

CEPF SMALL GRANT FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

Organization Legal Name:	Palau Conservation Society
Project Title:	Preventing the Spread of Crab-eating Macaques in the Republic of Palau
Date of Report:	19 September 2009
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CEPF Region: Polynesia - Micronesia

Strategic Direction: 1. Prevent, control and eradicate invasive species in KBAs

Grant Amount: \$19,775

Project Dates: February 1 - July 31, 2009

Implementation Partners for this Project (please explain the level of involvement for each partner):

Palau Conservation Society: overall project management; administrative, technical and logistic support; assist with education and awareness component of the project

Bureau of Agriculture, Republic of Palau: supervise student interns as they conduct census; compile data and report on the census; work with PCS on the education and awareness component

Conservation Impacts

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

This project works towards CEPF Strategic Direction 1 for the Polynesia-Micronesia Biodiversity Hotspot: Prevent, control and eradicate invasive species in key biodiversity areas. In particular, the proposed project focuses on the control of a potentially devastating introduction of the alien invasive crab-eating macaques to the upland forests of Babeldaob Island, identified as a priority for site-level investment (site #144) in the CEPF Ecosystem Profile of Polynesia-Micronesia. Currently macaques are mostly restricted to Angaur island of Palau. The goal of this project was to identify all captive macaques outside of Angaur in order to target them for a sterilization campaign later in the year.

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

This project met all expected results as detailed in the approved proposal. As a first step in a long-term process preventing the spread of crab-eating macaques to KBAs in Palau, a census was conducted throughout Palau to locate all captive (pet) macaques for a planned sterilization campaign. The census was conducted by three student interns from March through July 2009 at 2,372 households, businesses, and government offices. Thirty-four (34) captive macaques were located: 14 males and 20 females. Contact information for macaque owners was gathered in preparation for a sterilization project that will be carried out in November, 2009.

In addition to the census, this project included a public awareness component. Public education started with slide shows on the local public television channel that portrayed the macaque as a dangerous, invasive, and illegal primate. Flyers were printed and distributed to introduce the community to the macaque problem, the census surveyors, and the objective of the project. Interviews were aired on a local TV channel and the government radio station. Three public service video spots were created and aired throughout the census on a local television station.

To ensure honest responses to the census, all awareness activities regarding the census reassured monkey owners that their pets would not be harmed or confiscated.

Please provide the following information where relevant:

Hectares Protected:

Species Conserved:

Corridors Created:

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

This project was successfully implemented. Three student interns interviewed all households and businesses in Palau, and we believe that they located all captive/pet macaques. At first we thought that two interns could successfully complete the census over three months. However, we soon discovered that we needed to hire an additional intern for a portion of the work. Once the third intern had been hired and trained, the census was completed as planned. The factors which contributed to the success of the project included:

- * Hard work and dedication by the student interns.
- * Good publicity through radio talk shows, television advertisements, and flyers. Ongoing publicity about the threat of the macaques also helped.
- * Flexibility in scheduling of work, including a lot of evening and weekend work.
- * Excellent cooperation by the public.
- * Support of local governments in informing residents and in some cases, local government staff who accompanied the interns to facilitate interviews.
- * A well-designed survey form (initially designed by the epidemiologist at the national hospital).
- * Excellent support by PALARIS, the national government agency responsible for keeping data on Palau's natural resources.
- * Effective collaboration and coordination among all of the partners involved.

Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

The unexpected impact that occurred during the course of this project was that several people voluntarily gave up their pet macaques to be euthanized. This is a direct result of the awareness campaign and of the interns talking to them about the purpose of the census. These people decided that the risk of keeping these animals as pets was too great. This is a result that was unanticipated.

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.

Three major lessons were learned during the course of this project:

1. Allow at least twice as much time as you think necessary for a project to account for delays. In particular, additional time needs to be worked into the schedule of household surveys to allow for repeat visits when people are not home.
2. Young and inexperienced workers need to be supervised very closely in order to ensure that they know what is expected of them and that they are heading in the right direction. They also should be given a lot of support and encouragement so they do not lose their initial enthusiasm for a project.
3. People will cooperate with a project if it is clearly explained and if a positive and non-coercive approach is used. This is particularly important when the project addresses issues that have legal implications. For example, the exportation of macaques from Angaur is illegal. However, we reassured the owners of

macaques that their pets would not be confiscated or harmed regardless of how they had been obtained. This greatly helped to improve the level of cooperation among census participants.

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

This project was very focused and had a specific output - the completion of a census of captive macaques in Palau. The success of the project was due to this focus and clarity of purpose.

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

The project was greatly enhanced by the collaboration between Palau Conservation Society and the Palau Bureau of Agriculture, both members of the Palau National Invasives Species Committee. The collaboration helped to enhance implementation as both groups were able to provide relevant contributions to the project. In addition, we were very lucky to hire three fantastic student interns with energy and enthusiasm for the project.

Other lessons learned relevant to conservation community:

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	Notes
PCS	In Kind Contribution	\$5,000	Staff Time
Bureau of Agriculture	In Kind Contribution	\$2,500	Staff Time

***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.

The project is easily replicated in other sites, and for other species. We will gladly provide the survey form that was used as well as any informational materials that were produced as a result of the project.

Summarize any unplanned sustainability or replicability achieved.

No unplanned replicability was achieved in this project.

Safeguard Policy Assessment

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

There was no required action toward environmental and social safeguard policies for this project.

Performance Tracking Report Addendum

CEPF Global Targets

January - August 2009

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.

Project Results	Is this question relevant?	If yes, provide your numerical response for results achieved during the annual period.	Provide your numerical response for project from inception of CEPF support to date.	Describe the principal results achieved from January-August 2009 (Attach annexes if necessary)
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.	yes	21,000	same	Babeldaob island upland forest
4. Did your project effectively introduce or strengthen biodiversity conservation in management practices outside protected areas? If so, please indicate how many hectares.	yes	21,000	same	Babeldaob island upland forest
5. If your project promotes the sustainable use of natural resources, how many local communities accrued tangible socioeconomic benefits? Please complete Table 1 below.	no			

Additional Comments/Recommendations

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, and publicized in our newsletter and other communications.

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