

## CEPF FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

<b>Organization Legal Name:</b>	Te Ipukarea Society
<b>Project Title:</b>	Saving Suvarrow's Seabirds: Restoring a Key Biodiversity Area
<b>Date of Report:</b>	11 March, 2014
<b>Report Author and Contact Information</b>	Kelvin Passfield. Kelvin.passfied@gmail.com

**CEPF Region:** Polynesia-Micronesia

**Strategic Direction:** 1. Invasive species prevention

**Grant Amount:** \$68,905.00

**Project Dates:** April 1, 2012-December 31, 2013

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

### Conservation Impacts

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

**This project has contributed to the preservation of the POLYNESIA-MICRONESIA BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOT by removing rodents from an Important Bird Area (Suvarrow Atoll) in the heart of Polynesia**

*Please summarize the overall results/impact of your project.*

**The major outcome of the project to date is the probable successful eradication of rats from the important bird area of Suvarrow. This will lead to an improved chance for breeding success for the various seabirds that nest there.**

**Planned Long-term Impacts - 3+ years (as stated in the approved proposal):**

Seabirds on Suvarrow will have an increased chance of breeding successfully ensuring the viability of their populations

**Actual Progress Toward Long-term Impacts at Completion: It is too early to guarantee the results, as the rat eradication exercise was only completed last year. However, initial results suggest that this should be achieved, as the rat population which negatively impacted upon the bird's successful breeding, has apparently been eradicated**

**Planned Short-term Impacts - 1 to 3 years (as stated in the approved proposal):**

Te Ipukarea Society and the National Environment Service will have improved capacity to plan and implement the restoration of an uninhabited seabird island.

**Actual Progress Toward Short-term Impacts at Completion:**

**Progress was very good, with the lessons learned from analysis of earlier attempts at rodent eradication both on Suvarrow and elsewhere, as well as from the successful planning and implementation of this eradication project.**

Please provide the following information where relevant:

**Hectares Protected: 200**

**Species Conserved: Red tailed tropic birds, frigate birds, sooty terns, booby birds, other seabirds**

**Corridors Created:**

**Suvarrow is on the migratory path for several birds, including the plover and the bristle thighed curlew. It is possible that this eradication exercise will improve their chances of survival on their migratory corridor**

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

**There were logistical challenges particularly with securing a suitable vessel to get the eradication team to Suvarrow. However, this obstacle was eventually overcome, allowing the most important part of the project to be completed.**

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

## Project Components

**Project Components:** *Please report on results by project component. Reporting should reference specific products/deliverables from the approved project design and other relevant information.*

**Component 1 Planned:** All rodents are eradicated from Suvarrow Atoll.

**Component 1 Actual at Completion:** **Follow up surveys indicate that all rodents have been eradicated. However, it will be necessary to do a follow up survey in 18 months to 2 years to confirm success**

**Component 2 Planned:** Capacity built within TIS and NES to undertake invasive alien species eradication work.

**Component 2 Actual at Completion:** **Staff at TIS and NES, as well as other volunteers, gained significant experience in rodent eradication. There is no doubt that given the resources, these people could carry out a similar project in other locations in the country.**

**Component 3 Planned:** Project activities, outputs and lessons learnt communicated to an international audience.

**Component 3 Actual at Completion:** **Step by step coverage of the eradication exercise was published on various internet sites with global reach, as well as articles published in Birdlife Newsletters which are circulated worldwide.**

**Component 4 Planned:** Biological and social benefits of removing IAS assessed and project outcomes sustained.

**Component 4 Actual at Completion:** Initial follow up assessments indicate the project outcome can be sustained. Though only limited progress has been made with the biosecurity plan, cofinancing has been obtained that will ensure this is completed in the next few months, which will provide greater assurance that the project outcomes will be sustained.

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

The biosecurity plan is yet to be finalized. This will not affect the overall impact of the project, as this will be completed in the next few months using funds secured from another donor

*Please describe and submit (electronically if possible) any tools, products, or methodologies that resulted from this project or contributed to the results.*

## 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.*

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

The project was well designed as it drew on lessons learned both by Cook Island personnel as well as Birdlife International expertise

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

I think it is important that at least 2 people are familiar with the project, including the reporting requirements. We found when a key person became ill, it was very difficult for someone to step in "cold" and try and fill their shoes.

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

Logistics of traveling to remote islands need to be very carefully considered, and even then, do not expect things to run to schedule, especially when using sea travel

## Additional Funding

*Provide details of any additional funding that supported this project and any funding secured for the project, organization, or the region, as a result of the CEPF investment in this project.*

Donor	Type of Funding*	Amount	Notes
European Commission	B	USD42,200	Some of these funds to be used for biosecurity plan
Birdlife	A	USD4,740	Technical advice and data analysis by Birdlife Secretariat staff
TIS	A	USD7935	In kind through Exec Committee time
GEF PAS	A	USD24750	Through the National Environment Service, contributing directly to transport and logistics

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

- A** *Project co-financing (Other donors or your organization contribute to the direct costs of this 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 funded 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.*

**Local staff have been trained in the methodology for rodent eradication. Given appropriate resources, these staff can replicate this project in other locations in the country**

*Summarize any unplanned sustainability or replicability achieved.*

## Safeguard Policy Assessment

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

**The biosecurity plan and training of key personnel in its implementation still need to be carried out to safeguard the environmental integrity of this project, and to maintain the pride of these people in keeping Suwarrow rat free.**

**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.cepfn.net](http://www.cepfn.net), and publicized in our newsletter and other communications.

**Please include your full contact details below:**

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**\*\*\*If your grant has an end date other than JUNE 30, please complete the tables on the following pages\*\*\***

**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.	Yes	200 hectares	200 hectares	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	200 hectares	200 Hectares	
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.	No			

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





