



NEWSLETTER

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Picture Collection of Field Trip

for

The Mid-term Project Progress Review

on

The Green Heart of China

Over 30 years with efforts, WWF have made a deep friendship with giant pandas and people there, but all are gone with this earthquake. We are again standing at a starting point. It is a long way to create a better future for giant pandas. All depend on the time and confidence. A long march has launched out into the green reconstruction with a bigger ambition echoed by the mid-term project review of the Green Heart of China.



The Guanyinshan Nature Reserve plays a very important corridor role in its location to connect the west and east giant panda populations of Qinling Mountains. However, The National Road 108 built in 1970s has exaggerated the isolation. The scenery in the earlier spring is calm.



With the Qingling Tunnel since 1999, the roads have been abandoned. WWF have planted bamboo along the abandoned roads to create more suitable habitats for giant pandas and other wild animals. Monitoring shows that panda droppings are found about 300 meters way to the road.



WWF has conducted a series of projects to help recover this tunnel corridor areas in Guanyinshan Nature Reserve such as bamboo planting, vehicles and travelers controlled along the abandoned roads, fence removal for wild animal migration, environmental education, beekeeping, and wood saving stoves in local communities.



Beekeeping as one of WWF Community Development Project in Guanyinshan Nature Reserve has increased about 3000-5000 RMB with 10 boxes around, the villager says, it covers 1/3rd of his family annual income.



Together with the beekeeping pilots, the villager says he has also benefited from the wood saving stoves supported by WWF, and this new stove can save 70% of wood compared to the traditional stoves.



After listening to report by Guanyinshan Nature Reserve Administration Bureau, WWF Network members left their heartfelt words.



WWF expanded the beekeeping project in the Qingmuchaun Nature Reserve, 5.12 earthquake severely affected, to benefit more households. About 200 beekeeping boxes with further matching procedures and technology will benefit more than 10 households.



With attendance of more than 100 villagers, ceremony speeches were given by the representatives of WWF network, local government and community. The local government will coordinate the implementation of this project. More villagers show happy when the project expanded to more households.



Tea plantation is another kind of sustainable/alternative livelihoods for WWF Community Development Project in Qingmuchuan Nature Reserve. As a demonstration site, Yuquanba Tea Plantation Garden has 3000 ha of tea plantation Garden, shared by 20 households, will increase about 3000 RMB annually to each household.



WWF Network members visited the tea gardens in Yuquanba Tea Planting Demonstration Garden. The local project manager says the tea seeds were planted in August 2008, and villagers will harvest within 3-5 years.



The 5.12 Earthquake severely damaged to the Qingmuchuan Nature Reserve including local communities for its 300 kilometers away from epicenter. The administration office buildings were completely destroyed. The nature reserve administration bureau shared a temporary shelter by other governmental multi-administrative departments.



In the shelter, the Deputy introduced the earthquake affects and their all efforts. He said 3 of 6 stations were totally damaged, 2 of 3 communities within nature reserve need to resettle, so many villagers will partially lose their agricultural lands, but they may be compensated through reclamations. There are 13 monitoring routes covering the whole nature reserve, and there are no snares found in patrolling.



The 5.12 Earthquake has severely damaged to more than thirty nature reserves, particularly vegetation loss caused by landslides. Large areas of landslides around Zipingpu water reserve near the Wolong Nature Reserve.



Besides the severe causes of landslides, infrastructures of roads, bridges, tunnels, and dams were also severely damaged along the way to Wolong Nature Reserve.



Buildings were completely destroyed in Yingxiu County, very close to the epicenter.



Houses along the way to Wolong Nature Reserve completely collapsed.



Tunnels to the Wolong Nature Reserve were buried.



Mountains turned to gray for large areas of landslides along the way to Wonglong Nature Reserve.



One of protection stations in Wolong Nature Reserve was totally buried by landslide.



Road is not open to general public but only for reconstruction vehicles in Wolong Nature Reserve.



Administration bureau buildings in Wolong Nature Reserve were destroyed and all closed for reconstruction. Local governments, administration bureau and villagers use the temporary shelters for living and office affairs.



Report by Wolong Nature Reserve in a temporary shelter office.



Bamboos, trees, and the panda gardens were buried by landslide.



All facilities in the Center were totally destroyed.



WWF supported energy saving stoves in Wolong Nature Reserve. The villager says the stove can save about 70% of wood comparing to the traditional stoves.



The communications and education center with about 800 square meters for 700 animal samples and 2000 plant samples in Longchi-Hongkou Nature Reserve was totally destroyed, and now waiting for expert evaluation for its reuse.



A memorial site for Nanyue Flying Mountain. The mountain flied over the opposite to bury 10 home stay households some holding banquets.



Wangjiaping station, a communications and education center, and its front bridge were destroyed. The rangers were right there when earthquake happening, but nobody dead. They got out to rescue the local villagers.



Dashuping station in Baishuihe Nature Reserve was destroyed by the earthquake, but re-built for removal shelters by WWF in the first time.



At Zhongba village in Baishuihe Nature Reserve, WWF is supporting the water transferring pipes for 3 communities with 91 households and 426 villagers for drinking water. The project will be finished in May 2009.



The Xiaoyudong bridge, one of memorial scene with yellow flowers along riverbeds to Baishuihe Nature Reserve, was collapsed.



With a memorial site of 5.12 behind, we are together for the power of hope to save giant pandas.