

CEPF FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

I. BASIC DATA

Organization Legal Name: The Nature Conservancy

Project Title (as stated in the grant agreement): *Integrating a Range-wide Conservation Strategy for the Yunnan Snub-nosed Monkey*

Implementation Partners for this Project:
Yunnan Baimaxueshan National Nature Reserve,
Tibet Honglashan National Nature Reserve,
Yunnan Yunling Provincial Nature Reserve,
Yunnan Tianchi Provincial Nature Reserve,
Yulong County Forestry Bureau,
Yunnan Forestry Department,
Tibet Forestry Department,
State Forestry Administration

Project Dates (as stated in the grant agreement): November 1, 2004-December 31, 2007

Date of Report (month/year): March 21, 2008

II. OPENING REMARKS

Provide any opening remarks that may assist in the review of this report.

The Yunnan snub-nosed monkey is one of the most endangered primates in the world. It is experiencing a range of ongoing threats and the persisting effects of past disturbances, including habitat loss, human predation, and biological vulnerability associated with having the entire species occur in small isolated populations. Thus, The Nature Conservancy applied this CEPF project to work with the key stake holders at national, provincial and local levels to initiate the monkey species range-wide conservation action, trying to create a legacy of coordinated institutions and stakeholders, well-planned, adaptively-managed projects, and a living information management system directed at conservation of the Yunnan snub-nosed monkey through its range that will live and grow beyond the program outlined in the CEPF project.

III. ACHIEVEMENT OF PROJECT PURPOSE

Project Purpose: *Create a legacy of coordinated institutions and stakeholders, well-planned, adaptively-managed projects, and a living information management system directed at conservation of the Yunnan snub-nosed monkey throughout its range that will live and grow beyond the four-year program outlined here.*

Planned vs. Actual Performance

Indicator	Actual at Completion
<p>Purpose-level: <i>Yunnan Snub-nosed Monkey Advisory Council and stakeholder coordination processes are still active 2 years after the end of the project with at least annual meetings or other coordination forum.</i></p>	<p>The Yunnan Snub-nosed Monkey Advisory Council was established and has been active during the project period. After the CEPF project, TNC will continue support the Yunnan snub-nosed monkey species range-wide conservation action at least for another three years. Thus, the already established advisory council will certainly continue its role in guiding the conservation effort. Also, the Yunnan Golden Monkey Conservation Association was set up already and this newly established NGO will play a long-term facilitating role in the monkey species range-wide conservation effort.</p>
<p><i>As evaluated two years following project completion, at least 70% of conservation actions for the Yunnan snub-nosed monkey follow the general principals of adaptive management outlined in TNC's Conservation Project Management Framework.</i></p>	<p>At moment, we have been authorized to formulate China Golden Monkey Conservation Action Plan, which will be the official guideline for all the three snub-nosed monkey species in China range-widely. Thus, realization of this should not be a problem. Besides, all the five local management authorities have developed their specified patrolling and management plan with our support during the project period and this should be a good foundation for integrating all the conservation activities for the monkey range-widely.</p>
<p><i>Two years following the completion of the project, at least 60% of conservation and development decisions in and around occupied habitat and unoccupied corridors (as identified in the Yunnan Snub-nosed Monkey Conservation Plan) are made with reference to the best scientific data provided by the project.</i></p>	<p>During the project period, all the data related to the monkey conservation needs have been integrated into a GIS-based information management system, which is certainly a science-based management decision-making platform.</p>

Describe the success of the project in terms of achieving its intended impact objective and performance indicators.

Generally speaking, most of the goals identified in the project planning phase have been realized and some of the achievement are even beyond our original plan.

Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

Unexpected positive impacts:

We have been authorized by China's State Forestry Administration to formulate China Golden Monkey Conservation Action Plan, which will be China's official guideline for the conservation efforts to all the three snub-nosed monkey species, (Yunnan snub-nosed monkey, Sichuan snub-nosed monkey, and Guizhou snub-nosed monkey), in China's 7 provinces (Yunnan, Tibet, Sichuan, Shaanxi, Gansu, Hubei, and Guizhou). Thus, we can take this opportunity to

IV. PROJECT OUTPUTS

Project Outputs: Enter the project outputs from the Logical Framework for the project

Planned vs. Actual Performance

Indicator	Actual at Completion
Output 1: A broad conservation partnership is forged to leverage the conservation efforts for the species and its habitat	We have successfully got China State Forestry Administration to be in co-chairing/running the project and put this project in its working agenda.
<i>Yunnan Snub-nosed Monkey Advisory Council established by March 2005, chartered, has a range of regular interactions throughout the life of the project.</i>	The project steering committee was chartered and established in the first half of the year in 2005, and the steering committee has been active since then and has been involved in the decision making process for the key issues about the conservation effort during the project implementation process.
<i>Institutional assessment documenting key stakeholder's activities, mission and relationship to one another completed by the project executants during Months 1-3.</i>	The institutional assessment documenting key stakeholder's activities, mission and relationship to one another completed by the project executants was done by the first half year of the project implementation period (April 2005).
<i>Regular interactions of stakeholders throughout range of Yunnan snub-nosed monkey established through meetings, workshops and other forum.</i>	During the project span, we held three meetings with all the range-wide key stakeholders involved on discussing the key issues derived from the conservation process range-widely.
<i>Models from China and abroad for establishing permanent mechanism for maintaining Yunnan snub-nosed monkey conservation partnership known by the end of Year 2.</i>	The searching for the models from China and abroad for setting up permanent mechanism for maintaining the partnership was done by the end of Year 2 of the project implementation. Then, we proposed to set up Yunnan Golden Monkey Conservation Association. Now the association was established and has go through all the official registration procedure.
<i>Develop Yunnan Snub-nosed Monkey Conservation Plan during Year 4, building on activities during first three years of the project and incorporating lessons from successful international models.</i>	China State Forestry Administration has authorized us to formulate China Golden Monkey Conservation Action Plan, which will be the official guideline for the conservation efforts toward all the three snub-nosed monkey species throughout China's seven provinces, Yunnan, Tibet, Sichuan, Shaangxi, Gansu, Hubei, and Guizhou. During the formulation process, we will try to get all the successful experiences derived from many international species conservation and recovery plans to be incorporated into the plan.
Output 2: Management capacity of the 3 key monkey nature reserves increased to effectively implement conservation plans	The management capacity of the five local management authorities (including four monkey nature reserves and one county forestry bureau) has been greatly increased with this CEPF project's implementation.
<i>Management effectiveness evaluation for the three monkey nature reserves (Hongla, Baima, and Yunling) that identifies key areas for investment and evaluate existing conservation programs and determine where this program can compliment and leverage those activities are completed by Month 6.</i>	The management effectiveness evaluation for the three monkey nature reserves (Hongla, Baima, and Yunling) was done during the first year of the project implementation, and then reassessment report for the three monkey nature reserves and another two local management authorities (Yunnan Tianchi Provincial Nature Reserve and Yulong Country Forestry Bureau) is also available now.
<i>Support projects such as training workshops, develop training materials, etc. to increase management effectiveness and compliment existing programs.</i>	1. One training workshop was held for technical training on the field survey for investigation on the existing monkey populations range-widely with all the five local management authorities involved and the trainees are 58. 2. Three training workshops were held for supporting the five local management authorities set up their patrolling, monitoring and management of the wildlife

	<p>and plants within their jurisdictional ranges with total 120 person times involved.</p> <p>3. Two hands-on training workshops were held for the technical training on the GIS-based information management system set up for the landscape scale management in BNNR with 12 trainees involved.</p>
<p>Output 3: Strategic conservation actions are implemented with broad involvement of governmental and non-governmental stakeholders.</p>	<p>The implemented strategic conservation actions include: 1) perform a range-wide survey on all the existing monkey populations and understand their conservation status; 2) develop a specified plan for patrolling and management for each of the monkey populations; 3) set up the team to do the long-term patrolling and management on the monkey populations and provide technical training for the newly established team as needed; 4) set up the mechanism to ensure the patrolling and management system to be sustainable; 5) provide technical and financial support to strengthen the institutional management capacity for the five local management authorities; 6) help the local management authorities to secure more public fund support for infrastructure construction program so as to improve their working and living condition as well as the management capacity; 7) support local management authorities to establish community-based conservation activities within their jurisdictional ranges. While developing and implementing these strategic conservation actions, broad involvement of the governmental and non-governmental stakeholders have been involved in the process.</p>
<p><i>Laojunshan Nature Reserve (a new nature reserve for protecting the Yunnan snub-nosed monkey) designated by province by Year 2 and application for national status submitted to central government by year 3.</i></p>	<p>The Laojunshan area has been designated as a demo national park already and the patrolling system on the Yunnan snub-nosed monkey population in the area has been established and implemented since the project began in late 2004.</p>
<p><i>Awareness about the plight of the monkey in local villages around Laojunshan increased through RARE Environmental Education Campaign. Project expanded to other areas of monkey range as deemed necessary.</i></p>	<p>The pride campaign program with the monkey as the logo in a local village (Liming) and an elementary school (Liming elementary school) was successfully organized and this approach was being expanded to Baimaxueshan area.</p>
<p><i>Alternative Energy Program activities are continuous being implemented by TNC and the local government in 4 counties through this project to help reducing the threat of fuelwood collection on key Yunnan snub-nosed monkey habitat.</i></p>	<p>About 3000 households in the monkey distribution area have got benefit from TNC's rural alternative energy program in northwest Yunnan and this move helps a lot for reducing the threat of fuelwood collection on key habitats of the Yunnan snub-nosed monkey and promoting the monkey conservation awareness building in the range communities.</p>
<p><i>TNC will conduct a standardized baseline survey on the monkey geographic distribution, population and habitat relationships and key ecological linkages to determine conservation priorities for the monkey. Focus will be taken on the problem areas such as Mangkang population, Tibet-Yunnan boundary area, Adong, Deqin-Weixi boundary, Dapingzi and Heishan. A group of local experts from villages, nature reserves and forestry bureau staff will coordinate at the</i></p>	<p>The baseline survey on the monkey geographic distribution, population and habitat relationship and key ecological linkages has been done during 2005 and the data derived from the survey has been integrated into the newly-established GIS-based Information Management System.</p>

<i>range-wide level, collect standardized data within the first year.</i>	
<i>Working with the key nature reserves and county forest bureau, the project ensures regular patrols in place to eliminate illegal activities. A regulation reporting system is set up in the involved government agencies with the technical support from the TNC office.</i>	The long-term patrolling, monitoring and management on the wildlife and plant resource with the snub-nosed monkey as the focus has been initiated in all the five local management authorities.
<i>Analysis of nature reserve system design completed by TNC and boundaries for new reserves or extensions of old ones completed by end of year two; applications developed and submitted to the proper government agencies by end of Year 3.</i>	Such analysis is done and the data derived from this process will be incorporated into the coming China Golden Monkey Conservation Action Plan to guide the efforts on setting up new reserves or adjusting the boundaries of the existing nature reserves. Some of the applications are in place already. At the moment, Tichi Provincial Nature Reserve is trying to have the most indispensable forest patches for the southernmost population of the monkey to be the extension of the NR, we are trying to work with local partners to establish a community-based NR to protect the monkey population in the boundary area between Yunnan and Tibet, where the type-specimens were collected from 110 year ago).
<i>TNC will help the local government (nature reserves) through subgrants to replace wood shingles in at least 200 houses within and around key monkey habitat or corridors by the end of Year 4 of the project.</i>	The wood shingle replacement project was done already in three villages with about 80 households got the benefit from the project.
<i>The project will assist through subgrants to establish community protection zones in Bamei, Adong, and Shayong-Nanren; Local schools and monasteries near monkey habitat will play key roles in environmental awareness and education.</i>	The community protection zone in Bamei was still in planning process and Shayong-Nanren community protection zone is initiated already though the process is a bit slow. Dongzhulin Lamasery and two schools (Bengzilan Middle School and Kena Elementary School) have been mobilized to play active role in promoting the environmental awareness education activities among the local villages.
Output 4: An information management system is established to ensure an effective strategy as well as communicating program related information, lessons learned, results with the public and decision makers.	The GIS-based information management system has been set up for integrate all kinds of data derived from the project process and most of the work for the integration is done.
<i>A centralized information system for a range wide spatial and tabular data related to the Yunnan snub-nosed monkey and it's habitat is established and existing information is compiled by the end of Year 2. All data fully accessible and available to conservation practitioners and decision-makers during Year 3.</i>	The range-wide spatial and tabular data related to the Yunnan snub-nosed monkey and its habitat has been integrated into the centralized information system and the data are fully accessible and available to the conservation practitioners in the region.
<i>Standardized habitat map compiled during Years 1 and 2 and used in new reserve design and spatial modelling to design corridors with stakeholder's input during Years 3 and 4.</i>	The standardized habitat map was compiled and available for the new reserve design and spatial modelling to design the ecological corridors between the monkey populations.

Describe the success of the project in terms of delivering the intended outputs.

Most of the intended outputs are all delivered as planned with only one exception, the number of the households that get benefit from the wood shingle replacement project is only 80 instead of 200.

Were any outputs unrealized? If so, how has this affected the overall impact of the project?

The problem that only less than half of the planned households get benefit from the wood shingle replacement project resulted from China's quick inflation rate and the slow process for the planning and paper work in the internal management process.

V. SAFEGUARD POLICY ASSESSMENTS

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

This project is a pure environment conservation effort and it has greatly promoted the Yunnan snub-nosed monkey conservation awareness in the world. So far there is no any negative impact to the environment and society.

VI. LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE PROJECT

Describe any lessons learned during the various phases of the project. Consider lessons both for future projects, as well as for CEPF's future performance.

- 1) It is very important to get the support from Chinese Government at different levels to do any conservation work in China especially if the effort will cover a broad area.
- 2) The local management authorities have to be trusted as the independent executors for any conservation activities in their juristic range, but we also need to give them resourceful guidance that should be convincing to them.
- 3) Working with so many different governmental stakeholders in the project operation is a very slow process and we have to be very patient.
- 4) While performing a community-based conservation project, we have to be very careful in balancing the benefit distribution among the whole area important for the conservation targets. Otherwise, some negative impact might occur among the civil society groups at the sites.

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

Since this project is the first species range-wide conservation project covering a broad area initiated by NGOs in China, we realize, from the very beginning, establishing a broad cooperation relationship among all the governmental stakeholders, especially the local management authorities, is the most indispensable for the success of the project. We do believe such legacy will also guarantee the long-term success for all the conservation activities and attract more other conservation projects in the area. Thus, with such consideration, whole design for this project is generally reasonable and well structured and this is the key for project's success and its long-term sustainability.

Project Execution: (aspects of the project execution that contributed to its success/failure)

Since this project area is very big (more than 10,000 km²) and the available resource is extremely limited, considering so much needed for everywhere in the large range-wide area, we have to: 1)

have China's State Forestry Administration on board to co-chair this project so as to leverage China's public fund for supporting such effort; 2) use Baimaxueshan National Nature Reserve, in which about 60-70% of the total existing population of the Yunnan snub-nosed monkey is found, as the focus to promote the monkey conservation range-widely and demonstrate the conservation achievement; 3) encourage Baimaxueshan National Nature Reserve to play a leading role in facilitating this conservation effort range-widely. All these three strategies have been proved to be very effective, especially the first strategy. So far Honglashan National Nature Reserve has secured RMB 5,700,000 for its infrastructure construction project, and some even more will follow soon for supporting the Yunnan golden monkey range-wide conservation effort.

VII. 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.

Donor	Type of Funding*	Amount	Date Received	Notes
TNC	B	\$220K	July, 2004	for academic study
TNC	B	\$200K	July, 2004	for alternative energy project
RARE	B	\$20K	July, 2005	for the pride campaign
SFA	D	\$800K	Dec., 2007	for Honglashan National Nature Reserve's infrastructure construction
		\$		
		\$		
		\$		
		\$		

****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 Complementary funding (Other donors contribute to partner organizations that are working on a project linked with this CEPF project)***
- C Grantee and Partner leveraging (Other donors contribute to your organization or a partner organization as a direct result of successes with this CEPF project.)***
- D Regional/Portfolio leveraging (Other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investment or successes related to this project.)***

Provide details of whether this project will continue in the future and if so, how any additional funding already secured or fundraising plans will help ensure its sustainability.

This CEPF project has been wrapped up already, however, the conservation action on the monkey species will not stop by the end of the project span. Thus, following strategies are designed to consolidate the achievements derived from this CEPF project. At the moment, TNC has budgeted about \$300,000 for most of the strategies to be conducted in Yunnan and we do hope to apply

some additional fund (about \$50K) from CEPF project to support the implementation of the proposed strategies in Honglashan National Nature Reserve, Tibet.

VIII. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Yunnan snub-nosed monkey range-wide conservation effort is to use the monkey as the flagship species to promote the conservation involvement of the civil society groups in northwest Yunnan and its adjacent area in Tibet so as to protect not only the beautiful monkey but also its habitat, i.e. the existing temperate primary coniferous forest (about 10,000 km²), which is one of the most important sanctuaries on the earth for thousands of endangered and endemic wildlife and plant species that are both valuable and appreciable to human society. Moreover, the area itself is the integral part of the famous Three Paralell Rivers Area, one of the most important global biodiversity hot spots, and the temperate coniferous forest is one of the two most important habitat types in the whole palearctic region. Thus, this project is of great global conservation significance and TNC will certainly continue the supporting such effort for a long time. Recently, Yunnan Provincial Government has initiated the Northwest Yunnan Biodiversity Conservation Campaign with the Yunnan golden monkey as the flagship species in this conservation initiative. In conclusion, it is this CEPF that has laid a sound foundation for initiating such a great scale conservation effort in the region and we can never thank CEPF enough for this great contribution in our conservation effort in Northwest Yunnan.

VIII. INFORMATION SHARING

CEPF is committed to transparent operations and to helping civil society groups share experiences, lessons learned and results. One way we do this is by making programmatic project documents available on our Web site, www.cepf.net, and by marketing these in our newsletter and other communications.

These documents are accessed frequently by other CEPF grantees, potential partners, and the wider conservation community.

Please include your full contact details below:

Name: Long Yongcheng

Organization name: The Nature Conservancy

Mailing address: 8th Floor, Yunnan Provincial Meteorological Building, 77 Xichang Road, Kunming 650034, Yunnan, P.R. China

Tel: +86 871-4182966 (ext. 607)

Fax: +86 871-4189546

E-mail: yulong@tnc.org.cn