

FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

I. BASIC DATA

Organization Name: Conservation International-China Program

Project Title: Building Best Biodiversity Conservation Strategies in the Mountains of Southwest China

Implementation Partners for this Project:

Project Dates (as stated in the grant agreement): July 1, 2003 – July 31, 2004

Date of Report (month/year): July 21, 2005

II. OPENING REMARKS

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

This project is the second year CEPF coordination in China, aims mainly at streamlining CEPF's operation and build conservation strategies that will be adopted by CEPF grantees and partners in the Mountains of Southwest China. This project had a bumpy start due to delay in submitting the grant proposal. Although most of the proposed activities were completed successfully, several CEPF communication tasks were delayed due to the delay in getting budget approval.

This project was originally designed for 12 months, but was extended to 13 months through a non-cost extension. A CEPF grantee meeting in June 2004 was one of the highlights of this project and is a milestone for CEPF's investment in China.

III. ACHIEVEMENT OF PROJECT PURPOSE

Project Purpose: A broad conservation alliance with active participation of civil society is in place and able to respond to key threats outlined in the Ecosystem Profile for the Mountains of SW China Hotspot, and able to demonstrate the ability to act together to secure major conservation outcomes.

Planned vs. Actual Performance

Indicator	Actual at Completion
Purpose-level:	

<p>Major threats identified in the hotspot region reduced through collaboration of government and civil society</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Given the delay in initiating the Outcome Mapping and Monitoring Phase I project (started April, 2004), the first Stakeholder meeting will be held on Oct 18-20, 2004. Information on species, habitat and corridor has already been compiled by the Outcome Mapping team and purpose of the October workshop is mainly to get the experts in the SW region to work on a consensus on how to build a biodiversity inventory that encourages most effective mechanism of information sharing. 2. Centered around the Outcome Mapping and Monitoring project, a group of biodiversity and related socio-economic mapping and monitoring projects are solicited and supported now by CEPF to measure status of biodiversity and related socio-economic status, threats, existing information and research and conservation measures taken, at species, habitat and corridor levels. In particular, the Coordination Mechanism will ensure the small grant making application by WWF connects with the Outcome Mapping team to select key 'non-flagship' species in the SW region, so that the outcome of this project will best reflect priority areas of conservation in this region. 3. Key threats to biodiversity (as further identified by the 'refinement of strategy' Output) are targeted by the CEPF grants solicited. These collective civil actions clustered around several programmatic directions, and interlinked through networking and coordination, could be summarized as below: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Information collected and NGO networked and teamed up to combat wildlife trade and sustainable use of wildlife projects; b) Civil society worked together to examine dam construction and water diversion project as an emerging threats to biodiversity and culture in SW China; c) Awareness and management improved in the nature reserves through training and small grants making; d) Corridor restoration possibility evaluated, case study initiated and key recommendation made to forest regeneration policy. A 3 Million grant was raised to support natural regeneration projects in the SW China by CI China; e) Grassroots groups and NGOs from different regions within the hotspot have started to take actions to protect sacred landscape with support from civil society groups in the main cities.
<p>With support from civil society, the government's environmental policies on reforestation, sustainable economic development and management of</p>	<p>Through the CEPF Coordination Mechanism, progress have been made at several area of policy change and advocacies, summarized as below:</p>

<p>protected areas and corridors, etc. result in lasting sound ecological benefits and social equity.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Nature Reserve policy – through participating the CCICED Protected Area Taskforce (PATF), several important recommendations and case studies were provided to the central government on improving financing, management structure and capacity of the nature reserves in China; (see www.chinabiodiversity.com website) b) Tree plantation policy – dialogue has happened at national, provincial and site level to explore opportunities in examining current ecological regeneration practice, particularly on technical, policy implementation and financing aspects. High level workshop at central government level on Grain to Green policy has been planned and agreements made with key stakeholder ministries. International donors and collaborators have visited sites for natural regeneration and expresses strong interest in financial and intellectual investment; c) Dam construction policy – several case studies and targeted at providing recommendations and sound solution to mitigate threats posed by dam construction to biodiversity in key ecological areas; d) South to North Water diversion (SNWD) – a high-level workshop was co-hosted in Sichuan to look into the potential impact of SNWD to biodiversity conservation. Key recommendations were made to government by the workshop organizers. A comprehensive report was produced by CI China on SNWD background and impact. e) Tourism – plans are being discussed in hosting an Ecotourism workshop later this year with participation of key government agencies on developing tourism standard to minimize impact to biodiversity and to provide benefit to conservation.
<p>Conservation capacity of governmental, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector within and beyond the hotspot are enhanced and partnerships are formed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A network of civil society groups in SW China has started to take form through CEPF coordination and grant making. The milestone event was the June 2004 CEPF Grantee Meeting held in Sichuan, participated by over 160 attendees and representing over 50 non-government entities from all over SW China. NGOs and civil society groups have started to form formal and non-formal coalition to open dialogue, share resources, initiate collaboration and work on policy recommendations and changes. Civil society action together at this scale is unprecedented in SW China. 2. Through the first few rounds of trainings to over 40 nature reserves, especially newly established ones in SW China, many of the reserve managers have started to use the skills gained in the trainings to seek better support and to implement their own plan for conservation. 3. NGO capacity building through CEPF

	<p>coordination was focused on student groups and grassroots Tibetan environment groups. Through these trainings, the student groups have started to identify their niche in conservation and put finer tuned strategies in their projects to reflect biodiversity in the SW region, threats to biodiversity and local conservation issues. Through financial and intellectual support, as well as networking activities, several Tibetan groups in Yunnan, Sichuan and Qinghai are acting together with better knowledge, access to expertise and financial support to protect their own homeland, particularly looking into protecting sacred land and emerging threats such as dam construction, mass tourism development and overuse of wildlife products.</p>
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Describe the success of the project in terms of achieving its intended impact objective and performance indicators.

Overall the project was very successful and in certain aspects has exceeded the intended impact, particularly in three aspects:

1. Mitigating major threats, particularly those initiated by development projects. A consensus was agreed among civil society groups on a transparent, participatory and scientific decision making mechanism.
2. Engaging private companies and government agencies too explore a sustainable financing mechanism to support biodiversity conservation initiatives in SW China. This was particularly successful in promoting natural regeneration and sacred land protection;
3. NGO networking. As CEPF's overall strategy is to build capacity for civil society and enhance their role in conservation, this is already started to show its effects in cultivating partnerships and collaborations among such groups in several thematic approaches.

Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

Unexpected impacts can be summarized as below:

1. CEPF grantee meeting has unexpected impact in terms of forming NGO alliance. The grantee meeting was originally designed to encourage communication among civil society groups. However, as a result of this meeting, several clusters of NGOs were formed to collectively target specific issues in biodiversity conservation.
2. During the implementation of the project, South to North Water Diversion program was identified as a specific threat to biodiversity conservation. CI China supported and participated in a meeting specifically to address the issue and a report was published on this topic. This has called attention from both government, public and NGOs.
3. Dam building - dam discussions and campaigns have resulted in suspension of several large dam construction.

IV. PROJECT OUTPUTS

Project Outputs:

Output 1.

A CEPF coordination mechanism has worked effectively in building awareness, facilitating communication between conservation implementers and CEPF, catalyzing action in CEPF priority areas to contribute to a long-term Program for Conservation and Sustainable Development of the Mountains of SW China Hotspot.

Output 2.

The CEPF coordination team has worked closely with CEPF DC team to facilitate the refinement of Ecosystem Profile investment strategies with other organizations, including development of key programmatic approaches under each strategic direction, identification of potential partners and suitable applicants, drafting proposals to CEPF and other donors;

Output 3.

Appropriate applicants and opportunities for small grants have been identified for CEPF grant making;

Output 4.

CEPF's investment in the Mountains of SW China Hotspots leveraged through significant additional investment (over \$100,000) by other donors in the strategic direction outlined in the Ecosystem Profile;

Output 5.

Mechanism of networking civil society within and beyond the hotspot in place by the end of the project.

Planned vs. Actual Performance

Indicator	Actual at Completion
Output 1:	
1.1. The CEPF coordination team is trained in workshop facilitation, the CEPF application process and procedures, and logframe training as part of developing their skills for acting as key liaisons within a long-term conservation program.	Completed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CEPF coordination team in China was trained several times on workshop facilitation in CI internal trainings. - CEPF application process and operation manual training was provided to the coordination team in four training sessions provided by CI China and CEPF grant manager; - CI China finance manager was trained in financial management by CI finance team; - Part II/LogFrame training was provided to CEPF coordination team by CEPF grant director in May, 2004. - The original design includes CEPF team visiting China to provide trainings. This was cancelled and trainings were conducted at several occasions in China and DC.
1.2. CEPF Promotion - civil society in the hotspot is well informed about CEPF, and has good access to CEPF application documents via CEPF Chinese website, CEPF China Newsletter through the duration of this project;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CEPF website (www.cepf.net.cn) was launched and essential information in China CEPF activities are updated weekly. - Two issues of CEPF e-newsletter in Chinese were distributed to CEPF grantees and partners in China, in February 2004 and June 2004; - Over 15 field trips were made to promote CEPF in Deqin County, Zhongdian County, Lijiang City and Nujiang Prefecture in Yunnan, Ganzi Prefecture, Liangshan Prefecture in Sichuan, Mangkang County and Changdu County in Tibet;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hundreds of CEPF promotion material (factsheet in English and Chinese, Ecosystem Profile) were distributed to interested parties; - The coordination committee members and grantees have started to promote for CEPF, resulting in several high-quality proposals submitted to CEPF;
<p>1.3. CI China has well-defined roles and responsibilities in soliciting projects from all 5 provinces, assisting applicants in grant application through training and site-visit; updating CEPF eroom and grant tracker database by providing essential information within timeline specified by CEPF for the entire duration of project;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CEPF coordination team building; New CEPF program assistants were hired in Sichuan (start Apr, 2004), Yunnan (start Jun., 2004) and Beijing (start Sep., 2003); - eroom and grant tracker database training provided to CEPF coordination team in China; - Portfolio analysis was designed, discussed and refined within CEPF coordination team in China and with CEPF DC grant manager; - Portfolio analysis was conducted and results were presented to committee in Sichuan and Yunnan, as well as CEPF DC. Main results of the portfolio analysis was on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Component of applicants (geographic area, area of specialty, roles in civil society, etc.); ■ Types of grant applications received; ■ small grant making and recipients analysis;
<p>1.4. The Coordination Committee reviews CEPF projects every month or as needed; the review process is fair and efficient; the Committee review results are sent within one week of review, with internal review comments; small grants are reviewed internally with comments provided to CEPF within a month of Lol receipt;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Five rounds of review were conducted in Sichuan and Yunnan during the project implementation. Over 50 proposals were reviewed at the committee meetings; - Review committee function was evaluated. Two more reviewers were added to both Yunnan and Sichuan committee. - In-depth discussions were held on CEPF's small grant facility and the two small grants proposals from WWF and GGF were reviewed; - New role of the coordination committee in participating in M&E was discussed in the review meetings; - The review committee members served as coordinators for the CEPF grantee meeting.
<p>1.5. Training in CEPF application and reporting given to potential grantees at least once a year in each region.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Part II application package for small and large grant were translated into Chinese and are available for Grant Writer use. - Individual trainings were provided to large grant applicants on LogFrame and Part II; - Procedure in reviewing Part II application was agreed by CEPF DC and was communicated to and agreed by the coordination committee; - Several trainings were provided to a collection of student groups; - The entire application process was written in the Chinese CEPF E-newsletter and distributed to CEPF applicants and partners;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CEPF application process introduction and project design workshop was conducted during the grantee meeting.
<p>1.6. For the entire duration of project, CI China coordination team helps CEPF grant manager to ensure timely submission of project reports by the grantees, reviews performance and financial reports submitted by CEPF grantees and provides review comments to CEPF; obtain comments from reviewers and conducts visits to key project sites as needed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - all reporting documents were translated into Chinese; - Roles on project monitoring was discussed and confirmed between the coordination team and CEPF grant manager; - Project monitoring and evaluation conducted on several ongoing and completed CEPF projects, with reports written to CEPF; - CI China attended the CEPF M&E workshop at the CI annual meeting and made comments to the M&E protocols; - Field trips were made to project sites as part of the M&E plan; - M&E protocol design was discussion during the committee meeting. A M&E plan for China projects will be made.
<p>1.7. CI China coordination team provides update to CEPF at least weekly by regular email and phone conversation, CEPF China Newsletter, case studies and stories from coordination and CEPF grantees; CI China provides updates to partners and general public on status of CEPF China coordination, project achievement and lessons learned at least bi-monthly by CEPF Newsletter, updates on CEPF Chinese website and featured stories on media and publications;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Scope and format of CEPF communication in China was agreed by CI China and CEPF communication manager. - CEPF Chinese e-newsletter was designed and two issues were published; - CEPF news in China was regularly communicated to CEPF DC. Several stories were featured in CEPF e-news and website; - CI China update in English were published three issues and shared with all DC staff and CEPF;
<p>1.8. Communication needs assessed for CEPF China by September, 2003; a communication strategy developed by November, 2003 with consultation from CEPF Communication Director, CI Communication and InterCom departments and endorsed by CEPF by December, 2003;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Communication officer was hired and TOR agreed with CI and CEPF; the communication officer attended several trainings provided by CI and CEPF; - A CI China communication strategy was made; - CEPF Chinese website was designed; - trainings were provided routinely to CEPF grantees on designing communication strategy in their CEPF projects; -
Output 2:	
<p>2.1. Help CEPF refine strategy for Strategic Direction 1 - Develop and operationalize hotspot-wide monitoring and evaluation projects.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Outcome Mapping and Monitoring Proposal was officially submitted on Dec 11 and formally started in April, 2004; - A discussion was held within the team on how to refine strategic direction 1. It is partly incorporated in the Outcome Mapping Plan to conduct several stakeholder meetings in SW region to communication on the hotspot-wide

	<p>monitoring/evaluation indicators and building consensus on the concept of 'conservation outcomes' definition and roles each institute play in the process. This is reflected in the LogFrame for Outcome Mapping proposal.</p> <p>- Two discussion sessions were held during the CEPF Grantee Meeting in June on issues related to SD1. Several key stakeholders attended these discussions to exchange information on sharing biodiversity inventory information and participating in the Outcome Mapping and Monitoring process. Key issues were discussed on how to make this process transparent, efficient and participatory. Result of this discussion was summarized in the Grantee Meeting Outcome material and was adopted by the Outcome Mapping team in the next-stage plan.</p>
<p>2.2. Help CEPF refine strategy for Strategic Direction 2 - Support site-related projects led by civil society to mitigate key threats to natural areas and species populations.</p>	<p>Specific targeted areas under SD2 are:</p> <p>Wildlife Trade</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Several wildlife trade meetings were hosted in Beijing, which nurtured ideas for several CEPF applications. - Proposals solicited on Trade; - Sichuan Trade survey conducted; <p>Natural Regeneration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A workshop was organized by WWF on Natural Habitat Restoration as a preparatory work for the project requesting for CEPF support. Key CI China members attended the workshop held in Maoxian County; - 3M has made the commitment to support this 3-year project (\$3 million); <p>Sacred Land</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tibetan Sacred land Book supported; - CEPF proposals received from Yunnan, Sichuan and Qinghai on Sacred land protection as a result of broad solicitation; - Blue Moon Fund (BMF) has decided to support CI China led project on protection of sacred land; - State Department rejected the Sacred Land proposal from CI; - Several field trips taken, including a transect trip was conducted in Oct. 03 with CI DC staff to survey the sacred landscape and niche for CEPF's work in Ganzi Prefecture in Sichuan and Deqing Prefecture in Yunnan. - Major partners for the sacredland initiative include Snowland Great Rivers Environment Protection Association located in Yushu Prefecture, Qinghai. - CI attended and addressed a Conservation and Tibetan Culture Workshop in June, 2004. - CI China country director was sponsored by the the Millenium Ecosystem Assessment to organize a workshop during the session. During the workshop, Chinese participants, including our Tibetan partners, together presented Sacredland protection to a broad group of audience. The

	<p>presentation was well received and will be written into a formal publication.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CI China attended a meeting organized by TNC on Tibetan Culture and Biodiversity Conservation. Through presenting CI's plan in protecting sacred land, several partners were networked as potential partners and CEPF grantees. <p>- Ecotourism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A workshop was held on November 24th in Chengdu with 6 partner NGOs to discuss a plan to work on ecotourism in SW China; - 6 Proposals were submitted so far to CEPF on Ecotourism Development, 3 out of which had intensive discussion with CI China coordination team; see portfolio analysis result; - CI ecotourism department staff visited China and all CEPF applicants on ecotourism. - After these meetings and a field trip in Sichuan, a joint plan was made to organize a workshop on ecotourism in Sichuan to coordinate different work done by NGOs, government and private industry. <p>NGO support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - with help from CI, a conservation NGO was set up in Ganzi prefecture. - A letter was drafted by CI China over dam building on the Nujiang River and was submitted to UNESCO office in China and distributed widely to the NGO Forum participants as well as interested parties in the country. ATTACHMENT19. <p>Sacred Land:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CI China attended a meeting organized by TNC on Tibetan Culture and Biodiversity Conservation. Through presenting CI's plan in protecting sacred land, several partners were networked as potential partners and CEPF grantees. - Agreements were reached with Green Khampa of Sichuan to work together on sacred land protection in Ganzi prefecture; - Furthered discussion with Snowland Great Rivers Organization from Qinghai Province to conduct survey of sacred land in Qinghai and Tibet, as a matching to their CEPF 'Green Community Network' project. - All of the above mentioned partnership has collectively resulted into development of a USAID proposal (see fund raising). - A session on usint culture to protect biodiversity was held during the annual grantee meeting and the summary is available to all in the Meeting Outcomes. <p>Monkey Year campaign</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A Monkey Year campaign was designed by CI China and will recieve funding from Primate Action Fund and GGF. The purpose of the project is to utilize the monkey year to raise awareness on China's primate species. This
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	<p>project is in collaboration with WildChina Films and CCTV. The product is a series of PSAs to be broadcasted in prime time on CCTV, accompanied by several events, including the one during International Zoological Congress in July.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Walton Family Foundation has already accepted to incorporate this campaign as part of their funded activity. <p>Dam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CI China participated in a Hydropower Meeting of Ganzi Prefecture and obtained first-hand information on hydropower development plan at the prefecture level. - CI China has opened discussion among CEPF applicants and other interested parties on linking field projects and case studies to public awareness and education on dam issues; - The above mentioned actions have lead to a CI China organized workshop on 'Hydropower and Biodiversity Conservation in the Mountains of SW Chian' workshop, held in June, 2004, with participation of key members from NGOs, research groups and media. This has been so far the biggest civil society gathering addressing this issue. - As an outcome of this meeting, all participates signed on a petition to the then-ongoing UNESCO World Heritage Meeting in Suzhou, asking for a participatory examination of the three-parallele dam development plan and offered expertise. This letter was mentioned during the UNESCO discussions and cited in many other news release. <p>South to North Water Diversion (SOUTH TO NORTH WATER DIVERSION)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - As SOUTH TO NORTH WATER DIVERSION was recently identified as an enormous threat to biodiversity, CI China partnered with Sichuan Academy of Social Sciences and Sichuan Senior Scientists Association to co-host a workshop addressing this issue. Outcome of this workshop include a letter with comprehensive analysis on the SOUTH TO NORTH WATER DIVERSION to Sichuan Provincial government. - CI China has made a report on status and analysis of SOUTH TO NORTH WATER DIVERSION and is in the process of distributing to key policy makers to initiate discussions on this project.
<p>2.3. Help CEPF refine strategy for Strategic Direction 3 - Build capacity of civil society to implement conservation efforts at a site and regional level.</p>	<p>Nature Reserve Capacity Building</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Previous nature reserve capacity building report was finalized and a new proposal was submitted to CEPF; Approval was granted by CEPF in August. - Preparation on new nature reserve training fully launched; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Newly established Nature Reserve Project was approved by CEPF. CI has conducted a preparation meeting in Xichang, for the training

	<p>launching planned in April, 2004.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion held with potential applicants in Sichuan and Yunnan on capacity building projects to CEPF; <p>NGO Forum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IFCE's NGO capacity proposal was reviewed and it's NGO forum component was approved to conduct a special SW NGO capacity building session. CI China participated in the forum and conducted a survey among the SW participants. - A list of SW participants are recommended to be invited to the NGO Forum in Beijing; <p>Training Capacity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At the beginning of CEPF's work in China, several partner organizations include WWF, Community Development Studies (Yunnan), PRA network (Guizhou and Sichuan), CBIK and CI organized a discussion on how to coordinate training capacity and needs in the SW region by setting up a Training Network. This has resulted into a proposal submitted by Community Development Studies during the second CEPF review. However, the proposal was rejected because the scope seems too broad to be mastered by one organization. After a year operation of CEPF, some of the partner organizations interested in the Training Network concept started to use their own expertise to set up trainings towards different audience, protected areas, communities, etc. CI China is already taking lead on providing trainings to newly established nature reserves in Sichuan and hopes to disperse such trainings to other areas of Southwest. The overall strategy is for CEPF to support several training projects but to work them under the same 'training network' concept, so the resources are shared, training courses are coordinated and experiences and lessons are shared. Such discussion may result into several CEPF proposals in the next a few months to come. - Several meetings were held with WWF, CDS, PRA network and leading NGOs in the SW to further discussion on best civil society capacity building strategies. Several organizations are having internal discussion on writing CEPF applications to address this issue. <p>Grantee Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Grantee meeting was held in June 2004, during of which several trainings were made to civil society groups on 'making communication work', 'designing a successful application', 'financial management for projects'. All of the trainings and sessions held during the grantee meeting encouraged the attendees to share, collaborate and collectively make bigger impact. This theme and thinking was readily adopted by the participants and the grantee meeting has already seen formation of several NGO alliances.
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<p>2.4. Help CEPF refine strategy for Strategic Direction 4 - Integrate biodiversity conservation concerns and benefits into their implementation of policies and programs at local, regional and national levels.;</p>	<p>Natural Regeneration - BP/UNDP/CELB trip was hosted and discussions with state government agencies were held to explore opportunities for conducting projects on G2G, natural regeneration;</p> <p>CARBON SEQUESTRATION: CI China participated in a SEPA/TNC/SFA/WWF workshop on Carbon Sequestration and Natural Regeneration;</p> <p>Protected Areas - Attended CCICED PATF meetings to develop PATF's two-year plan on protected areas in China; - Attended WPC in September; - key information from above initiatives will be extracted to be featured in CI/CEPF communication; - Trip to NW Yunnan and discussions held with government and TNC on co-hosting a monkey workshop during Baimaxueshan 20th anniversary.</p> <p>DAM BUILDING - A letter was drafted by CI China over dam building on the Nujiang River and was submitted to UNESCO office in China and distributed widely to the NGO Forum participants as well as interested parties in the country. - A trip was made by a group of journalists to Nujiang. CEPF Yunnan coordinator joined the trip. The trip has initiated several actions of campaign against Nujiang dams, all organized by CEPF grantees and CEPF coordination team. a. Nujiang photo exhibit and campaign was sponsored as an urgent project by CEPF. Exhibit was held in both Beijing and Kunming; b. the series of events/activities together has resulted in a Premier order to halt the dam construction on Nujiang; c. Two petitions were submitted to the March People's Congress on Nujiang Dam building and on overall freshwater system planning in China. d. Nujiang dam issue has received very broad media coverage both in China and internationally. New York Times alone has two front page articles on the issue. - An initiative is being led by CI China to solicit more in depth study on the infrastructure building in the SW China by scholars, conservationist and policy analysis to specifically look at dam building issue more comprehensively. As Nujiang campaign is an inspiring and valuable first step progress, more need to be done to better understand energy issues and benefit sharing behind dam building, as well as environment impact assessment processes. This will also become part of the refined CEPF strategy to solicit more project ideas.</p> <p>EBI Assheton Carter from CELB visited Beijing from</p>
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	<p>Dec 15 - 20, and organized a workshop with NGO partners (WWF, TNC, FFI, GEI, UNDP, GVB) to have an initial discussion on the idea of setting up EBI in China.</p> <p>GREEN OLYMPICS After several discussions with Global Village Beijing, two proposals were solicited for Beijing Green Olympics connecting to 'green' Southwest and to support for community participating in such initiatives.</p> <p>Ecological Migration - CEPF coordination team started to have a discussion with CI's Center for Conservation and Government to explore a joint workshop on China's 'ecological migration'. This will be co-hosted by China's Committee on Development and Reform and CI, and aims at examining ecological and social impact by the escalating migration, particularly in China's western provinces. This will become a pilot in examining such practices and mean tremendously to the SW region as a rigorous measure government is taking now to evacuate human population from the ecological sensitive areas, yet with no solid monitoring/evaluation processes to ensure the effectiveness ecologically and socially. A proposal is being drafted for the workshop and associated surveys and case studies.</p> <p>SOUTH TO NORTH WATER DIVERSION Project CI China attended a meeting organized by Chinese Academy of Social Sciences on Environmental and Social Impact of Hydropower Station Construction. Key conservation and development organizations participated at the meeting. As a result, CI China has become the core group of advisors on dam issue, particularly on providing ideas in doing research and case study for policy makers within the national government.</p> <p>Protected Area Law: - CI China conducted two case studies for the CCICED PATF, on Protected Area Capacity Building and Management criteria. Drawn from CI China's experience in working with nature reserves in the Southwest, these will be incorporated into the policy recommendations made by the PATF to the National government. - CI China has helped Friends of Nature to design their Nature Reserve Photo Exhibition project to CEPF, and made an external grant to fund the initial surveys. - The above mentioned activities, along with the CEPF funded nature reserve capacity building project, have formed a cluster of SW nature reserve projects, which provides both first-hand information and policy recommendations emerged from our work.</p>
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	<p>World Parks Congress</p> <p>- CI China has provided funding to support publication of the WPC outputs into Chinese, and provided these documents for the Chinese delegation to use during the COP7 meeting in February 2004. CI China has also arranged for the CI senior staff to attend a China event hosted by the State Environment Protection Administration during COP7. After these initiatives, CI China now is the partner to SEPA for Chinese delegation to the WCC in November 2004.</p> <p>Ecological Migration:</p> <p>- Through collaborating with CI's Center for Conservation and Governance, a proposal was developed to co-host a workshop with the Chinese central government to evaluate 'ecological migration' projects in China. Since ecological migration is becoming a factor to influence many conservation projects by influencing human population living in key ecological areas, such high-level policy conversation could result into significant change in policy making to the advantage of conservation and long-term sustainable development in this region. This workshop is being planned for Fall, 2004.</p> <p>Grain to Green</p> <p>- Through 3M project, several dialogues have happened at national and provincial forestry sector. We have seen a very keen interest in supporting our project and even matching it up with government investment.</p> <p>- A Grain to Green summit will be cohosted by CI China and G2G office to communicate at policy making level in the central government on ecological effectiveness of G2G. This could lead to important implementation revision for the existing G2G policy to the advantage of biodiversity conservation.</p>
<p>Output 3:</p> <p>3.1. Criteria for small grant making and monitoring agreed by CI China Coordination Team and CEPF.</p>	<p>- related small grant Chinese documents developed;</p> <p>- Discussions were held in three coordination committee meetings on how small grant facility best serve CEPF's profile. (Discussions were held at both review committees on small grant management, and two Lols from WWF and GGF were reviewed both at the committee and independently in writing by the committee members after the meeting. Overall the committee feels that the small grants should be managed separately from the large ones, with well-defined targeted groups and according small grant managing facilities. These facilities need to locate in the Southwest region, intimately familiar with the applicant groups, established upon existing organizational structure rather than setting up new ones, and discriminate between mini-grants (under \$5,000 for example) and CEPF-defined small grants, which is quite large in China and requires</p>

	<p>more stringent finance and technical management.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion was held with CEPF DC on strategy in soliciting and making grants to small grant facility. - Separate meetings were held with potential small grant facilities to analyze current status of CEPF's small grant making niche in SW China. Coordination team worked closely with both WWF and GGF in their small grant management proposals. - CI China organized a third review meeting participated by WWF, GGF and CDS (community development studies, who applied for a community small grant project) and both Sichuan and Yunnan reviewers. - Coordination team invited the potential small grant facilities to attend the first CEPF grantee meeting.
<p>3.2. Immediate reactions to key emerging issues or threats to the hotspot identified by CI China and stakeholders take place through mobilizing media and networking local NGOs to publicize the issues, collecting scientific information for public and policy makers and advocating decision makers.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CI China supported publication of the WCD report 'Large Dam' plus a review on ecological impact of dams in China. The report was published 8,000 copies and have distributed to over 2000 recipients by the end of this project; - A sub-grant was made to Tshinghua University NGO center to provide funding for the training cost of four student participants from Southwest region. Trainees from this workshop subsequently started to apply for CEPF grants and some have put in high-quality proposals; - A sub-grant was made to the publication of Dawa Tesreng's book on Ecological View in Tibetan Culture; - A sub-grant was made to Baimaxueshan Nature Reserve to set up a website for the Snub-nosed monkeys; - A sub-grant was made to Green Khampa to support its launching and a multi-stakeholder Workshop on conservation in Ganzi Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture; - A sub-grant was made to support the translation of the Monkey Business report into English and plan to publish this year; - CI China has taken lead in designing a Monkey Year television campaign project and invited several NGOs to participate in making visual/communication materials. This activity will be supported by Walton Family Foundation grant to CI China. - As SOUTH TO NORTH WATER DIVERSION was recently identified as an enormous threat to biodiversity, CI China partnered with Sichuan Academy of Social Sciences and Sichuan Senior

	<p>Scientists Association to co-host a workshop addressing this issue. CI China has made a sub-grant to support this meeting. Outcome of this workshop include a letter with comprehensive analysis on the SOUTH TO NORTH WATER DIVERSION to Sichuan Provincial government.</p> <p>- CI China has made a grant to a senior analyst to produce a report on status and analysis of SOUTH TO NORTH WATER DIVERSION and is in the process of distributing to key policy makers to initiate discussions on this project.</p> <p>- A small grant was made to Green Web to support a Biodiversity Film Festival to promote biodiversity in SW China to over 100 universities countrywide.</p>
<p>3.3. Effect of small grant projects communicated at least monthly by CI China via email, telephone, Newsletter, featured stories and website to CEPF, CI, CI China's domestic and international partners;</p>	<p>- Discussion held with CI and CEPF communication on featuring small grants stories in China;</p> <p>- Small grants information are published online on CEPF's Chinese website, at least four stories were sent to CEPF communication manager and were featured on CEPF newsletter and website.</p> <p>- Yunnan snub-nosed monkey story was featured on CEPF's English Newsletter and Chinese Newsletter;</p> <p>- Kawagebo Culture Society's small project on cedar conservation was featured on CEPF Chinese Newsletter and English e-news;</p> <p>- CI ecotourism workshop news was featured in CEPF Chinese newsletter.</p> <p>- Natural regeneration project in Tudiling to reconnect giant panda habitat was featured in CEPF Chinese newsletter;</p> <p>- Green Island's small grant on promoting ecotourism was featured on CEPF Chinese newsletter;</p> <p>- News on the Vth World Parks Congress was featured on CEPF Chinese website;</p> <p>- News on CEPF project review was featured on CEPF Chinese newsletter;</p> <p>- Media hits on CEPF-related national and international media coverage is summarized.</p> <p>- Story about Green Khampa was featured in CEPF E-news;</p> <p>- CEPF grantee meeting news was featured on CEPF e-newsletter.</p>
<p>Output 4:</p>	
<p>4.1. CI China overall fund raising strategy developed, key partners and major donors identified, staff roles</p>	<p>- Fund raising strategy was discussed in all-staff meeting in Kunming, with roles and responsibilities assigned;</p>

<p>and responsibility defined before December, 2003;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - wide discussion with CEPF, CELB, Regional Strategy and Blue Moon on CI China's fund raising strategies; CI China fund raising is being helped by several departments in CI, including Operation and Development (Walton Family Foundation), CELB (3M and UTC), Proposal Team (Blue Moon) and Ecological Migration (CCG). Fund Raising meetings attended (in addition to originally planned) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CI China attended a meeting organized by TNC on Tibetan Culture and Biodiversity Conservation. Through presenting CI's plan in protecting sacred land, several partners were networked as potential partners and CEPF grantees. - CI China director participated in the Business and Biodiversity Council meeting discussion about China. A presentation was made to the Council on sacred land protection. And the Council encouraged CI China to work under watershed management framework and come up with major proposals. - CI China director attended EU/IUCN meeting in China on GEF Biodiversity project planning. CI China is listed as a key collaborator by UNDP (who will be implementing this project). - CI CEO Peter Seligmann visited China and several key government and non-government entities. Strategies of future CI China financing was discussed intensively with the CI China team and shared with CEPF and CELB. - BP/Shell/UNDP: A fund raising trip was held in October with Glenn Prickett (CELB) and Greg Coleman (BP), and Lena Singha (UNDP) to Beijing and Sichuan. In Beijing, meetings were held with UNDP, Shell, 3M, SFA G2G office, Tsinghua University. - UNF: As a follow up to CELB's trip, a proposal was written to UNF requesting for funding CI China's activities. - EU: CI China attended the EU China biodiversity program stakeholder meeting and will partner with other NGOs in China to apply for the EU funding (from GEF). - Status of CI China fund raising was reported to CEPF and CI periodically; - Fund raising information is feature in CI China updates. - Walton Family Foundation has made the grant to CI China. The project proposal was shared with CEPF, including hiring of a business liason person and several communication components such as CI China website design.
<p>4.2. CI China conducts a site visit to Sichuan and Guizhou with Blue Moon Fund in August, 2003 to explore funding opportunity Sustainable Livelihood initiative;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CI China travelled with the BMF and proposal ideas extensively discussed; - BMF: discussed with the Blue Moon Fund (BMF) on protection of sacred land; It was agreed that

	<p>BMF will consider a proposal in its upcoming board Meeting;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - BMF Board decided to make a grant to CI China on sacred land protection, starting from April, 2004.
<p>4.3. CI China follows up with 3M Foundation on Natural Regeneration proposal by the end of September, 2003; arrange for a field trip for BP to visit key Grain-to-Green sites and follow up with the BP proposal;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - productive visit by BP/UNDP/CELB has set foundation for further collaboration and project co-development with UNDP; - CI China hosted several visits by 3M. After several months of negotiation, 3M has decided to make the \$3 million grant to China. Further plan in disbursing the fund and starting the work is still being discussed. The decision is to start the project in October, 2004.
<p>4.4. CI China organizes a few workshops, refine project ideas, identify potential donors for Ecotourism Development by November, 2003, and develop grant proposals by December, 2003;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A workshop was held on November 24th in Chengdu with 6 partner NGOs to discuss a plan to work on ecotourism in SW China; - Four proposals were solicited by CI China for ecotourism work in SW China. All of which were approved to proceed to Part II by the review committee; - CI China hosted a visit by CI DC ecotourism department staff and a plan was made jointly to conduct the workshop in November, 2004. The workshop will set foundation for further work among NGOs, government departments and private tourism industry on how to move this field forward in order to minimize tourism impact to biodiversity. This event will also form a liason among stakeholders in the SW China to target this issue collectively. - New progress was made on ecotourism workshop arrangement. CI ecotourism team has confirmed a time with CI China. A proposal is being developed for this workshop.
<p>4.5. CI China reviews results from Sacred Land surveys conducted in the previous grant by September, 2003, identifies partners, project sites and potential donors by December, 2003 and develops Sacred Land proposal to donors by March, 2004;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - extensive discussions internally on Sacred land protection; - Brochures on Sacred land designed and published during WPC; - Sacred land proposal was turned down by State Department. A new proposal was submitted to USAID; - Blue Moon Fund has made the grant to CI China in the amount of 193,000 to support Phase I survey of the sacred land. Discussion is open in securing a Phase II grant from Blue Moon Fund. - The Blue Moon Fund grant will be used to support several NGOs, including Green Khampa and Snowland Great Rivers of their initiatives, as a matching to CEPF investment. - A transect trip was conducted in Oct. 03 with CI DC senior management staff to survey the sacred landscape and niche for CEPF's work in Ganzi

	<p>Prefecture in Sichuan and Diqing Prefecture in Yunnan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A USAID proposal was submitted in June, 2004 for a large grant, including idea of protecting sacred land in and beyond SW China in greater Tibetan region.
<p>4.6. CI China submits NGO networking and Capacity Building proposal to Asia Foundation in July, 2003 identify other potential donors by the end of project;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Asia Foundation gave positive sign on the NGO networking proposal; - With CI China's help and coordination, Asia Foundation fund approved, to support capacity building for SW NGOs and to GreenSOS. - Discussion held with Ford Foundation on NGO networking in the Southwest. - CI staff has met with the newest board member Rob Walton and received a small donation from the Walton Family Foundation of \$100,000; CI plans to use this money to strengthen CI China's communication capacity and liaison with business partners. - United Technology Corporation (UTC) has approached CI to explore possibility to sponsor a carbon sequestration project in SW China. CELB is working with CI China to develop the proposal to UTC. The site selected is also going to be sponsored by CEPF on panda corridor restoration and forest natural regeneration. The UTC fund will become matching for CEPF's investment. And the mechanism to attract business's investment for China's environment is a true pilot in the natural regeneration and carbon trade area. - Both Walton Family donation and UTC interest is featured in China Update. - CEPF grantee meeting was held and relevant information will be compiled and made available to other potential donors to civil actions in SW China.
<p>Output 5:</p>	
<p>5.1. First NGO forum supported by the previous grant assessed and further steps determined by October, 2003; at least 3 NGO meetings organized during this project; NGO status and capacity information collected during these workshops analyzed and used for assessing NGO networking and capacity building needs;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CI China participated in the IFCE organized (CEPF sponsored) NGO Forum in Beijing and organized for 20 some NGOs from SW to attend; - CI China attended the Gloval Village Beijing workshop for grassroots NGOs, prior to the IFCE NGO Forum. - CI China has obtained CEPF funding to conduct training for about 40 newly established nature reserves in Ganzi and Liangshan Prefectures; - A discussion was held with Ford China SW program on NGO networking. CI China has decided to adjust strategy for NGO training and networking, that is not to host large NGO networking events ourselves, but to surround CEPF grantees and to build upon other's activities.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Since the first NGO meeting CI organized in Sichuan (March 2003), Asia Foundation has expressed interest in collaborating with CI to invest in similar activities to build capacities for NGOs. After a year of negotiations, Asia Foundation has finished a plan and granted \$30,000 for a few training workshops in Sichuan. Due to finance regulations, this money can not be given to CI directly, and has to channel through a local third party. CI was involved in all stages of training design and preparation. Several training courses were conducted since June, 2004 and many CEPF grantees and partners were trainers and trainees. - CI China has helped a few local NGOs to secure funding from other donors, such as Asia Foundation. GreenSOS has secured a \$5,000 investment for its own capacity building and setting up management structure. - Trainings were given to several key NGO and private partners in Beijing, Chengdu and Yunnan, on project design, proposal writing, communication strategies, etc. Recipients of such training include - Friends of Nature, Green SOS, Global Village of Beijing, IFAW, China Adventure Travel, Alpine Research Institute, Snowland Great Rivers, etc. The trainings have resulted in visible change of proposal qualities and project design. - CI China helped to set up Green Khampa in April, 2004. Green Khampa is based in Kangding, Ganzi Prefecture of Sichuan. It is the first conservation NGO in the region and will become a key player in the region. CI China is providing technical, financial and capacity assistance to Green Khampa to nurture its establishment and growth. Green Khampa may grow to become a point NGO to coordinate CEPF's work in Ganzi Tibetan region in the next a few years to come. - Establishment of Green Khampa in Ganzi Prefecture, Sichuan. A Forum on Conservation in Ganzi Prefecture following the Launching event. Over 50 participants from government, research institutes, international NGOs and local community groups and monasteries attended the Forum. Green Khampa is the first environmental NGO set up in Ganzi Prefecture, which by area is roughly 1/3 of the hotspot area. The launching of Green Khampa has seen the biggest environmental NGO gathering in this region and leveraged attention of environmental groups from other Tibetan Region. - CI China has organized a trip of three NGOs in China (WCS, Friends of Nature, Global Village Beijing) to participate in a high-end philanthropy dinner in Shanghai, to introduce China's environmental groups to the business world.
<p>5.2. CI China and identified partners facilitates in setting up a regional or provincial NGO (including CEPF</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chengdu office has become a center of NGO networking in Sichuan, hosting at least 30-40 visitors per month; the meeting room is free to be

<p>grantees) network by the end of project to promote communication, capacity building and NGO's support to each other;</p>	<p>used by local NGOs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Zhongdian office has become a center of environmental gatherings in Yunnan, hosting at least 20-30 visitors (out-of-towners counted) per month; - CI Beijing office receives CEPF visitors and international visitors every week. CI Zhongdian office is also becoming a center for local NGOs and grassroots conservation groups. <p>The idea of establishing an NGO network is moving forward, especially among those NGOs with similar visions. Networking activities are most effective in the following area:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nature reserves - the network was set up primarily through CI China's training to newly established nature reserves. For example, all 9 nature reserves from Liangshan Prefecture attended the CEPF Grantee meeting and a study tour was conducted to visit other reserves in the region to learn from their experiences. 2. On Dam discussions - NGOs in Beijing, Sichuan and Yunnan are now working together to push for a more open, transparent and participatory decision making process in large infrastructure construction in ecological sensitive areas in the Southwest. China River Network was established Through CI's leader role, these activities are well coordinated. 3. on sacred land protection. Tibetan groups in Yunnan (Kawagebo Culture Society, etc.), Sichuan (Green Khampa, etc.) and Qinghai (Snowland Great Rivers) are now connected to share their experiences in working on this same theme. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The First CEPF Grantee Meeting was held. The meeting design was discussed and approved by the CEPF coordination committee and CEPF DC. Several committee members served as coordinators for session discussions. Meeting discussion was first divided by region (5 regions including NW Yunnan, Minshan, Ganzi, Llangshan and cross-regional) and then by 6 themes (biodiversity information system; culture and conservation; wildlife consumption/trade and natural resource use; tourism; large infrastructure construction; nature reserve capacity and evaluation). Each group has identified priority area within its own region/theme and presented the discussion result. Grantee meeting Outcomes have been made available to the attendants and CEPF.
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Describe the success of the project in terms of delivering the intended outputs.

In addition to the above mentioned success under each output, it's particularly worth noting that several progresses were made exceeding original intended outputs:

CEPF SW China Portfolio Analysis: has become a useful tool for CEPF management in DC and China;

A new NGO was set up in Ganzi as the first civil society group for environmental and cultural issues

CI has received its first external grant from Walton Family Foundation, followed by commitment from Blue Moon Fund (sacred land protection) and 3M (natural regeneration and mitigating global warming)

CEPF's role in cultivating civil society coordinating civil actions has become one of the most influential in the region. This is achieved by providing tools for the CEPF funded activities to become more efficient, better communicated, and better networked with partners and policy makers.

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

Communication of CEPF's activities in China in the form of Chinese CEPF newsletter was delayed due to a late start and newly hired communication officer in place. Consequently only two issues of CEPF Quarterly Chinese newsletter were published.

V. SAFEGUARD POLICY ASSESSMENTS

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

N/A

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.

CEPF defined 'small grant' has gone up from 10K to 20K during this year of project implementation, which had enabled fast approval of several key grants. However, due to the complicated process of CEPF large grant Part II application, limited capacity of China's civil society and relative high value of the CEPF 'small' grant, most of the applicants decide to go for small grants. This has resulted in high volume of applications, burdening and frustrating operation both in China and DC. The small grant facility projects were recruited but are also experiencing slow Part II process.

CEPF's monitoring and evaluation protocol was only available to evaluate the coordination mechanism, but not sufficiently for the CEPF projects. The only formal monitoring and evaluation was through submission of reports. However, the volume and unfriendly format of the reports resulted in very poor feedback rate. Few comments were made to CI China (as CEPF grantee) or CEPF grantees on the reports. On the

other hand, site visits and ad hoc interview with stakeholders result in better (although not consistent and systematic) understanding of the project execution.

CEPF promotion material and Lol format, or equivalent material for small grant facility use, will need to be adapted for Tibetan and other ethnic languages.

CI China is both a CEPF grantee and implementation body of the CEPF Coordination Mechanism. This means our communication with CEPF also has to come in two sides - as a Grantee, and as CEPF's eyes and ears in China. As the Coordination Team, we are in communication with CEPF everyday about progress made in China; this process has been relatively easy and natural. In the next funding cycle, we also hope to communicate more as a grantee, about how the Coordination Mechanism has been changing conservation agenda in SW China. As CI China's achievements are two-fold - through making better CEPF portfolio, and through our own work to make the most portfolios useful for conservation.

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

This was CI China's second coordination project with CEPF. The project design is overall a success. However, our experience using quarterly performance tracker as a tool for 'tracking' our progress has not been very useful. We feel that CEPF reports written in Performance Tracker format seldom receive feedback or attention. Reports written in other format that is more eye-catching seem to better reflect the accomplishments and serves better for communication needs.

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

We learned from working with EBI and CELB, that CI China should take full advantage of CI DC's expertise, especially that of fund raising and business alliance.

CI China started to implement this project hoping to use CEPF as a platform to network with NGOs in the SW and among NGOs taking interest in this area. After speaking with Ford China, who is the most avid worker in promoting NGO networking, we learned from their experience that NGO networking just for the networking purpose will hardly work. Activities designed to bring NGO together need to have clear context and agenda. This was also evident from IFCE's failure in producing solid outcome among SW NGOs participated in the NGO Forum in Beijing. Thus the NGO networking events under our projects are all designed under clear themes, such as nature reserve capacity building, biodiversity information sharing, Tibetan NGO working together, student environment group summer activities and CEPF grantee meeting.

This year, we are particularly effective in making local partnership with local groups, who are mostly under-connected. These include three main categories: 1. Tibetan environmental groups and leaders; 2. student organizations from SW region and 3. Nature reserves. Connecting these groups with our NGO, government, donor and international partners is particularly valuable as it opens new doors for both sides.

VII. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

N/A

VI. INFORMATION SHARING

CEPF aims to increase sharing of experiences, lessons learned and results among our grant recipients and the wider conservation and donor communities. One way we do this is by making the text of final project completion reports available on our Web site, www.cepf.net, and by marketing these reports in our newsletter and other communications. Please indicate whether you would agree to publicly sharing your final project report with others in this way.

Yes _____

No _____

If yes, please also complete the following:

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