

Habitat Hole Project

By: Sam Wood and Nick Rogers

Hole # 10.
Occupied by red squirrel.



Jumping Mouse In hole # 11



Nick Rogers measuring a hole.

Purpose: to observe holes that have shown recent animal life in them that are within the Cathance River Preserve and to identify the species that used or made these holes and compare the surroundings and location of the holes to each other.

Hypotheses: Active holes that are found will tend to have similar surrounds (hardwoods), similar exposure, and dug into the ground.

Procedure:

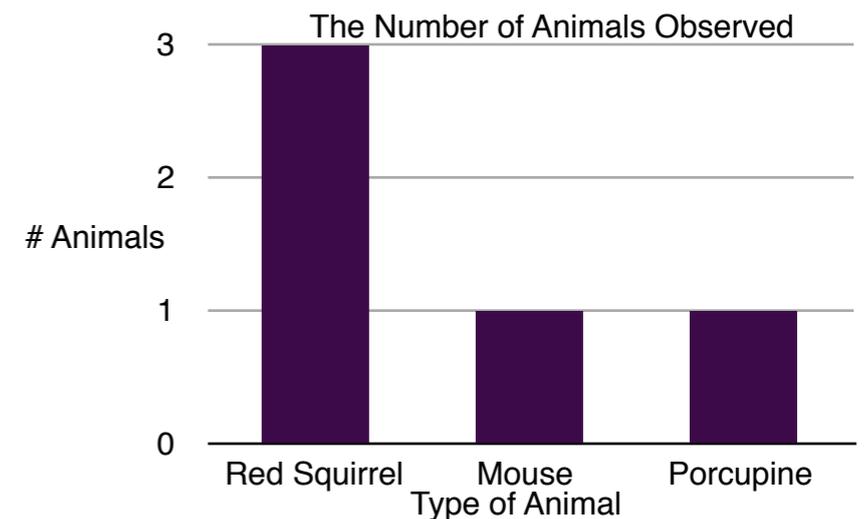
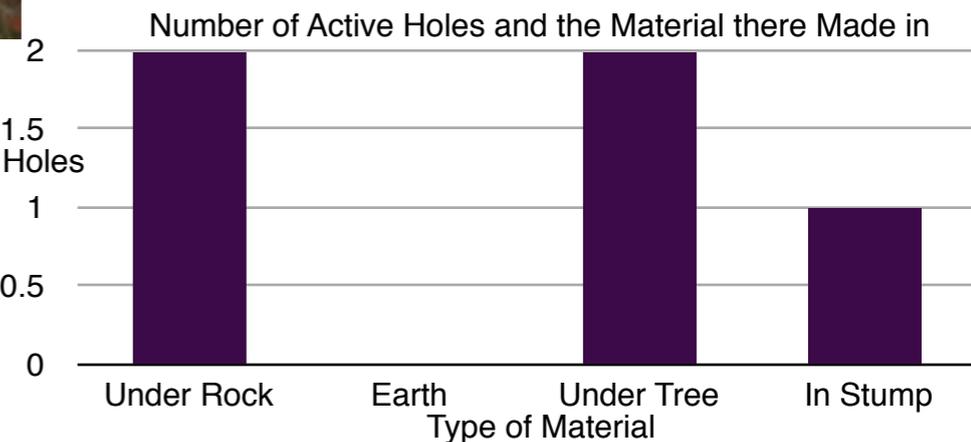
- A Peeper Probe camera was used to observe the insides of holes.
- The holes location was then marked on a GPS.
- The hole was given a number and then photographed.
- Observations about the surrounding area, such as type of forest and ground, were made.
- A hypothesis was made about the possible animals living in the hole depending on scraps of food found or ecosystem the hole was in.

Results:

- The results showed that out of the active holes five were found in coniferous forest while one was found in a deciduous forest.
- The results showed that active holes tended to be North facing or South facing.
- The results showed that two of the active holes were found in rock, two were found under a tree and one was found in or under a stump
- The results showed that out of the five active holes three of them were built by Red Squirrels and the other two were built by a Jumping Mouse and a Porcupine.

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Conclusion: The hypothesis was not supported by the data. The majority of holes were not made in hardwood forests and none of the holes were dug in the ground. The holes did in general share similar surroundings for example most were surrounded by coniferous forests and faced either due North or due South.

