



LJMU Research Online

Piel, AK, Bonnin, N, Amaya, SR, Wondra, E and Stewart, FA

Chimpanzees and their mammalian sympatriates in the Issa Valley, Tanzania

<http://researchonline.ljmu.ac.uk/id/eprint/11465/>

Article

Citation (please note it is advisable to refer to the publisher's version if you intend to cite from this work)

**Piel, AK, Bonnin, N, Amaya, SR, Wondra, E and Stewart, FA (2018)
Chimpanzees and their mammalian sympatriates in the Issa Valley,
Tanzania. African Journal of Ecology, 57 (1). pp. 31-40. ISSN 0141-6707**

LJMU has developed **LJMU Research Online** for users to access the research output of the University more effectively. Copyright © and Moral Rights for the papers on this site are retained by the individual authors and/or other copyright owners. Users may download and/or print one copy of any article(s) in LJMU Research Online to facilitate their private study or for non-commercial research. You may not engage in further distribution of the material or use it for any profit-making activities or any commercial gain.

The version presented here may differ from the published version or from the version of the record. Please see the repository URL above for details on accessing the published version and note that access may require a subscription.

For more information please contact researchonline@ljmu.ac.uk

<http://researchonline.ljmu.ac.uk/>

1 TITLE: Chimpanzees and their mammalian sympatriates in the Issa valley, Tanzania

2

3 RUNNING TITLE: Chimpanzee sympatriates in Tanzania

4

5 Alex K. Piel ^{*^1} Noemie Bonnin ^{^1}, Sebastian Ramirez Amaya ^{^2}, Eden Wondra [^],

6 Fiona A. Stewart ^{*^1}

7 * Department of Biological Anthropology, University of Cambridge, UK

8 ^ Greater Mahale Ecosystem Research and Conservation Project

9

10 **Acknowledgements**

11 We thank Charles Foley for critical identifications over the years and for encouragement
12 to analyze these data and William C. McGrew for discussions on the subject matter in
13 its earliest stages. The Tanzanian Wildlife Research Institute (TAWIRI) and the
14 Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH) granted permission for us to
15 conduct research in the Issa Valley, and we are grateful to the UCSD/Salk Center for
16 Academic Research and Training in Anthropogeny (CARTA) for support to GMERC
17 (formerly UPP). Funding for this work also came from the LSB Leakey Foundation,

¹ Currently: School of Natural Sciences and Psychology, Liverpool John Moores University, Liverpool, L33AF

² Currently: School of Human Evolution and Social Change, Arizona State University, USA

18 National Science Foundation, and Wenner Gren Foundation. Analyses that span years
19 would not be possible without the devotion of field assistants and we are grateful to
20 GMERC staff for their arduous efforts over the years. Tim Caro and Charles Foley
21 improved the paper significantly with their comments on an earlier version.

22

23 Abstract

24 Chimpanzees have been studied for nearly 300 combined years across Africa, but aside
25 from their roles as predators or prey, remarkably little is known about the diverse
26 species with whom they share habitats. We calculated likely chimpanzee encounter
27 rates with sympatric mammals in the Issa Valley, Tanzania through modelling actual
28 researcher encounter rates with all medium and large mammals. Compared to other
29 long-term chimpanzee study sites, Issa had a relatively high diversity in medium and
30 large mammal species present, with 36 species documented. We encountered common
31 duiker (*Sylvicapra grimmia*) most frequently, followed by yellow baboons (*Papio*
32 *cynocephalus*) and bushbuck. Chimpanzees ranked fifth overall. Chimpanzees, on the
33 other hand, were predicted to most frequently encounter bushbuck, klipspringer, and
34 hartebeest – all woodland species. We compare these results to published literature
35 and contextualise them in light of reconstructing diverse mammalian communities in
36 which hominins lived during the Plio-Pleistocene and the use of chimpanzees as
37 flagship species for conservation policy.

38

39

40 Key words: Chimpanzee; Sympatry; Savanna-mosaic; Mammals; East Africa

41 MAIN TEXT

42 **Introduction**

43 There are numerous reasons why it is important to examine the diversity of
44 mammalian fauna that live sympatrically with wild chimpanzees. First, whilst there has
45 been investigation into interactions between chimpanzees and sympatric primates at
46 various sites, studies almost always concern predatory patterns, with chimpanzees as
47 predators (Basabose & Yamagiwa, 1997; Stanford, Wallis, Matama, & Goodall, 1994;
48 Uehara, 1997; Wrangham & van Zinnicq Bergmann Riss, 1990) or prey (Boesch, 1991),
49 rather than understanding how species coexist by using different niches, i.e. niche
50 partitioning (but see Russak, 2013). To know more about how chimpanzees and other
51 species share landscapes and mutually exploit resources, more study is needed into
52 broader, community-ecological relationships. In one of the few studies directly
53 examining inter-specific interactions, Russak (2013) reported remarkably low spatial
54 (<20%) and dietary (<40%) overlap between chimpanzees and those of other mammals
55 from the Issa valley, Tanzania. Chimpanzees and carnivores (incl. Herpestidae) had
56 especially minimal spatial overlap. By contrast, members of families Rodentia and
57 Artiodactyla showed the highest rates of spatial overlap. She concluded that overall
58 habitat use overlap between chimpanzees and all other species, including frugivorous
59 birds, to be 46%.

60 A second reason to consider chimpanzees as part of a broader faunal community
61 is to better understand the role that they play in helping model how early hominins might

62 have responded to similar conditions, especially in open, arid habitats with
63 environmental heterogeneity (Copeland, 2009; Moore, 1992, 1996; Pruetz & LaDuke,
64 2010). Understanding extant chimpanzee-sympatriate dynamics informs how we
65 contextualise hominins within diverse mammalian communities (Bobe, Behrensmeyer,
66 & Chapman, 2002) and also how we develop hypotheses on adaptations regarding
67 inter-specific competition (Egeland, 2014). Moreover, ecological data from
68 contemporary (especially diverse) mammal communities reveal distributions across
69 mosaic habitats that can provide models for understanding bone assemblages in the
70 fossil record (Su & Harrison, 2008). Habitat reconstructions of *Ardipithecus ramidus*, for
71 example, were informed in large part by isotopic signatures and fossil assemblages of
72 diverse fauna found in the Aramis biotope (White et al., 2009). Whilst there has been
73 discussion into hypothesized hominin-sympatriate dynamics, especially with carnivores
74 (Treves & Palmqvist, 2007), comparatively little has been examined for extant
75 chimpanzees, one of the most common analogues for hominins.

76 Finally, monitoring encounter rates over time allows researchers to make crude
77 assessments on population trends of species that especially live at low densities. Whilst
78 systematic line transects are more reliable for numerous reasons, namely in their
79 controlling of survey effort, transect data often under-estimate actual population sizes
80 due to low sample sizes (Fragoso et al., 2016). Data from reconnaissance walks
81 provide some metric for at least relative changes in abundance and thus have
82 implications for conservationists interested in trends over time in population size.

83 Russak and McGrew (2008) produced the first compilation of sympatric
84 mammals from the six (medium or long-term) chimpanzee study sites where data were

85 available at the time. They reported high variability in mammalian biodiversity across the
86 six chimpanzee communities: Bossou, Guinea; Mt. Assirik, Senegal; Gombe and
87 Mahale, Tanzania; Kibale and Budongo, Uganda (Figure 1). They concluded that it was
88 likely that the lists were not exhaustive and thus interpretations were tentative.
89 Nonetheless, the authors showed that with 33 genera of medium-large mammals, Mt.
90 Assirik ranked second only to Kibale Forest in mammalian diversity. This is surprising
91 given that Mt. Assirik is described as one of the hottest, driest, and most open
92 chimpanzee study sites (McGrew, Baldwin, & Tutin, 1981) and more broadly, that
93 savanna mosaics are considered “marginal” landscapes (Kortlandt, 1983). Such may be
94 the case for apes compared to tropical forest populations, but clearly not for other
95 mammalian species.

96

97 **Figure 1 ABOUT HERE**

98

99 Whilst there is substantial evidence for inter-community social variation in
100 chimpanzees (van Leeuwen, Cronin, Haun, Mundry, & Bodamer, 2012; Luncz, Mundry,
101 & Boesch, 2012; Whiten et al., 1999), there is far less comparative data on physical
102 environment variation, especially for savanna chimpanzees (but see van Leeuwen, Hill,
103 Newotn, & Korstjens, 2017). One example comes from McGrew et al.’s (2014) work at
104 Mt. Assirik, Senegal. Located in the northern portion of the Park National Niokola Koba
105 (PNNK), Senegal, Mt. Assirik is a mosaic habitat, comprised of five different vegetation
106 types: woodland (37%), laterite plateau (28%), grassland (27%), bamboo (5%), and
107 closed gallery forest (3%) (McGrew et al., 2014). Over four years (1976-1979), they built

108 a dataset of all researcher encounters with medium-large mammals. The authors
109 acknowledged that their data were inherently biased towards larger, diurnal and vocally
110 conspicuous species, as those were more likely to be detected than smaller, nocturnal,
111 and cryptic species. From those species that met the sample size minimum, they
112 calculated that marsh mongoose (*Atilax paludinosus*), leopards (*Panthera pardus*), and
113 bushbuck (*Tragelaphus scriptus*) were the most likely species to encounter
114 chimpanzees, versus jackals (*Canis adustus*), which were the least likely. Their results
115 provide an important springboard off which others can follow to contextualize
116 chimpanzees in a diverse ecosystem of sympatric wildlife species.

117 We sought to provide comparative analyses by extracting a similar data set from
118 another open habitat³ site, the Issa valley, Tanzania, in East Africa. Comparisons to the
119 Mt. Assirik data allow us to assess whether the interspecific patterns that they described
120 are regionally-specific, versus being part of a broader pattern for open-habitat
121 chimpanzees, with implications for chimpanzee adaptation to drier landscapes. Our
122 hypotheses were that (1) Issa and Mt. Assirik, which share broadly similar vegetation
123 and climate, would have comparably diverse wildlife communities and thus accordingly
124 (2) researchers (and chimpanzees) at both sites would encounter mammals at similar
125 rates.

126

127

³ Chimpanzees can crudely be distinguished into those communities that inhabit areas characterised by tropical, closed-canopy forest, and those that live in drier, savanna-woodland mosaic habitats, hereafter classified as “open-habitat” for simplicity. For a discussion, see Moore (1992) and Dominguez-Rodrigo (2014).

128 **Materials and Methods**

129 *Study area*

130 The Issa valley in western Tanzania lies ~100km east of Lake Tanganyika and
131 about 70km southeast of the town of Uvinza, in the Greater Mahale Ecosystem (GME).
132 The area has no formal protective status, and is characterized by a mosaic landscape,
133 dominated by miombo woodland of predominantly *Brachystegia*, *Julbernardia* and
134 *Isoberlinia*. Separating large stretches of woodland are seasonally-inundated swamps,
135 rocky outcrops, and thin strips of evergreen, riverine forest with continuous canopies
136 and open understories (Russak, 2014). Such riverine forest comprises less than 7% of
137 the study area. Mean daily temperatures of the region ranges from 11–36°C and rainfall
138 averages 1245mm/year (range: 1000-1650 from 2009-2015). Issa is characterized by
139 an extreme seasonality with typically over six dry months (<100mm of rainfall) lasting
140 from May to October, during which human-started grass fires burn >70% of the
141 landscape (pers. observation). The elevation ranges from ~1050m to 1750m, all within
142 an 85km² study area.

143 Since 2008, there has been a continuous research presence at Issa, focused on
144 chimpanzees (Piel et al., 2017; Piel, Lenoel, Johnson, & Stewart, 2015), red-tailed
145 monkeys, and yellow baboons (Johnson, Piel, Forman, Stewart, & King, 2015).
146 Chimpanzee habituation efforts only began in 2012, with initial work focused on using
147 indirect methods of assessing behavior, namely passive acoustics (Kalan et al., 2016)
148 and nest building (Stewart, Piel, & McGrew, 2011). Genetic analyses suggest a
149 minimum chimpanzee community size of at least 67 individuals (Rudicell et al., 2011)

150 that live at an extremely low population density (0.25 individuals/km² - Piel et al.,
151 2015). Whilst the area is remote, there is evidence of illegal human activity, namely
152 small scale logging, poaching, and agriculture (Piel et al., 2015).

153 *Fauna*

154 Russak (2014) has produced the most thorough mammal list to date of the area (Table
155 1). She recorded 40 mammal species from seven different orders. Whilst historically,
156 megafauna like elephants (*Loxodonta africanus*), giraffe (*Giraffa camelopardalis*), zebra
157 (*Equus burchelli*) and topi (*Damaliscus lunatus*) have been reported for the area (Kano,
158 1971; Suzuki, 1969), she reported no observations of these larger species. Iida et al.
159 (2012) also provided an exhaustive list of 50 mammal species, but their study area was
160 situated ~30km north of the current one.

161 *Data collection*

162 Research teams followed chimpanzees, red-tailed monkeys and baboons, as well as
163 patrolled the study area boundary for human activity daily for 84 months, from January
164 2009-December 2015. For all work, teams recorded all fresh or recent evidence of
165 medium-large mammal activity (direct observations, prints, feces, nests), as well as the
166 age and quantity of each, and the vegetation type, topography, and GPS coordinate for
167 each observed encounter.

168

169 TABLE 1 ABOUT HERE

170

171 *Analyses*

172 We followed McGrew et al. (2014) and calculated the probability of encountering each
173 of the medium and large mammal species⁴ at Issa in each of open (woodland and
174 grassland) and closed (riverine forest) vegetation. Accordingly, the likelihood of any two
175 species encountering each other is the combined likelihood of these encounters across
176 each vegetation type:

$$177 \quad P_{XY} = (P_{X^O} \times P_{Y^O}) + (P_{X^C} \times P_{Y^C})$$

178 where X = species 1, Y = species 2, O = open vegetation and C = closed vegetation,
179 and

$$180 \quad P_{CZ} = \int^O / (\int^O + \int^C), \text{ etc.}$$

181 where X = species 1, \int = frequency of encounters in a given vegetation type (open or
182 closed) and $\int^O + \int^C$ = total encounters in both vegetation types.

183 To compare Mt. Assirik results with those at Issa, we controlled for search effort
184 in three ways. First, we divided total encounters by McGrew et al. by the number of
185 months over which data were recorded (n=48), and total encounters at Issa by n=84
186 months. Second, because the numbers of researchers at Issa have slowly grown over
187 the study period (versus at Mt. Assirik, which was consistently one team), we further
188 incorporated the mean number of researcher teams in the forest each day, calculated
189 independently for each study year. Finally, encounter rates will be influenced by not just
190 *how many* research teams are deployed, but *where* those teams spend time.

⁴ Despite species differences, we collapsed green monkeys from Assirik (*Chlorocebus sabaenus*) and Issa (*Chlorocebus pygerythrus*) into a single group

191 Accordingly, for Issa data, we further included measures of proportion of time spent in
192 each vegetation type. To calculate this, we randomly selected all-day GPS track logs
193 from two research assistants for each month during two successive years (a total of 46
194 day GPS track logs) and projected them over a vegetation classification of the study
195 area in ArcMap (version 10.2.2). We then extracted the proportion of collected
196 waypoints (auto-recorded at five-minute intervals by Garmin GPS/2-way radios) within
197 50x50m grid cells, each of which was classified as one of the previous described
198 vegetation types (see Johnson, 2014). We were unable to do this for Mt. Assirik data,
199 which were not available.

200 All research was observational and complied with Tanzanian Wildlife Research
201 Institute ethical regulations and conformed to UK legislation under the Animals
202 (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986 Amendment Regulations (SI 2012/3039).

203

204 **Results**

205 We found Issa to have a relatively high diversity in medium and large mammal species
206 present, with 36 species documented, of which 30 were directly encountered. We found
207 common duiker (*Sylvicapra grimmia*) was the most commonly encountered mammal at
208 Issa, followed closely by yellow baboons (*Papio cynocephalus*) and bushbuck (Table 2).
209 Chimpanzees were one of the most frequently encountered species, ranking fifth
210 overall. Chimpanzees and bushpigs were found nearly as often in open vegetation as
211 they were closed, whereas most other species showed clear habitat preference (Figure
212 2).

213

214 **Figure 2, Table 2 ABOUT HERE**

215 When we looked at encounter rates across years, some species were
216 consistently, frequently encountered, namely common duikers, baboons, red-tailed
217 monkeys, bushbuck, and klipspringers, and all species showed increased trends over
218 the seven years (Figure 3). All three non-primate species are characterized as
219 woodland species (Hinde et al., 2001) and the frequent encounter rate is consistent
220 both with a miombo-dominated landscape, but also search effort. Researchers spent
221 disproportionately more time in woodland (84.1%) than in forests (14%). Of the large
222 carnivores, we observed leopard the most often (n=10), but the others extremely rarely:
223 wild dog (n=5), lion (n=1), and we never encountered hyena.

224

225 **Figure 3 ABOUT HERE**

226

227 Our final analysis integrated researcher encounter rates with chimpanzees and that with
228 their sympatriates to make predictions on which species chimpanzees would encounter
229 most. Here we found that chimpanzees were most likely to encounter bushbuck far
230 more than any other species, followed by three woodland specialists: klipspringer,
231 hartebeest, and common duiker (Table 2).

232

233 **Discussion**

234 We report here on encounter rates with 36 of the medium-large sized mammalian
235 species that researchers encountered at the Issa valley, Tanzania. Researchers

236 encountered common duikers and yellow baboons most frequently and broadly the
237 carnivores the least frequently. We used encounter rates across vegetation types and
238 found that chimpanzees were most likely to encounter other habitat generalists (e.g.
239 bushbuck) more than forest-specialists (e.g. red-tailed monkeys). In a previous study
240 from Issa that investigated habitat co-use between chimpanzees and sympatric
241 mammals using patch-focals, Russak (2014) reported frugivorous birds and rodents
242 most frequently with chimpanzees (Table IV, Russak, 2014). As we didn't monitor either
243 of those here, we cannot say if our data are consistent or diverge from Russak's
244 findings.

245 A single other study from another long-term chimpanzee study site provides
246 similar data to which we can compare our findings. McGrew et al. (2014) documented
247 35 different mammalian species to occur in the chimpanzee home range at Mt. Assirik.
248 While these two savanna-dwelling chimpanzee populations live amongst a diversity of
249 hetero-specifics, both are less diverse than Kibale National Park (Uganda), the most
250 diverse site described in Russak and McGrew's (2008) compilation. When we included
251 cumulative datasets from camera trap and patch-focal data (Russak, 2014) at Issa, the
252 mammalian diversity level reaches 47 species, the most of any medium-long term
253 chimpanzee study. Remote sensing methods like camera trapping have not been used
254 at all sites, but even at Issa only three additional species are known from camera traps
255 only (Table 1), suggesting the mammalian diversity to be a real, rather than
256 methodological phenomenon.

257 Based on the method used here, McGrew et al. predicted that Mt. Assirik
258 chimpanzees would encounter leopards, mongoose, and bushbuck most often. We

259 hypothesized that Issa and Mt. Assirik would have comparably diverse wildlife
260 communities and thus would encounter sympatric mammals at similar rates. However,
261 when we compared our data to those from Mt. Assirik, despite 21 species that exist at
262 both sites, encounter rates between researchers and wildlife and predicted encounter
263 rates between chimpanzees and sympatriates varied dramatically between sites (Table
264 2). At Issa, chimpanzees were instead likely to encounter bushbuck, klipspringer, and
265 then baboons most often, as well as other woodland specialists like roan antelope and
266 hartebeest.

267 That bushbuck and klipspringer are primarily browsers (Codron, Codron, Lee-
268 Thorp, Sponheimer, & de Ruiter, 2005) suggests a non-competitive relationship with
269 chimpanzees. Baboons, however, are a well-described food competitor with
270 chimpanzees (Matsumoto-Oda & Kasagula, 2000) and compete for woodland species
271 such as *Brachsytegia*, *Parinari*, and *Strychnos*, especially in the dry season
272 (unpublished data). Whereas chimpanzees prefer ripe fruit and baboons are selective
273 generalists, during scramble competition baboons may have the upper hand, being
274 better able to digest unripe fruit far better than the apes (Okecha & Newton-Fisher
275 2006). Nevertheless, as both species have been documented to prey on small-medium
276 vertebrates (Hausfater, 1976; Ramirez-Amaya, McLester, Stewart, & Piel, 2015),
277 chimpanzees may have an advantage during contest competition, seizing prey from
278 baboons (Hausfater, 1976; Morris & Goodall, 1977). What seems clear is the high
279 expected encounter rates between these two species, especially in woodlands. What
280 remains unclear is what influence they have on each other's feeding ecology and
281 movement patterns.

282 Other striking differences between the sites emerged in researcher encounters,
283 and thus predicted chimpanzee encounters with other primates. Issa chimpanzees were
284 predicted to encounter both forest (e.g. red-tailed monkeys) and savanna-dwelling
285 (vervet monkeys) species more frequently than at Mt. Assirik. And whilst McGrew et al.
286 (2014) did not calculate encounter rates with guinea baboons because they were seen
287 multiple times daily near the research camp, at Issa baboons were the second most
288 frequently encountered species after common duikers, and so we can assume that
289 chimpanzee-baboon encounters may be similarly high at each site.

290 Finally, chimpanzees at Issa were far less likely to encounter large carnivores
291 than at Mt. Assirik, where grasslands likely support larger herds of ungulates (Shorrocks
292 & Bates, 2015). Researcher encounters at Mt. Assirik were higher for all three large
293 carnivores: lion, leopard, and spotted hyena (*Crocuta crocuta*). Leopards were observed
294 only ten times at Issa, compared to 53 at Mt. Assirik. In general, large carnivores - wild
295 dogs (n=5), lions (n=1) and hyenas (0) - were infrequently encountered by Issa
296 researchers and thus highly unlikely to be encountered by chimpanzees.

297

298 **Issa vs. Mt. Assirik: What explains variation?**

299 It is surprising that few studies go further than either listing sympatric mammalian fauna
300 in chimpanzee-inhabited areas (e.g. Iida et al., 2012) or discussing chimpanzee-
301 carnivore encounters (Boesch, 1991; McLester, Stewart, & Piel, 2016; Newton-Fisher,
302 Notman, & Reynolds, 2002; Stanford et al., 1994; Teelen, 2008). In two open-habitat
303 environments where chimpanzees are studied – Mt. Assirik and Issa valley - we now
304 have comparative efforts and analyses to predict chimpanzee encounters with hetero-

305 specifics. The most likely explanations of inter-site variation in researcher-wildlife
306 encounter rates are the proportions of different vegetation at each site (which
307 determines species abundance) and poaching activity.

308 Both areas are categorised as mosaic landscapes with minimal gallery forest, but
309 whereas Issa is dominated by miombo woodland, Mt. Assirik has a larger proportion
310 (>25%) of grassland than at Issa (<1%). Grassland species rely on group vigilance to
311 detect stalking predators, and thus typically travel in large herds (Scheel, 1993; Thaker,
312 Vanak, Owen, Ogden, & Slotow, 2010), which are more conspicuous to researchers.
313 Abundance data, which would be useful to compare absolute numbers at each site, are
314 only available from Issa. Piel et al. (2015) used four years of line transect results to
315 show that common duikers were the most abundant mammal, followed by bushbucks
316 and then baboons. No data on actual mammal abundance are available from Mt.
317 Assirik.

318 Poaching also shapes species composition. Western Tanzania was once home
319 to herds of giraffe, zebra, and eland, amongst other large mammalian species (Kano,
320 1971). Conversion of habitat to farmland and poaching (Wilfred & MacColl, 2014) have
321 contributed to the extermination of giraffe and reduced zebra, eland, and even buffalo to
322 small herds that travel mostly at night (unpublished data). Removal of these species
323 may open up niches for smaller, medium sized mammals (Keesing & Young, 2014).
324 Most recently, Piel et al. (2015) described poaching to mainly be confined to areas
325 peripheral to the core study area at Issa. Mt. Assirik has also experienced poaching
326 over the years (Pruetz, 2013), but it is unclear what impact poaching had during the late
327 1970s when these mammal data were collected.

328

329 **Open-habitat chimpanzees, sympatric fauna, and the fossil record**

330 Isotopic data now firmly put some of the earliest, and most critical hominin
331 species in mosaic habitats (Cerling et al., 2011; White et al., 2009), similar to the
332 vegetation that comprise both Issa and Mt. Assirik. Contemporary data like those from
333 Issa and Mt. Assirik (McGrew et al., 2014) and Issa (Russak, 2014; Current study)
334 provide us an analogue system for hominoid-mammal interaction that could be useful in
335 reconstructing hominin lifeways. For example, by integrating taphonomic and ecological
336 data we can identify biases in bone assemblages, demonstrate that habitat distributions
337 of the major herbivore species are reflected in the bone assemblage, and establish that
338 community structure of a given assemblage reflects that of the source community. In
339 short, there are diverse utilities of high-resolution modern ecological data, especially of
340 areas where great apes live, for paleoecological studies (Behrensmeyer & Miller, 2012;
341 Su & Harrison, 2008).

342 Moreover, fossils of mammalian species are used to date hominin fossils
343 (DeMenocal, 2004; White, Moore, & Suwa, 1984), inform paleo-habitat characterization
344 (White et al., 2009) and, more indirectly, reconstruct with what species hominins were
345 sharing and/or competing for resources (Andrews, 1996; Hatley & Kappelman, 1980;
346 Kappelman, 1984). Mammalian fossils are also useful in examining hominin
347 evolutionary processes. For example, in Omo (Ethiopia) climate variability during the
348 late Pliocene influenced environmental changes (namely a shift from closed forest to
349 open woodlands) and in turn, the tempo of faunal variability, e.g. changes in ecological
350 dominance of suids, cercipithcids, and bovids (Bobe et al., 2002). These shifts in fauna

351 were paralleled by shifts in hominins: the appearance of *Homo* and disappearance of
352 the gracile australopithecines at ~ 2.5mya (Bobe et al., 2002; Foley, 1993).

353

354

355 **References**

- 356 Andrews, P. (1996). Palaeoecology and hominoid palaeoenvironments. *Biological*
357 *Reviews*, 71, 257–300.
- 358 Basabose, K., & Yamagiwa, J. (1997). Predation on mammals by chimpanzees in the
359 montane forest of Kahuzi, Zaire. *Primates*, 38(1), 45–55.
360 <http://doi.org/10.1007/BF02385921>
- 361 Behrensmeyer, A. K., & Miller, J. H. (2012). Building links between ecology and
362 paleontology using taphonomic studies of recent vertebrate communities. In J.
363 Louys (Ed.), *Paleontology in Ecology and Conservation* (pp. 69–91). Berlin,
364 Heidelberg: Springer Verlag. <http://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-642-25038-5>
- 365 Bobe, R., Behrensmeyer, A. K., & Chapman, R. E. (2002). Faunal change,
366 environmental variability and late Pliocene hominin evolution. *Journal of Human*
367 *Evolution*, 42(4), 475–497. <http://doi.org/10.1006/jhev.2001.0535>
- 368 Boesch, C. (1991). The effects of leopard predation on grouping patterns in forest
369 chimpanzees. *Behaviour*, 117, 220–242.
- 370 Cerling, T. E., Wynn, J. G., Andanje, S. A., Bird, M. I., Korir, D. K., Levin, N. E., ...
371 Remien, C. H. (2011). Woody cover and hominin environments in the past 6 million
372 years. *Nature*, 476(7358), 51–6. <http://doi.org/10.1038/nature10306>
- 373 Codron, D., Codron, J., Lee-Thorp, J. A., Sponheimer, M., & de Ruiter, D. (2005).
374 Animal diets in the Waterberg based on stable isotopic composition of faeces.
375 *South African Journal of Wildlife Research*, 35(1), 43–52.
376 <http://doi.org/10.5167/uzh-25362>
- 377 Copeland, S. R. (2009). Potential hominin plant foods in northern Tanzania: semi-arid

378 savannas versus savanna chimpanzee sites. *Journal of Human Evolution*, 57(4),
379 365–78. <http://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhevol.2009.06.007>

380 DeMenocal, P. B. (2004). African climate change and faunal evolution during the
381 Pliocene Pleistocene. *Earth and Planetary Science Letters*, 220, 3–24.
382 [http://doi.org/10.1016/S0012-821X\(04\)00003-2](http://doi.org/10.1016/S0012-821X(04)00003-2)

383 Domínguez-Rodrigo, M. (2014). Is the “Savanna Hypothesis” a dead concept for
384 explaining the emergence of the earliest hominins? *Current Anthropology*, 55(1),
385 59–81. <http://doi.org/10.1086/674530>

386 Egeland, C. P. (2014). Taphonomic estimates of competition and the role of carnivore
387 avoidance in hominin site use within the Early Pleistocene Olduvai Basin.
388 *Quaternary International*, 322–323, 95–106.
389 <http://doi.org/10.1016/j.quaint.2013.11.021>

390 Foley, R. (1993). Seasonality of environment and diet. In S. J. Ulijaszek & S. S.
391 Strickland (Eds.), *Seasonality and Human Ecology: 35th Symposium Volume of the*
392 *Society for the Study of Human Biology* (pp. 83–116). Cambridge, U.K.: Cambridge
393 University Press.

394 Fragoso, J. M. V., Levi, T., Oliveira, L. F. B., Luzar, J. B., Overman, H., Read, J. M., &
395 Silvius, K. M. (2016). Line transect surveys underdetect terrestrial mammals:
396 Implications for the sustainability of subsistence hunting. *Plos One*, 11(4),
397 e0152659. <http://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0152659>

398 Hatley, T., & Kappelman, J. (1980). Bears, pigs, and Plio- Pleistocene hominids: a case
399 for the exploitation of below- ground food resources. *Human Ecology*, 371–387.

400 Hausfater, G. (1976). Predatory behaviour of yellow baboons. *Behaviour*, 56(1), 44–67.

401 Hinde, R. J., Corti, G. R., Fanning, E., Jenkins, R. K. B., Programme, E., & Monitoring,
402 W. C. (2001). Large mammals in miombo woodland, evergreen forest, and a young
403 teak (*Tectona grandis*) plantation in the Kilombero Valley, Tanzania. *Journal of*
404 *African Ecology*, 39, 318–321.

405 Iida, E. G., Idani, G., & Ogawa, H. (2012). Mammalian fauna of the miombo forest in the
406 Ugalla area, western Tanzania. *African Study Monographs*, 33(December), 253–
407 270.

408 Johnson, C. (2014). *The feeding and movement ecology of yellow baboons (Papio*
409 *cynocephalus) in a primate rich habitat: the Issa valley of western Tanzania.*
410 Doctoral dissertation. University of Swansea.

411 Johnson, C., Piel, A. K., Forman, D., Stewart, F. a, & King, A. J. (2015). The ecological
412 determinants of baboon troop movements at local and continental scales.
413 *Movement Ecology*, 3(1), 14. <http://doi.org/10.1186/s40462-015-0040-y>

414 Kalan, A. K., Piel, A. K., Mundry, R., Wittig, R. M., Boesch, C., & Köhl, H. S. (2016).
415 Passive acoustic monitoring reveals group ranging and territory use: a case study
416 of wild chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes*). *Frontiers in Zoology*, 13:34, 1–11.
417 <http://doi.org/10.1186/s12983-016-0167-8>

418 Kano, T. (1971). The chimpanzees of Filabanga, Western Tanzania. *Primates*,
419 12(December), 229–246.

420 Kappelman, J. (1984). Plio-Pleistocene environments of Bed I and Lower Bed II,
421 Olduvai Gorge, Tanzania. *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology,*
422 *Palaeoclimatology*, 48, 171–196.

423 Keesing, F., & Young, T. P. (2014). Cascading consequences of the loss of large

424 mammals in an African Savanna. *BioScience*, 64(6), 487–495.
425 <http://doi.org/10.1093/biosci/biu059>

426 Kortlandt, A. (1983). Marginal habitats of chimpanzees. *Journal of Human Evolution*, 12,
427 231–278.

428 Leeuwen, E. J. C. Van, Cronin, K. A., Haun, D. B. M., Mundry, R., & Bodamer, M. D.
429 (2012). Neighbouring chimpanzee communities show different preferences in social
430 grooming behaviour. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B*, (August), 4362–4367.
431 <http://doi.org/10.1098/rspb.2012.1543>

432 Luncz, L. V, Mundry, R., & Boesch, C. (2012). Evidence for cultural differences between
433 neighboring chimpanzee communities. *Current Biology*, 22(10), 922–6.
434 <http://doi.org/10.1016/j.cub.2012.03.031>

435 Matsumoto-Oda, A., & Kasagula, M. B. (2000). Preliminary study of feeding competition
436 between baboons and chimpanzees in the Mahel Mountains National Park,
437 Tanzania. *African Study Monographs*, 21(December), 147–157.

438 McGrew, W. C., Baldwin, P. J., Marchant, L. F., Pruetz, J. D., & Tutin, C. E. G. (2014).
439 Chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes verus*) and their mammalian sympatriates: Mt.
440 Assirik, Niokolo-Koba National Park, Senegal. *Primates*, 55(4), 525–32.
441 <http://doi.org/10.1007/s10329-014-0434-2>

442 McGrew, W. C., Baldwin, P. J., & Tutin, C. E. G. (1981). Chimpanzees in a hot, dry, and
443 open habitat: Mt. Assirik, Senegal, West Africa. *Journal of Human Evolution*, 10,
444 227–244.

445 McLester, E., Stewart, F. A., & Piel, A. K. (2016). Observation of an encounter between
446 African wild dogs (*Lycaon pictus*) and a chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes*)

447 *schweinfurthii*) in the Issa Valley, Tanzania. *African Primates*, 11(1), 27–36.

448 Moore, J. (1992). “Savanna” Chimpanzees. In T. Nishida, W. C. McGrew, P. Marler, M.
449 Pickford, & F. B. M. de Waal (Eds.), *Topics in Primatology, Vol 1, Human Origins*
450 (pp. 99–118). University of Tokyo Press.

451 Moore, J. (1996). Savanna chimpanzees, referential models and the last common
452 ancestor. In W. C. McGrew, L. F. Marchant, & T. Nishida (Eds.), *Great Ape*
453 *Societies* (pp. 275–292). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

454 Morris, K., & Goodall, J. (1977). Competition for meat between chimpanzees and
455 baboons of Gombe National Park. *Folia Primatologica*, 28, 109–121.

456 Newton-Fisher, N. E., Notman, H., & Reynolds, V. (2002). Hunting of mammalian prey
457 by Budongo forest chimpanzees. *Folia Primatologica*, 73(5), 281–283.
458 <http://doi.org/10.1159/000067454>

459 Okecha, A. A., & Newton-fisher, N. E. (2006). The diet of olive baboons (*Papio anubis*)
460 in the Budongo Forest. In N. E. Newton-Fisher, H. Notman, V. Reynolds, & J. D.
461 Paterson (Eds.), *Primates of Western Uganda* (pp. 61–73). New York: Springer.
462 http://doi.org/10.1007/978-0-387-33505-6_4

463 Piel, A. K., Lenoel, A., Johnson, C., & Stewart, F. A. (2015). Deterring poaching in
464 western Tanzania: The presence of wildlife researchers. *Global Ecology and*
465 *Conservation*, 3, 188–199.

466 Piel, A. K., Strampelli, P., Greathead, E., Hernandez-aguilar, R. A., Moore, J., &
467 Stewart, F. A. (2017). The diet of open-habitat chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes*
468 *schweinfurthii*) in the Issa valley, western Tanzania. *Journal of Human Evolution*,
469 112, 57–69. <http://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhevol.2017.08.016>

470 Pruetz, J. D. (2013). Studying Apes in a Human Landscape. In K. Strier (Ed.), *Primate*
471 *Ethnographies* (pp. 228–237). Pearson Publishers.

472 Pruetz, J. D., & LaDuke, T. C. (2010). Reaction to fire by savanna chimpanzees (*pan*
473 *troglydytes verus*) at fongoli, senegal: Conceptualization of “fire behavior” and the
474 case for a chimpanzee model. *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*, 141(4),
475 646–650. <http://doi.org/10.1002/ajpa.21245>

476 Ramirez-Amaya, S., McLester, E., Stewart, F. A., & Piel, A. K. (2015). Savanna
477 chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes schweinfurthii*) consume and share blue duiker
478 (*Philantomba monticola*) meat in the Issa Valley, Ugalla western Tanzania. *Pan*
479 *Africa News*, 22(2).

480 Rudicell, R. S., Piel, A. K., Stewart, F., Moore, D. L., Learn, G. H., Li, Y., ... Hahn, B. H.
481 (2011). High prevalence of simian immunodeficiency virus infection in a community
482 of savanna chimpanzees. *Journal of Virology*, 85(19), 9918–9928.
483 <http://doi.org/10.1128/JVI.05475-11>

484 Russak, S. (2013). Ecological Role of Dry-Habitat Chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes*
485 *schweinfurthii*). Doctoral dissertation. Arizona State University.

486 Russak, S. M. (2014). Using patch focals to study unhabituated dry-habitat
487 chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes schweinfurthii*) and sympatric fauna at Issa, Ugalla,
488 Tanzania. *International Journal of Primatology*, 35(6), 1202–1221.
489 <http://doi.org/10.1007/s10764-014-9803-3>

490 Russak, S. M., & McGrew, W. C. (2008). Chimpanzees as fauna: Comparisons of
491 sympatric large mammals across long-term study sites. *American Journal of*
492 *Primatology*, 70(4), 402–409. <http://doi.org/10.1002/ajp.20506>

493 Scheel, D. (1993). Profitability, encounter rates, and prey choice of African lions.
494 *Behavioral Ecology*, 4, 90–97.

495 Shorrocks, B., & Bates, W. (2015). *The Biology of African Savannas* (Second). Oxford,
496 UK: Oxford University Press.

497 Smits, C. M. M. (1986). Diet composition and habitat use of the West African bushbuck
498 *Tragelaphus scriptus scriptus* (Pallas, 1776) during the first half of the dry season.
499 *South African Journal of Zoology*, 21(1), 89–94.
500 <http://doi.org/10.1080/02541858.1986.11447964>

501 Stanford, C. B., Wallis, J., Matama, H., & Goodall, J. (1994). Patterns of predation by
502 chimpanzees on red colobus monkeys in Gombe National Park, 1982-1991.
503 *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*, 94(2), 213–28.
504 <http://doi.org/10.1002/ajpa.1330940206>

505 Stewart, F. A., Piel, A. K., & McGrew, W. C. (2011). Living archaeology: Artefacts of
506 specific nest site fidelity in wild chimpanzees. *Journal of Human Evolution*, 61(4),
507 388–395. <http://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhevol.2011.05.005>

508 Su, D. F., & Harrison, T. (2008). Ecological implications of the relative rarity of fossil
509 hominins at Laetoli. *Journal of Human Evolution*, 55(4), 672–681.
510 <http://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhevol.2008.07.003>

511 Suzuki, A. (1969). An ecological study of chimpanzees in a savanna woodland.
512 *Primates*, 148, 103–148.

513 Teelen, S. (2008). Influence of chimpanzee predation on the red colobus population at
514 Ngogo, Kibale National Park, Uganda. *Primates*, 49(1), 41–9.
515 <http://doi.org/10.1007/s10329-007-0062-1>

516 Thaker, M., Vanak, A. T., Owen, C. R., Ogden, M. B., & Slotow, R. (2010). Group
517 dynamics of zebra and wildebeest in a woodland savanna: Effects of predation risk
518 and habitat density. *PLoS ONE*, 5(9), 1–6.
519 <http://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0012758>

520 Treves, A., & Palmqvist, P. (2007). Reconstructing hominin interactions with mammalian
521 carnivores (6.0–1.8 Ma). In S. Gursky & K. A. I. Nekaris (Eds.), *Primate Anti-*
522 *Predator Strategies* (pp. 355–381). Springer, U.S. [http://doi.org/10.1007/978-0-387-](http://doi.org/10.1007/978-0-387-34810-0_17)
523 [34810-0_17](http://doi.org/10.1007/978-0-387-34810-0_17)

524 Uehara, S. (1997). Predation on mammals by the chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes*).
525 *Primates*, 38(2), 193–214. <http://doi.org/10.1007/BF02382009>

526 van Leeuwen, K., Hill, R., Newotn, A., & Korstjens, A. (2017). *Chimpanzee landscape*
527 *use in different environments: an Individually based modelling approach*. Primate
528 Society of Great Britain. London, UK.

529 White, T. D., Ambrose, S. H., Suwa, G., Su, D. F., Degusta, D., Bernot, R. L., ... Vrba,
530 E. (2009). Macrovertebrate paleontology and the Pliocene habitat of *Ardipithecus*
531 *ramidus*. *Science*, 326, 87–93. <http://doi.org/10.1126/science.1175822>

532 White, T. D., Moore, R. V, & Suwa, G. (1984). Hadar biostratigraphy and hominid
533 evolution. *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology*, 4, 575–583.
534 <http://doi.org/10.1080/02724634.1984.10012033>

535 Whiten, A., Goodall, J., McGrew, W. C., Nishida, T., Reynolds, V., Sugiyama, Y., ...
536 Boesch, C. (1999). Cultures in chimpanzees. *Nature*, 399, 15–18.

537 Wilfred, P., & MacColl, A. (2014). The pattern of poaching signs in Ugalla Game
538 Reserve, western Tanzania. *African Journal of Ecology*, 52(4), 543–551.

539 <http://doi.org/10.1111/aje.12161>

540 Wrangham, R. W., & van Zinnicq Bergmann Riss, E. (1990). Rates of predation on
541 mammals by gombe chimpanzees, 1972-1975. *Primates*, 31(2), 157–170.

542 <http://doi.org/10.1007/BF02380938>

543

Table 1 - Species list from Russak (2014) with comparative data on species presence at Mt. Assirik (Senegal) and in the current study

Common	Latin	McGrew et al. 2014 (Assirik)	Russak (2013)	Current
✓ = direct evidence only ☑ = indirect evidence only ✓ (d) = Issa hosts the same genus but a different species ^c = known from camera trap only				
Artiodactyla				
Lichtenstein hartebeest	<i>Alcelaphus lichtensteinii</i>	✓(d)	✓	✓
Roan antelope	<i>Hippotragus equinus</i>	✓	✓	✓
Common waterbuck	<i>Kobus ellipsiprymnus</i>	-	✓	✓
Klipspringer	<i>Oreotragus oreotragus</i>	-	✓	✓
Warthog	<i>Phacochoerus africanus</i>	✓ (d)	✓	✓
Blue duiker	<i>Philantomba larvatus</i>	✓ (d)	✓	✓
Bushpig	<i>Potamochoerus larvatus</i>	✓ (d)	✓	✓
Reedbuck	<i>Redunca redunca</i>	-	✓	✓
Common duiker	<i>Sylvicapra grimmia</i>	✓	✓	✓
African buffalo	<i>Syncerus caffer</i>	✓	☑	✓
Derby's eland	<i>Taurotragus oryx</i>	✓	☑	✓
Bushbuck	<i>Tragelphus scriptus</i>	✓	✓	✓
Carnivora				
African clawless otter	<i>Aonyx capensis</i>	-	☑	☑
Bushy-tailed mongoose	<i>Bdeogale crassicauda</i>	-	☑	☑ ^c
Black backed Jackal	<i>Canis mesomeles</i>	✓ (d)	✓	✓

Africa civet	<i>Civettictis civetta</i>	✓	☑	✓
Spotted hyena	<i>Crocuta crocuta</i>	✓	☑	✓
Serval	<i>Felis serval</i>	-	☑	☑ ^c
African wild cat	<i>Felis sylvestris</i>	✓	☑	✓
Common genet*	<i>Genetta genetta</i>	✓ (d)	☑	☑
Dwarf mongoose	<i>Helogale parvula</i>	✓ (d)	✓	☑ ^c
Egyptian mongoose	<i>Herpestes ichneumon</i>	✓	✓	
Slender mongoose	<i>Herpestes sanguinea</i>	✓	☑	
East African honey badger	<i>Mellivoria capensis</i>	✓	☑	✓
Lion	<i>Panthera leo</i>	✓	☑	✓
Leopard	<i>Panthera pardus</i>	✓	✓	✓
Hyracoidea				
Tree hyrax	<i>Dendrohyrax arboreus</i>	-	✓	☑
Yellow spotted/bush hyrax	<i>Heterohyrax brucei</i>	-	☑	✓
Pholidota				
Ground pangolin	<i>Smutsia temminckii</i>	-	☑	✓
Primates				
Vervet monkey	<i>Chlorocebus</i>	✓ (d)	✓	✓
Red-tailed monkey	<i>Cercopithecus ascanius</i>	-	✓	✓
Blue monkey	<i>Cercopithecus mitis</i>	-	✓	✓
Senegal galago	<i>Galago senegalensis</i>	✓	✓	✓
Eastern chimpanzee	<i>Pan troglodytes schweinfurthii</i>	✓	✓	✓
Yellow baboon	<i>Papio cynocephalus</i>	✓ (d)	✓	✓

Red colobus			✓	✓
Rodentia				
Sun squirrel	<i>Heliosciurus sp.</i>		✓	✓
Porcupine	<i>Hystrix africaeaustralis</i>		✓	✓
Smith's bush squirrel	<i>Paraxerus cepapi</i>		✓	
Giant forest squirrel	<i>Protoxerus stangeri</i>		✓	
Tubulidentata				
Ant-bear (aardvark)	<i>Orycteropus afer</i>		☑	
<hr/> TOTAL SPECIES PRESENT		24	41	36

* listed by Russak as common genet, but is likely large spotted genet (*Genetta tigrina*)

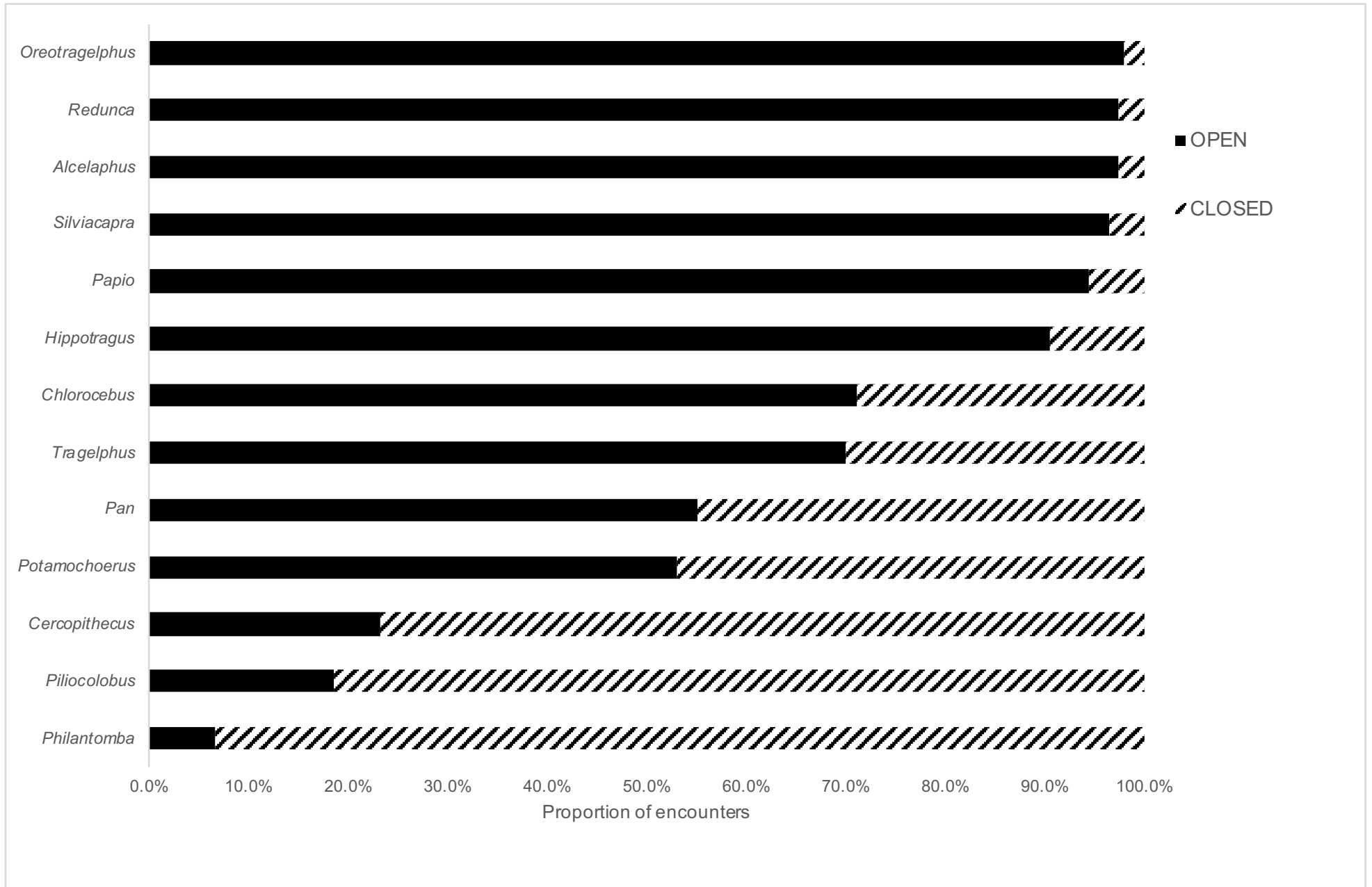


Figure 2

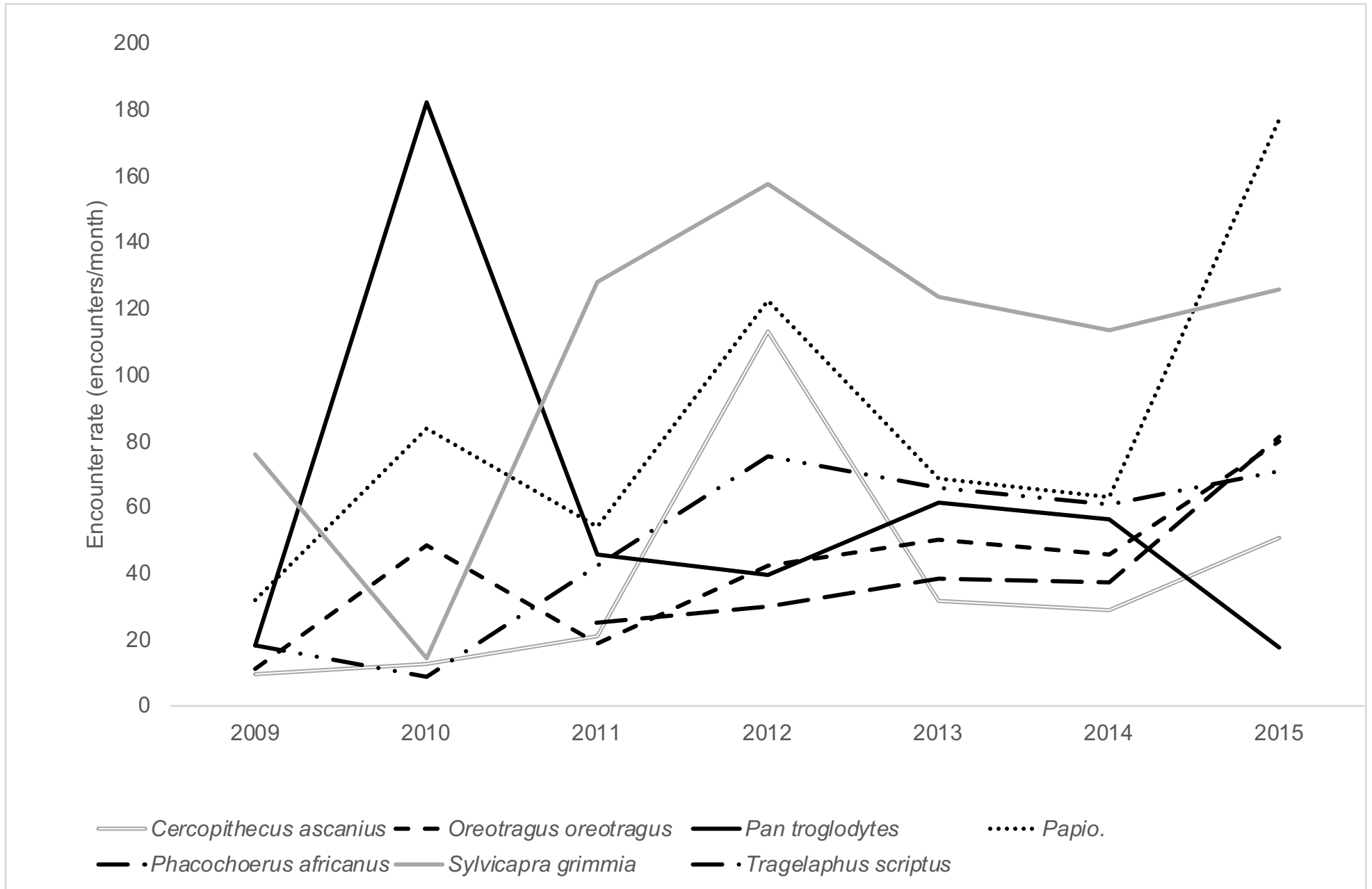


Figure 3