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# Cathance Mammal Study

## Purpose and Hypothesis

**Purpose:** To determine what large mammals are living in the Preserve and find what times they are most active.

**Hypothesis:** If hidden cameras are placed on trees in areas of animal activity and the areas are lightly baited, then mammals will come to feed and proceed to be photographed. They will be most active during the dawn and dusk hours, and will be mostly solitary.

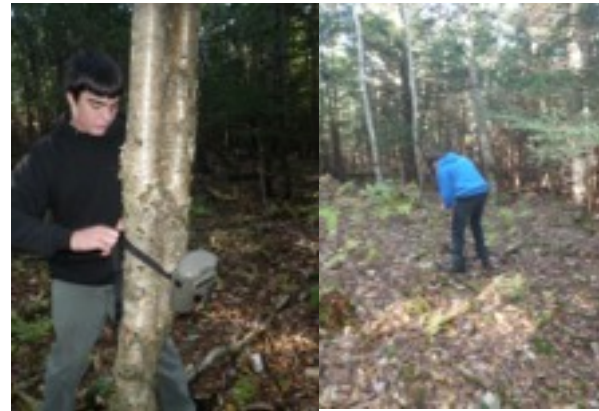


The group captured by the Herbivore Camera

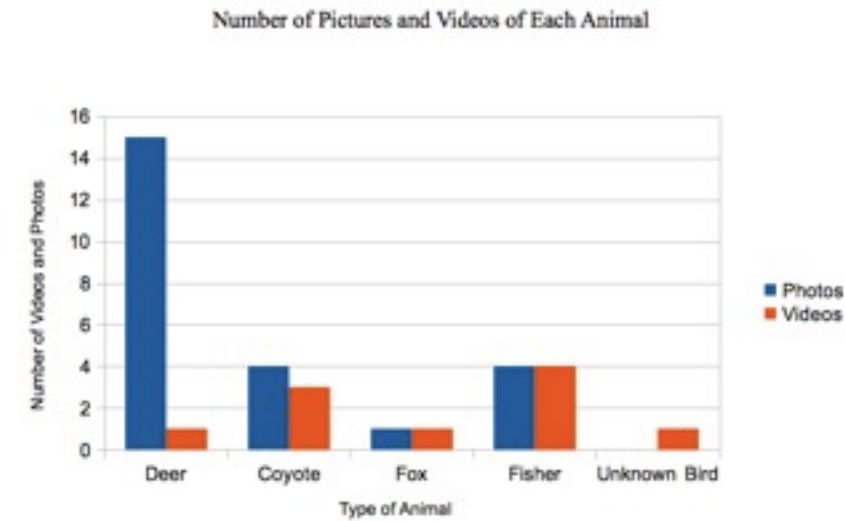


Pair of White-tailed Deer at Herbivore Site

Fisher at Carnivore Site



Bru and Jonah setting up the Carnivore Site



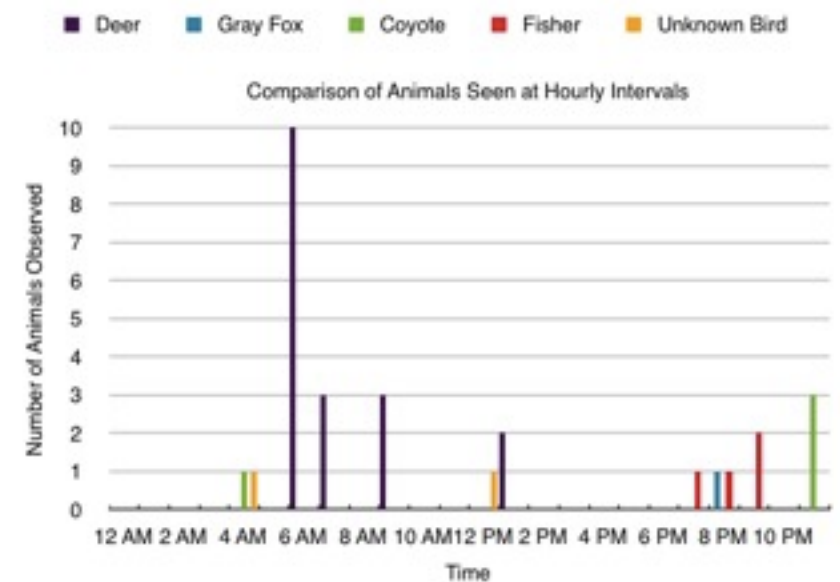
## Setting up the Cameras

The group set two camera traps in the Cathance Preserve. The “Herbivore Camera” was placed at the top of a deer path and baited with corn and apples. The “Carnivore Camera” was placed in a clearing near the river along another deer path and baited with Barbecue chicken, molasses, and skunk and fisher paste. Adam Gravel helped the group choose the sites. Cameras were tested beforehand at the Ecology Center. The Herbivore camera took still images and the Carnivore Camera took videos and pictures.

## Location of the Cameras



Thanks to Mr. Evans, Cheryl Sleeper from CREA, and Adam Gravel from Stantec for their help and support.



## Results

Deer generally appeared after dawn (from 7:00 to 10:00 AM), though a few came in the early afternoon. Fishers visited the camera in the early night hours (from 7:00 to 10:00 PM). Coyotes visited the camera late at night (11:00 to midnight) and in the early morning (at 4:30 AM). The gray fox visited the camera at 8:15 PM. Carnivores that visited were solitary, and herbivores that visited were alone or in pairs.



Coyote at Carnivore Site

White-tailed Deer at Carnivore Site