiative** applies to this project is a pleasant surprise.

## **Lessons Learned**

*Describe any lessons learned during the design and implementation of the project, as well as any related to organizational development and capacity building. Consider lessons that would inform projects designed or implemented by your organization or others, as well as lessons that might be considered by the global conservation community.*

In future projects associated with this type of process, we will make it a priority to involve the Samoan partners in the work and results in American Samoa. We will budget to transport them there and show them the butterfly, larval host-plant, life-cycle and habitat.

We feel that discussion of capacity for conservation work and inter-agency cooperation through 'recovery group' is a good model.

***Project Design Process: (aspects of the project design that contributed to its success/shortcomings)***

- ❖ Our method of rapid roadside survey for butterflies contributed to an efficient survey of the large islands of Samoa and gave certainty to the next steps in the project.
- ❖ Close contact with government agencies early in the project contributed to a lot of synergy and assistance being given to us in terms of help with logistics and advice

***Project Implementation: (aspects of the project execution that contributed to its success/shortcomings)***

- ❖ Promotion of the project through workshops in both Samoa and American Samoa contributed to success of the project through agency buy-in

***Other lessons learned relevant to conservation community:***

- ❖ Perhaps of relevance for practitioners is our experience that starting a conversation about an endangered species easily leads to a discussion about habitat/ecosystem management and community participation. We had such interaction with village representatives and tourism managers as well as agency representatives.

## **ADDITIONAL FUNDING**

***Provide details of any additional donors who supported this project and any funding secured for the project as a result of the CEPF grant or success of the project.***

<b>Donor</b>	<b>Type of Funding*</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Notes</b>
N/A			

**\*Additional funding should be reported using the following categories:**

- A** *Project co-financing (Other donors contribute to the direct costs of this CEPF project)*
  
- B** *Grantee and Partner leveraging (Other donors contribute to your organization or a partner organization as a direct result of successes with this CEPF project.)*
  
- C** *Regional/Portfolio leveraging (Other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investment or successes related to this project.)*

### **Sustainability/Replicability**

**Summarize the success or challenge in achieving planned sustainability or replicability of project components or results.**

Not applicable

**Summarize any unplanned sustainability or replicability achieved.**

Not applicable

### **Safeguard Policy Assessment**

**Provide a summary of the implementation of any required action toward the environmental and social safeguard policies within the project.**

Not applicable

**Performance Tracking Report Addendum**

**CEPF Global Targets**

**(Enter Grant Term)**

Provide a numerical amount and brief description of the results achieved by your grant.  
Please respond to only those questions that are relevant to your project.

<b>Project Results</b>	<b>Is this question relevant?</b>	<b>If yes, provide your numerical response for results achieved during the annual period.</b>	<b>Provide your numerical response for project from inception of CEPF support to date.</b>	<b>Describe the principal results achieved from July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008. (Attach annexes if necessary)</b>
1. Did your project strengthen management of a protected area guided by a sustainable management plan? Please indicate number of hectares improved.	no			Please also include name of the protected area(s). If more than one, please include the number of hectares strengthened for each one.
2. How many hectares of new and/or expanded protected areas did your project help establish through a legal declaration or community agreement?	no			Please also include name of the protected area. If more than one, please include the number of hectares strengthened for each one.
3. Did your project strengthen biodiversity conservation and/or natural resources management inside a key biodiversity area identified in the CEPF ecosystem profile? If so, please indicate how many hectares.	no			
4. Did your project effectively introduce or strengthen biodiversity conservation in management practices outside protected areas? If so, please indicate how many hectares.	no			
5. If your project promotes the sustainable use of natural resources, how many local communities accrued tangible socioeconomic benefits? Please complete Table 1 below.	none			

**If you answered yes to question 5, please complete the following table.**



### **Additional Comments/Recommendations**

In addition to the objectives around quantifying the archipelago's butterfly fauna this project was **Step one** of a medium-term project to re-introduce the Samoan swallowtail butterfly to Samoa from American Samoa.

**Step two** is to activate the appointed Recovery Group and get them started on identifying places to re-introduce the butterfly, instigating growing the host-plant in nursery situation in Samoa and rearing of the butterfly in American Samoa ready for shipping to Samoa at the appropriate time. Additionally much liaison with villages and between agencies in Samoa and American Samoa is required

We recommend that based on a positive start to the project, that Step two is prioritised and funded to begin soon so as there is continuity to the project building on the momentum already achieved

### **Information Sharing and CEPF Policy**

CEPF is committed to transparent operations and to helping civil society groups share experiences, lessons learned, and results. Final project completion reports are made available on our Web site, [www.cepf.net](http://www.cepf.net), and publicized in our newsletter and other communications.

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