

MARIN WILDLIFE PICTURE INDEX PROJECT



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The Marin Wildlife Picture Index Project (MWPIP)

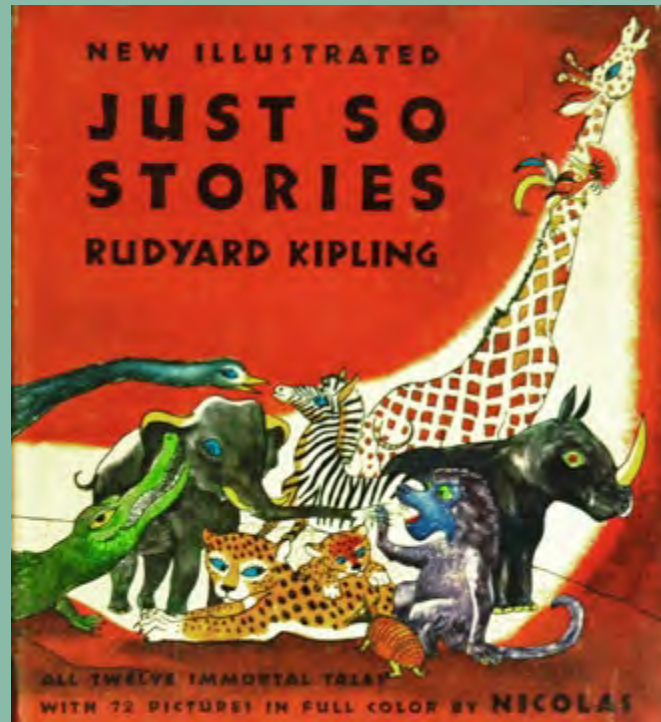
Janet Klein
Marin Municipal Water District



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When I was a child, my favorite story...



...and was about an animal child...

The Elephant's Child

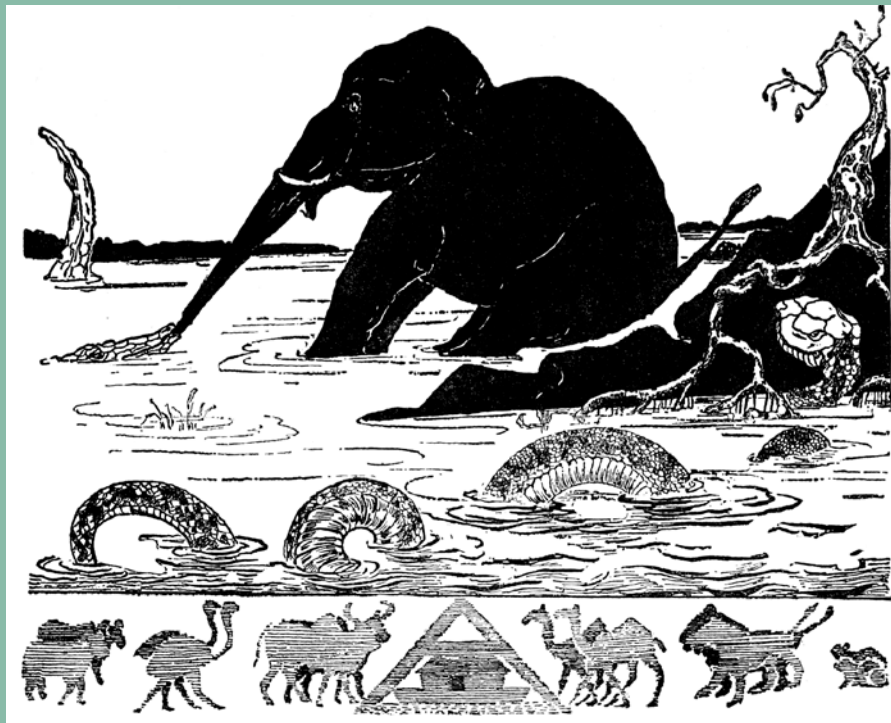


...who at the start of the story, has no trunk, but has “...’satiabile curiosity...”

And one transformative question....

What Does the Crocodile Eat For Breakfast?

Taking some solid advice, he embarks on a journey into the wild to investigate the subject of his question first hand...



And it's a transformative experience for all elephants evermore.

And he observes the crocodile, up close, in his native habitat...

Despite the lamarckian implications of the story (and its colonial origins)...
...it highlights the transformative power of investigation.

The Marin Wildlife Picture Index
is a collaborative investigation of over 17
mammals that inhabit our wild spaces.



- Who lives here?
- How are they doing?
- Who eats who for breakfast?



MWPIP Presenters & Partners

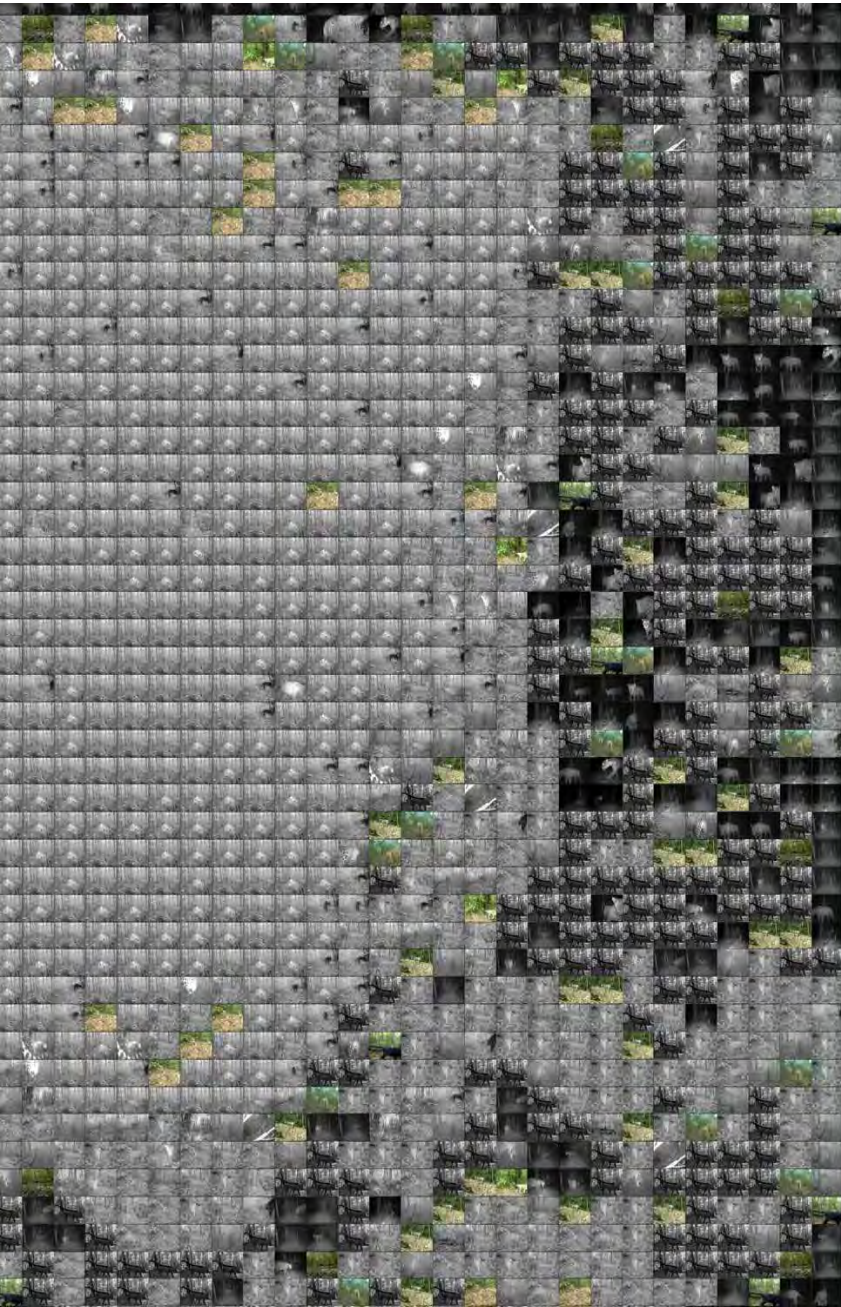
- Eric Fegraus, Conservation International:
Senior Director, Technology & External
Relations
- Janet Klein, Marin Municipal Water Dist.
Natural Resources Program Manager
- Susan E Townsend, PhD
Principal Investigator
- Bill Merkle, National Park Service
Wildlife biologist
- Lisa Micheli, PhD
Executive Director, Pepperwood
Preserve



Wildlife Monitoring: A global perspective



Eric Fegraus
October 26, 2017



Camera traps are everywhere

- 1000s of studies
- 100,000s of camera traps
- 1,000,000s of images

Stenweg et al 2017



TEAM Network: Wildlife Picture Index

HP Earth Insights
Wildlife Picture Index

Choose your Language: English | Español

Developed by
hp CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL TEAM

Home Report About

Welcome!

HP Earth Insights' Wildlife Picture Index (WPI) Analytics System is an innovative application designed to speed up data collection, management and analysis performed by the TEAM Network. The WPI Analytics System was developed by HP and Conservation International.

[About WPI](#)

[Technical Approach](#)

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[All Sites: All Species](#) [Asia: All Species](#) [Asia: VU \(Vulnerable\)](#) [All Sites: VU \(Vulnerable\)](#)
[All Sites: NT \(Near Threatened\)](#) [Asia: NT \(Near Threatened\)](#) [Asia: Herbivore](#) [All Sites: Herbivore](#)
[All Sites: Omnivore](#) [Asia: Omnivore](#)

WPI Map

WPI Meter

wpi.teamnetwork.org

[WPI Pasoh Forest Reserve All Species](#) [WPI Ranomafana All Species](#) [WPI Udzungwa All Species](#) [WPI Volcán Barva All Species](#) [WPI Yanachaga Chimilén National Park All Species](#)

HP Earth Insights
Wildlife Picture Index

Developed by
hp CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL TEAM

Home Report About

Explore WPI

Year Range Selection: 2007-2014

Site Selection: 1 Selected

Species Group Selection: 1 Selected

Global WPI > Site WPI

Click on a WPI Line to drilldown to Species Trend or Global WPI to go back to WPI

Impact Analysis

Summary of Impacts

WPI Map

WPI Meter

[WPI Udzungwa All Species](#) [WPI Volcán Barva All Species](#) [WPI Yanachaga Chimilén National Park All Species](#) [WPI Yasuni All Species](#)

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Wildlife Insights

The most comprehensive
wildlife monitoring
platform on the planet

Photo Courtesy of: TEAM Network
and Wildlife Conservation Society

THANK YOU

ERIC FEGRAUS

SENIOR DIRECTOR OF CONSERVATION TECHNOLOGY

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**CONSERVATION
INTERNATIONAL**



Scalable Conservation Solutions

- **Governance:** The model of ONE TAM, a multi-organizational effort is a great model to replicate regionally and in other places around the world.
- **Tools and technology:** There is a large role technology can play in scaling conservation solutions and we are really just getting started doing this - Underlying common infrastructure with customizable local results.
- *Don't underestimate the value a single or local project can have on influencing regional, state, national and even global projects.*

Our vision

We envision a world where wildlife populations are stable or recovering.

Our mission

To provide an open access platform where global wildlife data can be aggregated, analyzed and shared to enable evidence-based conservation

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The MWPIP

A Big Data Undertaking of the TLC



Janet Klein

Marin Municipal Water District



82°F 27°C

06-13-2015 09:10:26

The Wildlife Picture Index (WPI) is part of a global adoption of Big Data tools that is revolutionizing our understanding of our planet.

R Steenweg *et al.* – Supporting Information

WebTable 1. Details of camera studies identified in Figure 1 where selected authors have used cameras to ask large-scale ecological questions

Study area name

Ivvavik National Park
Southeast Alaska
Nahanni National Park
Modini Mayacamas Preserve (Sonoma County)
Pepperwood Preserve (Sonoma County)
Marin County Multi Agency
Sonoma County Open Space And Agricultural District
Sonoma Land Trust
Willmore Wilderness Park and Foothills
Jasper National Park
Revelstoke National Park
Glacier National Park
Yoho National Park

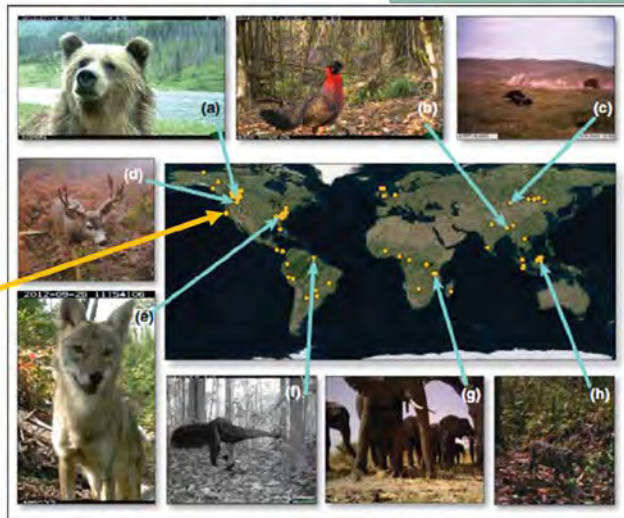
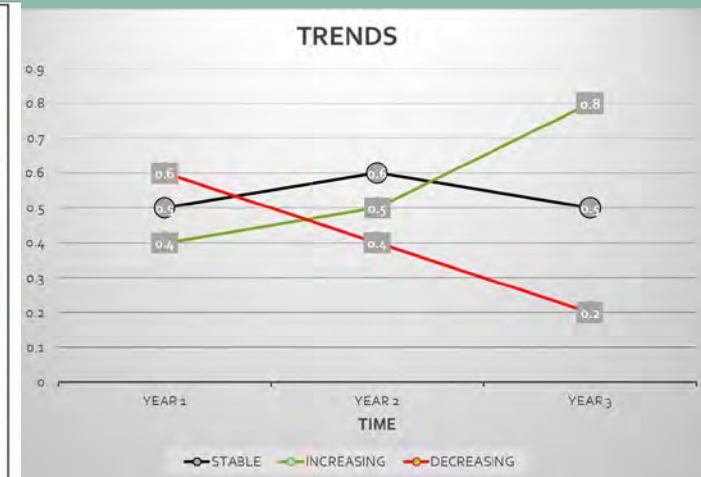


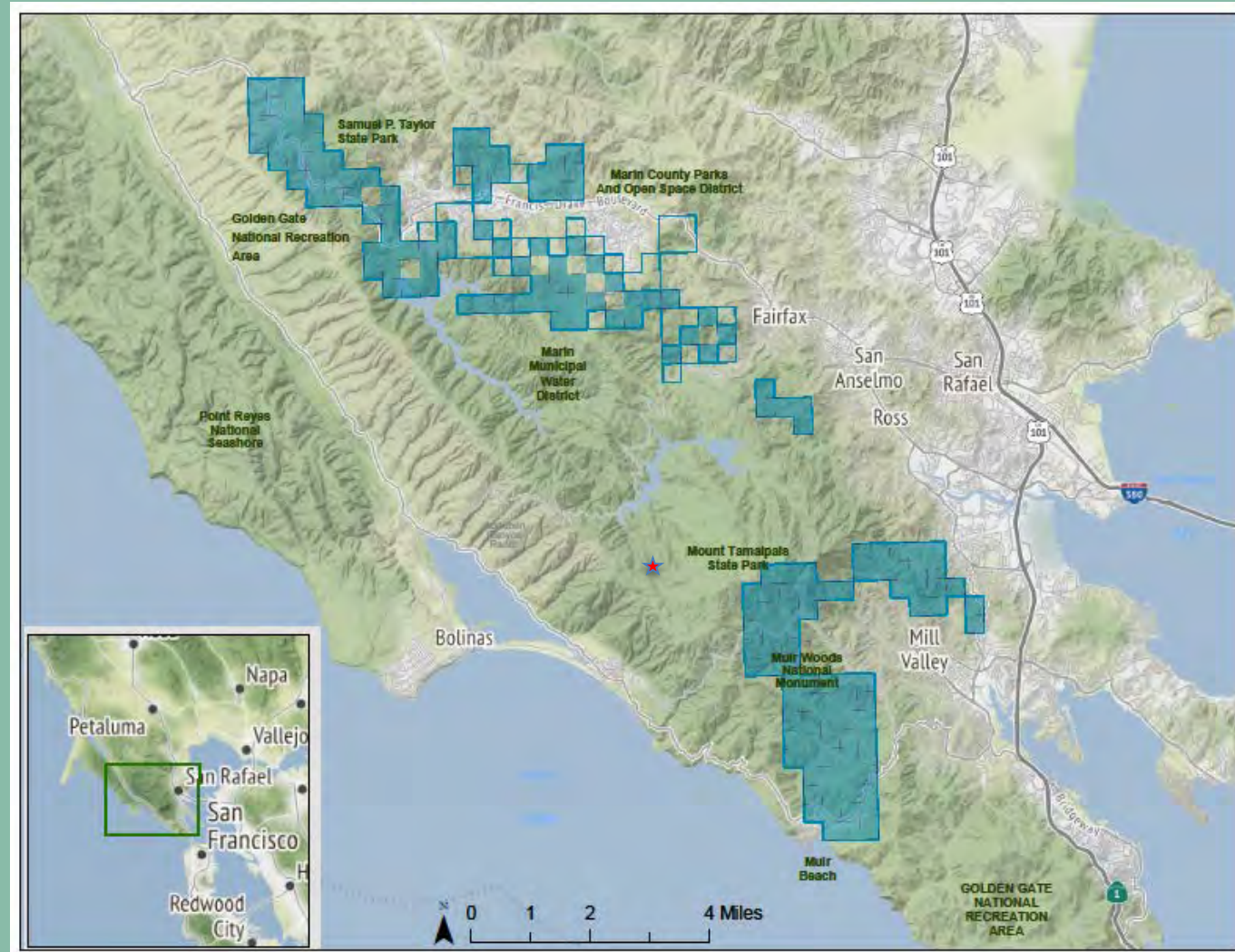
Figure 1. Snapshot of recent global remote-camera studies. All study area locations where selected authors have used cameras to ask large-scale ecological questions are indicated by yellow dots on the map.



The Marin Project is the largest WPI deployment in North America.

MWPIP: The Basics

- 5 Jurisdictions
- 128 cameras at the start
- Presently 174 cameras deployed
- About 43.5 square km in the study area.
- Northern array has been running since Sept. 2014
- Southern array launch in June 2017.



- Trap Nights: **110,000**
 - Images captured: **3 million** in motion triggered, 3-shot bursts
 - Images processed to date: **2.7 million (90%)**
 - Processed Images with wildlife: **500,000 (20%)**
 - Time spent processing images: **1.3 million minutes (2.5 years)**
-
- Volunteers: **993**
 - Volunteer cataloguing parties: **90**
 - Images processed by volunteers: **966,000**
 - Images processed by one dynamic duo of volunteers: **300,000**



Using a single protocol and uniform cameras in a standard grid:



Camera Installation



Trouble shooting Field Check



Log photos for 6 weeks



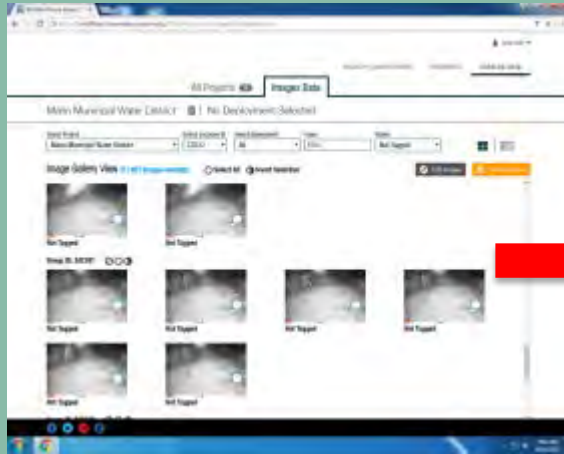
Did I say repeat?



Repeat quarterly



Field check: change photo card and batteries, resume logging

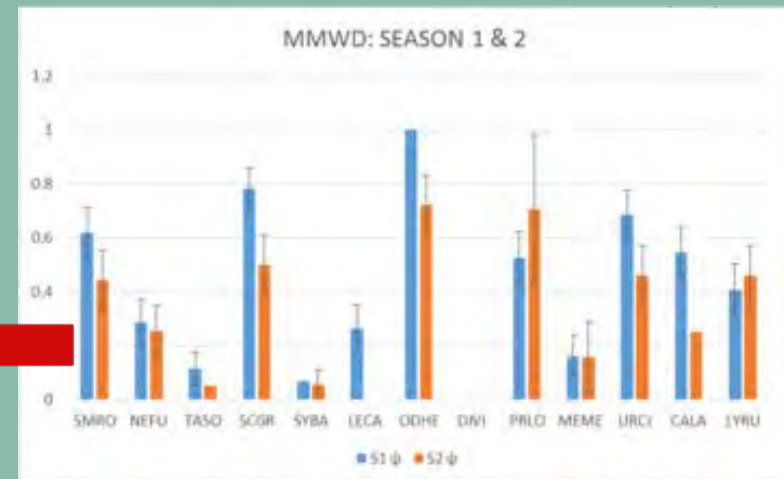
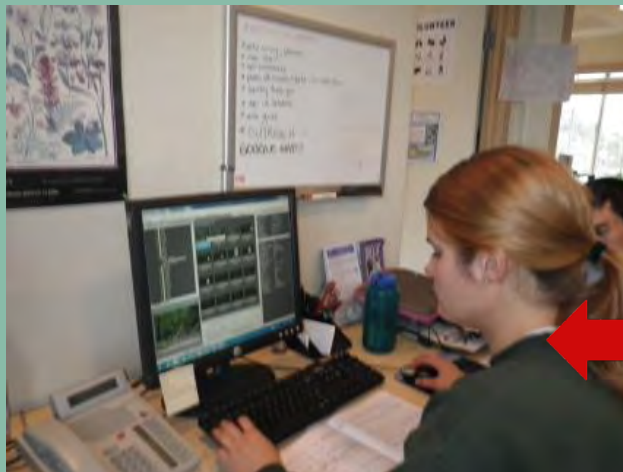


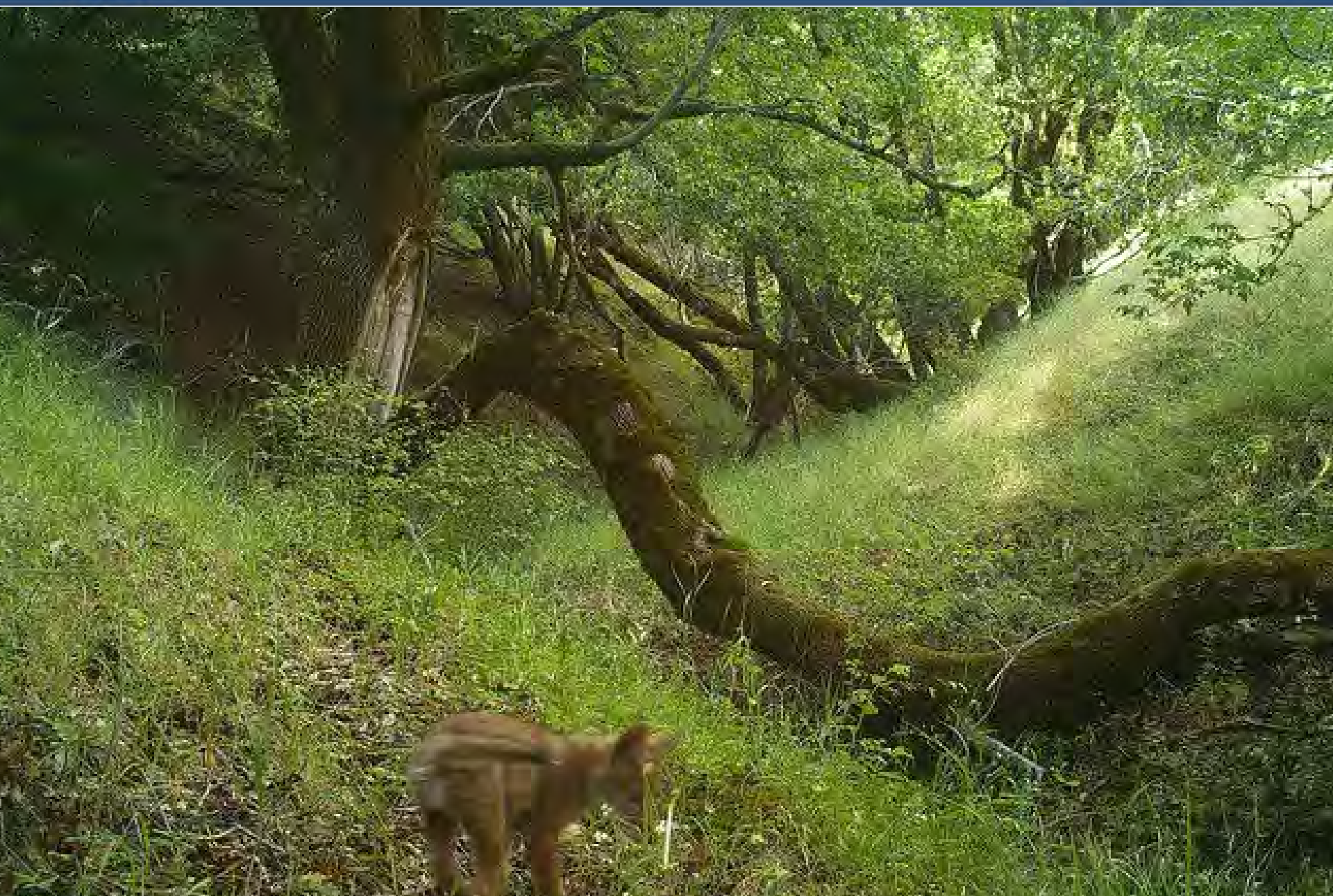
Train volunteers
and catalogue
images

Transfer files into Cloud-based,
OneTam/CI data management
system

Real time

Quality
control,
analysis,
interpretation















57°F 13°C

07-18-2015 08:34:13

SQUIRREL!!!

3 million
pictures?

400
volunteers?

We got this!

FUN!

Owl!

***I like a
challenge.***

***A little extra
training helps.***

***3 million
pictures?***

We got this.





Rock!

No.

Bird!

No.

Yes.

No.

Maybe.

MWPIP cameras finished logging 3 consecutive years of images from the northern array in September 2017.



Cataloging is still underway;
the MWPIP trend graph is still forthcoming.

Our original intent for today was a deep dive into what we have learned.

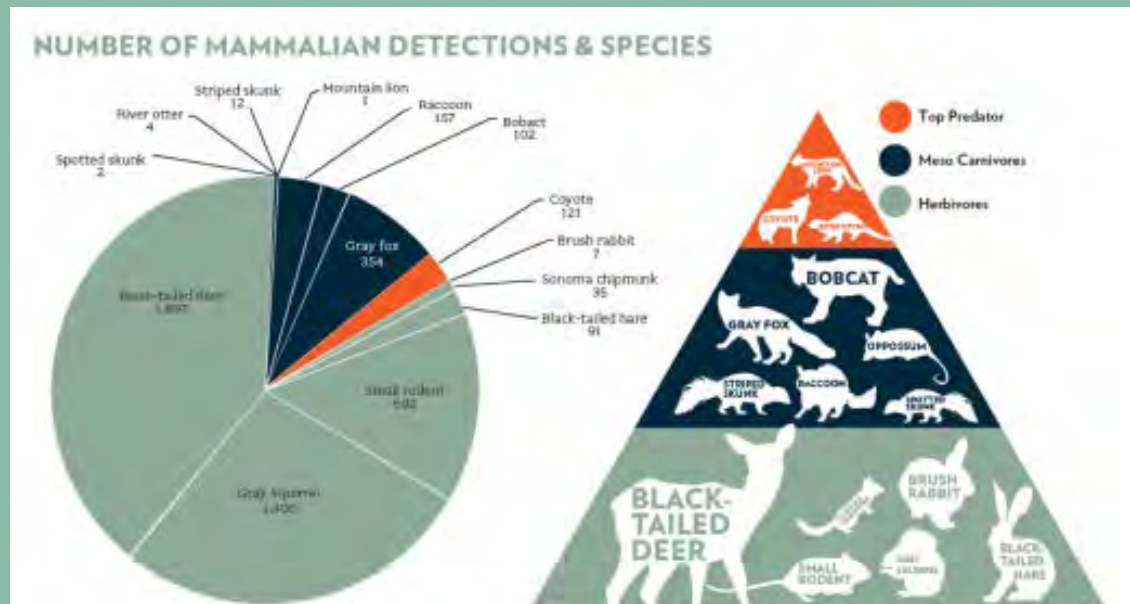


But we have not unpacked all the data yet. And we don't want to tell *Just So Stories*.

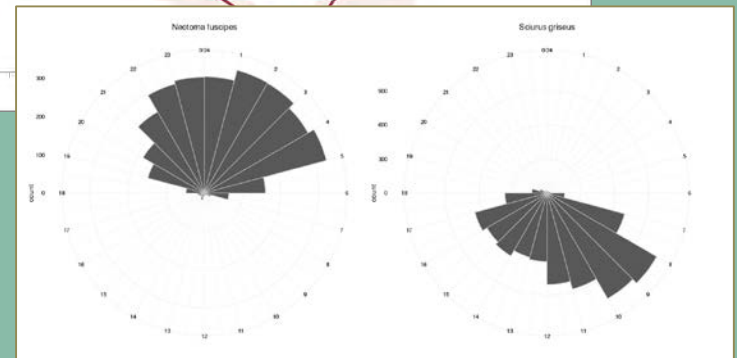
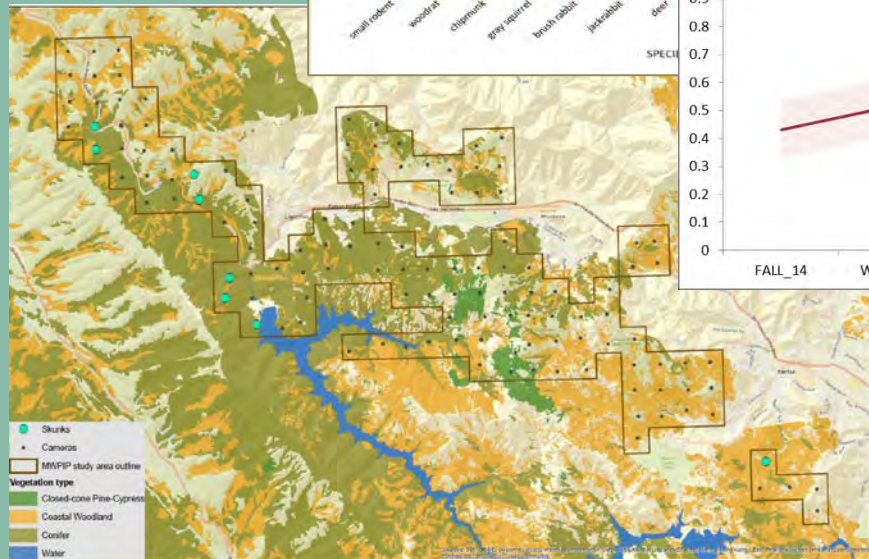
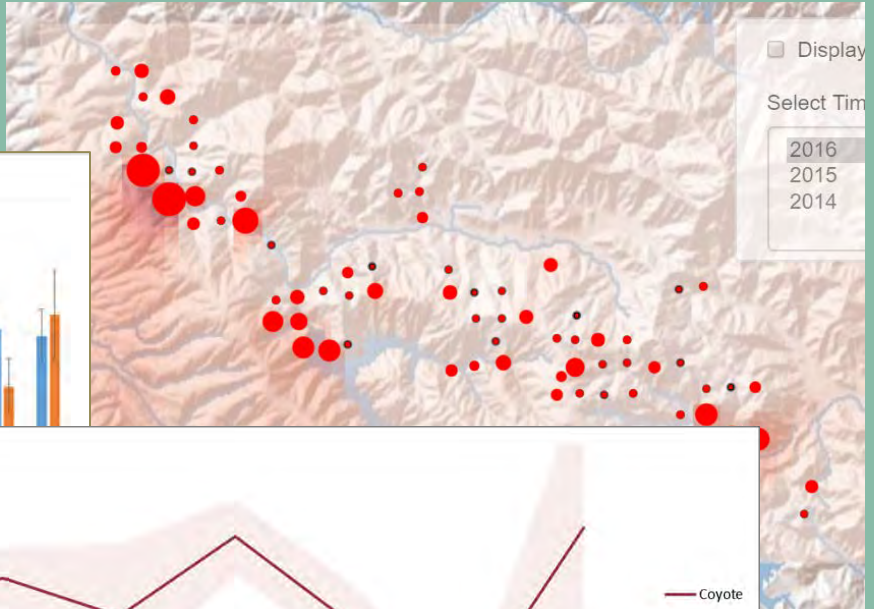
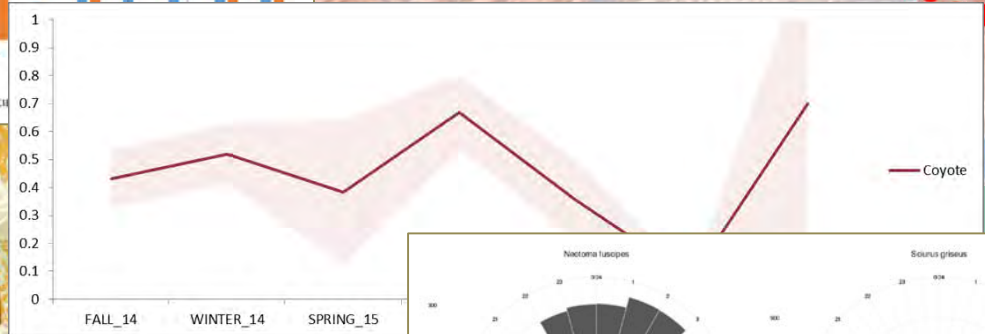
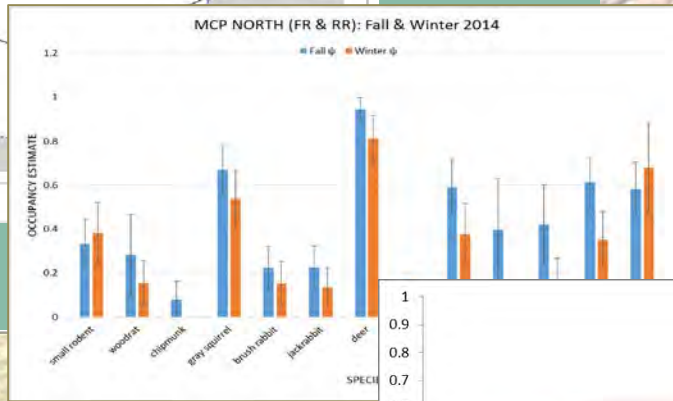
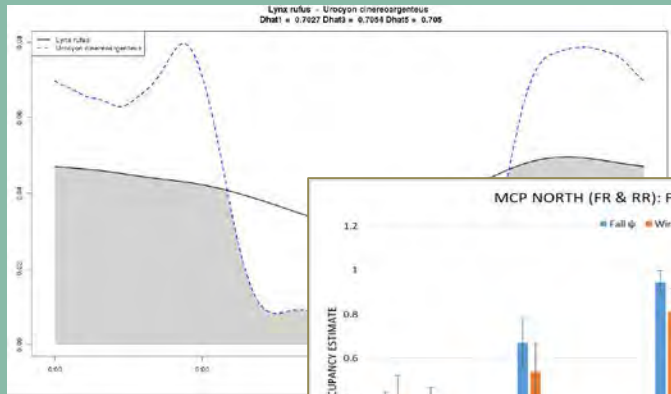
Today, we'll be sharing the questions asked at the outset, the tools we have developed for that deep data dive, and the most preliminary of results.

Questions at the outset:

- Species Richness
- Presence and distribution of rare species
- Trophic-level structure
- Overall ecosystem health



New Analytic Ability



MWPIP is inundating us with new information...



We need your help gathering it, cataloguing it,
analyzing it and interpreting it.



New Challenge:

What do we do with this flood of wildlife information available to us?

What implications does it have for us as land stewards, Marin residents, and park users?



Once upon a time there was a fox who picked up a woodrat for breakfast....



Please join us in posing and
answering questions in the
coming year

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Susan E. Townsend, Ph.D.

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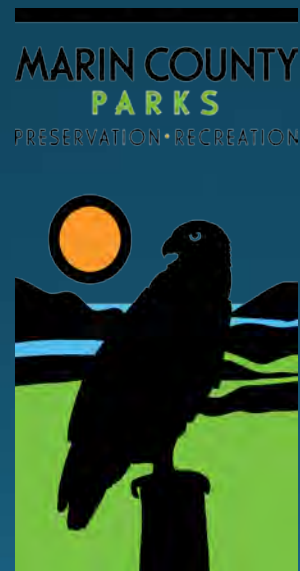
Wildlife Ecology & Consulting

Email: suetownsend@earthlink.net



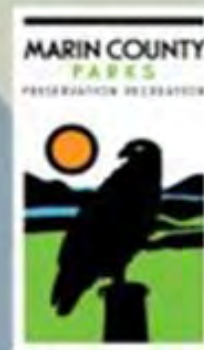
In collaboration with
Lizzy Edson, NPS and ONE TAM
Eric Fegraus, Conservation International

ONE TAM





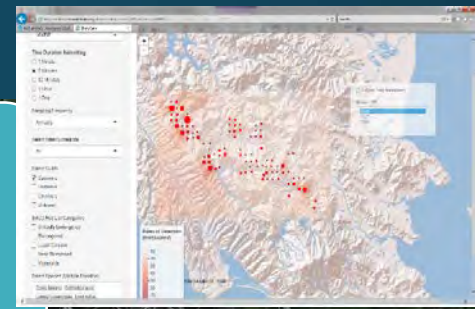
MARIN MUNICIPAL
WATER DISTRICT



The Wildlife Picture Index

- How do we assess the health of an ecosystem?
- How do we understand an ecosystem's resilience to external perturbations both anthropogenic (people caused) and natural (mother nature)?
- How do we assess if the wildlife populations within our ecosystems are stable, thriving or collapsing?





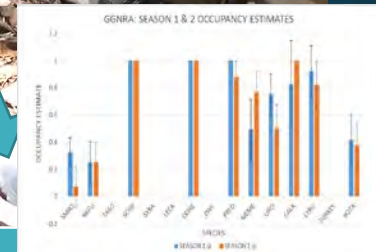
Resource
managers

WPI



General Public

Academic
researchers



Answers questions like...

- How did the drought affect wildlife populations?
- How will the wildfire affect regional wildlife abundance and health?
- How are restoration projects on the Mountain affecting wildlife populations?
- How does the Mountain and surrounding open space contribute the overall health of our wildlife populations in the Bay Region?
- How is that bobcat population doing?

Collateral Information

- Richness
- Community Structure
- **Trends and Abundance**
- Temporal Analysis
- Rare species detections
- Inventory

Why terrestrial mammals?

Reliably detect with camera traps (big! warm!)



Hard to detect otherwise (shy! nocturnal!)



Indicators of ecosystem productivity (plants, insects, prey...)

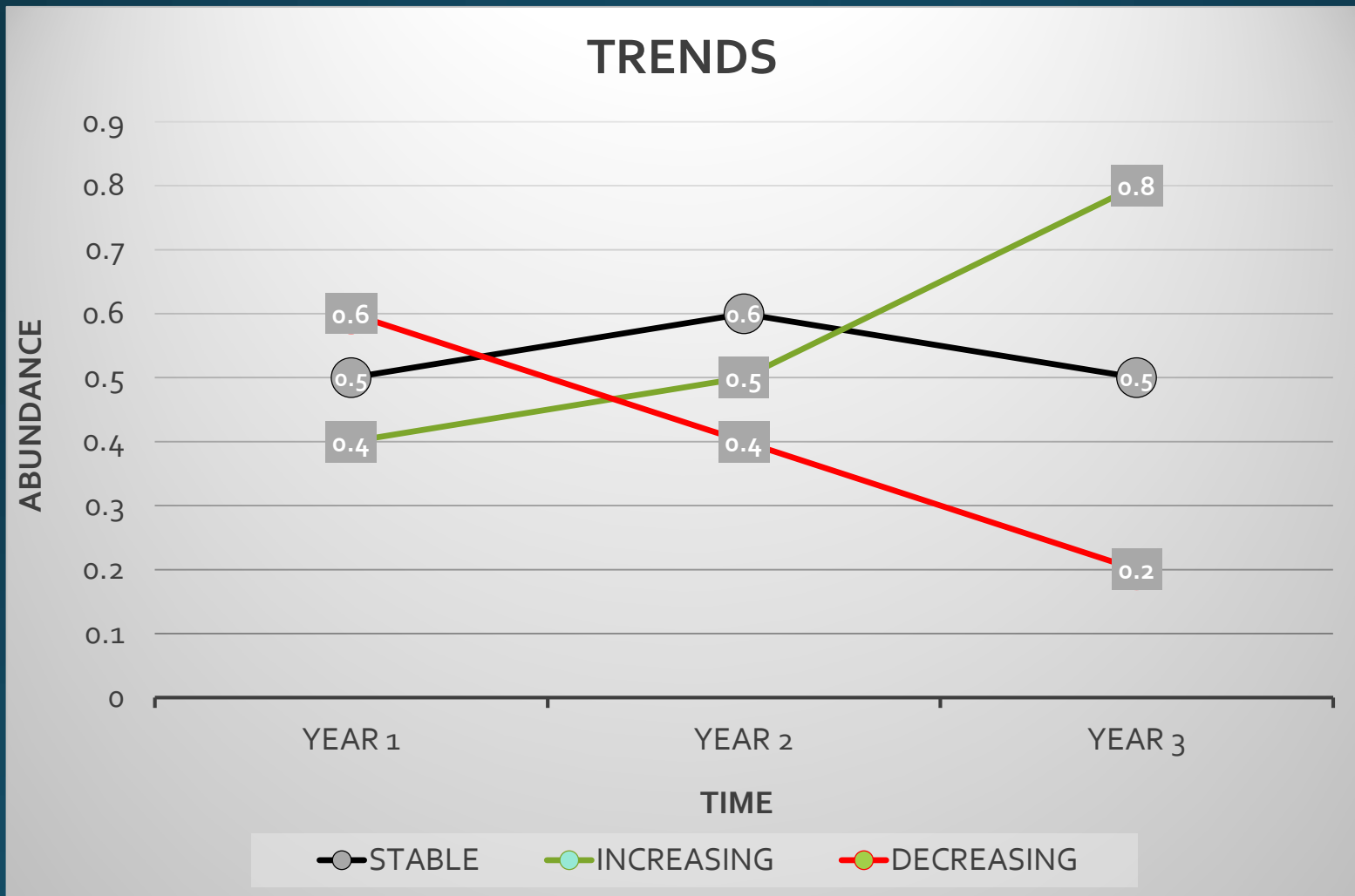


Birds and bats are great (Small! Quick!) but not as reliably detected by camera traps.



You can't monitor what you
don't measure

The WPI is a tool to measure trends in wildlife abundance



What if we didn't have
close to 200 years of standardized
weather data?

Would we really know what “normal weather” is?

What would our discussions around climate change be like?

Terms: What is a healthy ecosystem?

- All or most of the expected species (“richness”)
- Able to find food, mates, shelter
- Able to have and raise young into adulthood
- Able to disperse to other suitable habitat

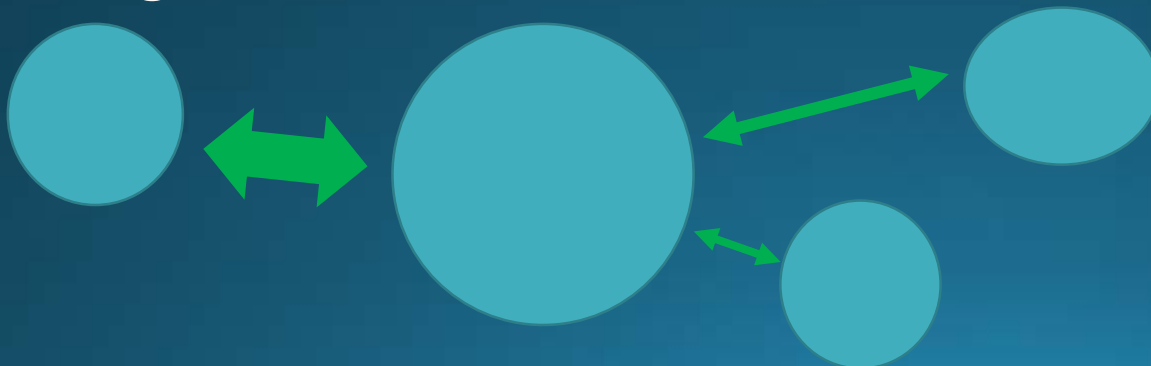


Terms: What is resilience?

The ability for wildlife to rebound from perturbations
(that is, disturbances both natural and human caused)

Both *health* and *connectivity* build resilience:

- Able to disperse to other suitable habitat
- Can serve as a source of wildlife populations for region



Seasonal Analysis



Year 'round data
collection: what does it
tell us?



Winter

Adequate food and shelter
(may range more widely or
hunker down)



Spring

Finding mates, mating
and giving birth
(smaller home ranges
and resources like
shelter and rich food)



Fall
Dispersal
Fattening up for
winter

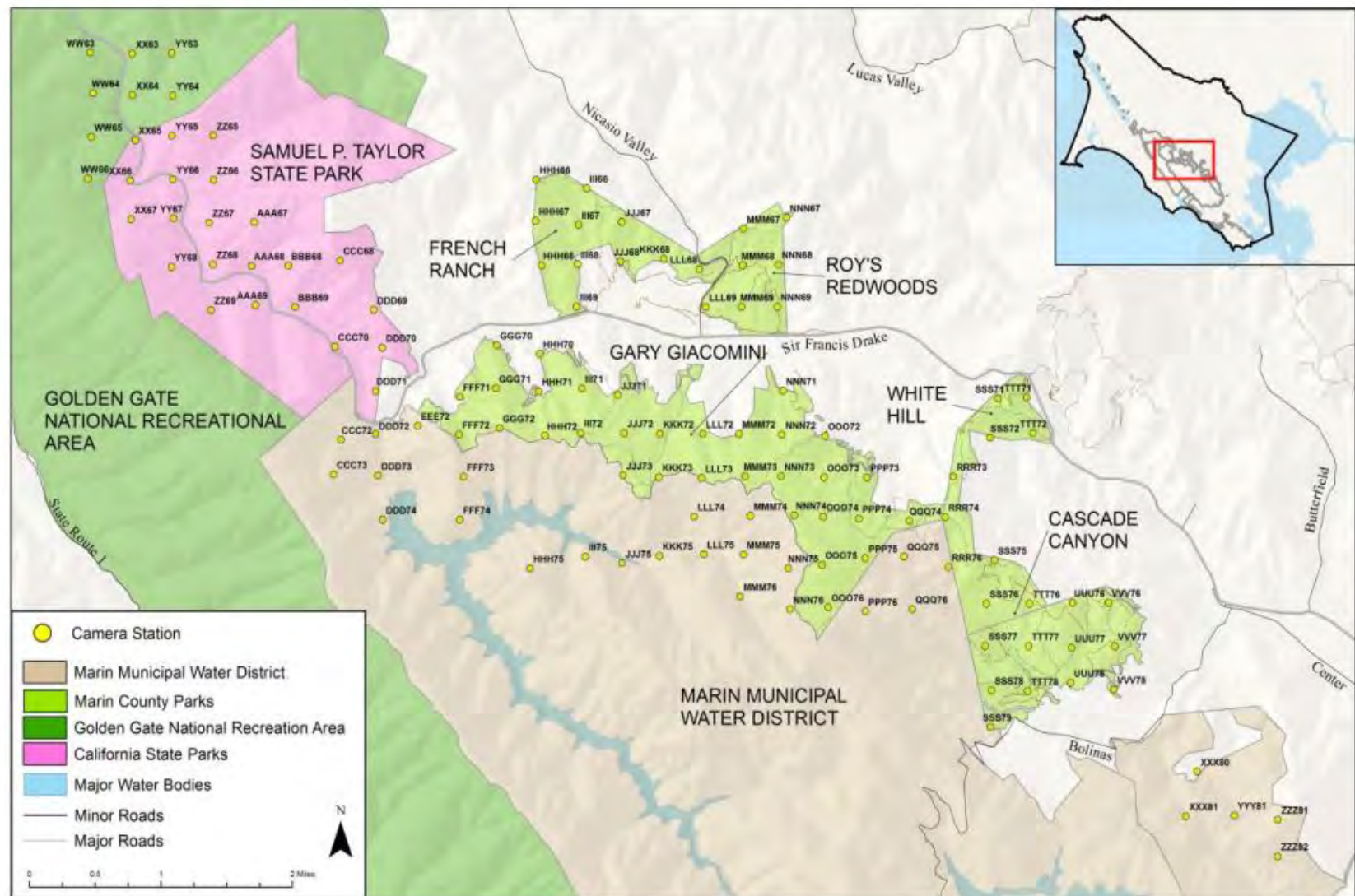
Summer
Young growing
(food and safety)



Comparing seasonal abundance

Multiple species

Study Area: Multiple Jurisdictions

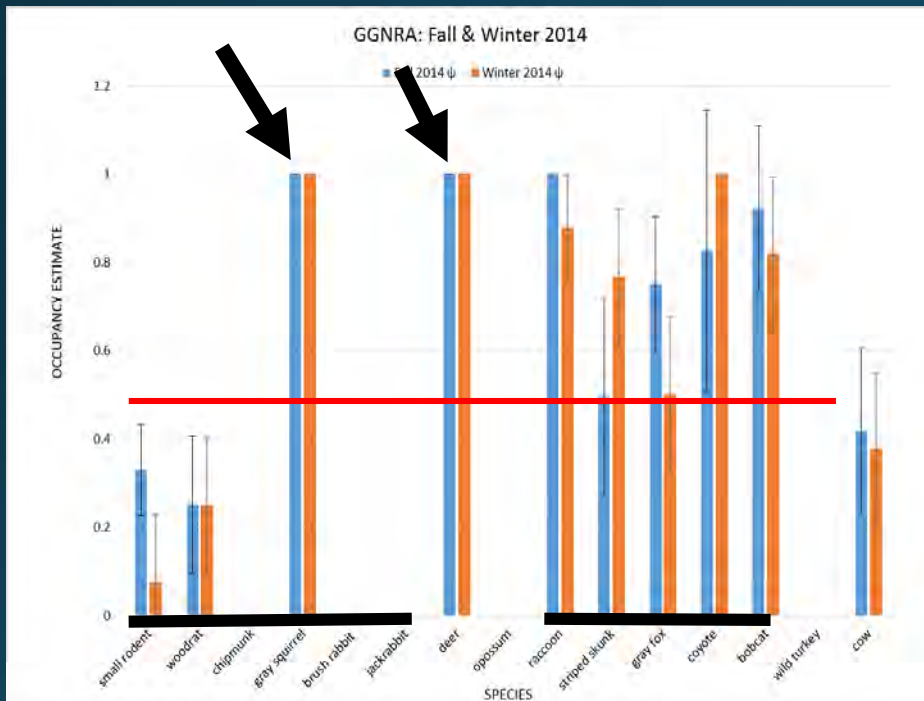


Occupancy: A useful surrogate for abundance

- Relatively **NEW** metric (even for scientists!)
- **RELIABLE** in detecting trends and comparing sites with **LESS EFFORT**
- **SITE WIDE ABUNDANCE METRIC which does not rely on detection rates but rather detection (1's) and non-detections (0's) within a 24-hr period.**
- Probability of detection corrects for “undetected presences” and does not require individual recognition or marking of animals

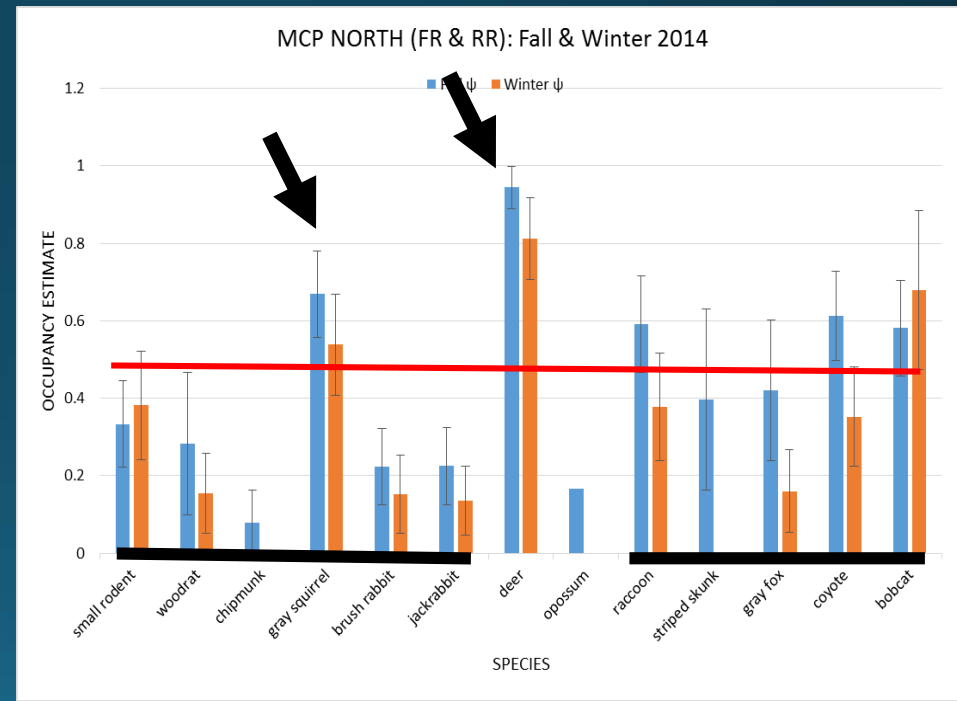
DIVERSITY AND ABUNDANCE: SITE TO SITE SEASONAL COMPARISON

Golden Gate National Recreation Area and Marin County Parks



Small mammals

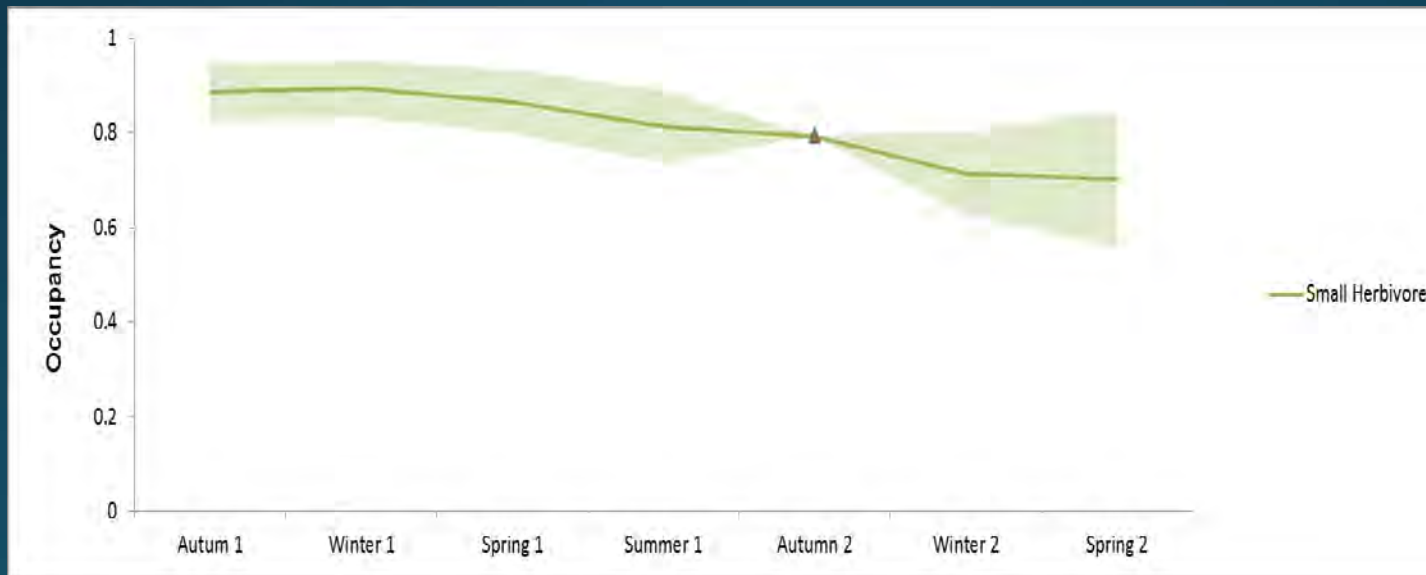
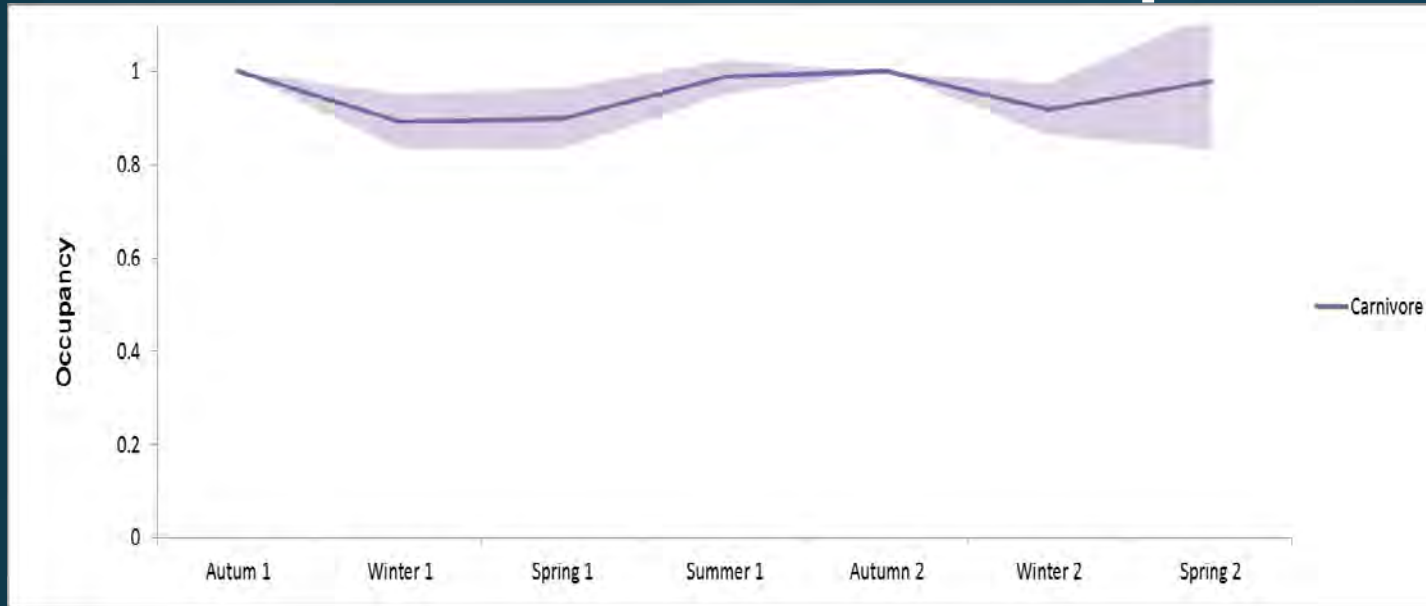
Carnivores



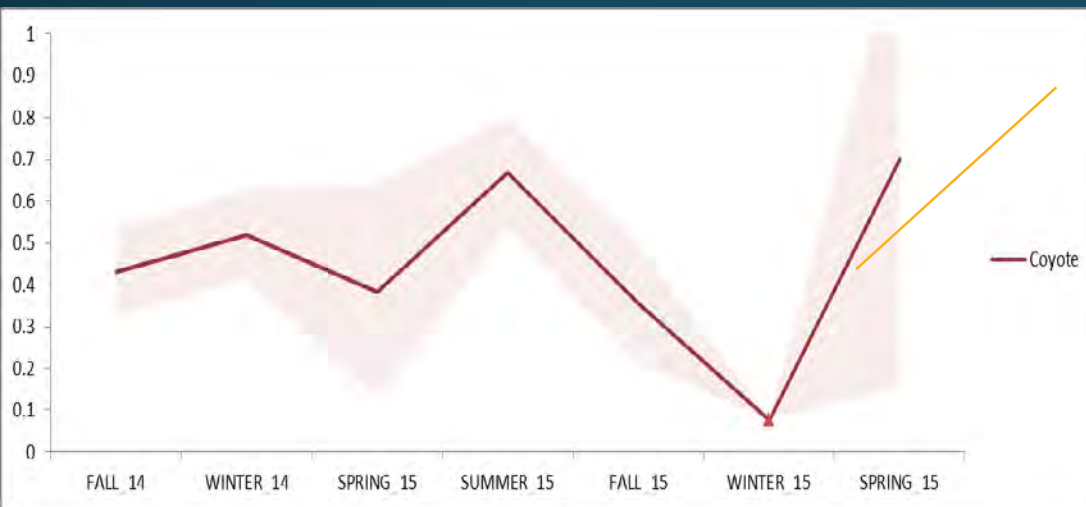
Small mammals

Carnivores

Seasonal abundance: Trophic level



Field Site:
MCP
Source: Lizzy
Edson,
NPS/OT

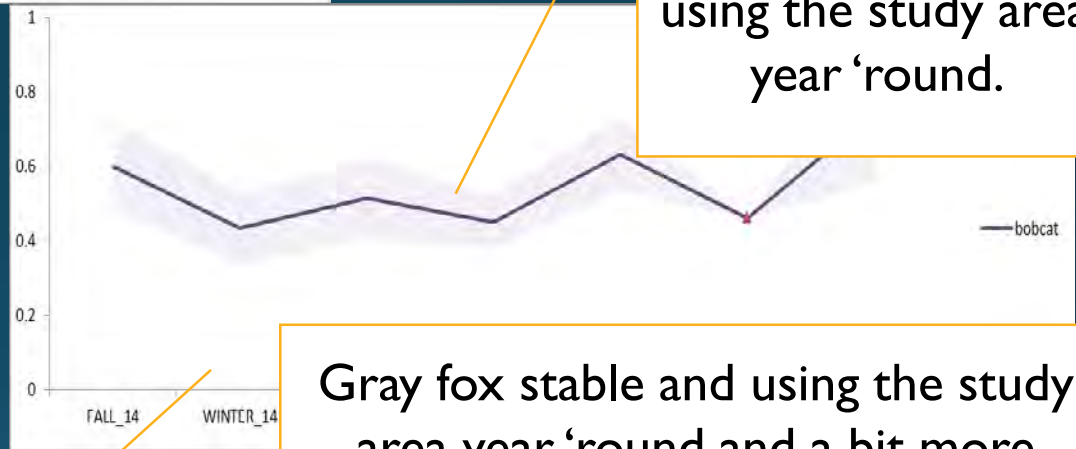


Coyote showing seasonal variation.

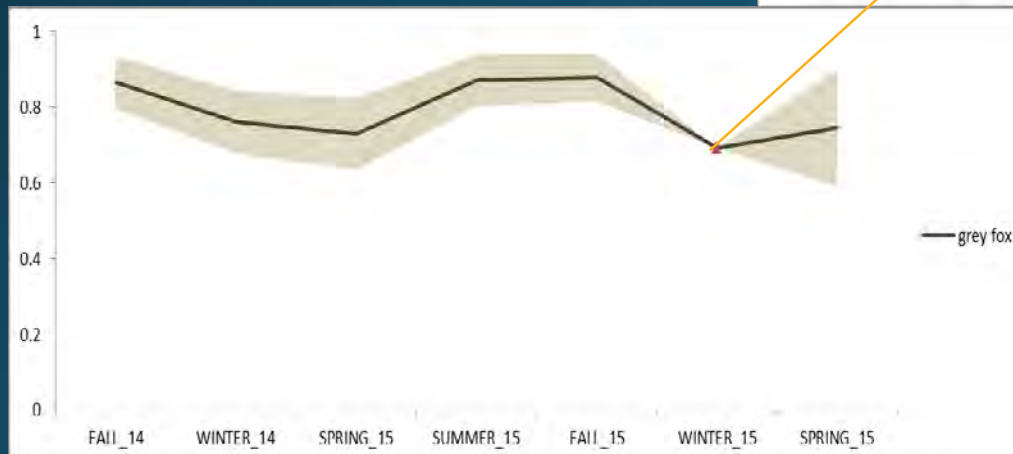
COYOTE

Bobcat stable and using the study area year 'round.

BOBCAT



Gray fox stable and using the study area year 'round and a bit more abundant than bobcat



GREY FOX

Field Site:
MCP
Source:
Lizzy Edson,
NPS/OT

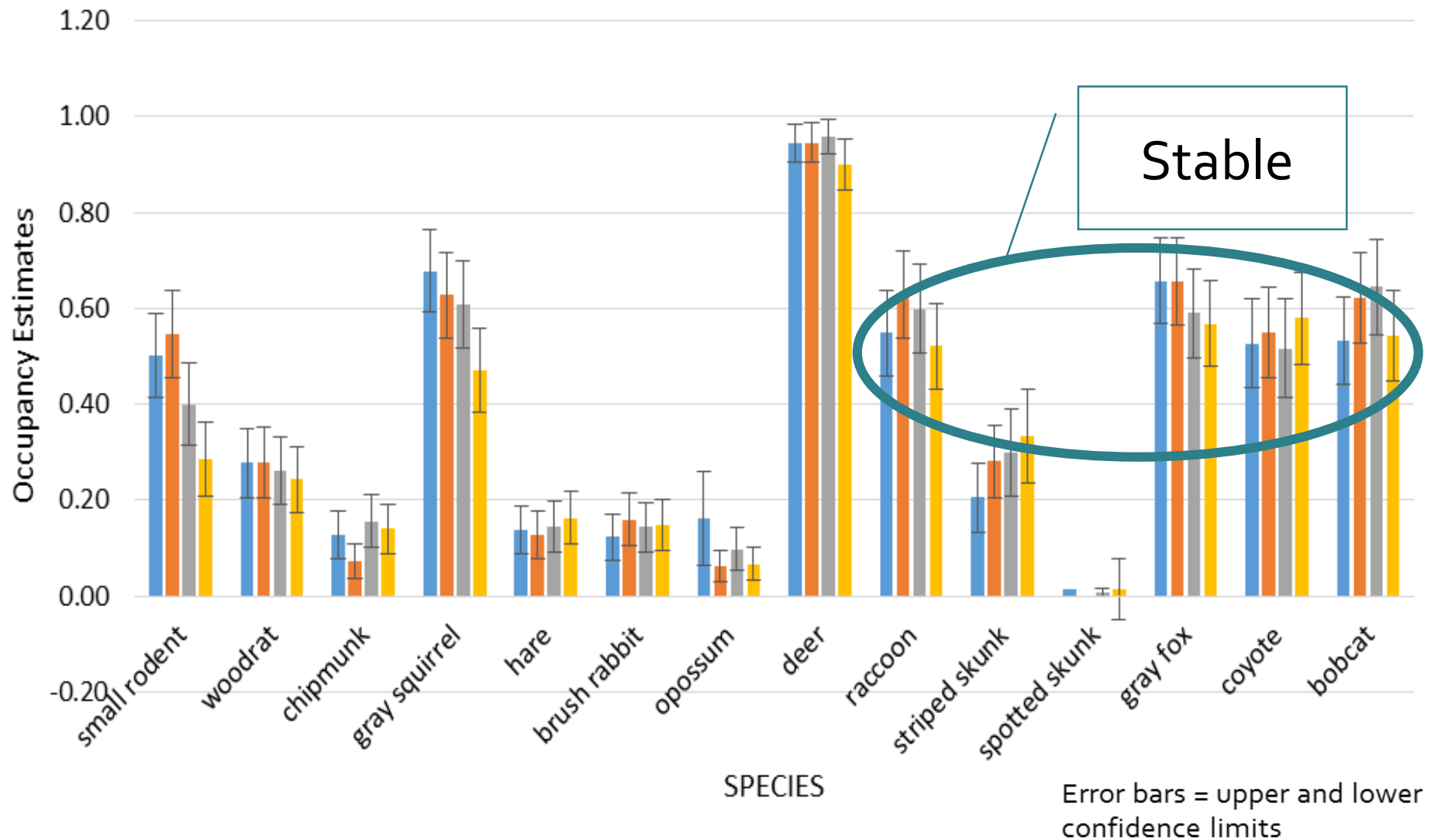
Seasonal Analysis for All Sites

Year 1	Fall 2014	Winter 2014	Spring 2015	Summer 2015
Year 2	Fall 2015	Winter 2015	Spring 2016	Summer 2016
Year 3	Fall 2016	<i>Winter 2016</i>	<i>Spring 2017</i>	<i>Summer 2017</i>

Year											
Season 1			Season 2			Season 3			Season 4		
Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug

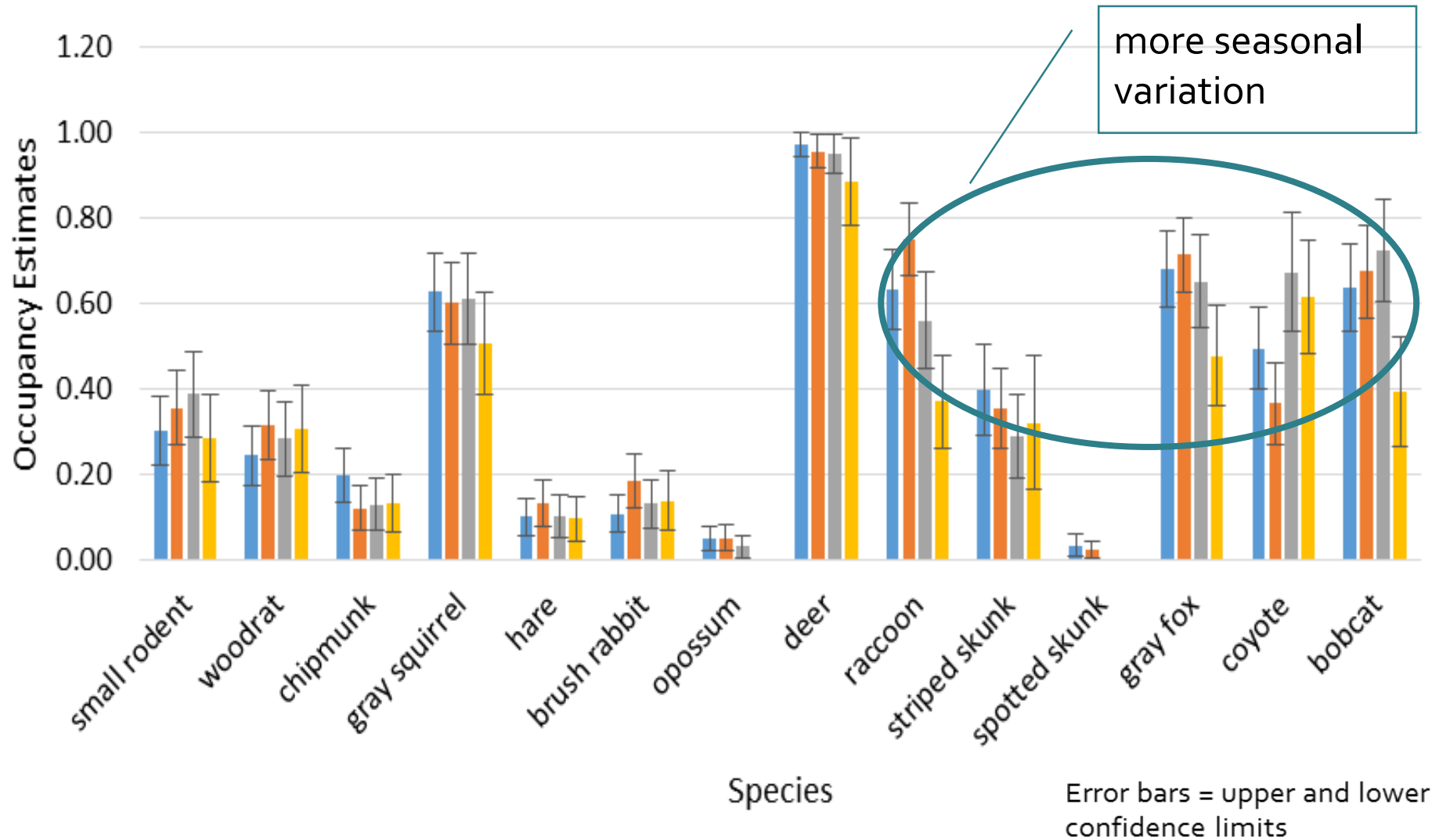
All Sites: Year 1

Fall 2014 Winter 2014 Spring 2015 Summer 2015

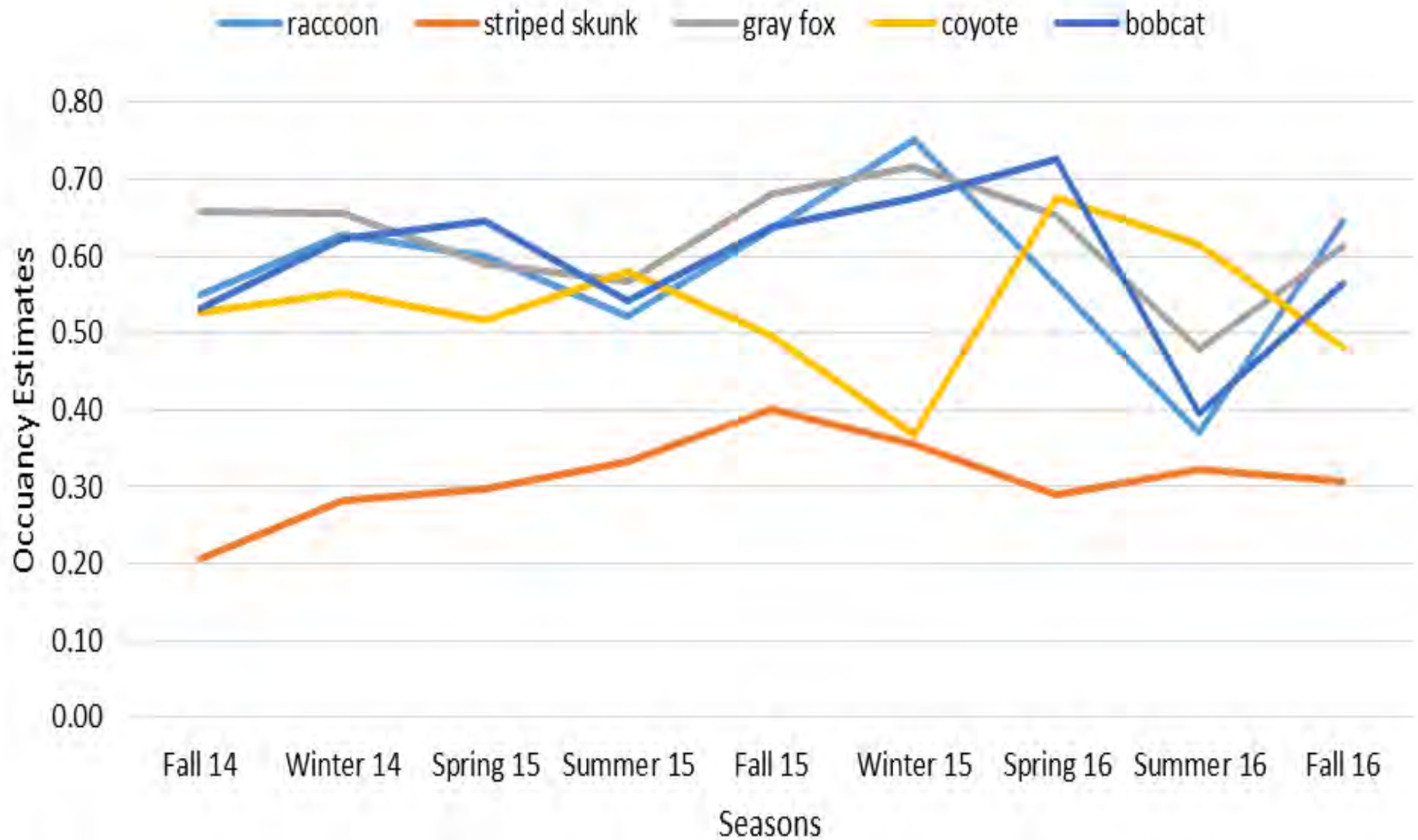


All Sites: Year 2

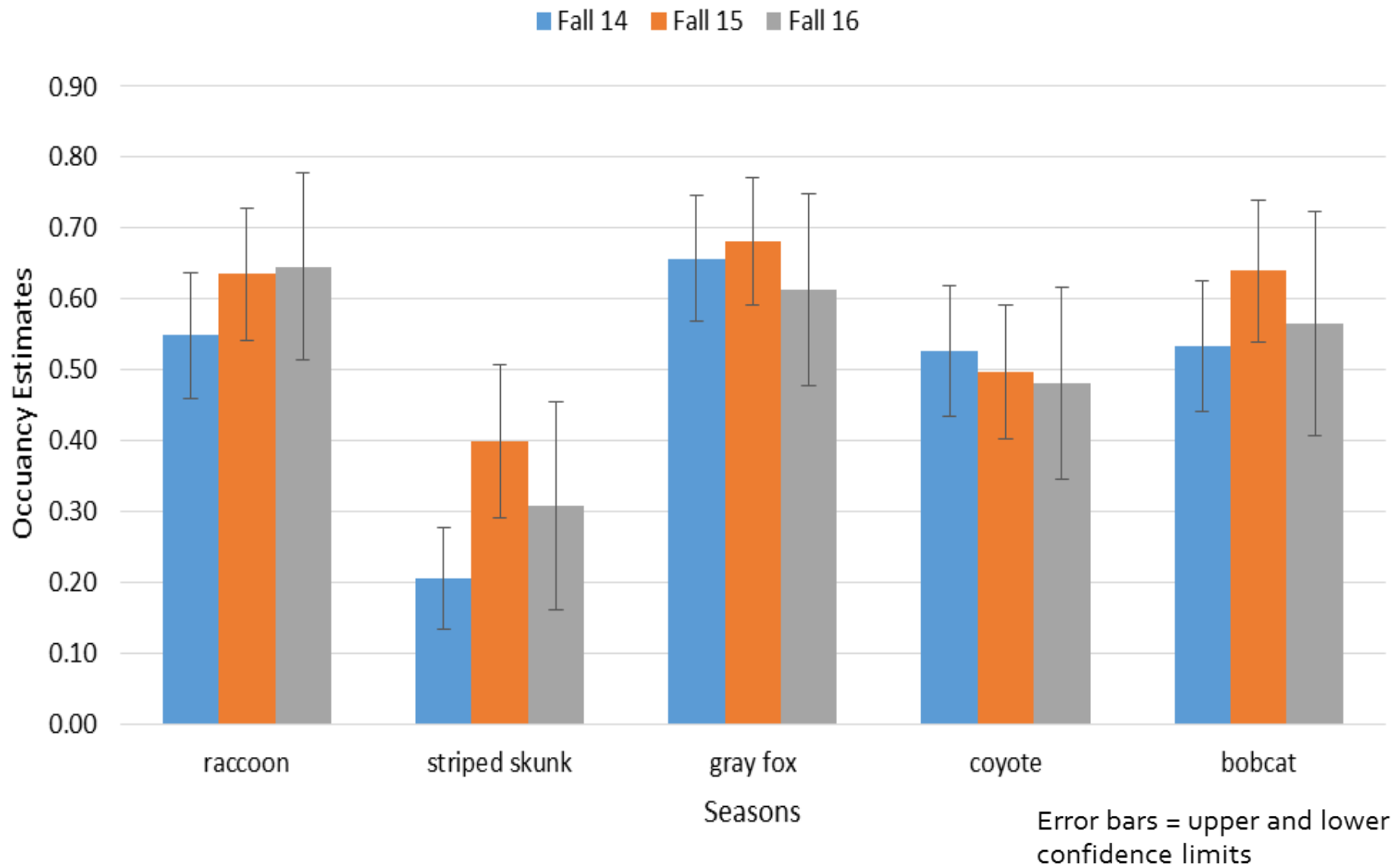
Fall 2015 Winter 2015 Spring 2016 Summer 2016



Carnivores: Time Series

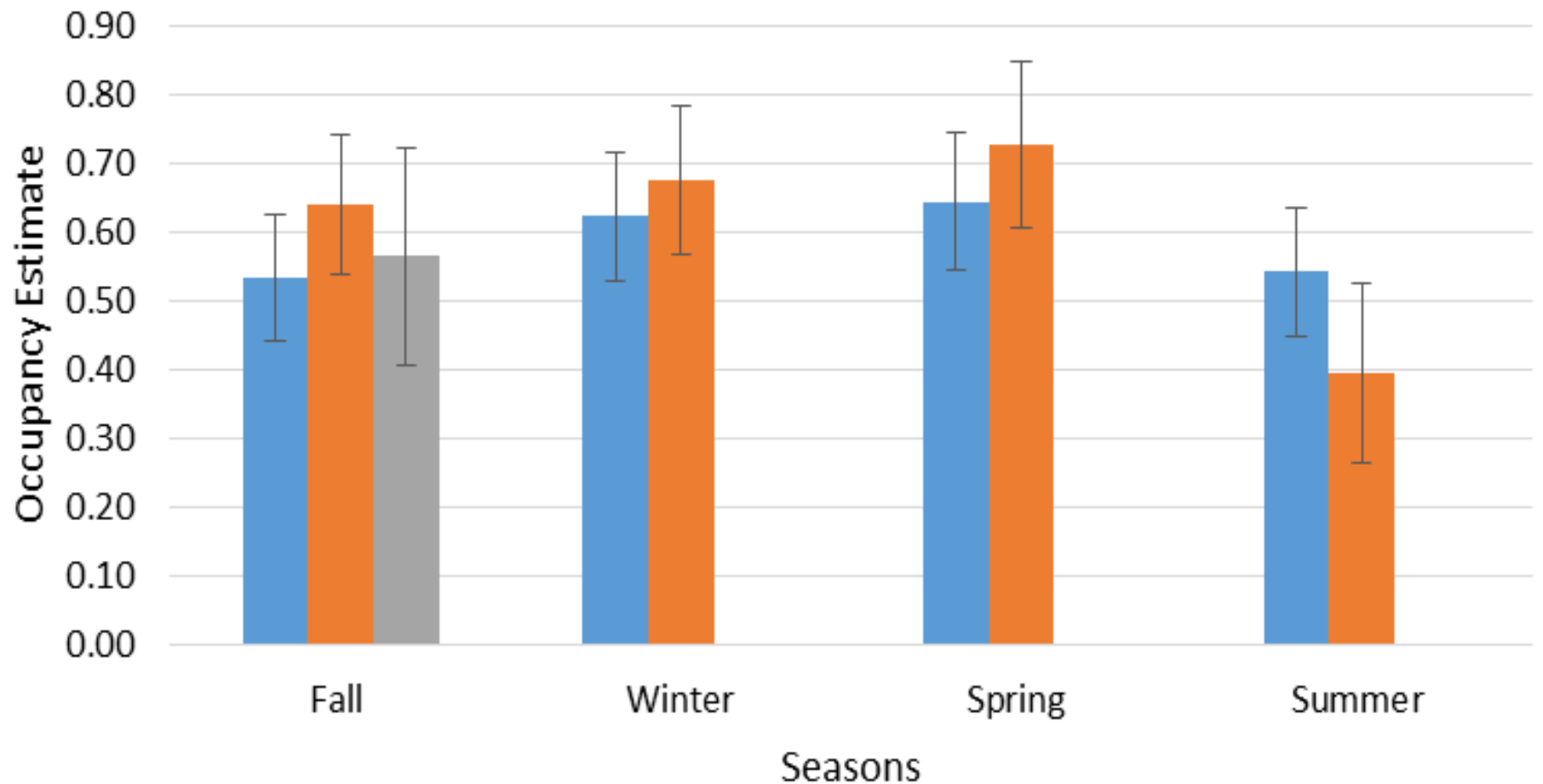


Carnivores: Fall 2014 - 2016



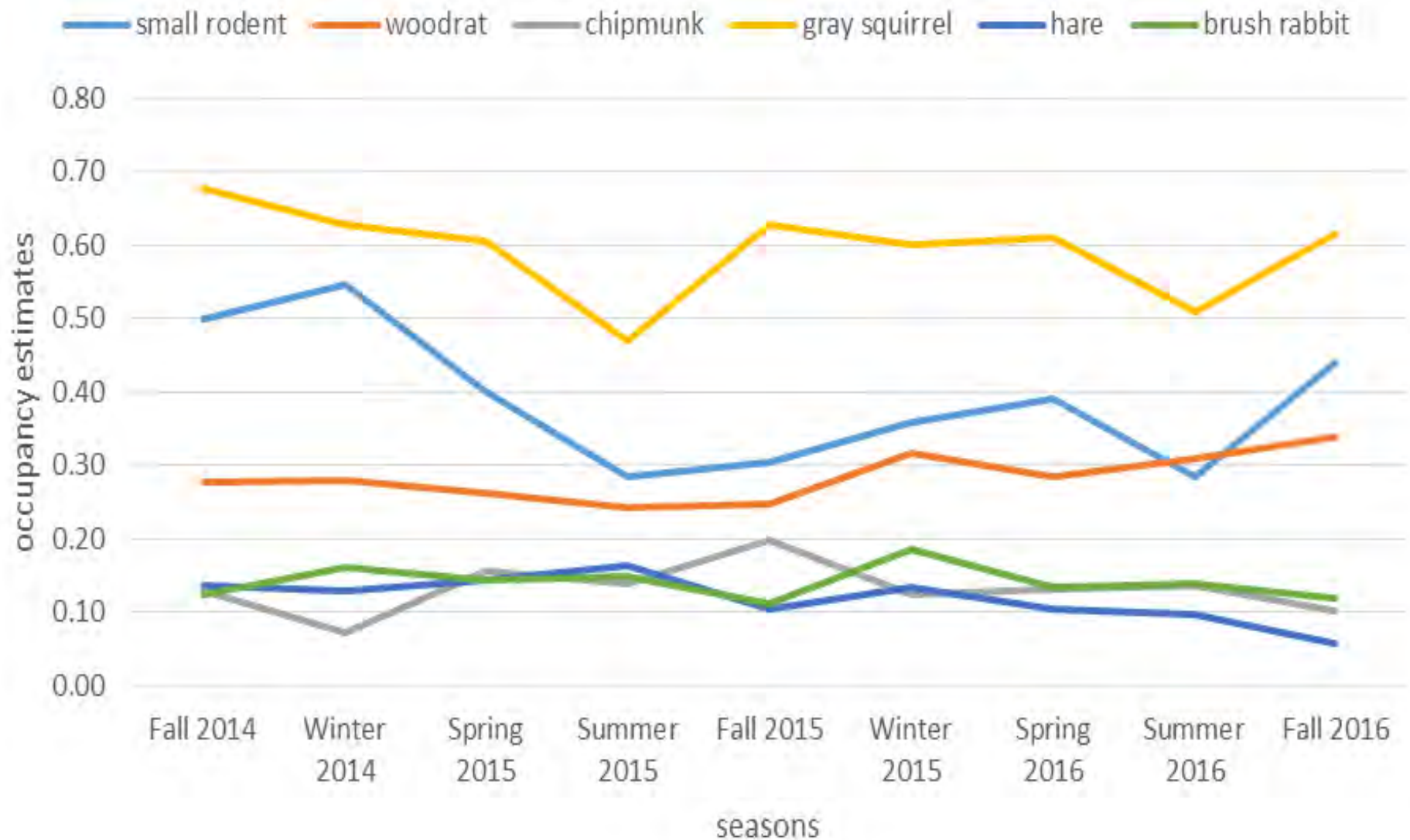
Bobcat: Seasonal Occupancy 2014 - 2016

■ year 1 ■ year 2 ■ year 3

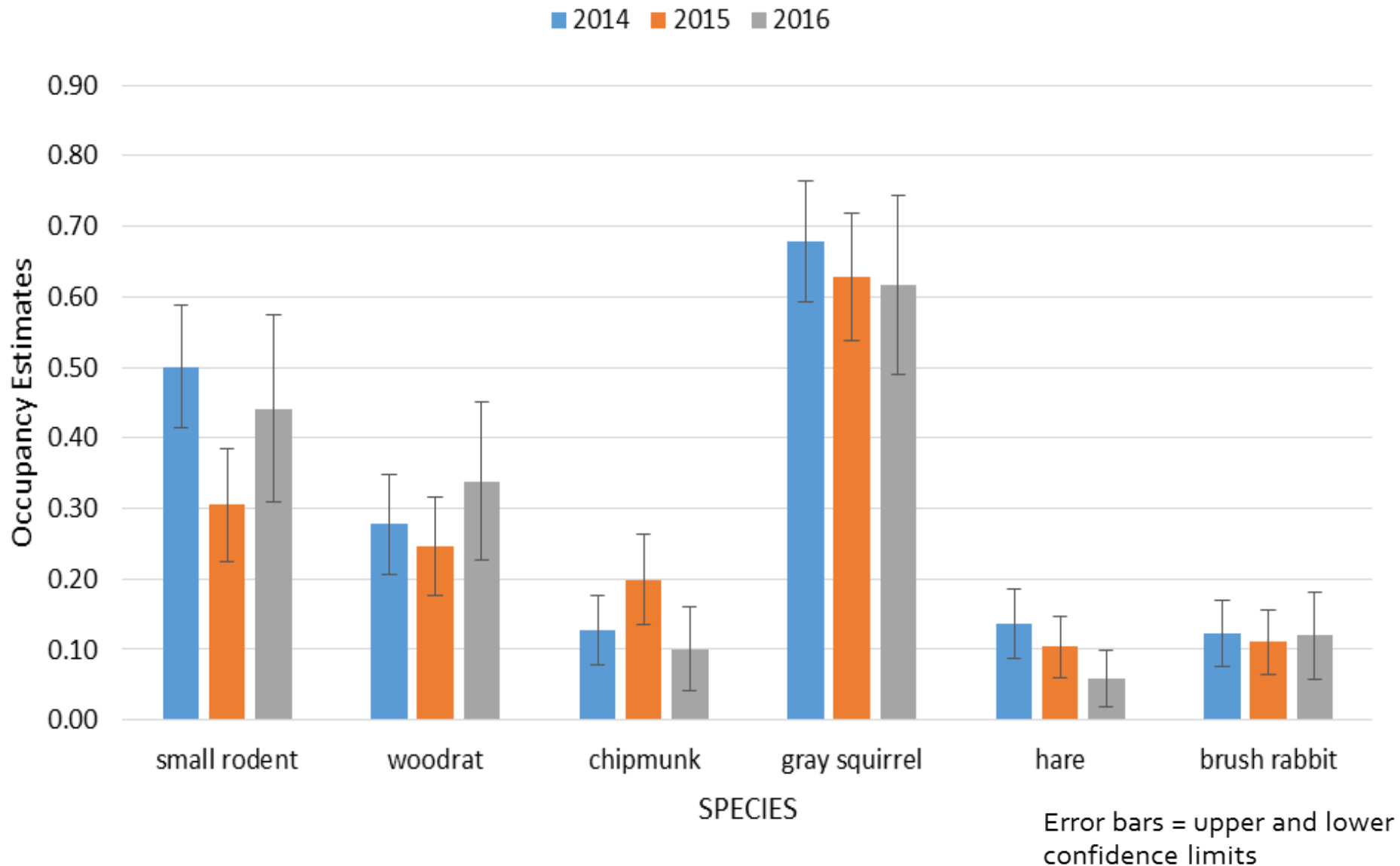


Error bars = upper and lower confidence limits

Small Mammals: Time Series



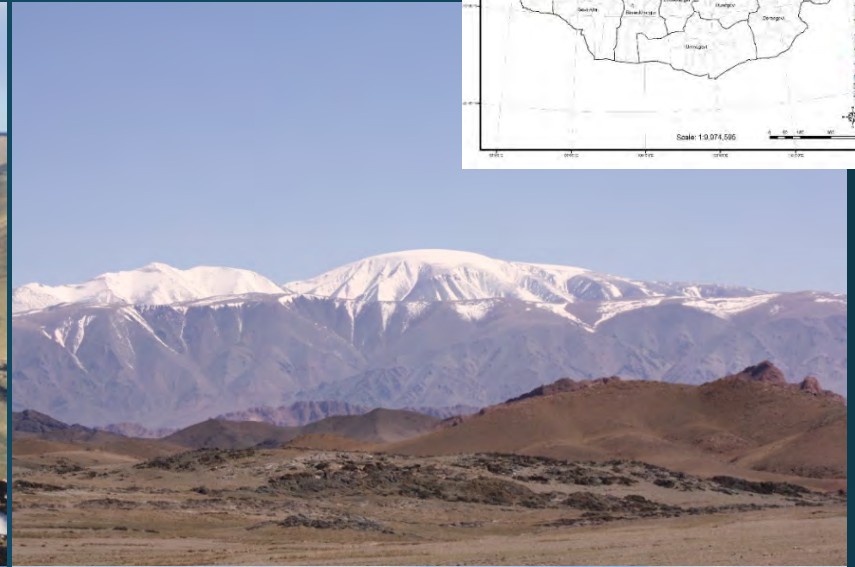
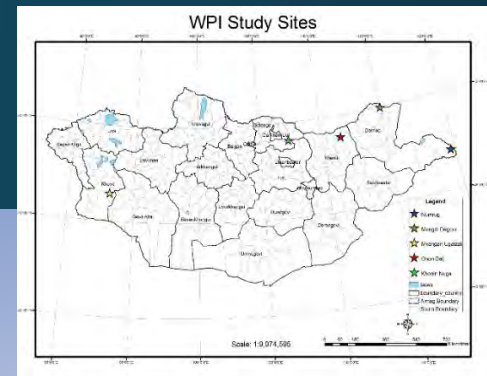
Small Mammals: Fall 2014-2016



Trends in biodiversity

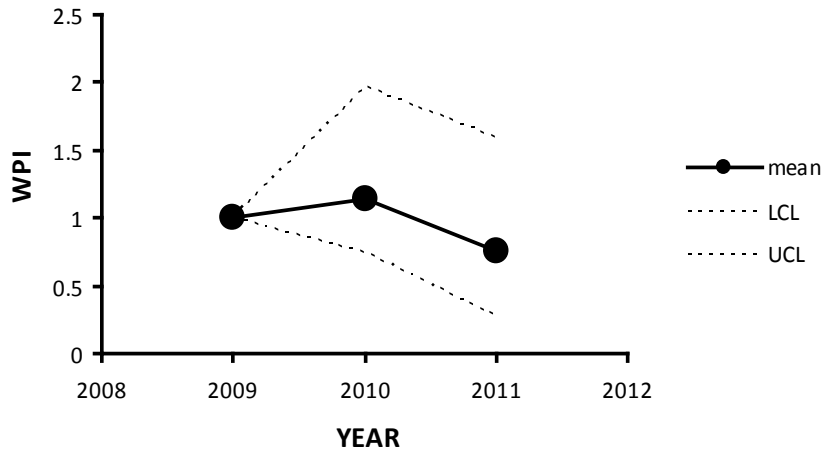
The WPI

Mongolia: Myangan Ugalzat Protected Area



The WPI for Myangan Ugalzat, Altai Sayan, Mongolia

Grid 1

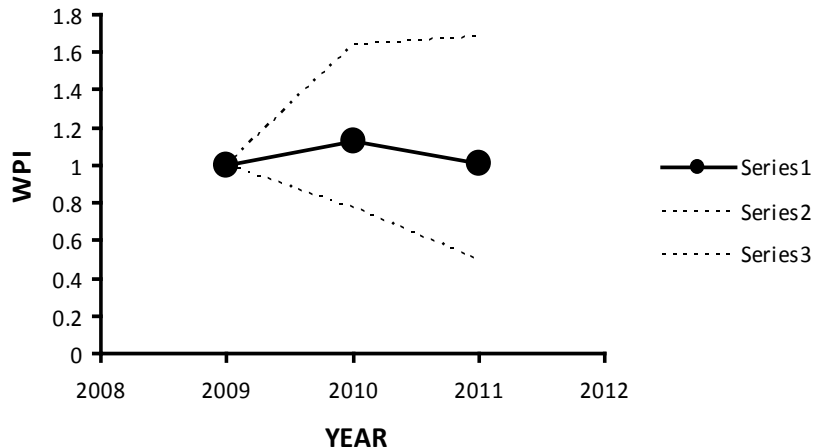


GRID 1: Less Protected

From 2009 to 2010, the WPI rose 14.5%

In 2011, the WPI had declined by 38%

Grid 2



GRID 2: More Protected

Between 2009 and 2010, the WPI rose 12.6%

Between 2010 and 2011, the WPI declined to 2009 levels

Conclusions: Preliminary insights

- From Fall 2014 to Fall 2016, a preliminary assessment shows no marked declines in the species for which we have reliable estimates.
- Abundance within small mammals and carnivores seems balanced.
- Diversity is well represented overall for small mammals and carnivores.

Carnivores, large ungulate, and small mammals appear to have some differences in seasonal abundance and diversity between study areas within the overall study area.

Coming soon...

- Four seasons of the WPI for the MWPIP
- Results from the wet winter and end of the drought
- More seasonal analyses...
- Any predictions?





Thank you for
your attention!

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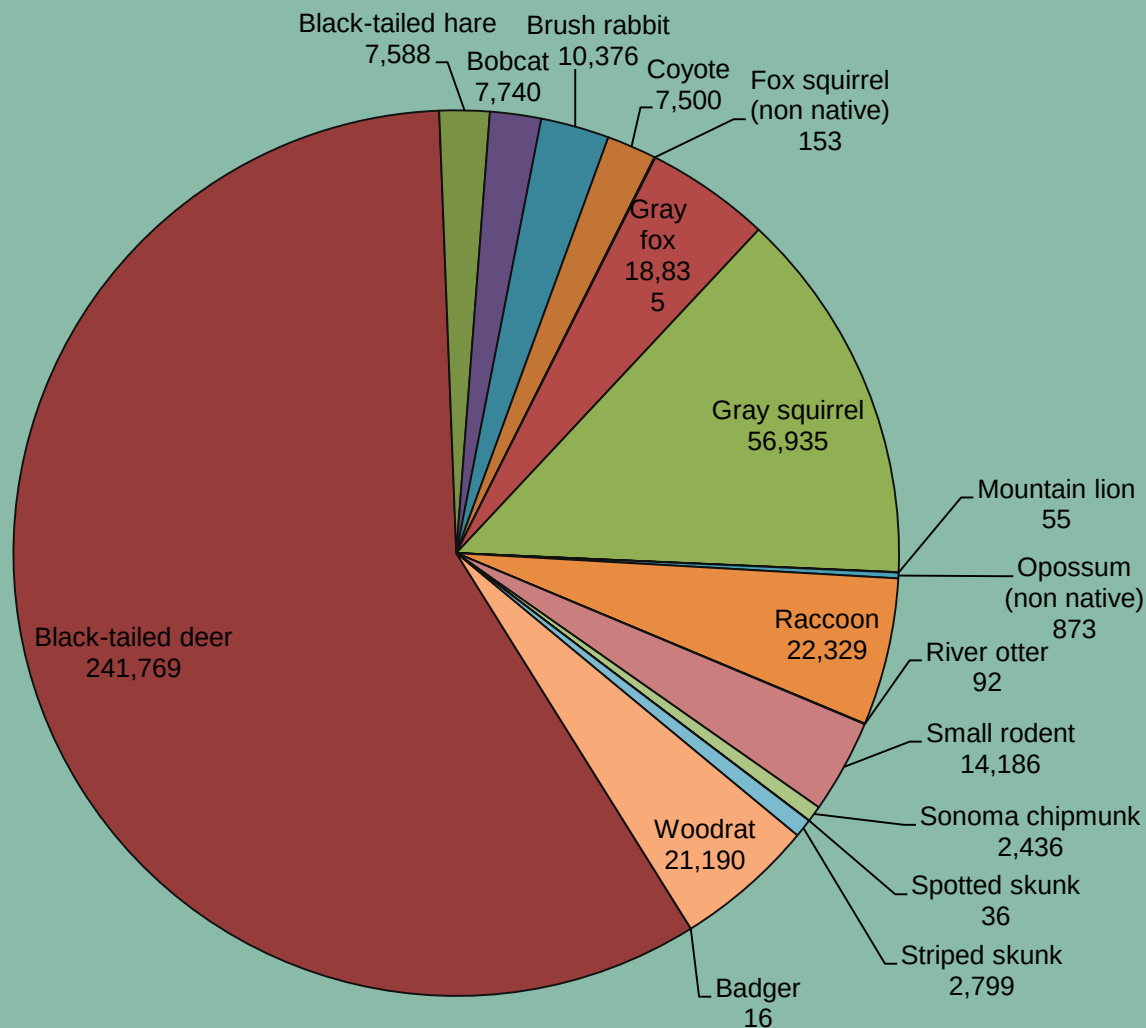
Marin Wildlife Picture Index Project: A Resource Manager's Perspective

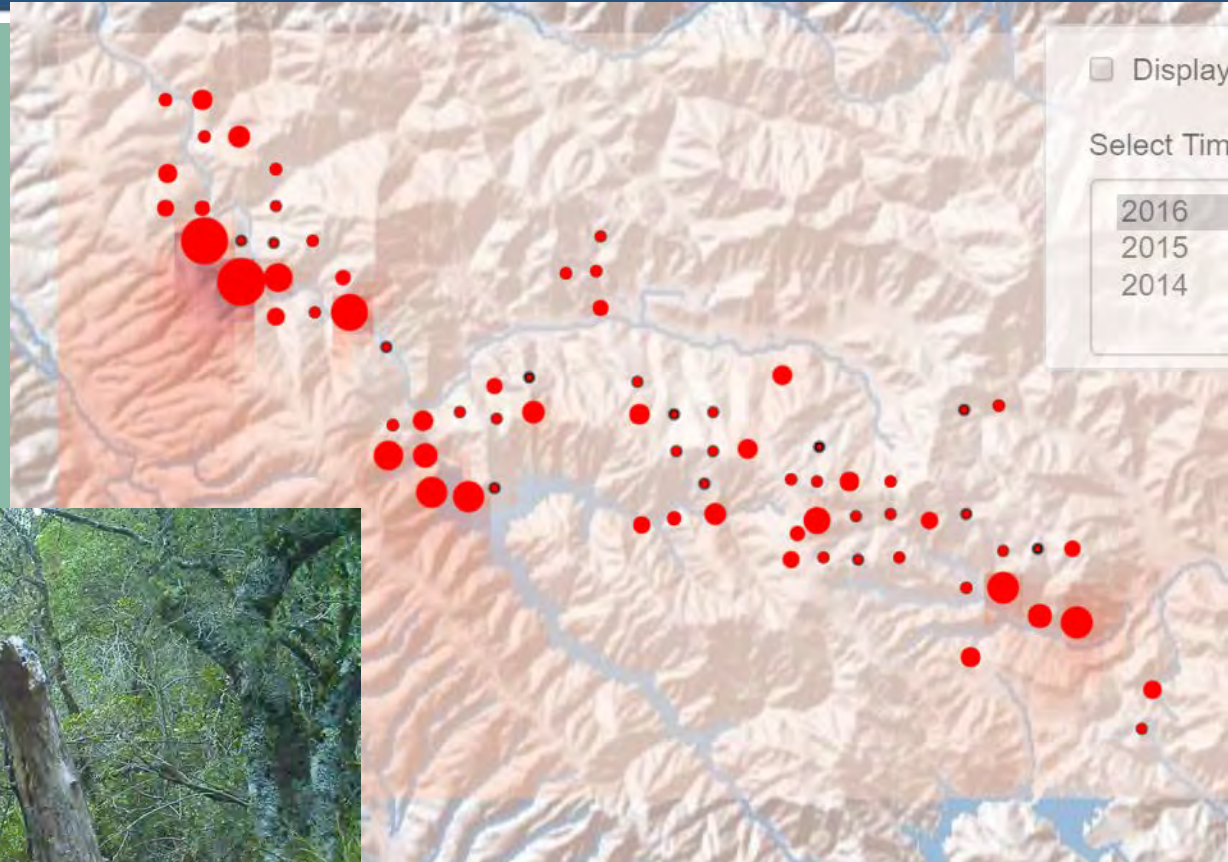


Bill Merkle
Wildlife Ecologist
Golden Gate National Recreation Area



- Native Biodiversity
- Rare Species
- Planning/Compliance
- Restoration or further research

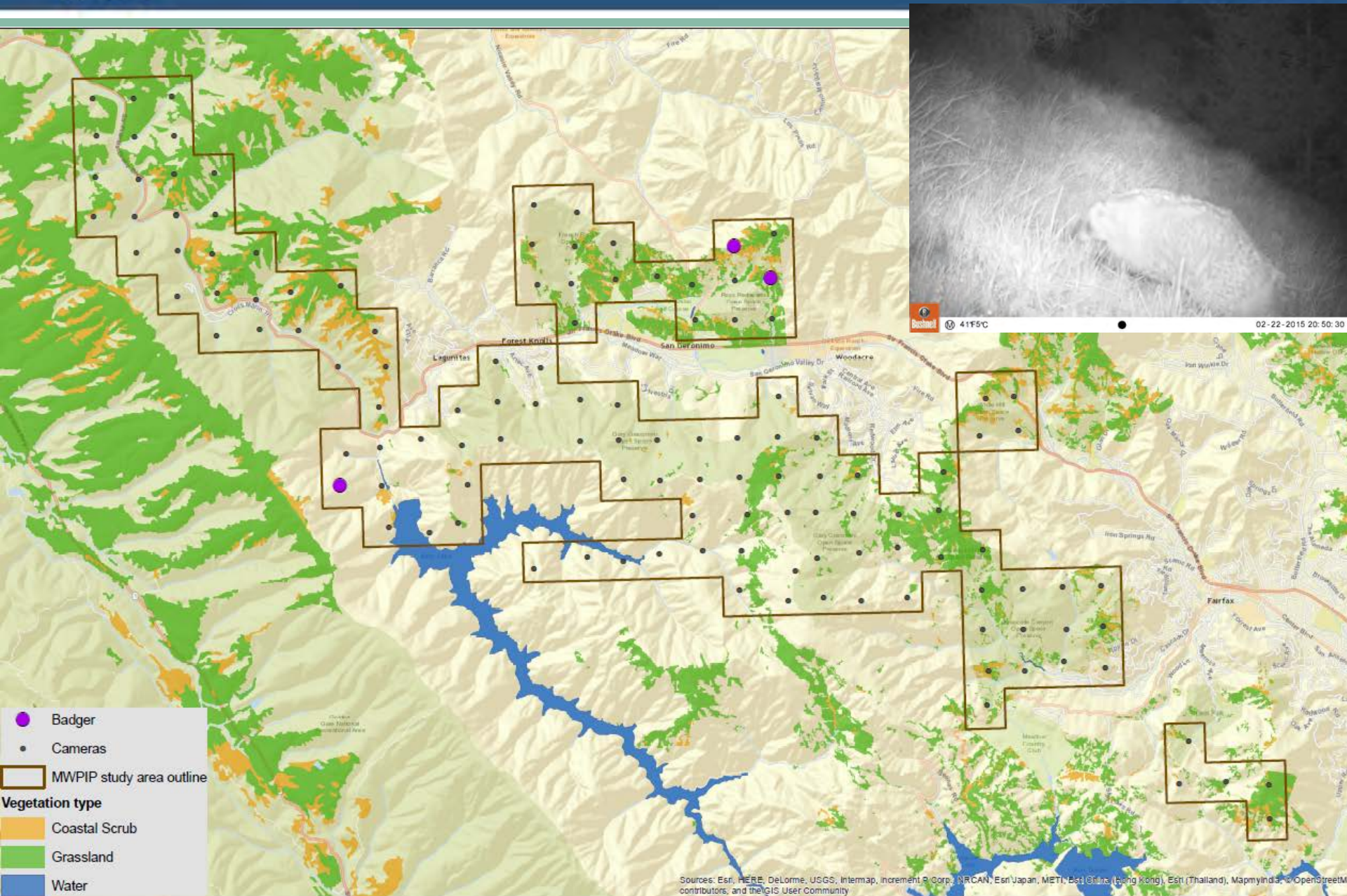


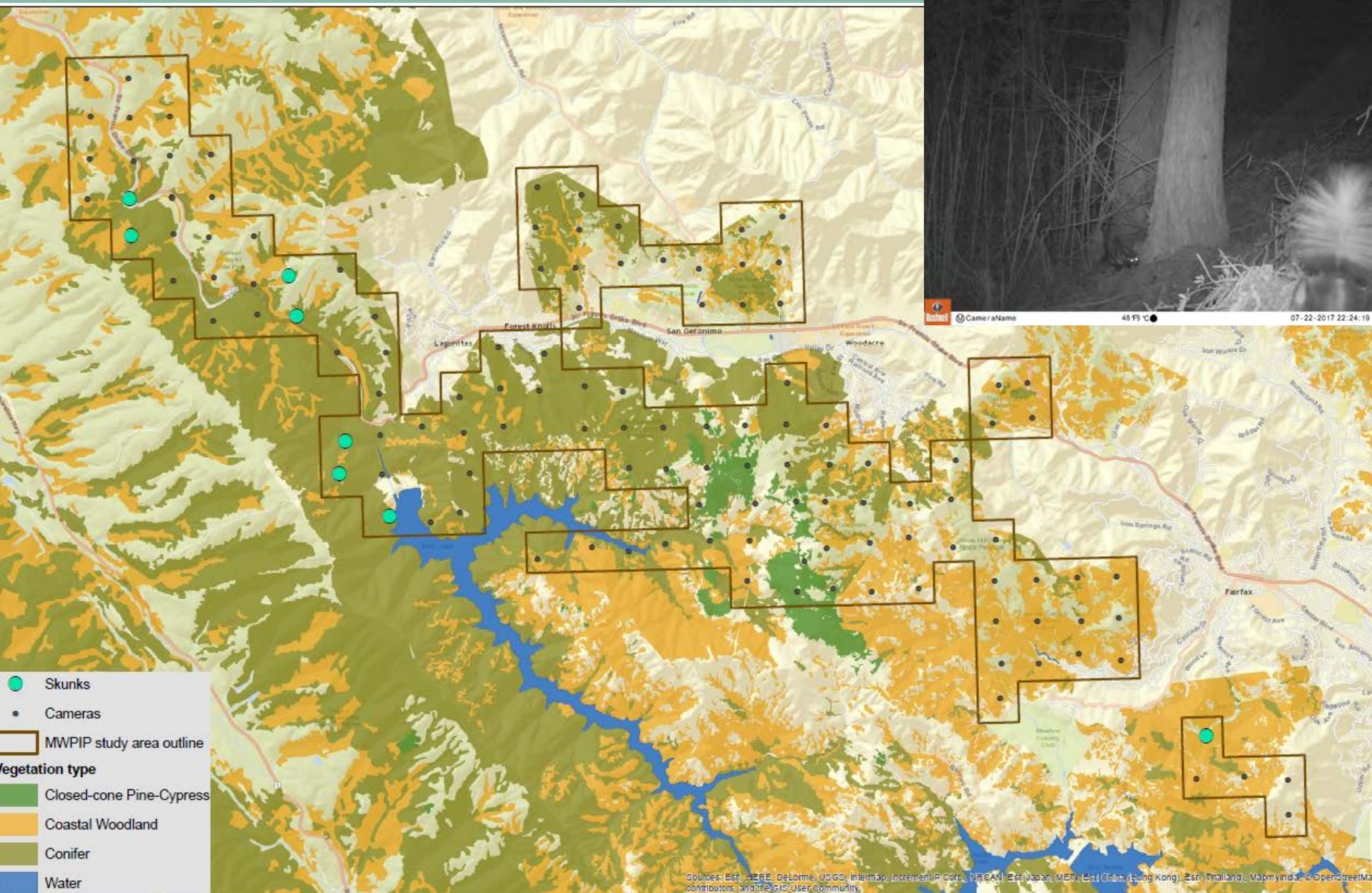




53°F 11°C









46°F/7°C



01-08-2015 20:14:56

Documentation of mountain lions in Marin County, California, 2010–2013

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Keywords: mountain lion, cougar, panther, puma, *Puma concolor*, ocular defect, eyeshine, Marin County, camera trap, San Francisco Bay Area





M 53°F11°C



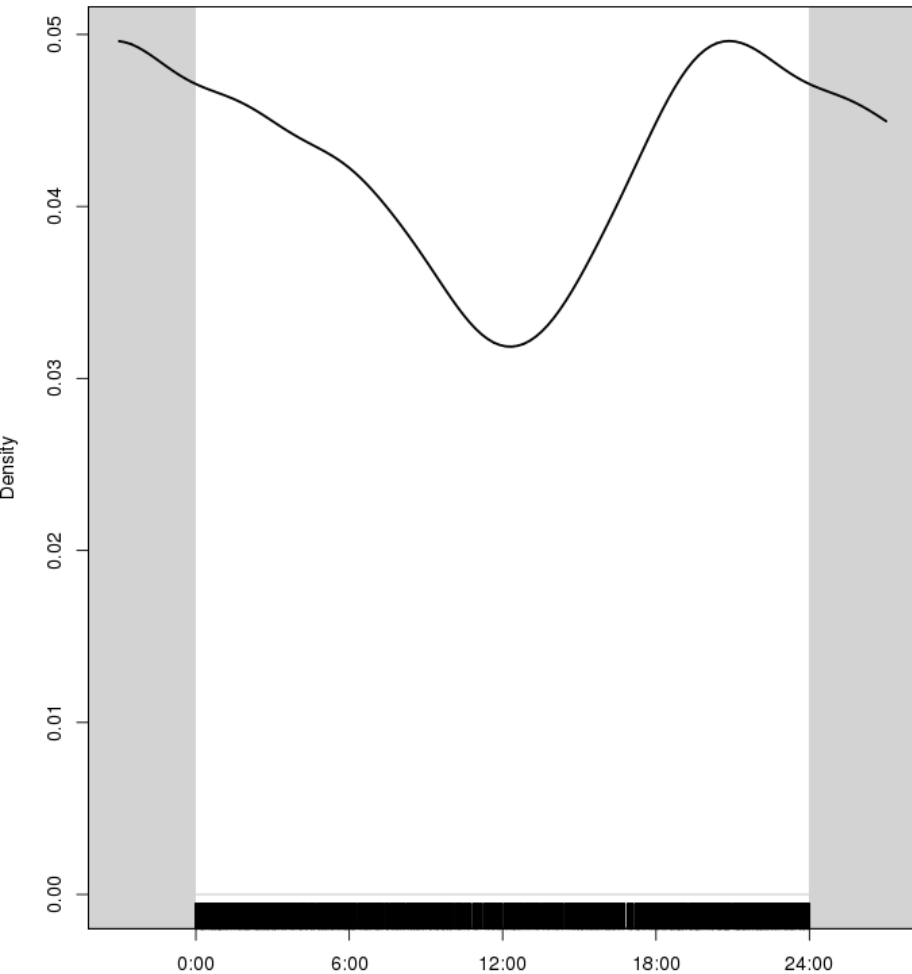
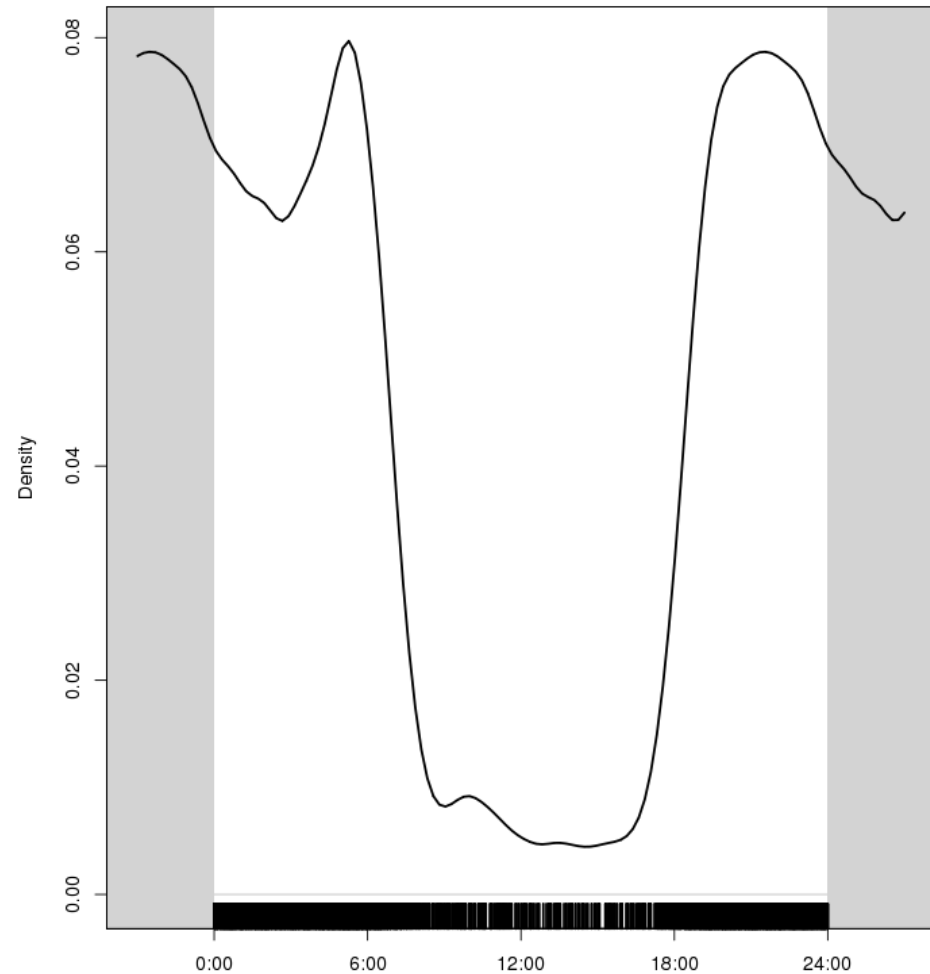
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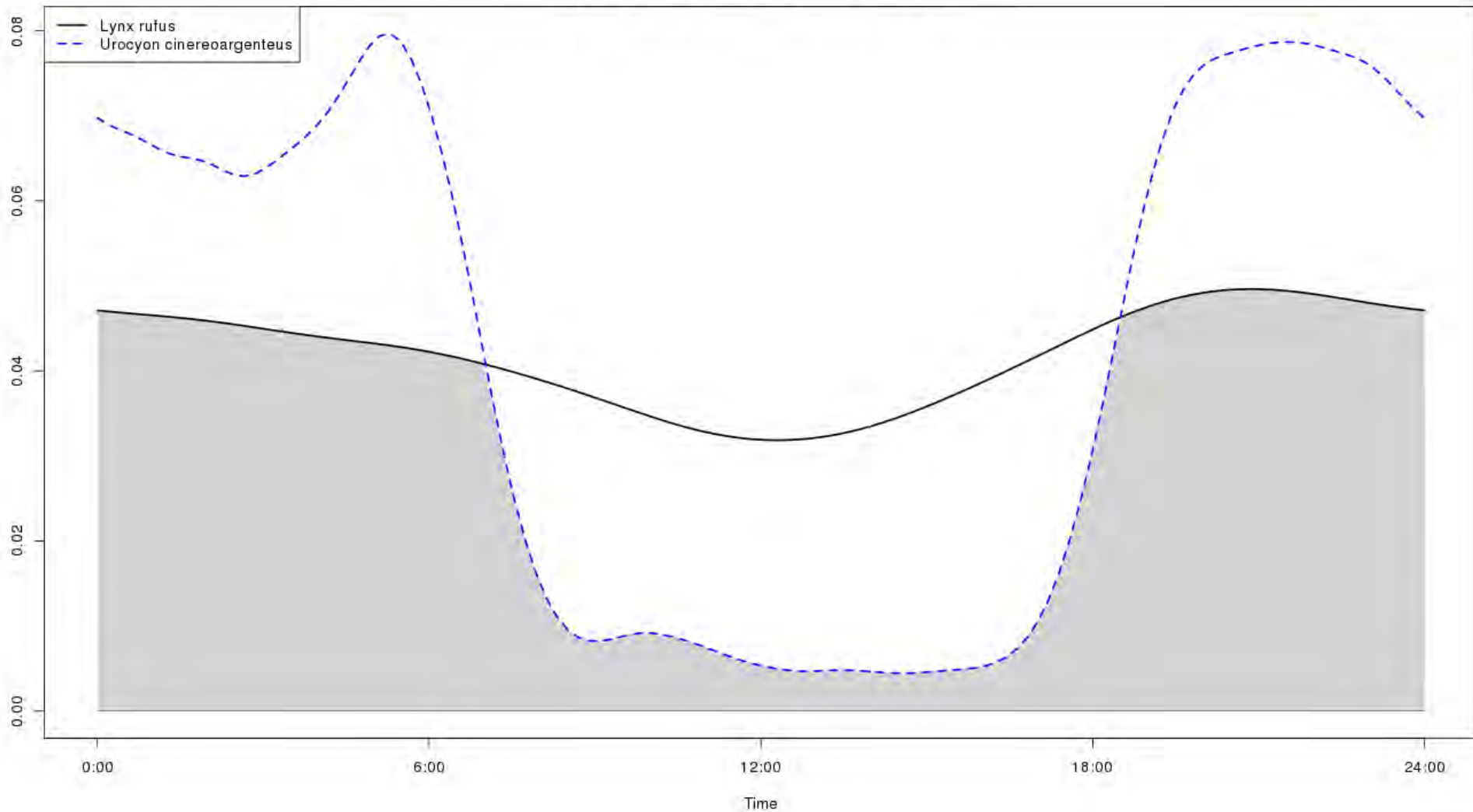
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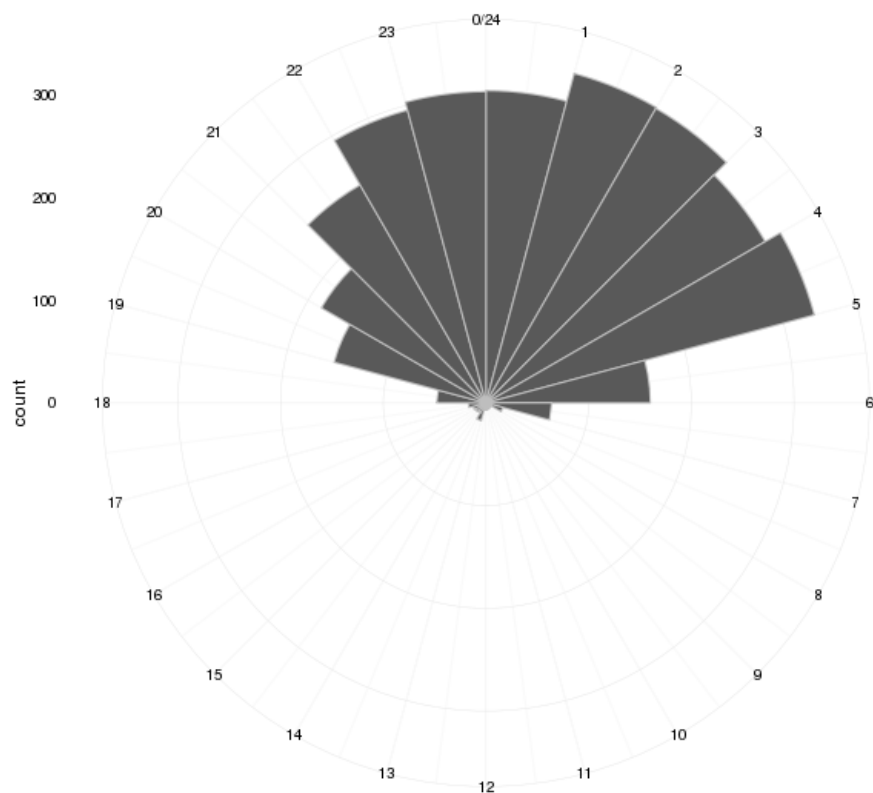
Lynx rufus**Urocyon cinereoargenteus**

Lynx rufus - *Urocyon cinereoargenteus*
Dhat1 = 0.7027 Dhat3 = 0.7054 Dhat5 = 0.705

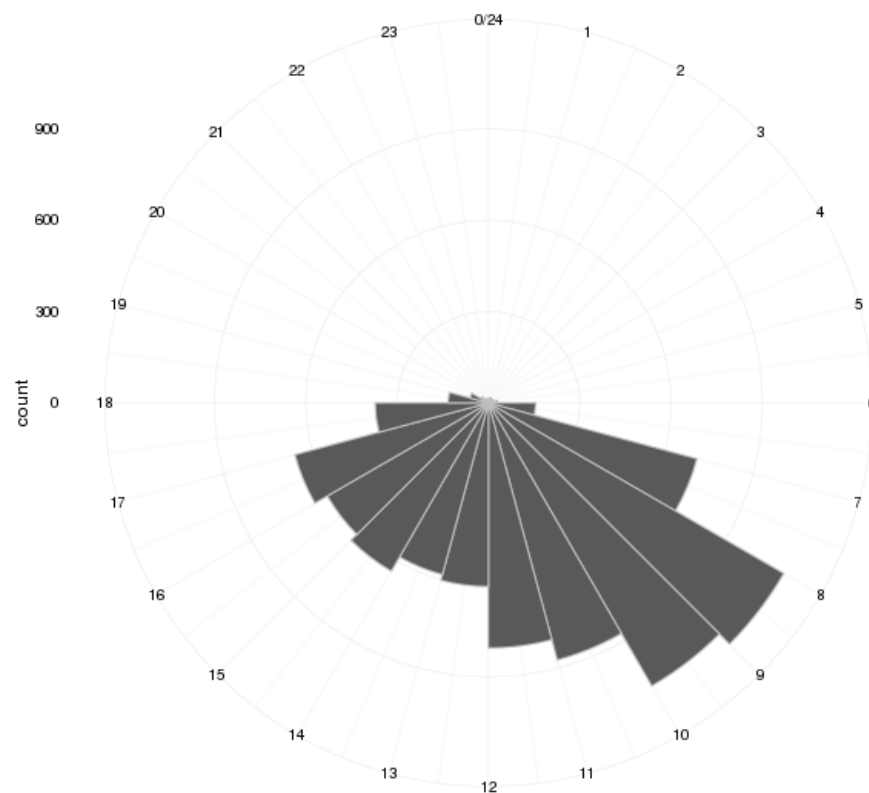


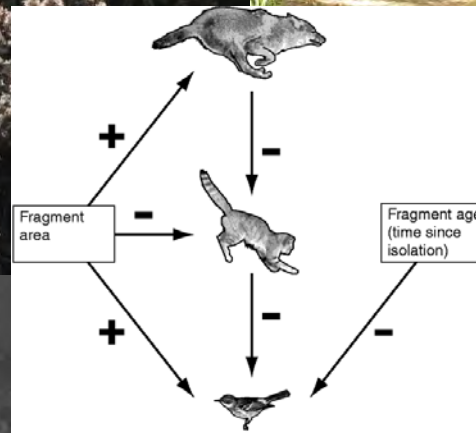
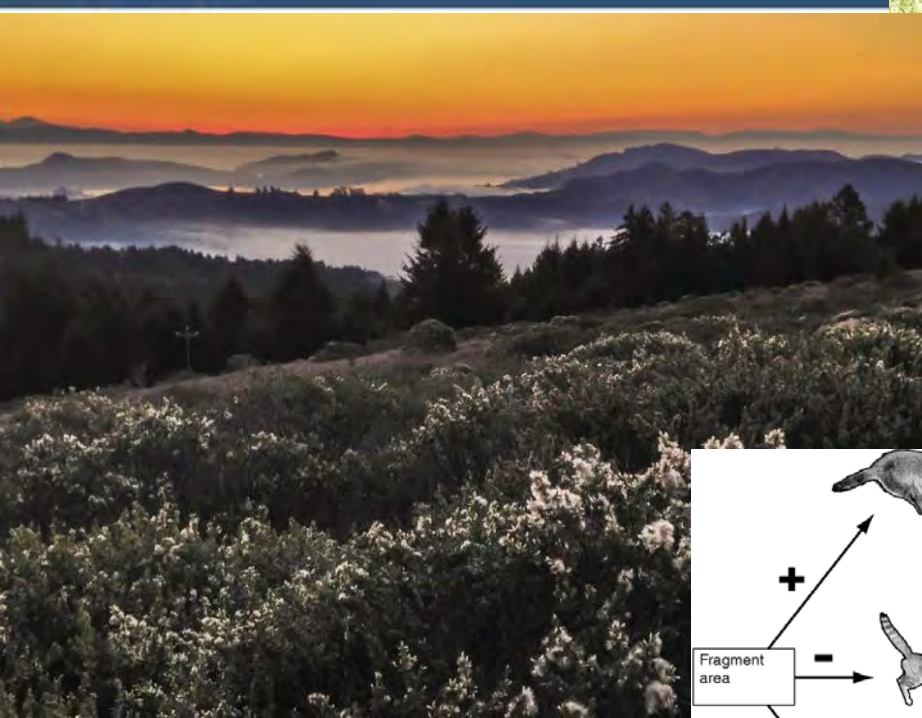


Neotoma fuscipes



Sciurus griseus





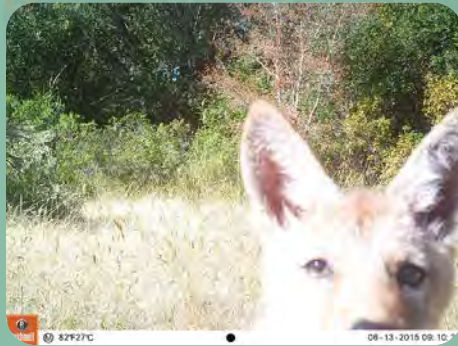
04-13-2015 10:36:44

MARIN WILDLIFE PICTURE INDEX PROJECT



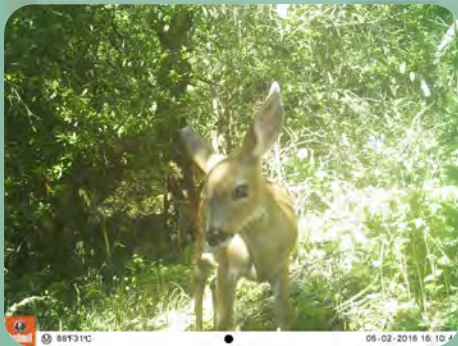
Eric Fegraus

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Natural Resources Manager
Marin Municipal Water District



Sue Townsend

Wildlife Ecologist

Bill Merkle

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Lisa Micheli

President & CEO
Pepperwood Foundation

Tracking wildlife across the Bay Area?

social and data platforms to support a
regional Wildlife Picture Network

Lisa Micheli, Pepperwood

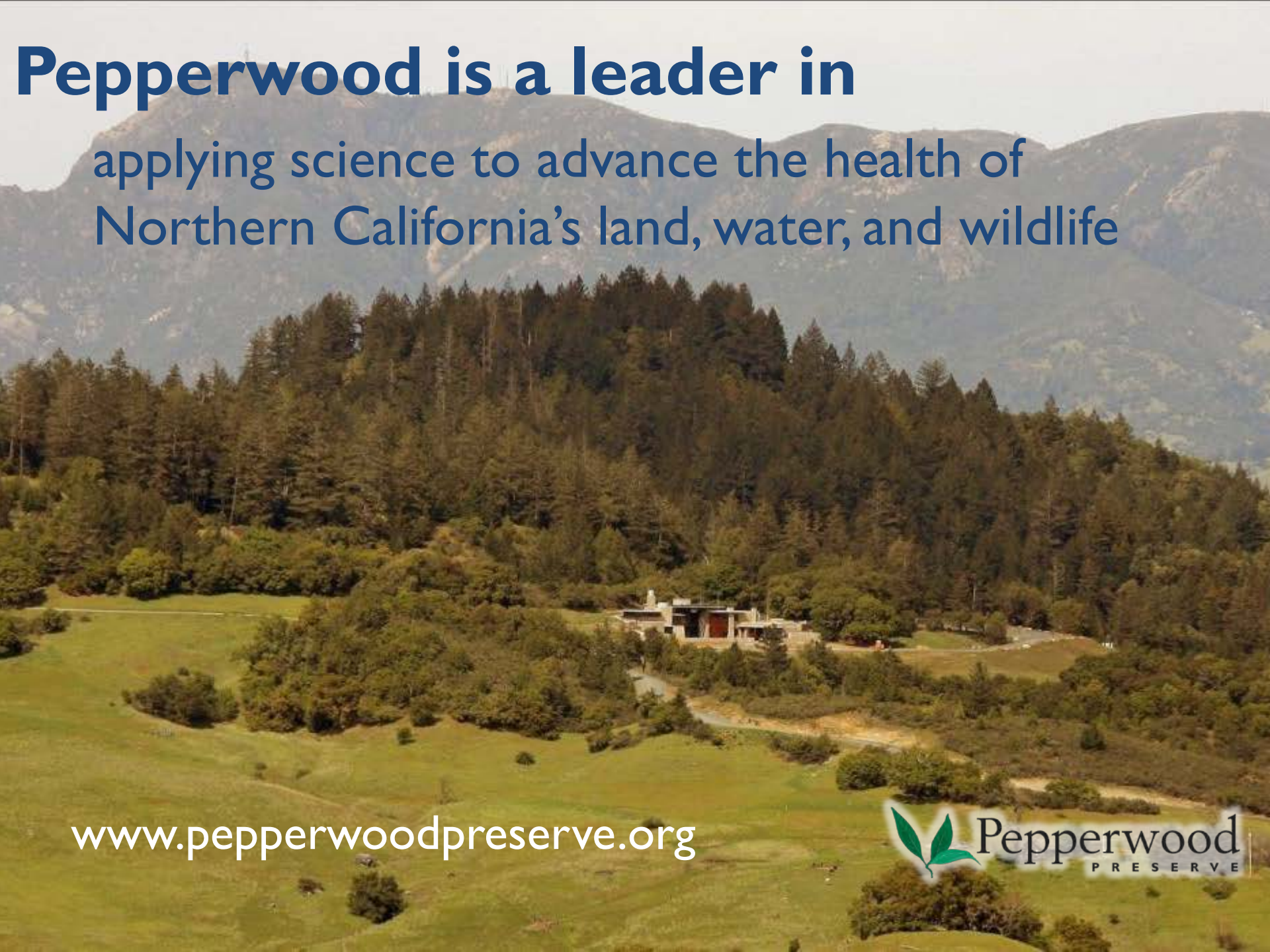
October 26, 2017



Pepperwood
P R E S E R V E
Inspiring conservation through science

CONSERVATION
INTERNATIONAL



The background image is a landscape photograph. It shows a rolling green hillside in the foreground with scattered shrubs. In the middle ground, a small, modern-style building with a flat roof and large windows is nestled among trees. Behind the building, a dense forest of tall evergreen trees covers the hillside. In the far background, a range of rugged mountains is visible under a hazy sky.

Pepperwood is a leader in
applying science to advance the health of
Northern California's land, water, and wildlife

www.pepperwoodpreserve.org



Imagine a world where our living landscapes got check ups *and* preventative care....



.....with **wildlife biodiversity** routinely evaluated as a critical “vital sign”

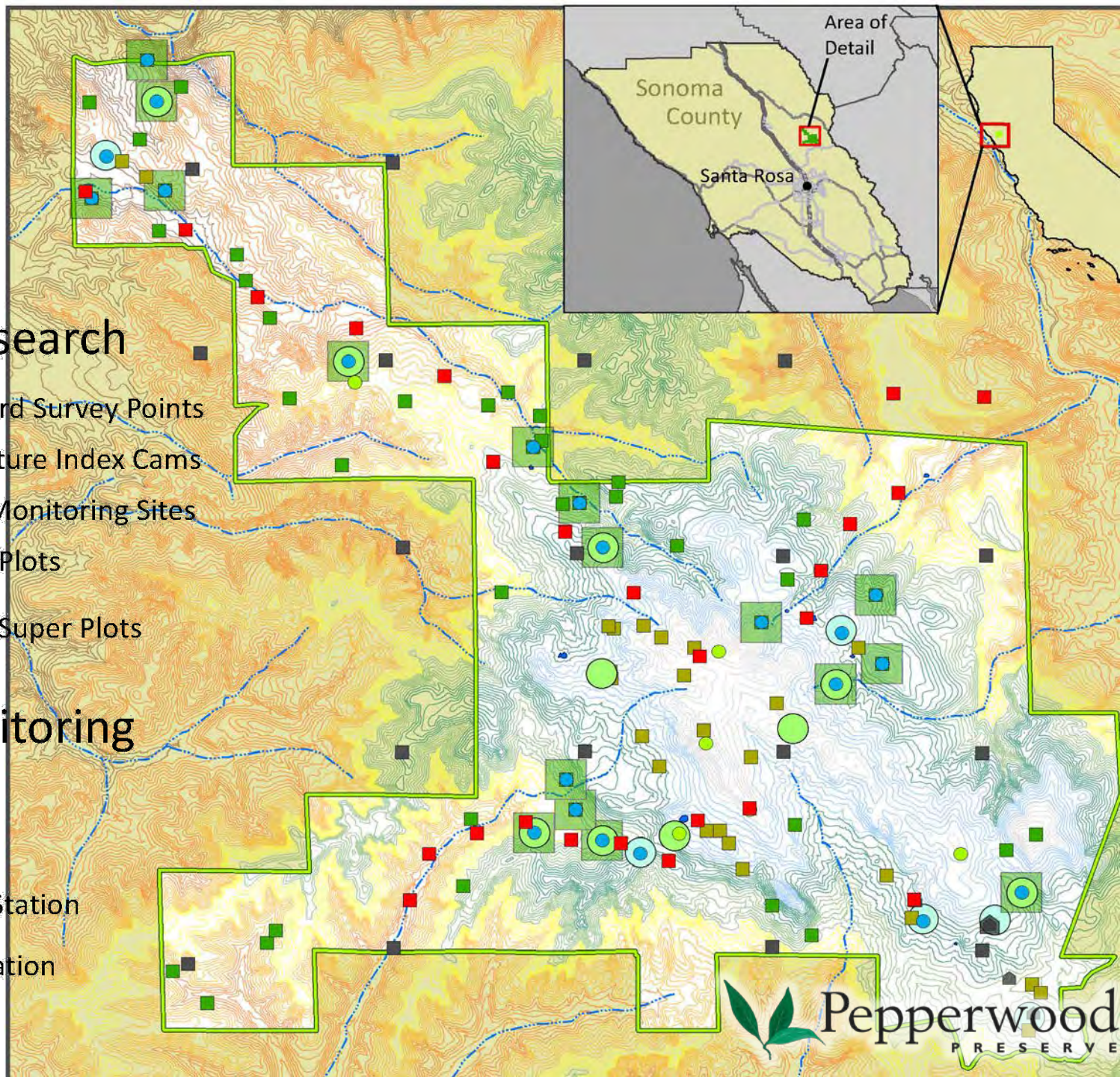
Sentinel Site

Biological Research

- Breeding Bird Survey Points
- Wildlife Picture Index Cams
- Grassland Monitoring Sites
- Vegetation Plots
- Vegetation Super Plots

Climate Monitoring

- Raingauge
- Antenna
- Micro Met Station
- Weather Station





Why monitor landscape health?

- to develop scientifically-sound information on the current status and long term trends in the composition, structure, and function of ecosystems in the face of local and global change
- to identify drivers of observed ecosystem change
- to determine how well current management practices collectively are sustaining those ecosystems
- to evaluate site-specific adaptive management strategies



Wildlife Picture Network origins

- Pepperwood's WONBA (Wildlife Observer Network Bay Area) sprouted in 2011 to support emerging camera user community
- Quarterly to biannual WONBA practitioners' roundtables-compare work in progress, lessons learned, applications
- Wildlife Picture Index methods trainings
- Co-creation of data platform capable of housing diverse project data
- Technical support for targeted long-term arrays
- User community support



email me to sign up for our Wildlife Observer Network base camp!
lmicheli@pepperwoodpreserve.org

So why a regional Wildlife Picture Network?

Camera trapping work to monitor wildlife is taking off

but efforts are not standardized

and there is no central repository for data

or a team charged with analyzing local and regional trends

or to translation into guidance for conservation at reserve and regional scales



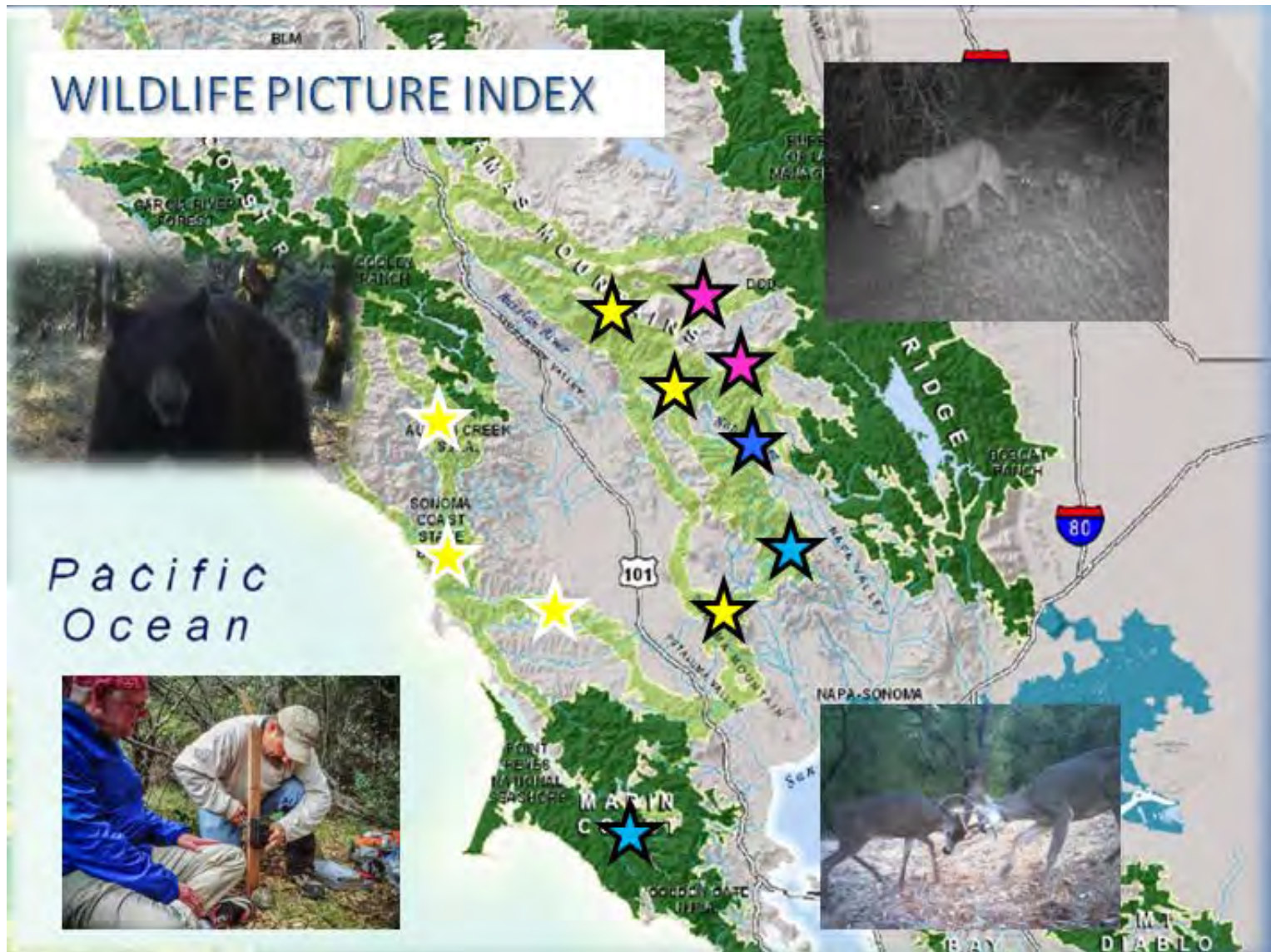
What kind of questions can a regional network answer?

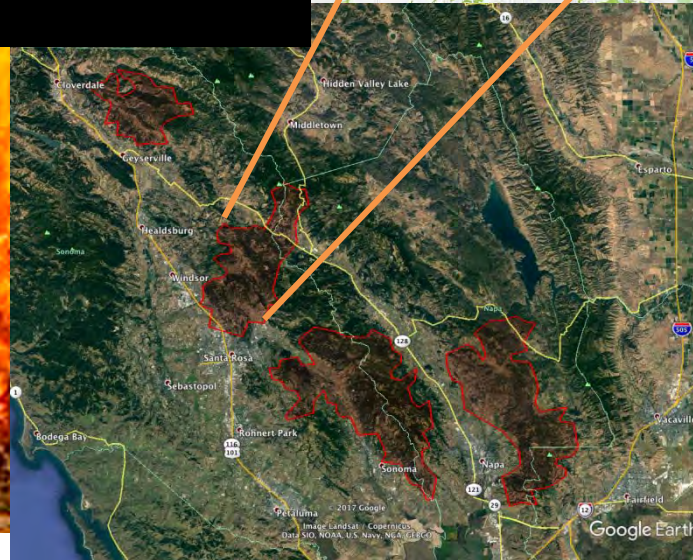
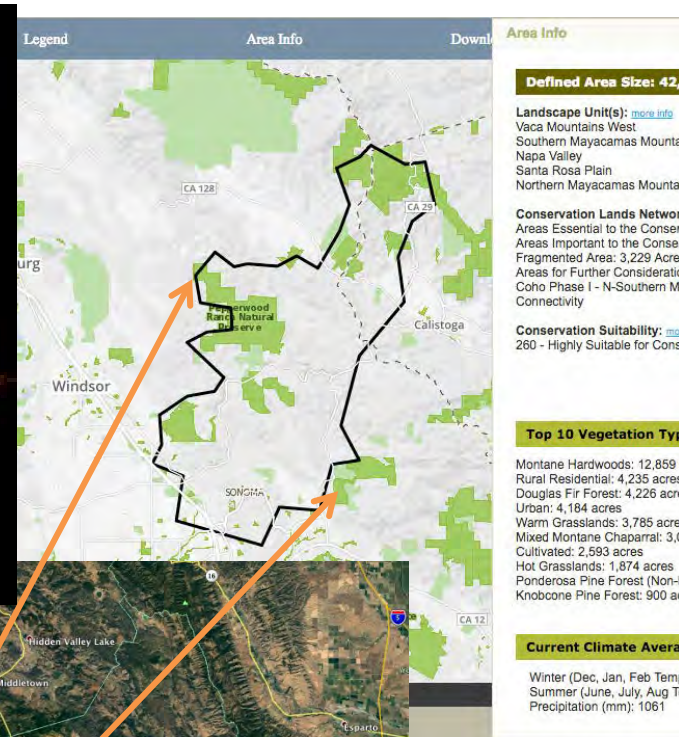
*What are the impacts of
drought on wildlife?*



*How effective are our habitat
protection efforts?*

How do habitat corridors function?





How do wildlife respond to episodes of fire?

Expanding coverage of long-term WPI arrays...



....and creating support for individual camera users and individual projects

Landscape conservation collectives provide critical capacity for realizing a Wildlife Picture Network!



ONE TAM

Mayacamas to Berryessa
(M2B)

Redwoods Rising
Santa Cruz Mtns
Stewardship

Bay Area Biosphere
Reserve

CONSERVATION WHICH POSITION SHOULD I PLAY?

LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT THE AVERAGE STATS FOR EACH POSITION IN THE EPL

STRIKER

Height: **184 cm** Weight: **80 kg**
Speed: ★★★★★ Strength: ★★★★★

Forwards need to be goal. They need to be both feet. They need to ball, turn with the ball.

researchers



LEFT / RIGHT

Height: **175 cm** Weight: **70 kg**
Speed: ★★★★★ Strength: ★★★★★

Midfield players have to be incredibly fit and possess amazing stamina. They need to understand how to manage space. They need to be all round competent and a flexible player.

FULLBACK

Height: **177 cm** Weight: **74 kg**
Speed: ★★★★★ Strength: ★★★★★

Often smaller than the central defenders, quicker and more attack minded. They have to be quick at closing down players and quick to recover and compress space.

GOALKEEPER

Height: **194 cm** Weight: **85 kg**

Typically very tall (190cm+) with a long reach. Have very good reflexes and must be able to position themselves correctly. A good keeper can easily stay focused. Must be brave enough to take some hits.

WINGER

Height: **174 cm** Weight: **70 kg**
Speed: ★★★★★ Strength: ★★★★★

land managers



Speed: ★★★★★ Strength: ★★★★★

Main link between midfield and the attackers. Has to be quick, possess a good shot, be able to dribble past players and to play short quick passes with his attackers.

DEFENSIVE MID

Height: **183 cm** Weight: **75 kg**
Speed: ★★★★★ Strength: ★★★★★

Often the one who collects the ball from the defenders and then can set up the attack playing long balls to team mates. Requires huge amounts of skill and vision.

CENTREBACK

Height: **190 cm** Weight: **85 kg**
Speed: ★★★★★ Strength: ★★★★★

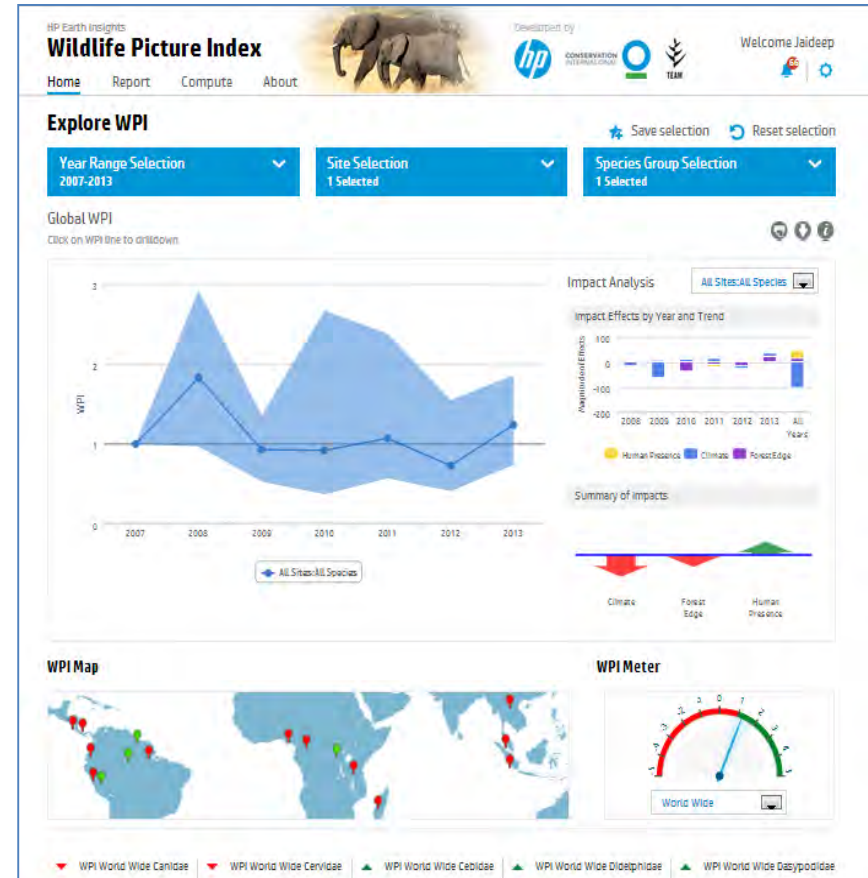
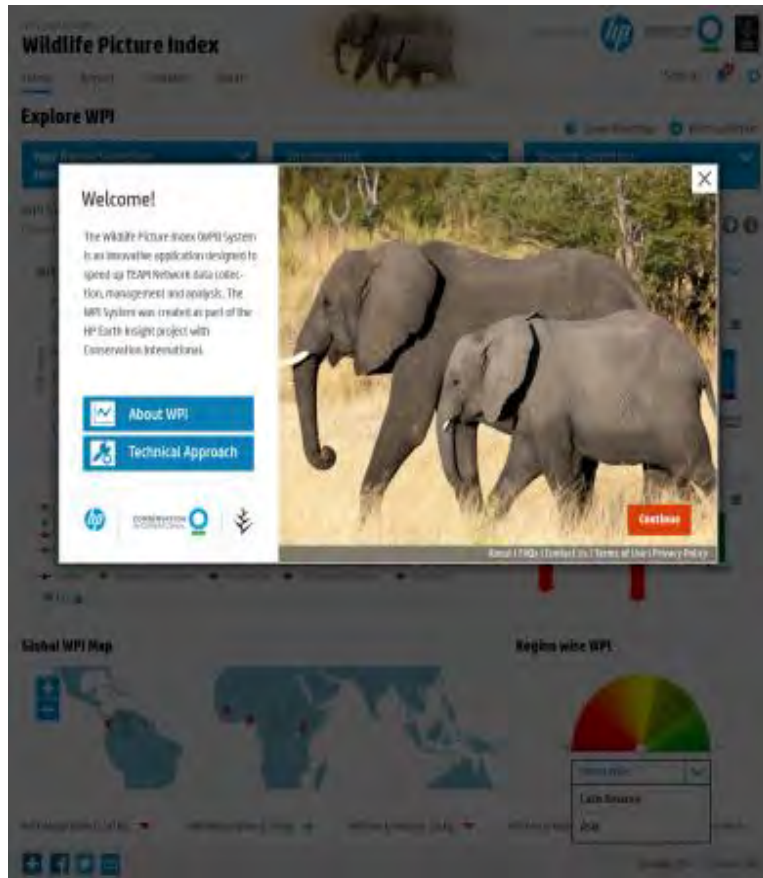
Typically at least 182cm tall and are often "big and strong". Have to be good in the air, winning and challenging for headers. Centrebacks must be brave and determined.



Info: <http://www.soccer-universe.com/soccer-positions.html>

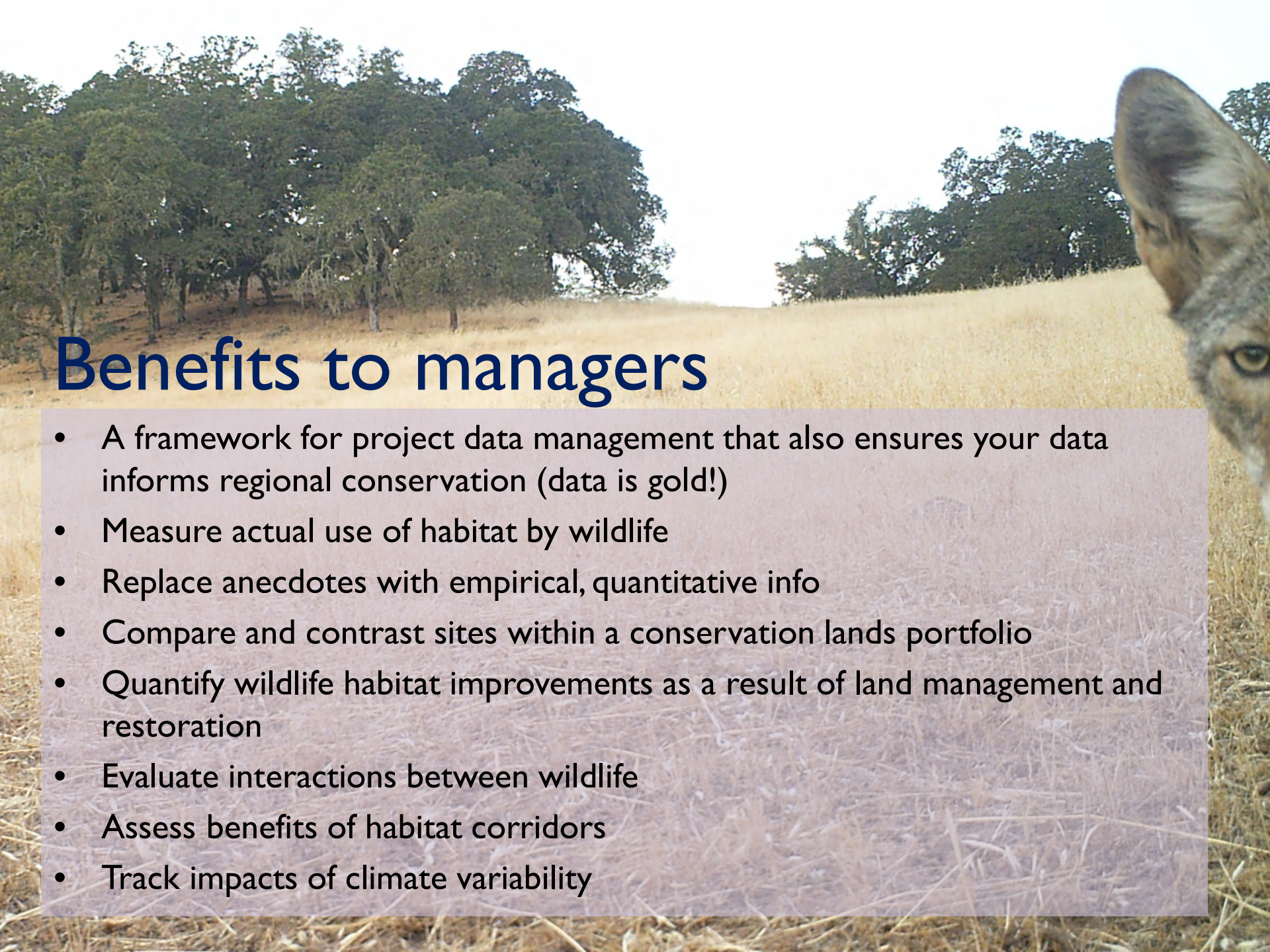
Data: <http://www.easports.com/uk/fifa/ultimate-team/fifa/database>

Wildlife Insights platform facilitates cataloging, database creation, analytics, and archiving



Users can contribute WPI array data or individual camera data for regional analysis using a regional WPI approach!



The background of the slide is a photograph of a savanna landscape. In the foreground, there is a field of dry, yellowish grass. In the middle ground, there are several large, leafy green trees. In the upper right corner, the ear and part of the face of a cat are visible, looking towards the left. The title 'Benefits to managers' is written in a large, dark blue font on the left side of the slide.

Benefits to managers

- A framework for project data management that also ensures your data informs regional conservation (data is gold!)
- Measure actual use of habitat by wildlife
- Replace anecdotes with empirical, quantitative info
- Compare and contrast sites within a conservation lands portfolio
- Quantify wildlife habitat improvements as a result of land management and restoration
- Evaluate interactions between wildlife
- Assess benefits of habitat corridors
- Track impacts of climate variability

So please help us build a Wildlife Picture Network!

One parameter, multiple sites, multiple applications, accessible,
clear landscape-level conservation applications, and people get
it!

email me to sign up for our Wildlife Observer Network base camp!
lmicheli@pepperwoodpreserve.org



**CONSERVATION
INTERNATIONAL**



A young bobcat is walking towards the camera through a field of dry, golden-brown grass. The bobcat has a brown and black spotted coat and is looking directly at the viewer. In the background, there is a line of green trees on a slight rise under a clear sky.

Thank you!