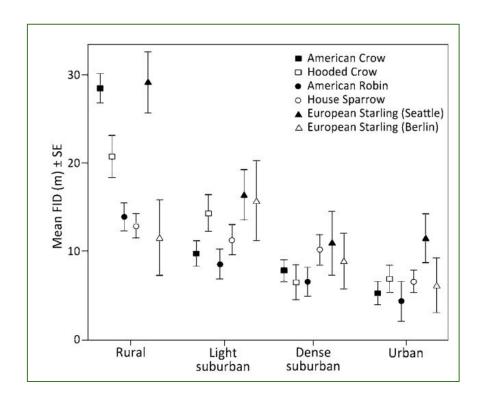
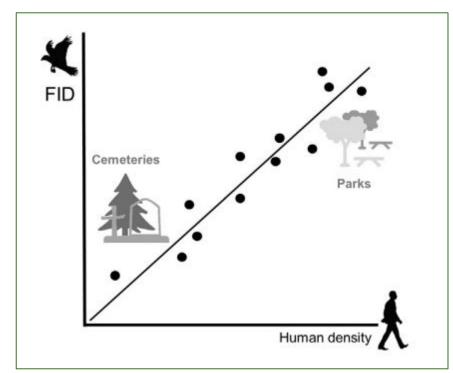
The Impact of Human Disturbance on the Foraging Behavior of Cardinalis cardinalis



Urbanization and Human Disturbances Influences Bird Behavior





Clucas & Marzluff (2011)

Morelli et al (2018)

Q: Does foraging behavior differ between areas of high human disturbance and areas of low human disturbance?





H: Cardinals in Brackenridge Park will modify their foraging behavior in response to frequent human disturbance.





Independent variable: Human disturbance



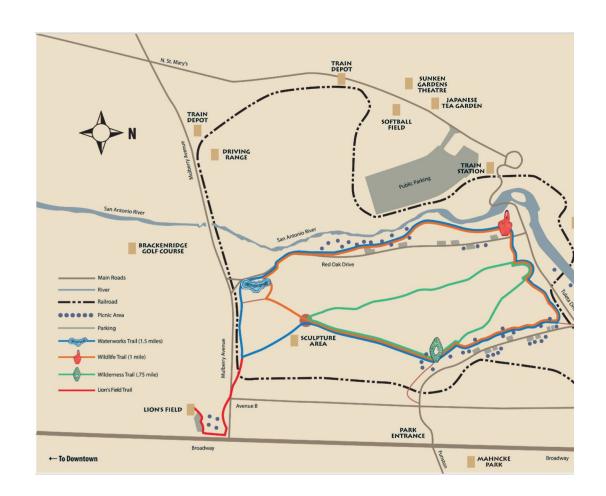
Dependent variable:

Time cardinals spend on the ground foraging & their distance from the trail



Prediction 1

Cardinals in more disturbed areas forage closer to the trails.



Prediction 2

Cardinals in disturbed areas will spend more time foraging on the ground than in the trees compared to cardinals in undisturbed areas.



Methods

- Observe each cardinal at a given site from a distance 30m until it leaves
 - a. Record proportion of time spent on the ground during the observation
- 2. Record amount of human disturbance within a 30m radius of the bird
- Record each bird's distance from the trail after it leaves
- 4. Record each bird's GPS location using a Trimble



Timeline

Collect Data:

Week of

Mar 25th

M/W/F/S

Apr 1st

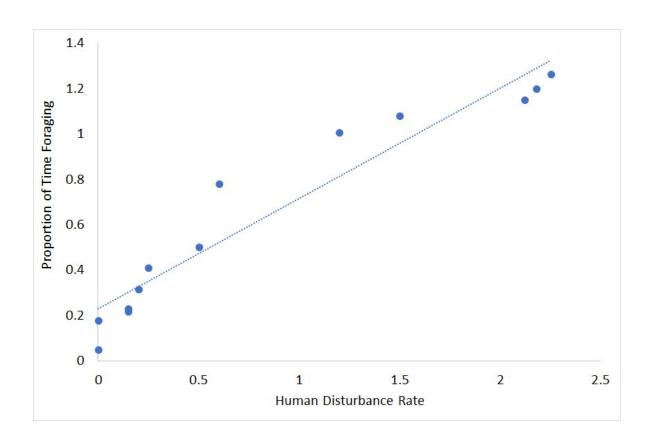
M/W/F/S

Apr 8th

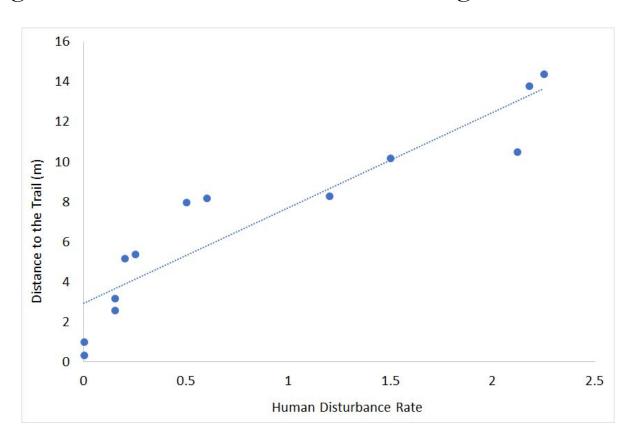
M/W/F/S



Time Spent Foraging Increases as Human Disturbance Rate Increases



Birds Forage Closer to the Trail in Areas of High Disturbance



There is a Positive Correlation Between Human Activity and Time Spent Foraging



X = Short Time
X = Long Time

References

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- **Smith-Castro, J. R. & Rodewald, A. D.** 2010. Behavioral responses of nesting birds to human disturbance along recreational trails. Journal of Field Ornithology, **81**, 130-138. doi:

https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1557-9263.2010.00270.x.

Rubric

- Clarity of rationale
- Feasibility of aims
- Logical specific aims
- Methods and Timeline
- Expected results and pitfalls

- Question, hypothesis and predictions
- □ Research on what makes the question and hypothesis biologically relevant
- Research on what is known on this topic
- Include citations and references