

# Hawaiian hoary bat mitigation-supported research

U.S. Geological Survey – Pacific Island Ecosystems Research Center  
University of Hawai‘i at Hilo – Hawai‘i Cooperative Studies Unit

**Modeling foraging habitat suitability of the  
Hawaiian hoary bat**

**Hawaiian hoary bat conservation genetics**

**Hawaiian hoary bat conservation biology:  
movements, roosting behavior, and diet**

**Auwahi Wind Power bat research  
at Waihou Mitigation Area**

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# Hawaiian hoary bat



How many bats are there?

What are the trends?

- distribution, activity, population size

How to assess efforts to mitigate for bat fatalities?

- effects of habitat restoration

# Hawaiian hoary bat



How many bats are there?

What are the trends?

- **distribution, activity**, population size

How to assess efforts to mitigate for bat fatalities?

- **effects of habitat restoration**

# Hawaiian hoary bat



How to assess bat use of areas?

- baseline or pre-management action
- response to post-management action

What are the limiting factors?

- food and shelter → insects and tree roosts
- how are limiting factors affected?

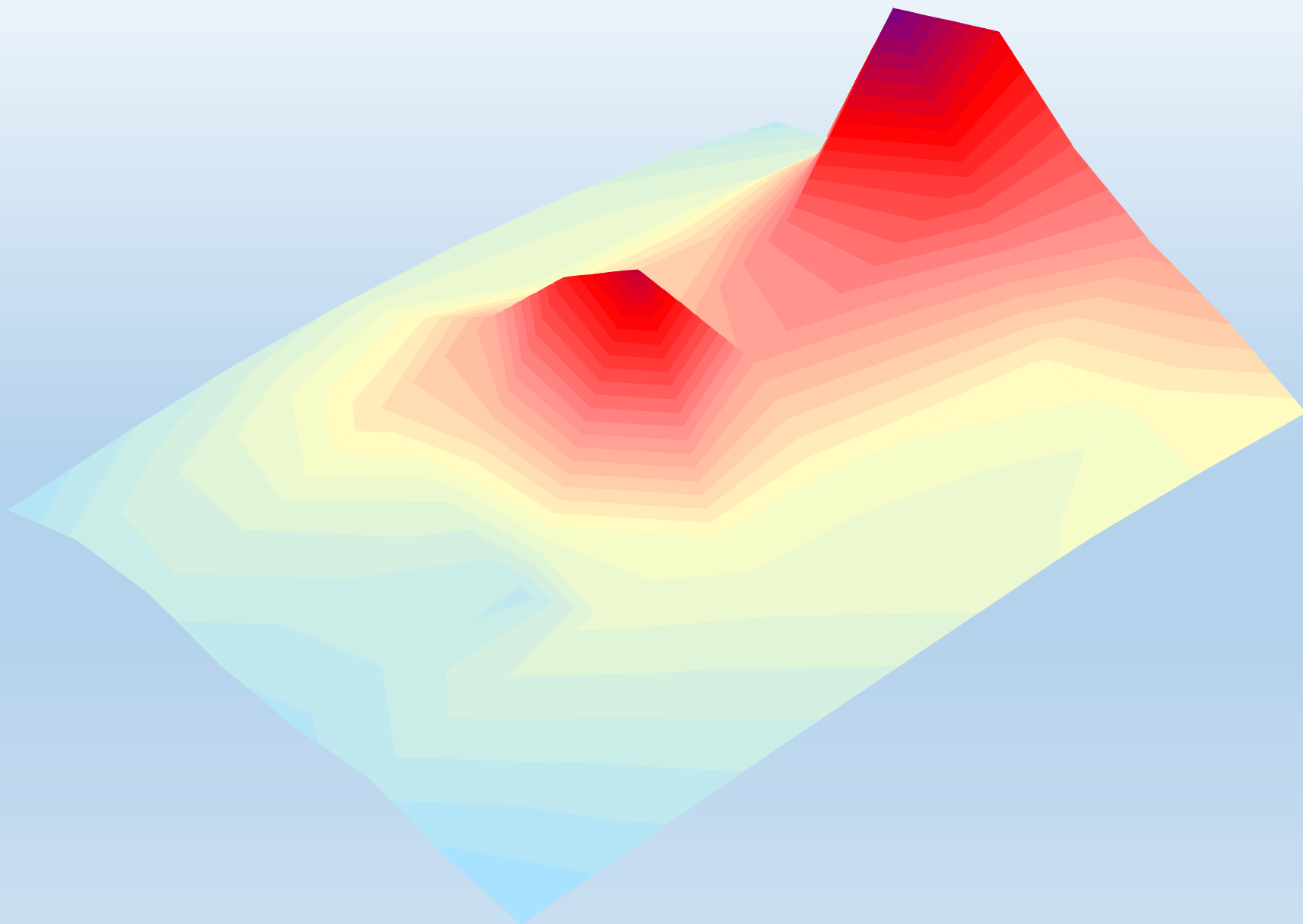
# **Modeling foraging habitat suitability of the Hawaiian hoary bat**

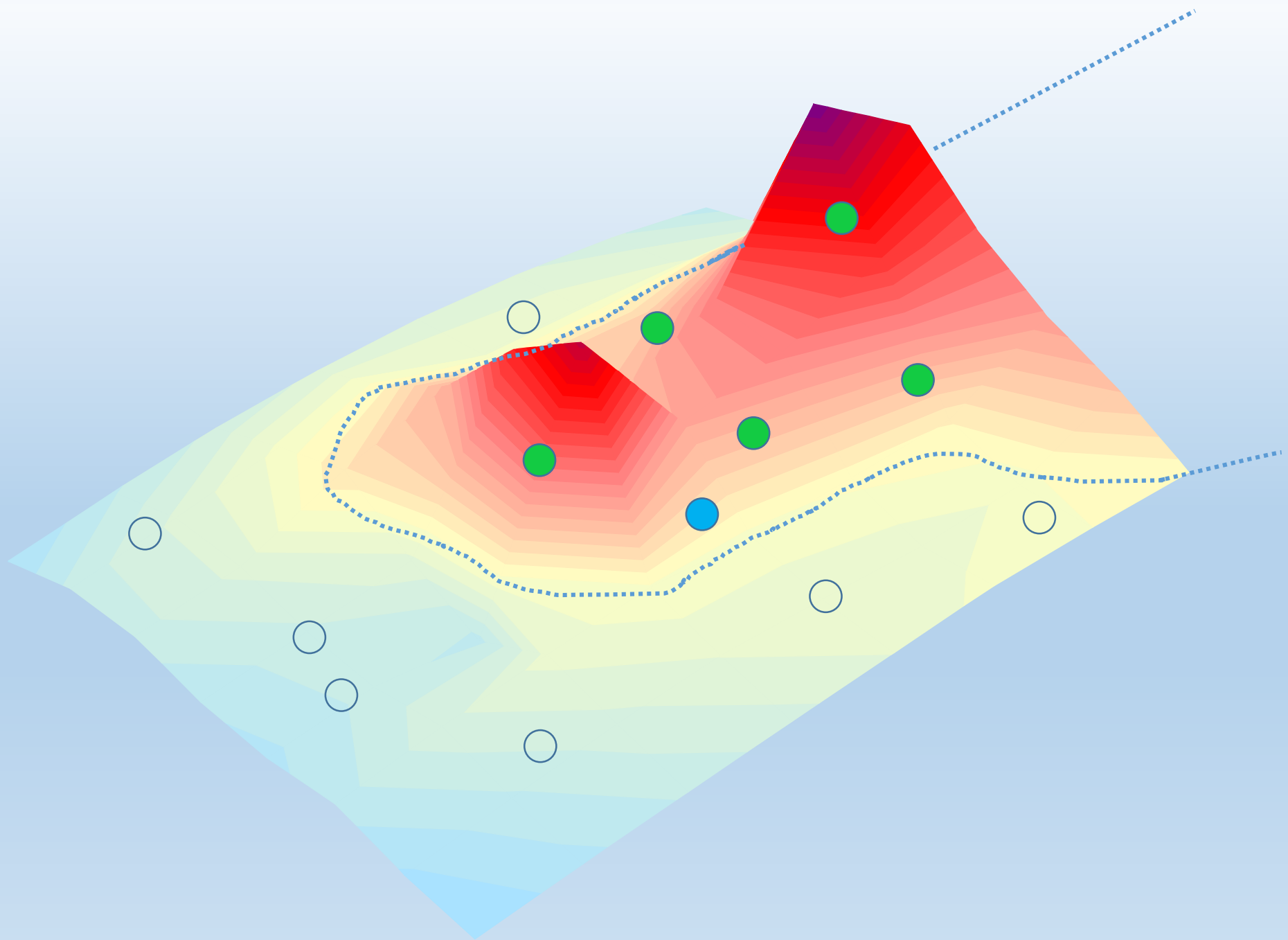
- Test and demonstrate a new analytical method:
  - Quantifies bat foraging habitat use
    - baseline or post-management response
- Applies & compares multiple sampling methods
  - echolocation recordings
  - thermal videography
  - insect trapping

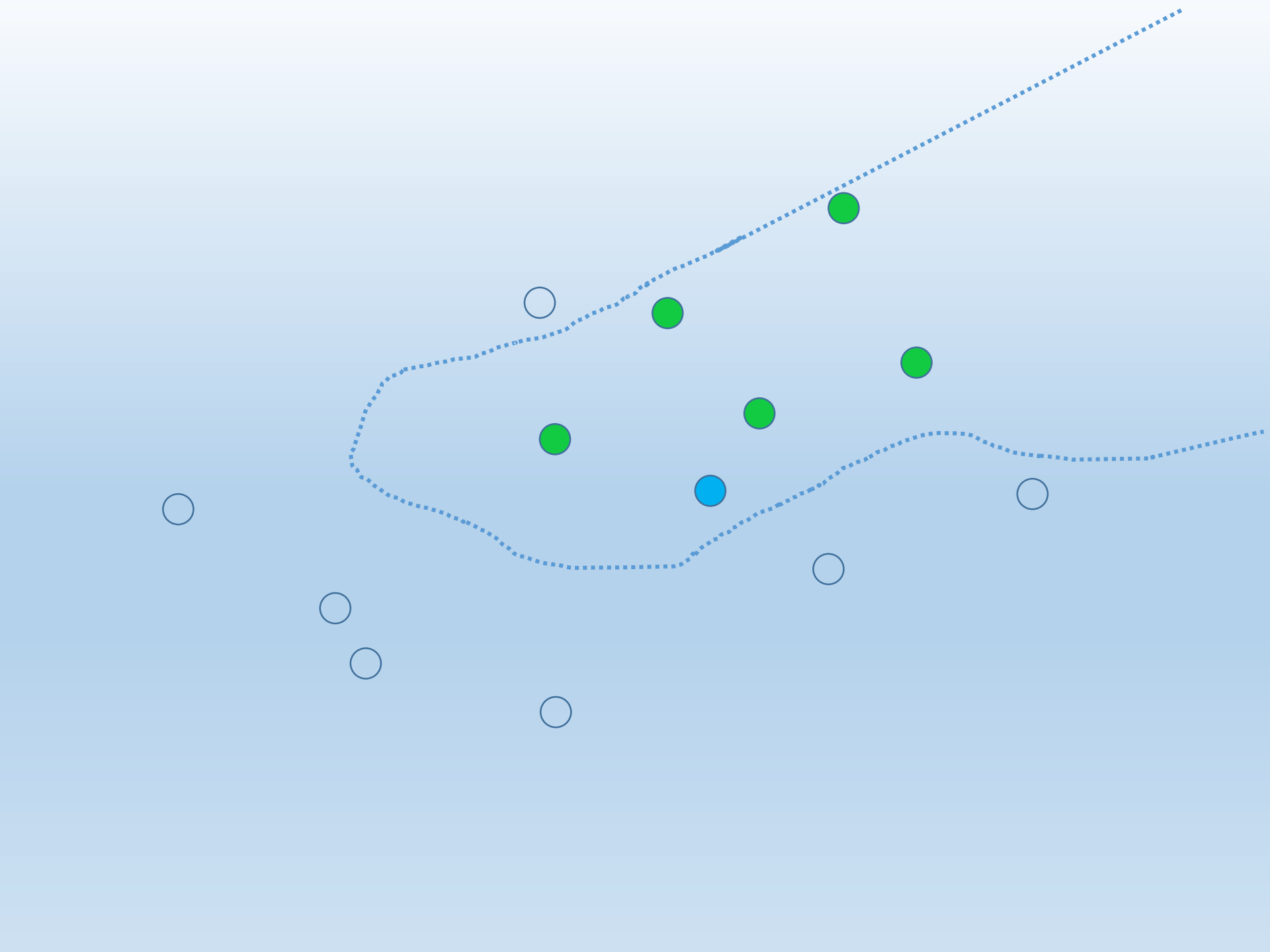
**Occupancy analysis** as a model for quantifying distribution and habitat associations

- probability of **site occupancy**, proportion of sampled **area occupied** and **detection probability**
- explicitly deals with **imperfect detection**
- important for **cryptic**, hard-to-detect species









**Inference limited** when using detection / non-detection (“presence/absence”) data

“Occupancy” can be categorized into **multiple** states:

0 = none

1 = some

2 = lots

0 = not occupied

1 = non-breeders only

2 = breeders also present

0 = absent

1 = species A present

2 = both species A and B present

Kroll et al 2016    Multistate models reveal long-term trends of northern spotted owls in the absence of a novel competitor.    PLoS ONE

# Multi-state occupancy modeling of HHB foraging behavior

## Activity level (number of detections)

0 = no bat detection

1 = present with **low** levels of activity

2 = present with **high** levels of activity

## Feeding behavior

0 = no bat detection

1 = present but no indication of **prey targeting**

2 = present & **prey targeting**

## Acoustic

Feeding buzz >>> prey targeting

## Video

“Hot pursuit” flight >>> prey targeting

# **Multi-state occupancy modeling of HHB foraging behavior**

Four models:

**Activity level — acoustic**

**Activity level — video**

**Feeding — acoustic**

**Feeding — video**

Search

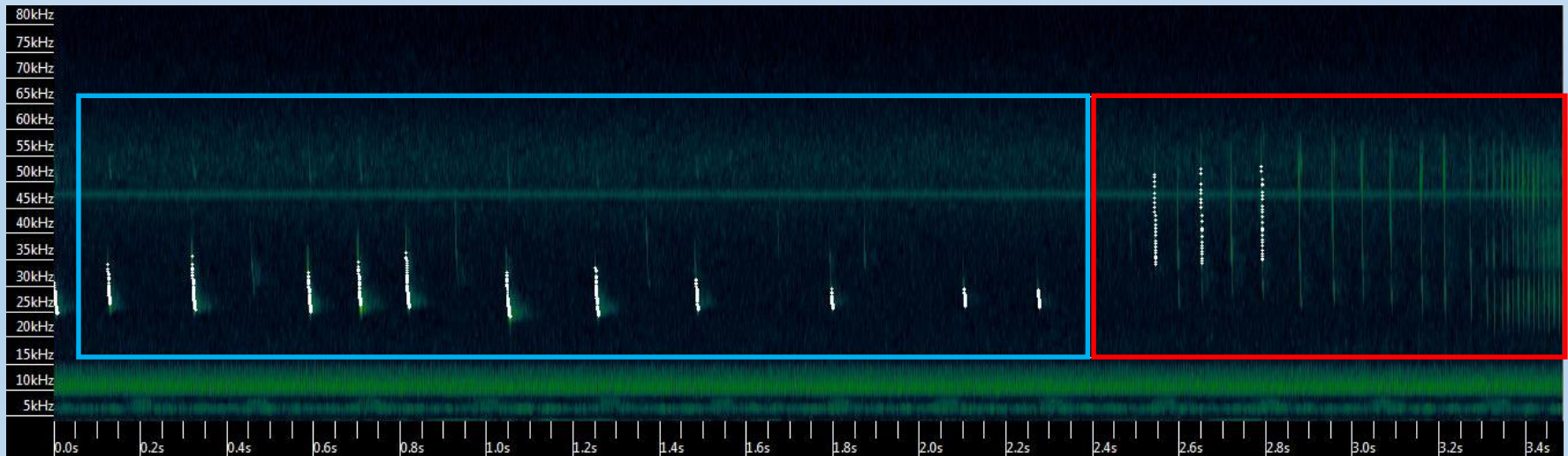
Search

Search

Search

Feeding buzz

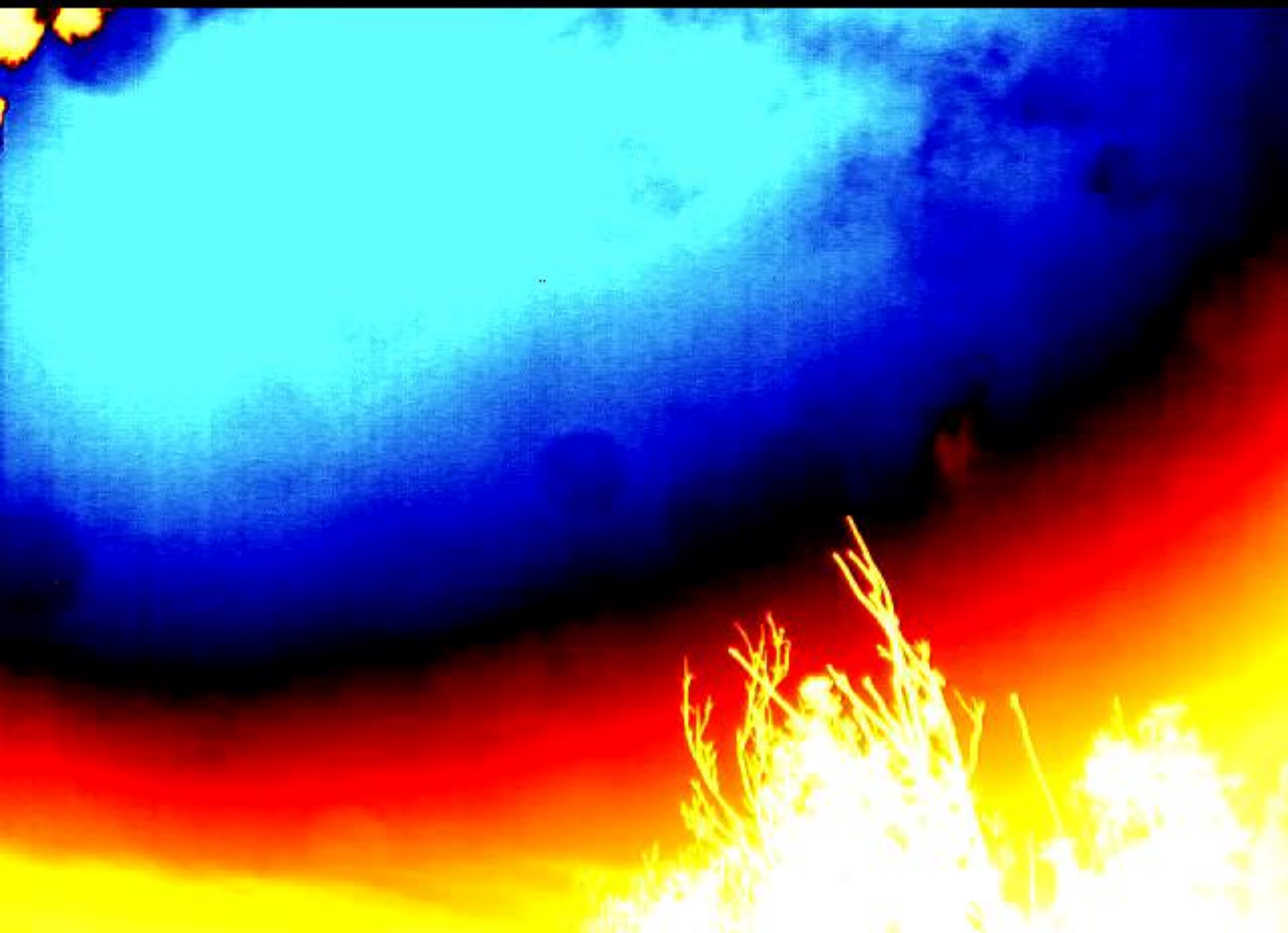
unambiguous indicator  
of prey targeting but  
can be hard to detect



>90%

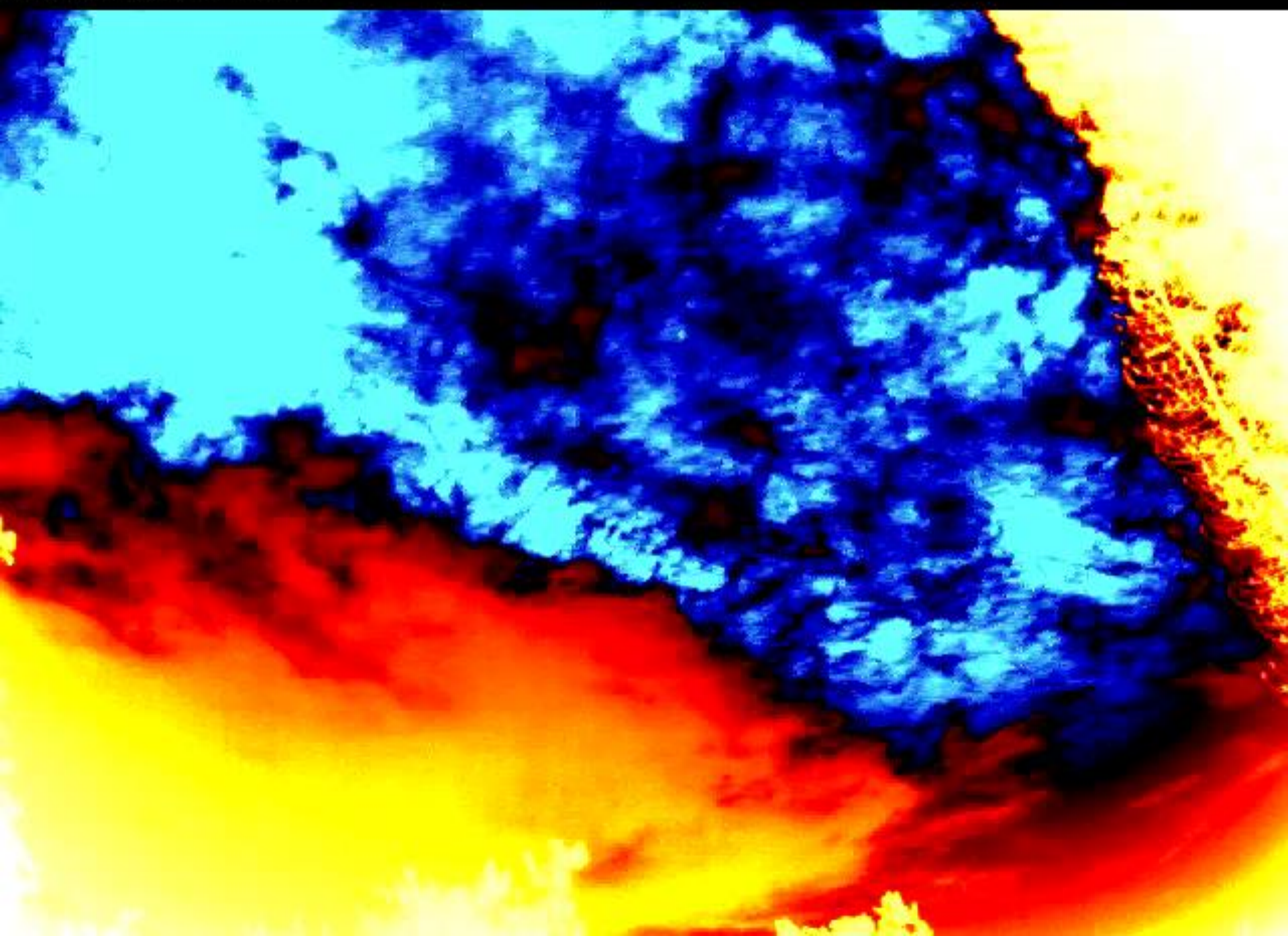
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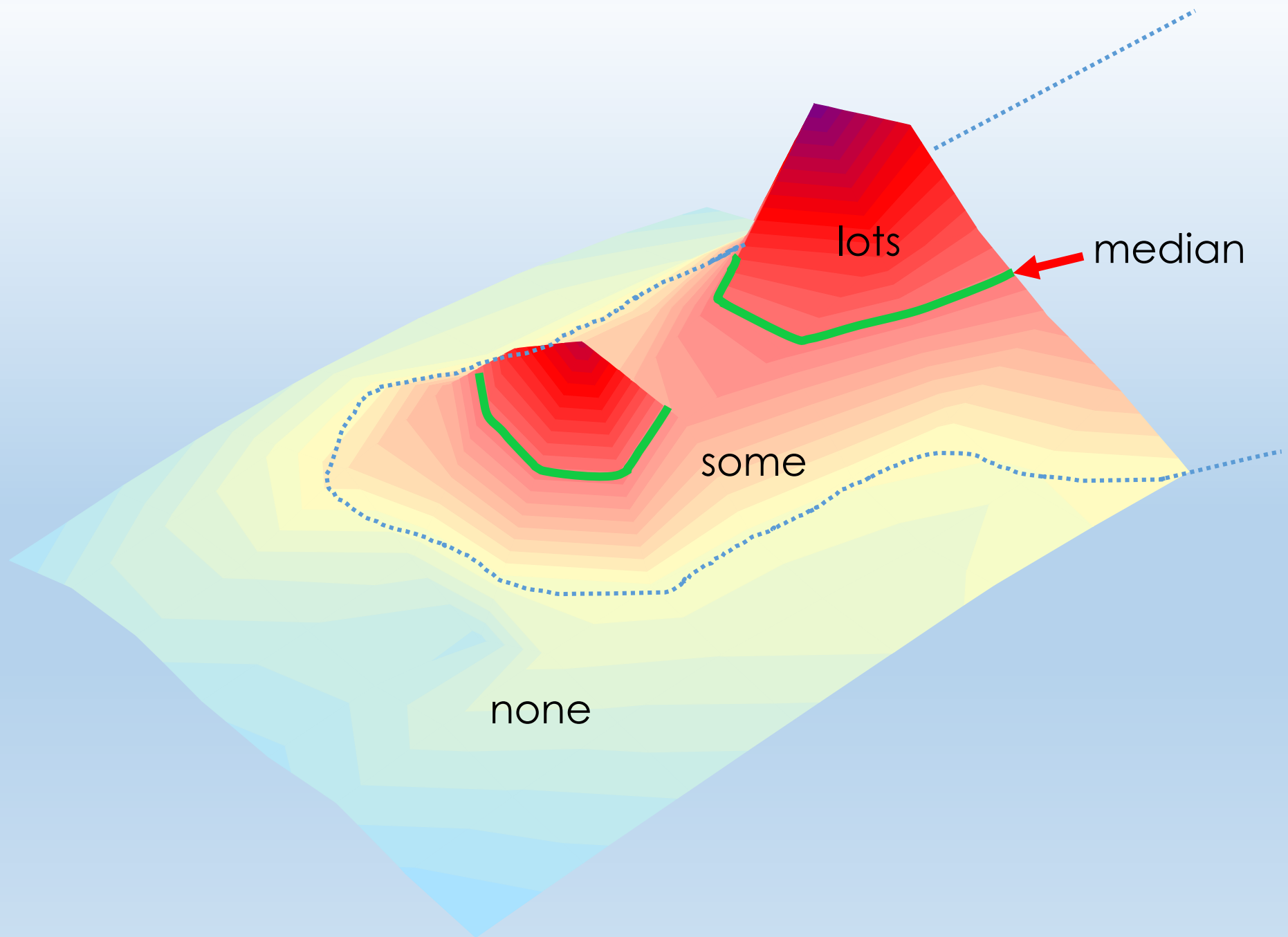
2014-10-13 21:06:46





2014-10-08 20:09:12





## **Multi-state occupancy modeling**

Predictors of bat occurrence and occupancy state:

- Sampling attributes:
  - wind speed (-), nightly mean, maximum
  - precipitation (-), nightly cumulative total
- Site attributes:
  - insect abundance, biomass (+), beetles and moths
  - elevation (~)
  - wind exposure (-)

## Multi-state occupancy modeling

Predictors of bat occurrence and occupancy state:

- Sampling attributes:
  - wind speed (-), nightly mean, maximum
  - precipitation (-), nightly cumulative total
- Site attributes:
  - **insect abundance, biomass (+), beetles and moths**
  - elevation (~)
  - wind exposure (-)

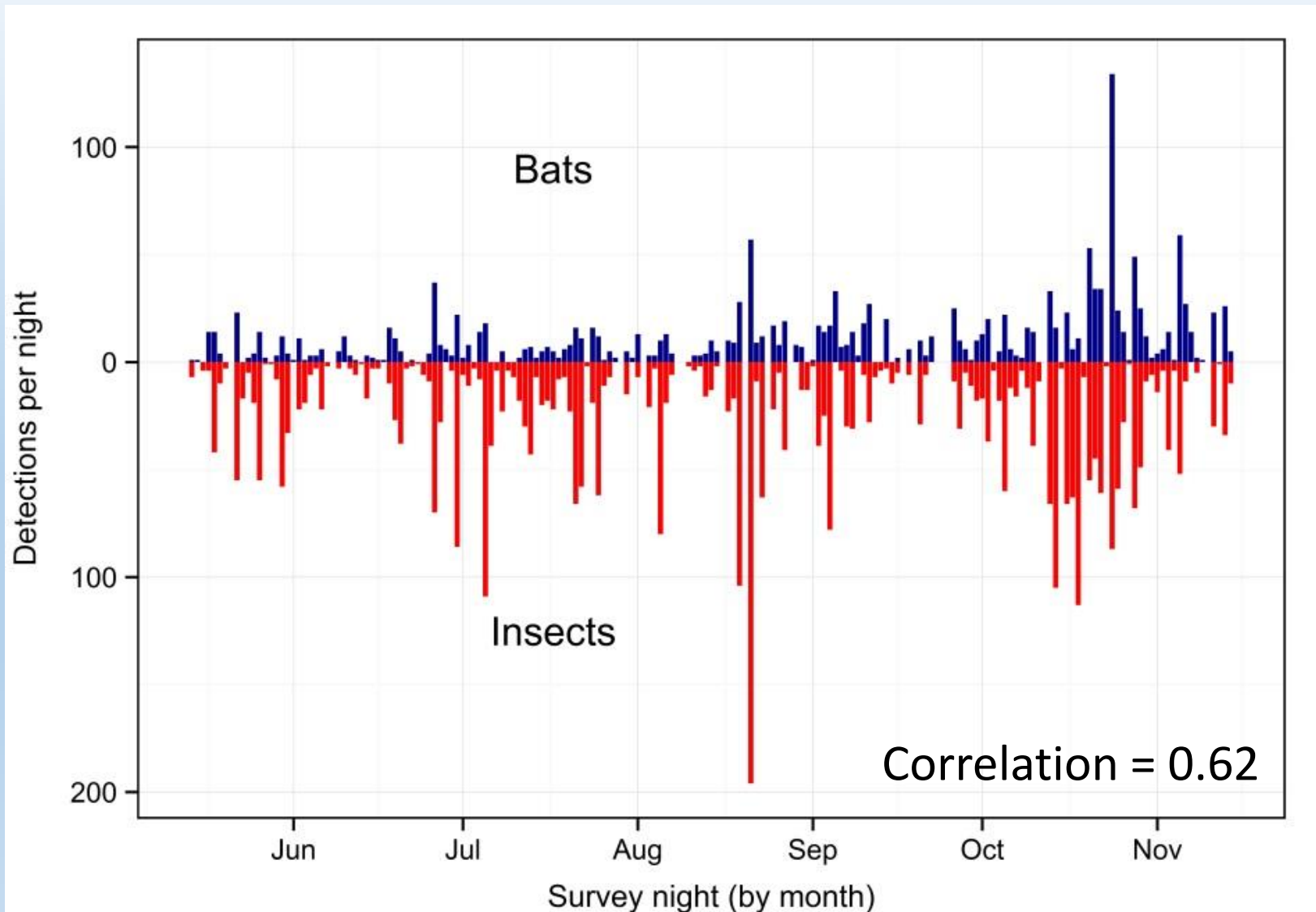
# Correlation with insect detections



Photo: M. Tuttle



## Correlation with insect detections

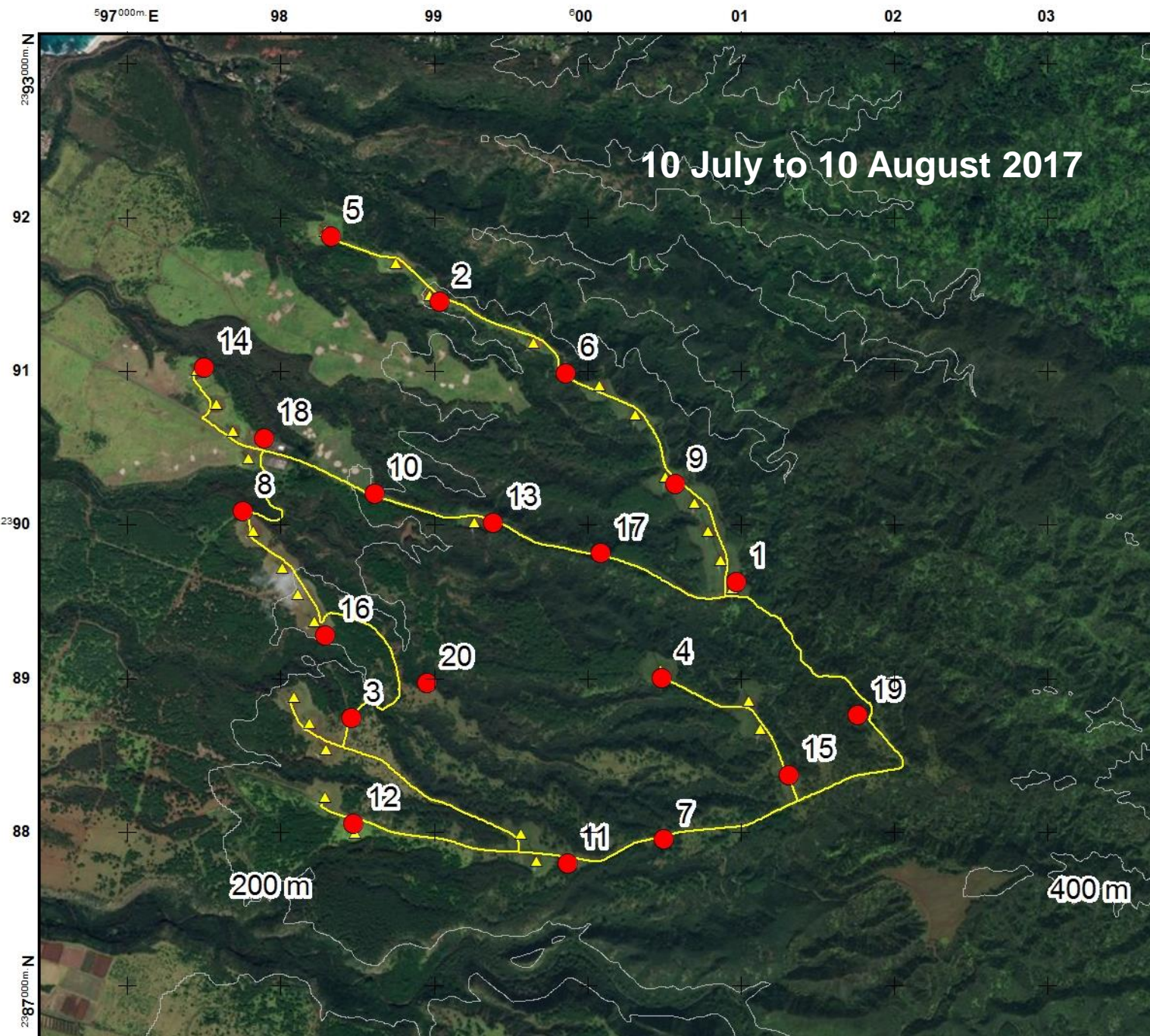




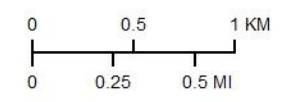




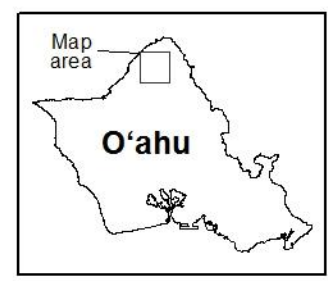




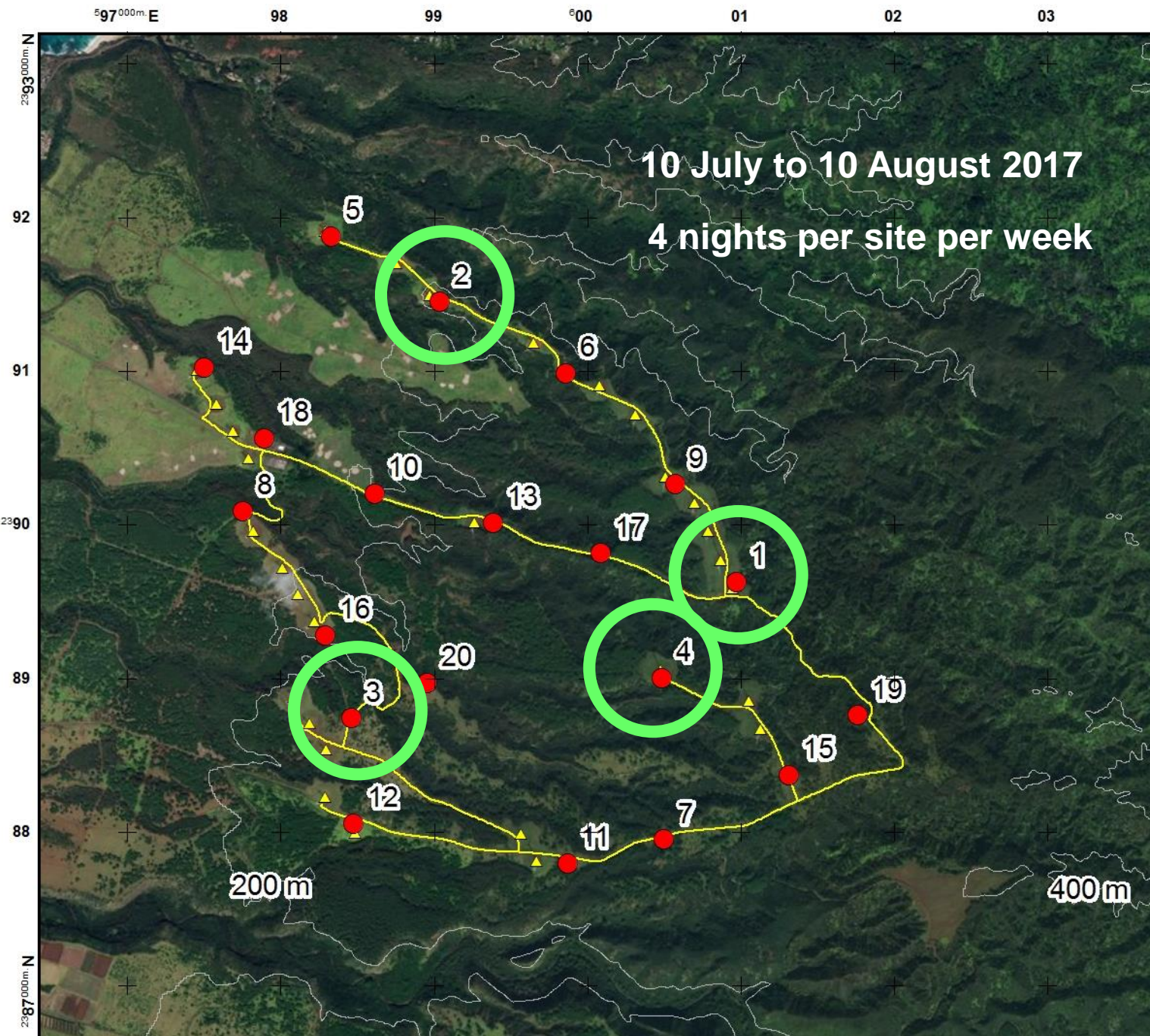
- Sample sites
- ▲ Turbines
- Facility roads
- 200 m contours



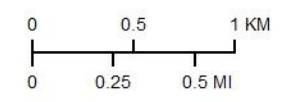
Universal Transverse Mercator  
4 North projection, NAD83 datum



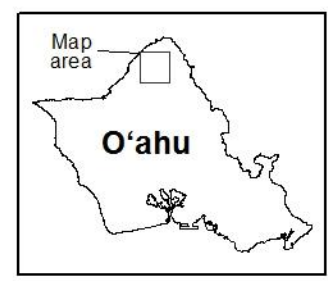




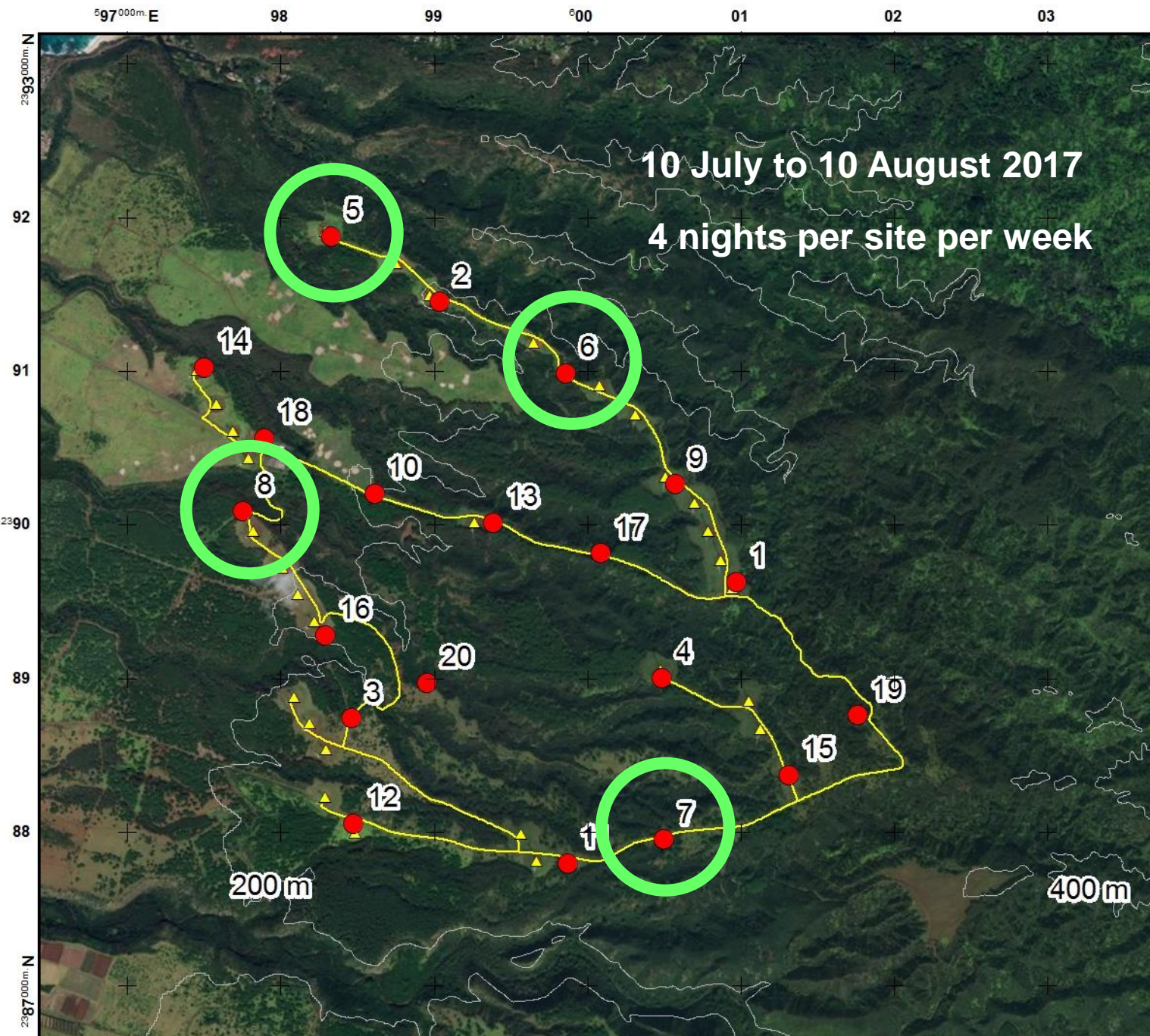
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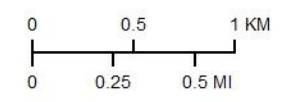
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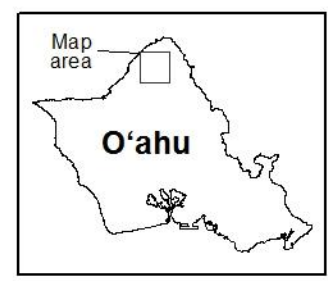




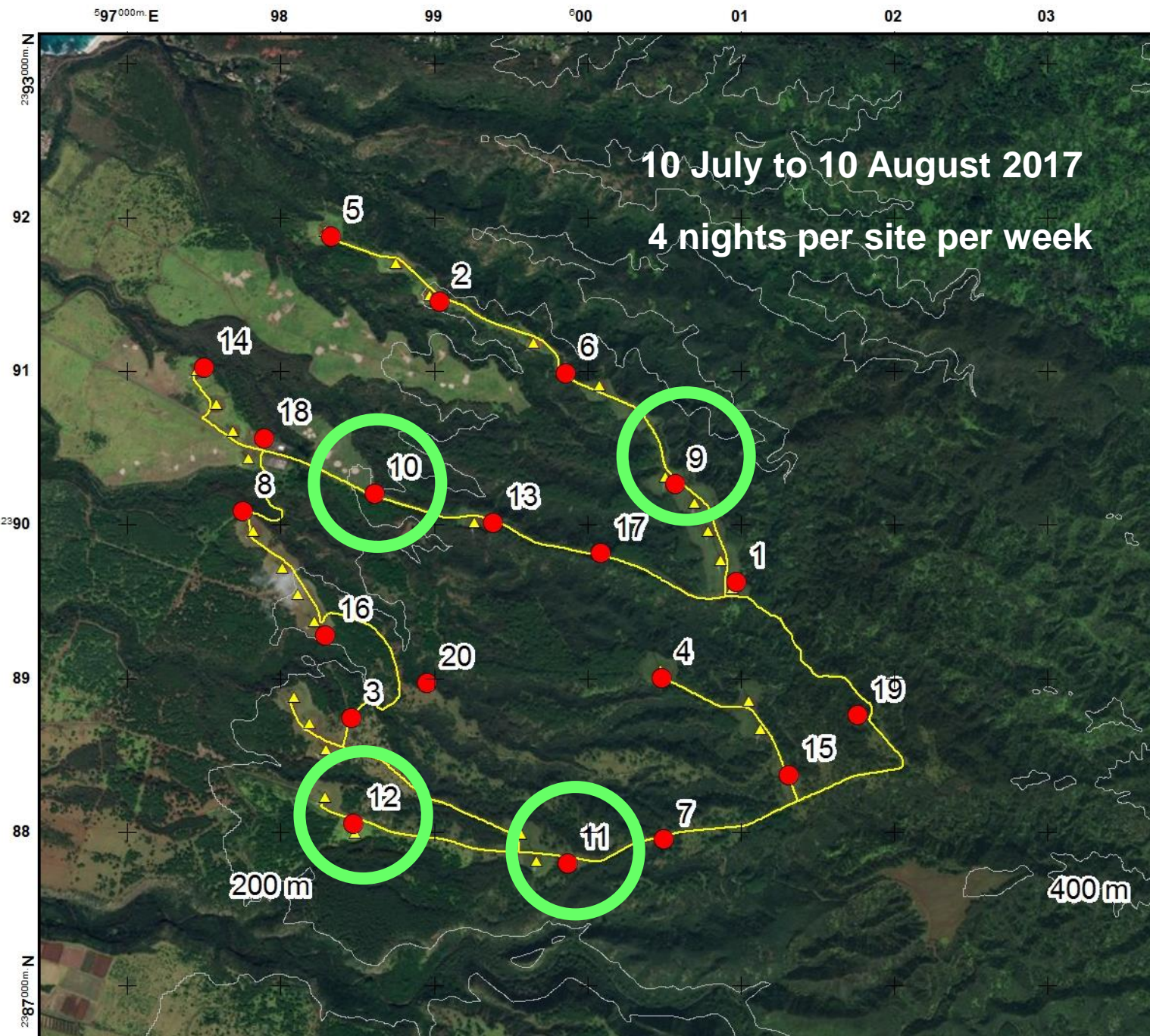
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- 200 m contours



Universal Transverse Mercator  
4 North projection, NAD83 datum

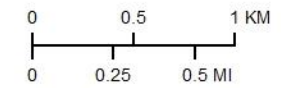




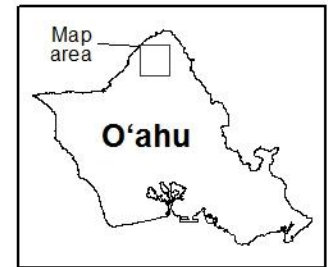


10 July to 10 August 2017  
4 nights per site per week

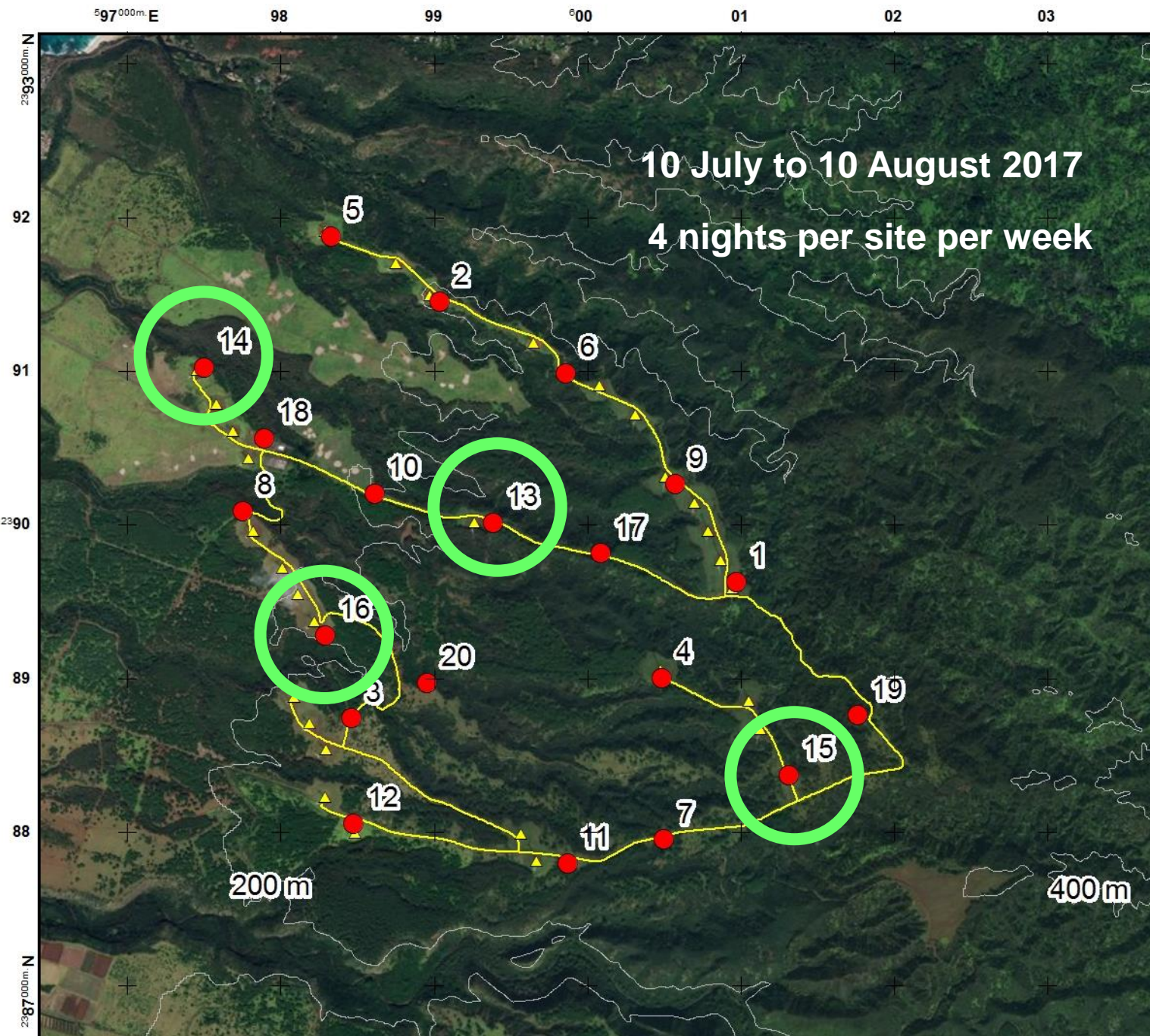
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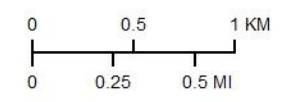
Universal Transverse Mercator  
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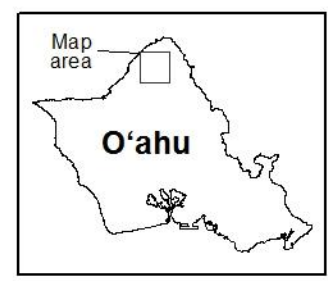




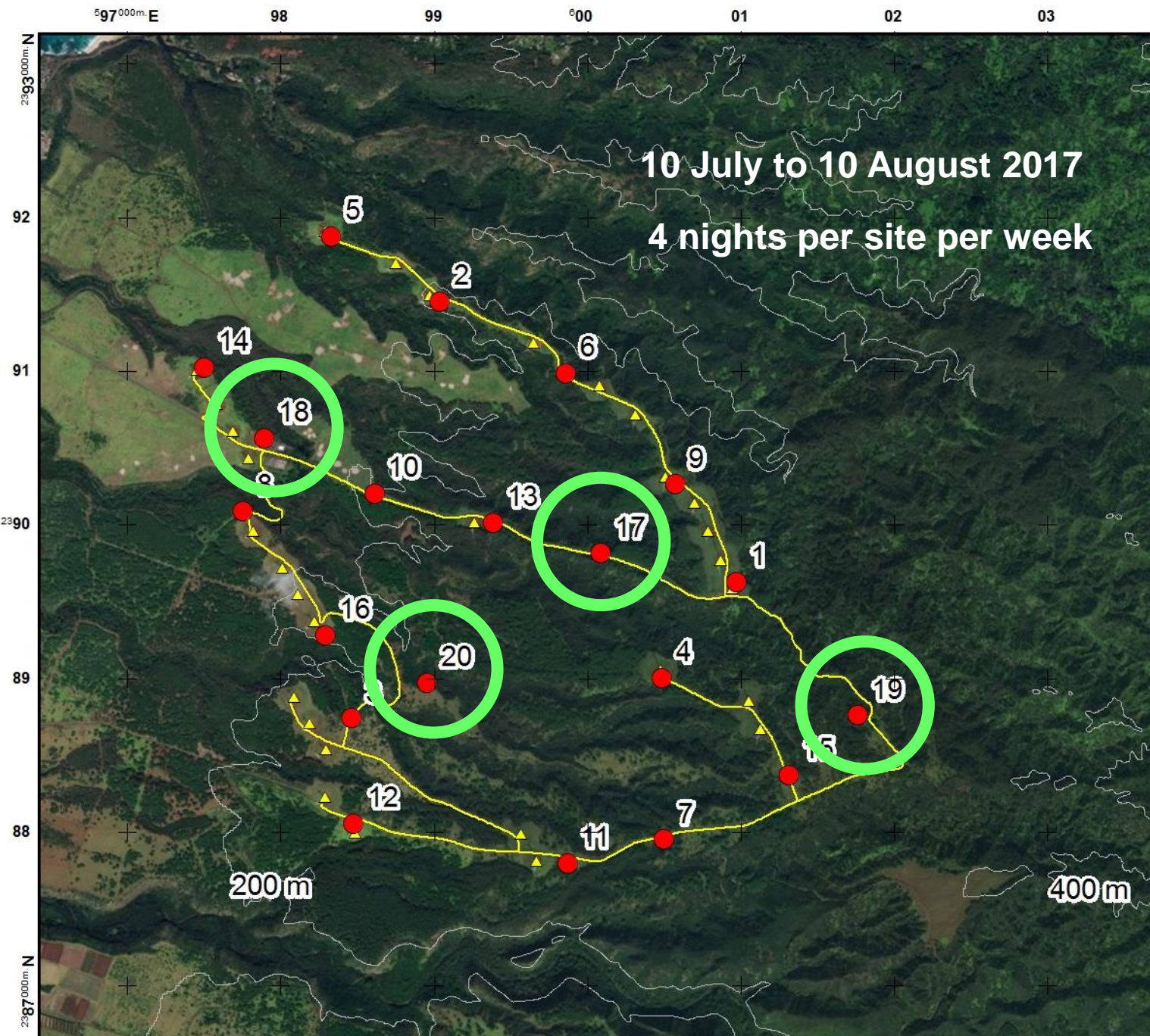
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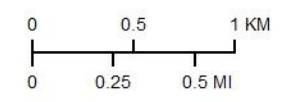
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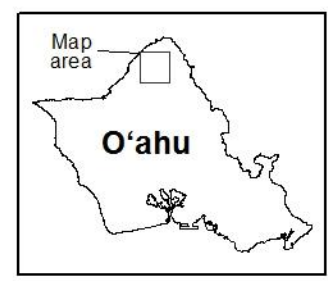




- Sample sites
- ▲ Turbines
- Facility roads
- 200 m contours



Universal Transverse Mercator  
4 North projection, NAD83 datum



# Detection history of counts

Site	Acoustic-activity				Acoustic-feeding				Video-activity				Video-feeding			
	Night				Night				Night				Night			
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
1	-	-	0	0	-	-	0	0	6	14	4	3	1	3	1	0
2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	17	5	8	2	1	3	1
3	-	-	0	2	-	-	0	0	20	10	19	12	1	1	1	0
4	-	-	0	0	-	-	0	0	15	7	9	11	2	3	1	1
5	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	7	12	4	10	0	1	2	0
6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	35	18	16	3	0	0	2
7	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	12	-	1	2	2	-	0
8	0	2	-	0	0	0	-	0	17	-	11	2	3	-	1	1
9	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	5	5	0	0	0	0
10	1	4	3	3	0	0	0	2	6	8	1	5	0	0	0	1
11	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	1	10	0	0	0	0
12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	2	1	12	0	0	1	0
13	0	1	0	-	0	1	0	-	9	5	5	0	1	0	1	0
14	1	1	0	-	0	0	1	-	3	1	0	1	0	1	0	0
15	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	-	-	0	0	-	-
16	2	0	4	2	0	2	0	0	2	3	6	1	0	0	1	0
17	1	0	2	3	0	0	0	2	13	6	3	1	2	0	0	0
18	0	0	-	-	0	0	-	-	2	1	3	0	0	0	0	0
19	0	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	2	3	5	6	0	1	0	0
20	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	1	1	1	0	0	0

low    high (>1)    present, no buzz    present, buzz

# Detection history of counts

Site	Acoustic-activity				Acoustic-feeding				Video-activity				Video-feeding			
	Night				Night				Night				Night			
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
1	-	-	0	0	-	-	0	0	6	14	4	3	1	3	1	0
2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	17	5	8	2	1	3	1
3	-	-	0	2	-	-	0	0	20	10	19	12	1	1	1	0
4	-	-	0	0	-	-	0	0	15	7	9	11	2	3	1	1
5	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	7	12	4	10	0	1	2	0
6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	35	18	16	3	0	0	2
7	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	12	-	1	2	2	-	0
8	0	2	-	0	0	0	-	0	17	-	11	2	3	-	1	1
9	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	5	5	0	0	0	0
10	1	4	3	3	0	0	0	2	6	8	1	5	0	0	0	1
11	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	1	10	0	0	0	0
12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	2	1	12	0	0	1	0
13	0	1	0	-	0	1	0	-	9	5	5	0	1	0	1	0
14	1	1	0	-	0	0	1	-	3	1	0	1	0	1	0	0
15	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	-	-	0	0	-	-
16	2	0	4	2	0	2	0	0	2	3	6	1	0	0	1	0
17	1	0	2	3	0	0	0	2	13	6	3	1	2	0	0	0
18	0	0	-	-	0	0	-	-	2	1	3	0	0	0	0	0
19	0	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	2	3	5	6	0	1	0	0
20	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	1	1	1	0	0	0

low

high (>5)

present, no feed

present, feeding



# Detection history of counts

Site	Acoustic-activity				Acoustic-feeding				Video-activity				Video-feeding			
	Night				Night				Night				Night			
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
1	-	-	0	0	-	-	0	0	6	14	4	3	1	3	1	0
2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	17	5	8	2	1	3	1
3	-	-	0	2	-	-	0	0	20	10	19	12	1	1	1	0
4	-	-	0	0	-	-	0	0	15	7	9	11	2	3	1	1
5	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	7	12	4	10	0	1	2	0
6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	35	18	16	3	0	0	2
7	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	12	-	1	2	2	-	0
8	0	2	-	0	0	0	-	0	17	-	11	2	3	-	1	1
9	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	5	5	0	0	0	0
10	1	4	3	3	0	0	0	2	6	8	1	5	0	0	0	1
11	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	1	10	0	0	0	0
12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	2	1	12	0	0	1	0
13	0	1	0	-	0	1	0	-	9	5	5	0	1	0	1	0
14	1	1	0	-	0	0	1	-	3	1	0	1	0	1	0	0
15	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	-	-	0	0	-	-
16	2	0	4	2	0	2	0	0	2	3	6	1	0	0	1	0
17	1	0	2	3	0	0	0	2	13	6	3	1	2	0	0	0
18	0	0	-	-	0	0	-	-	2	1	3	0	0	0	0	0
19	0	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	2	3	5	6	0	1	0	0
20	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	1	1	1	0	0	0

“absence”

# Detection history of counts

Site	Acoustic-activity				Acoustic-feeding				Video-activity				Video-feeding			
	Night				Night				Night				Night			
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
1	-	-	0	0	-	-	0	0	6	14	4	3	1	3	1	0
2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	17	5	8	2	1	3	1
3	-	-	0	2	-	-	0	0	20	10	19	12	1	1	1	0
4	-	-	0	0	-	-	0	0	15	7	9	11	2	3	1	1
5	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	7	12	4	10	0	1	2	0
6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	35	18	16	3	0	0	2
7	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	12	-	1	2	2	-	0
8	0	2	-	0	0	0	-	0	17	-	11	2	3	-	1	1
9	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	5	5	0	0	0	0
10	1	4	3	3	0	0	0	2	6	8	1	5	0	0	0	1
11	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	1	10	0	0	0	0
12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	2	1	12	0	0	1	0
13	0	1	0	-	0	1	0	-	9	5	5	0	1	0	1	0
14	1	1	0	-	0	0	1	-	3	1	0	1	0	1	0	0
15	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	-	-	0	0	-	-
16	2	0	4	2	0	2	0	0	2	3	6	1	0	0	1	0
17	1	0	2	3	0	0	0	2	13	6	3	1	2	0	0	0
18	0	0	-	-	0	0	-	-	2	1	3	0	0	0	0	0
19	0	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	2	3	5	6	0	1	0	0
20	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	1	1	1	0	0	0

few feeding buzz detections

# Detection history of counts

Site	Acoustic-activity				Acoustic-feeding				Video-activity				Video-feeding			
	Night				Night				Night				Night			
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
1	-	-	0	0	-	-	0	0	6	14	4	3	1	3	1	0
2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	17	5	8	2	1	3	1
3	-	-	0	2	-	-	0	0	20	10	19	12	1	1	1	0
4	-	-	0	0	-	-	0	0	15	7	9	11	2	3	1	1
5	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	7	12	4	10	0	1	2	0
6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	35	18	16	3	0	0	2
7	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	12	-	1	2	2	-	0
8	0	2	-	0	0	0	-	0	17	-	11	2	3	-	1	1
9	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	5	5	0	0	0	0
10	1	4	3	3	0	0	0	2	6	8	1	5	0	0	0	1
11	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	1	10	0	0	0	0
12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	2	1	12	0	0	1	0
13	0	1	0	-	0	1	0	-	9	5	5	0	1	0	1	0
14	1	1	0	-	0	0	1	-	3	1	0	1	0	1	0	0
15	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	-	-	0	0	-	-
16	2	0	4	2	0	2	0	0	2	3	6	1	0	0	1	0
17	1	0	2	3	0	0	0	2	13	6	3	1	2	0	0	0
18	0	0	-	-	0	0	-	-	2	1	3	0	0	0	0	0
19	0	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	2	3	5	6	0	1	0	0
20	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	1	1	1	0	0	0

“over-saturates” models?

# States

		Acoustic-activity					Acoustic-feeding					Video-activity					Video-feeding			
		Night					Night					Night					Night			
Site		1	2	3	4		1	2	3	4		1	2	3	4		1	2	3	4
1		-	-	0	0		-	-	0	0		2	2	1	1		2	2	2	1
2		-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-		2	2	1	2		2	2	2	2
3		-	-	0	2		-	-	0	1		2	2	2	2		2	2	2	1
4		-	-	0	0		-	-	0	0		2	2	2	2		2	2	2	2
5		0	0	0	1		0	0	0	1		2	2	1	2		1	2	2	1
6		0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0		2	2	2	2		2	1	1	2
7		1	2	0	0		1	1	0	0		2	2	-	1		2	2	-	1
8		0	2	-	0		0	1	-	0		2	-	2	1		2	-	2	2
9		1	0	0	0		1	0	0	0		1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1
10		1	2	2	2		1	1	1	2		2	2	1	1		1	1	1	2
11		0	1	0	0		0	1	0	0		1	1	1	2		1	1	1	1
12		0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0		2	1	1	2		1	1	2	1
13		0	1	0	-		0	2	0	-		2	1	1	0		2	1	2	0
14		1	1	1	-		1	1	2	-		1	1	0	1		1	2	0	1
15		1	0	0	0		2	0	0	0		1	0	-	-		1	0	-	-
16		2	1	2	2		1	2	1	1		1	1	2	1		1	1	2	1
17		1	0	2	2		1	0	1	2		2	2	1	1		2	1	1	1
18		0	0	-	-		0	0	-	-		1	1	1	0		1	1	1	0
19		0	-	-	-		0	-	-	-		1	1	1	2		1	2	1	1
20		0	0	2	0		0	0	1	0		1	1	1	1		2	1	1	1

none

some

lots

# Null models

## models without covariates

	Acoustic–activity			Acoustic–feeding			Video–activity			Video–feeding	
Parameter	Mean	SE		Mean	SE		Mean	SE		Mean	SE
$\hat{\psi}^1$	1.00	†		1.00	†		1.00	†		1.00	†
$\hat{\psi}^2$	0.48	0.161		0.48	0.205		0.78	0.103		0.89	0.108
$\hat{p}^1$	0.19	0.076		0.17	0.078		0.83	0.101		0.86	0.156
$\hat{p}^2$	0.52	0.116		0.70	0.273		0.98	0.021		0.96	0.028
$\hat{\delta}$	0.75	0.131		0.32	0.118		0.74	0.101		0.49	0.073

- $\psi^1$  probability that bats were present at a site regardless of state
- $\psi^2$  conditional probability that state 2 actually occurred given bat presence
- $p^1$  probability of detecting the species in state 1 given its true state was 1
- $p^2$  probability of detecting the species in state 2 given its true state was 2
- $\delta$  probability of correctly identifying state 2 versus state 1 given detection of bat presence

# Null models

full occupancy — bats detected at all sites

	Acoustic-activity			Acoustic-feeding			Video-activity			Video-feeding	
Parameter	Mean	SE		Mean	SE		Mean	SE		Mean	SE
$\hat{\psi}^1$	1.00	†		1.00	†		1.00	†		1.00	†
$\hat{\psi}^2$	0.48	0.161		0.48	0.205		0.78	0.103		0.89	0.108
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$\hat{\delta}$	0.75	0.131		0.32	0.118		0.74	0.101		0.49	0.073

“oversaturated”

- $\psi^1$  probability that bats were present at a site regardless of state
- $\psi^2$  conditional probability that state 2 actually occurred given bat presence
- $p^1$  probability of detecting the species in state 1 given its true state was 1
- $p^2$  probability of detecting the species in state 2 given its true state was 2
- $\delta$  probability of correctly identifying state 2 versus state 1 given detection of bat presence

# Null models

video samples → higher activity and feeding

	Acoustic-activity			Acoustic-feeding			Video-activity			Video-feeding	
Parameter	Mean	SE		Mean	SE		Mean	SE		Mean	SE
$\hat{\psi}^1$	1.00	†		1.00	†		1.00	†		1.00	†
$\hat{\psi}^2$	0.48	0.161		0.48	0.205		0.78	0.103		0.89	0.108
$\hat{p}^1$	0.19	0.076		0.17	0.078		0.83	0.101		0.86	0.156
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- $\delta$  probability of correctly identifying state 2 versus state 1 given detection of bat presence

based on  
median  
threshold

# Null models

video samples → higher detection probabilities

	Acoustic–activity			Acoustic–feeding			Video–activity			Video–feeding	
Parameter	Mean	SE		Mean	SE		Mean	SE		Mean	SE
$\hat{\psi}^1$	1.00	†		1.00	†		1.00	†		1.00	†
$\hat{\psi}^2$	0.48	0.161		0.48	0.205		0.78	0.103		0.89	0.108
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- $\delta$  probability of correctly identifying state 2 versus state 1 given detection of bat presence

increase  
temporal  
spacing of  
samples?



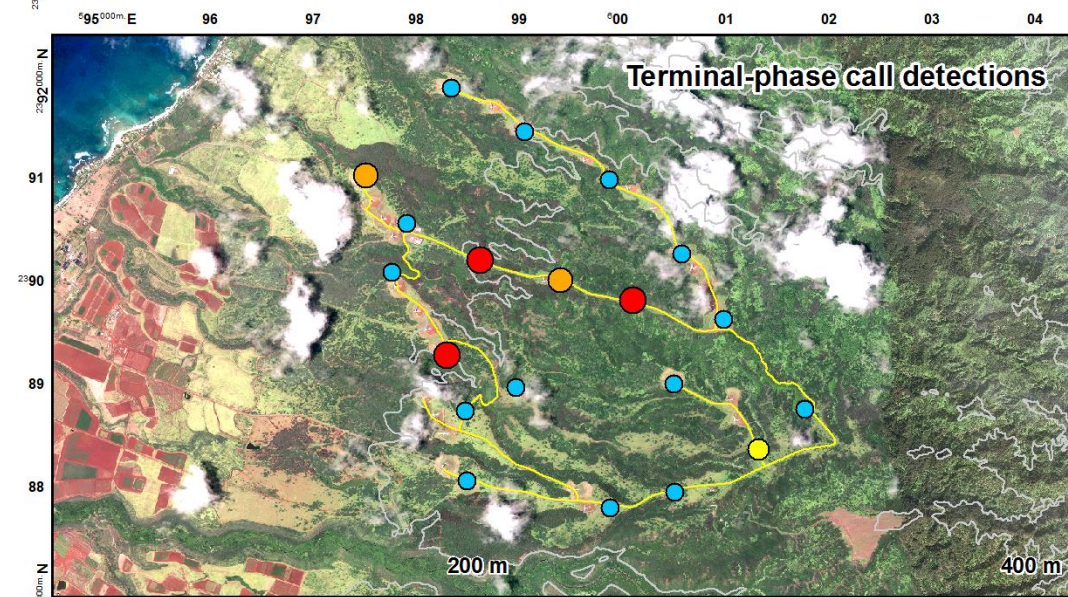
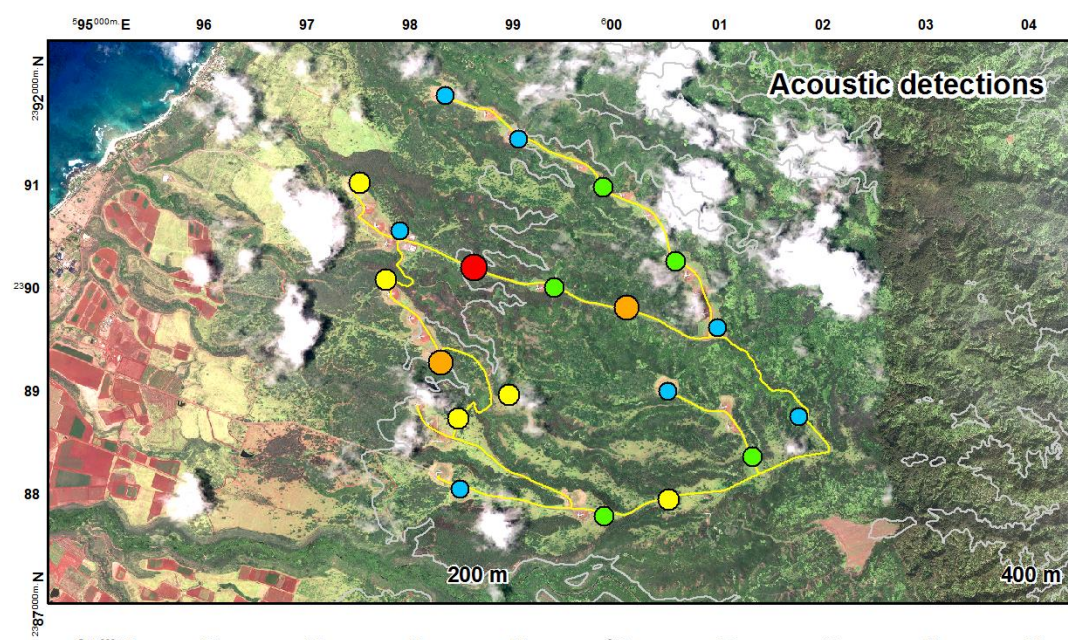
# Null models

activity metrics → higher prob correct identification

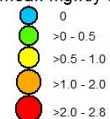
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Parameter	Mean	SE		Mean	SE		Mean	SE		Mean	SE
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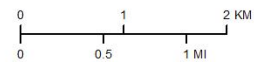
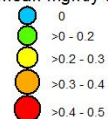
reflects  
low  
counts



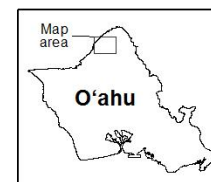
Acoustic detections (all)  
mean nightly count



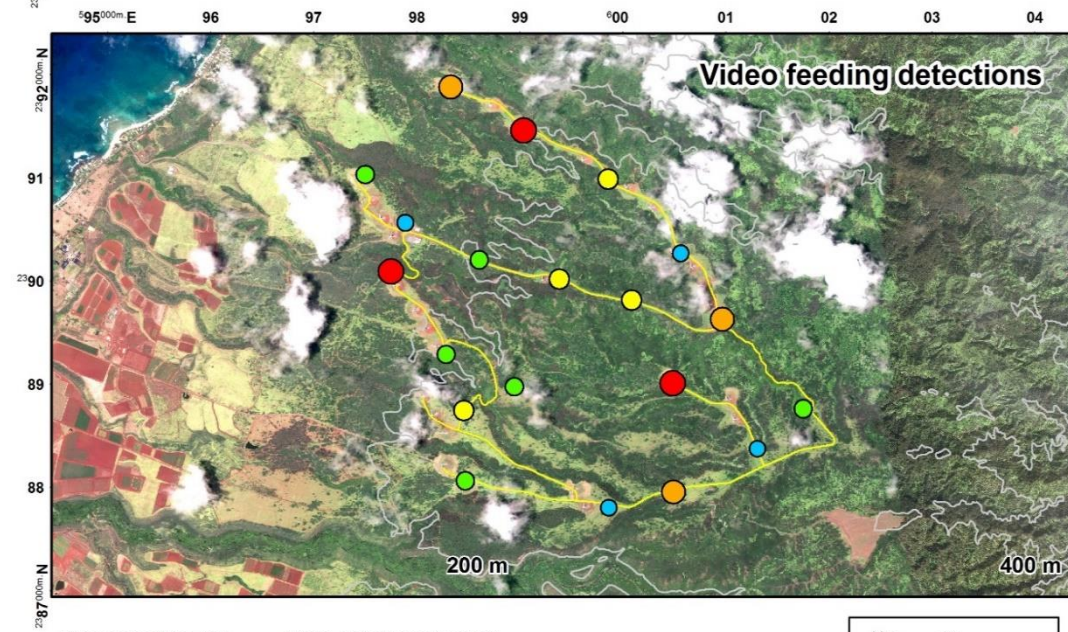
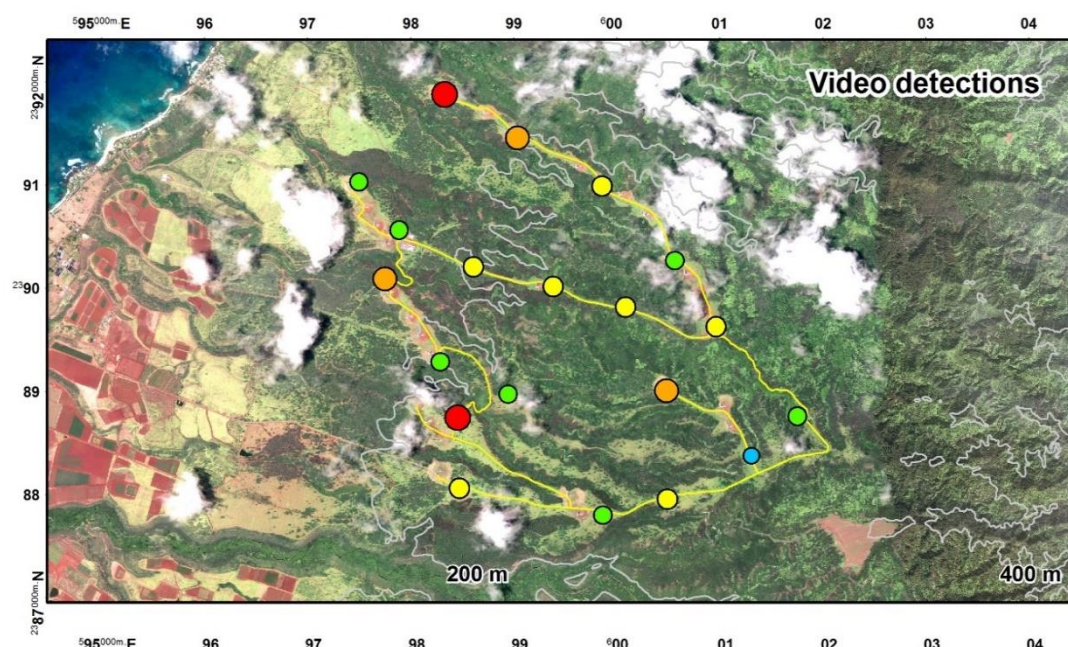
Terminal-phase detections  
mean nightly count



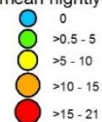
Universal Transverse Mercator  
4 North projection, NAD83 datum  
WorldView-2 imagery (2014 acquisition)



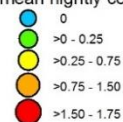




Video detections (all)  
mean nightly count

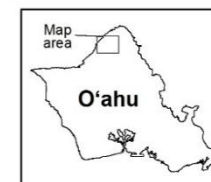


Video detections (feeding)  
mean nightly count

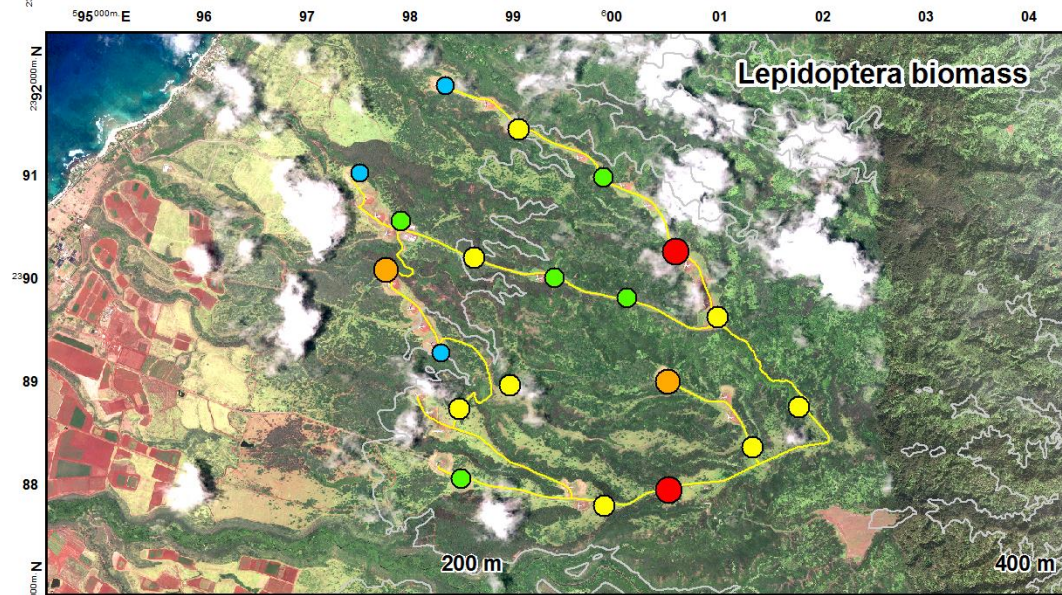
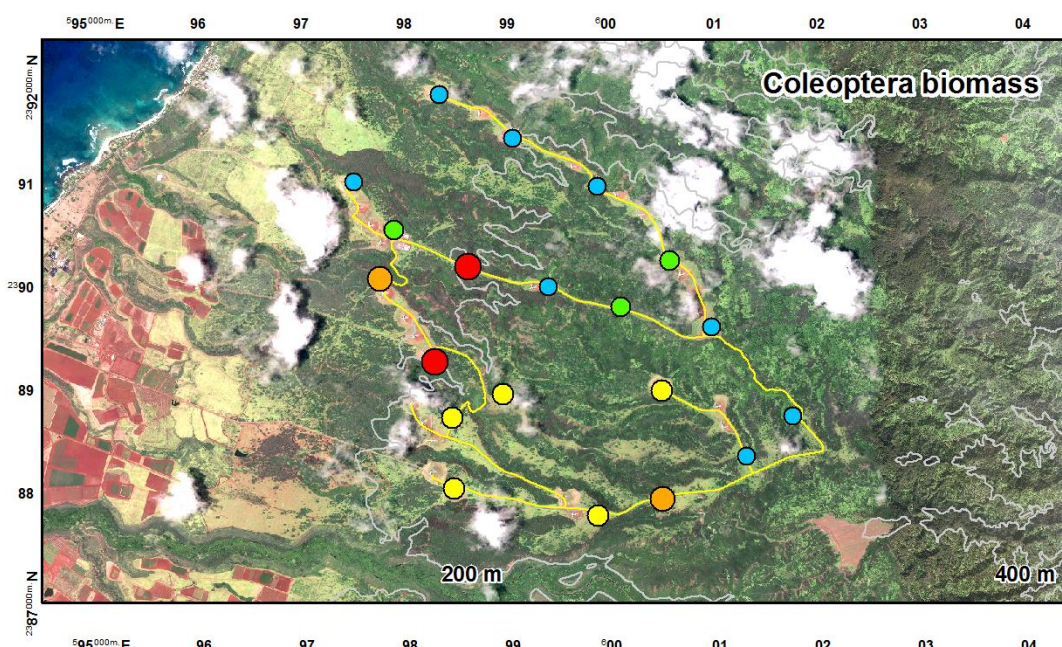


0 0.5 1 2 KM  
0 0.5 1 MI

Universal Transverse Mercator  
4 North projection, NAD83 datum  
WorldView-2 imagery (2014 acquisition)



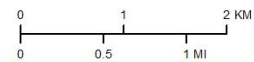
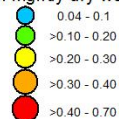




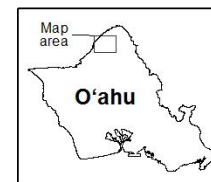
Coleoptera biomass  
mean nightly dry weight (g)



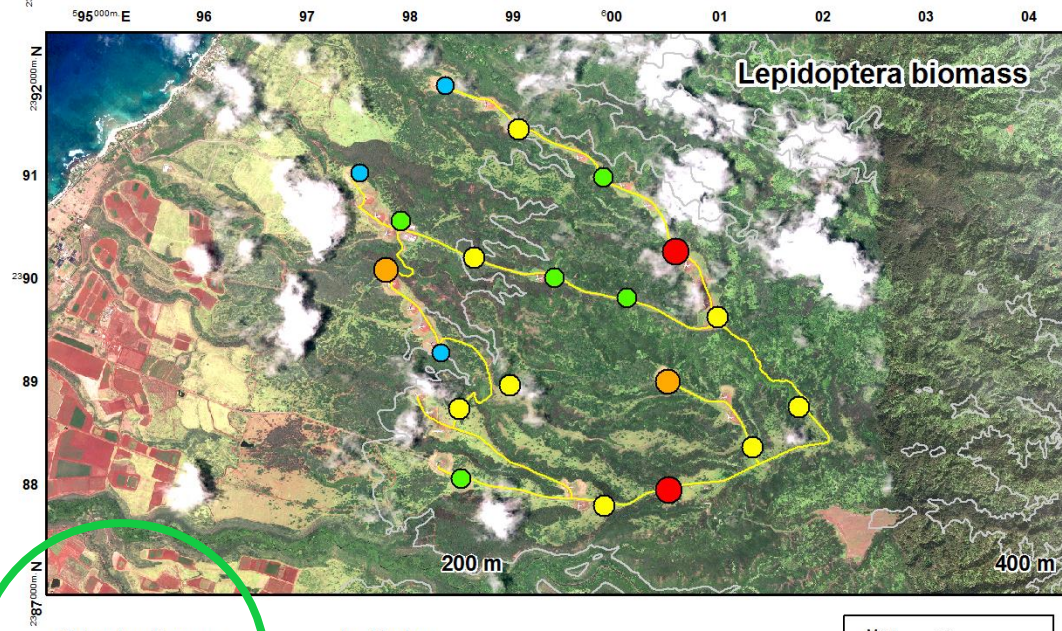
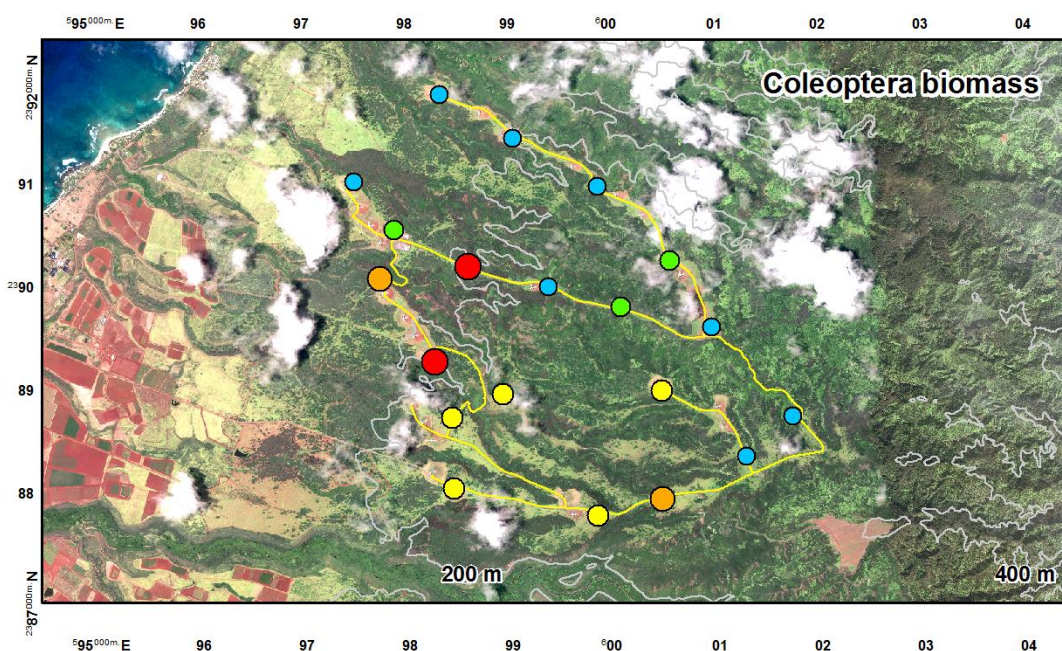
Lepidoptera  
mean nightly dry weight (g)



Universal Transverse Mercator  
4 North projection, NAD83 datum  
WorldView-2 imagery (2014 acquisition)



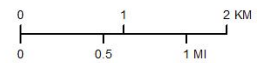
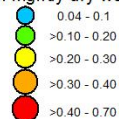




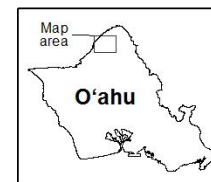
**Coleoptera biomass**  
mean nightly dry weight (g)



**Lepidoptera**  
mean nightly dry weight (g)



Universal Transverse Mercator  
4 North projection, NAD83 datum  
WorldView-2 imagery (2014 acquisition)



## Prey base models

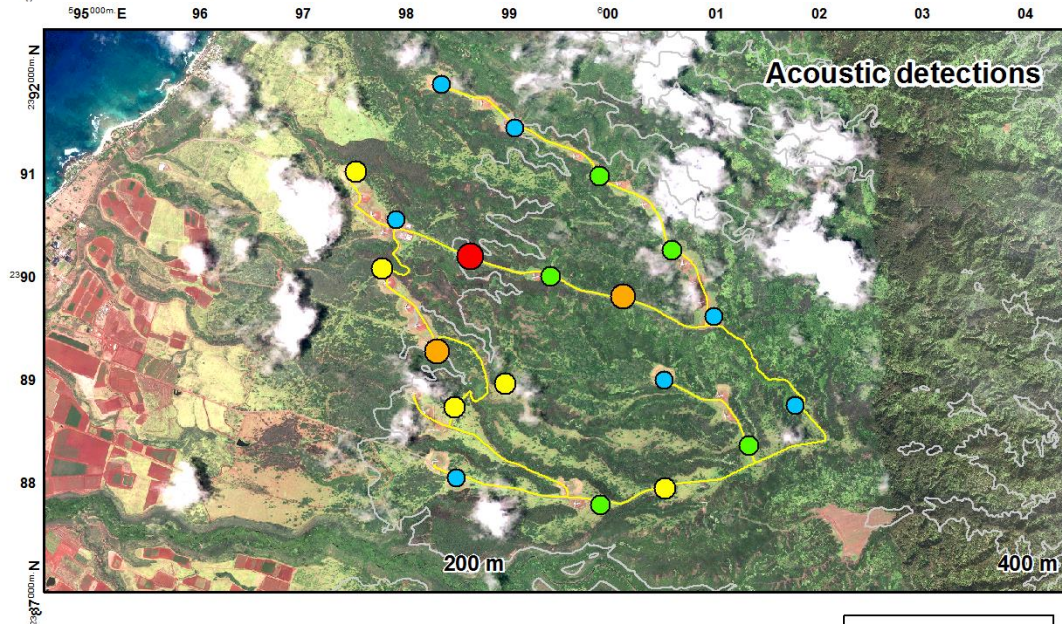
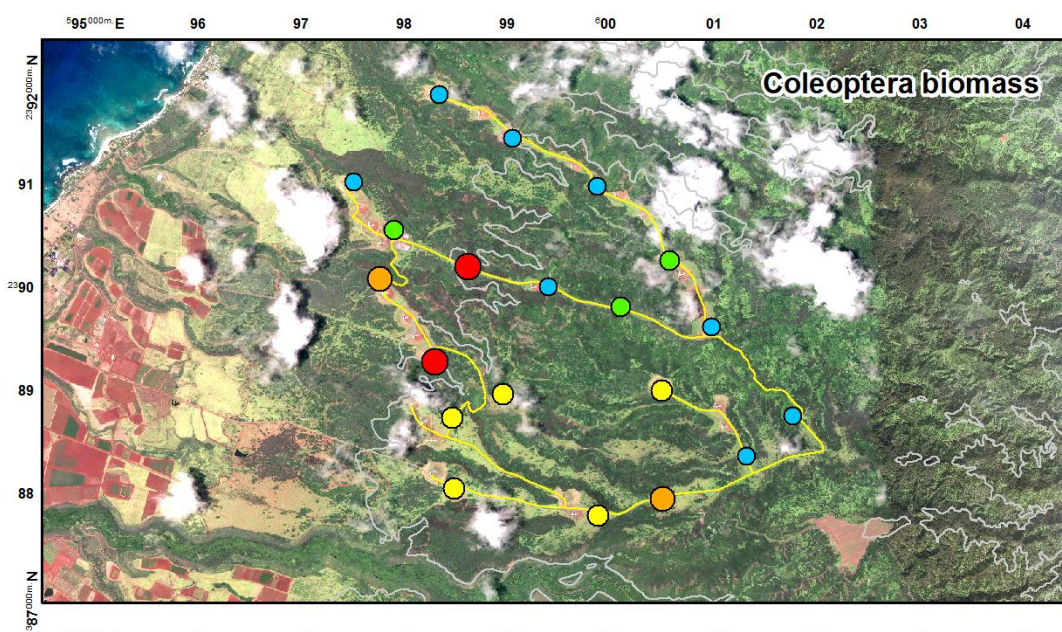
	$\psi^1(\cdot)\psi^2(\text{beetle})p^1(\cdot)p^2(\cdot)\delta(\cdot)$			$\psi^1(\cdot)\psi^2(\text{insect})p^1(\cdot)p^2(\cdot)\delta(\cdot)$			$\psi^1(\text{insect})\psi^2(\text{beetle})p^1(\cdot)p^2(\cdot)\delta(\cdot)$	
Parameter	Mean	SE		Mean	SE		Mean	SE
$\hat{\psi}^1$	1.00	†		1.00	†		1.00	†
$\hat{\psi}^2$	0.39	0.123		0.39	0.126		0.40	0.130
$\hat{p}^1$	0.20	0.069		0.20	0.068		0.22	0.078
$\hat{p}^2$	0.56	0.111		0.56	0.109		0.56	0.113
$\hat{\delta}$	0.79	0.107		0.79	0.107		0.79	0.107

top-ranked models → acoustic activity

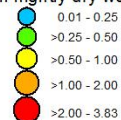
beetles significantly associated with high acoustic activity

overall insect biomass also significant (beetle dominated)

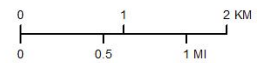




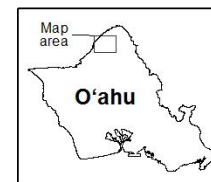
Coleoptera biomass  
mean nightly dry weight (g)



Acoustic detections (all)  
mean nightly count



Universal Transverse Mercator  
4 North projection, NAD83 datum  
WorldView-2 imagery (2014 acquisition)



$r = 0.78$   
 $p < 0.01$

RESEARCH ARTICLE

# Multi-state occupancy models of foraging habitat use by the Hawaiian hoary bat (*Lasiurus cinereus semotus*)

P. Marcos Gorresen<sup>1\*</sup>, Kevin W. Brinck<sup>1</sup>, Megan A. DeLisle<sup>1</sup>, Kristina Montoya-Aiona<sup>2</sup>, Corinna A. Pinzari<sup>1</sup>, Frank J. Bonaccorso<sup>2</sup>

**1** Hawai'i Cooperative Studies Unit, University of Hawai'i at Hilo, Hilo, Hawai'i, United States of America, **2** U.S. Geological Survey, Pacific Island Ecosystems Research Center, Hawaii National Park, Hawai'i, United States of America

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## Abstract

Multi-state occupancy modeling can often improve assessments of habitat use and site quality when animal activity or behavior data are available. We examine the use of the approach for evaluating foraging habitat suitability of the endangered Hawaiian hoary bat (*Lasiurus cinereus semotus*) from classifications of site occupancy based on flight activity levels and feeding behavior. In addition, we used data from separate visual and auditory sources, namely thermal videography and acoustic (echolocation) detectors, jointly deployed at sample sites to compare the effectiveness of each method in the context of occupancy modeling. Video-derived observations demonstrated higher and more accurate estimates of the prevalence of high bat flight activity and feeding events than acoustic sampling methods. Elevated levels of acoustic activity by Hawaiian hoary bats were found to be related primarily to beetle biomass in this study. The approach may have a variety of applications in bat research, including inference about species-resource relationships, habitat quality and the extent to which species intensively use areas for activities such as foraging.

## OPEN ACCESS

**Citation:** Gorresen PM, Brinck KW, DeLisle MA, Montoya-Aiona K, Pinzari CA, Bonaccorso FJ (2018) Multi-state occupancy models of foraging habitat use by the Hawaiian hoary bat (*Lasiurus cinereus semotus*). PLoS ONE 13(10): e0205150. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0205150>

**Editor:** Brock Fenton, University of Western Ontario, CANADA

**Received:** February 22, 2018

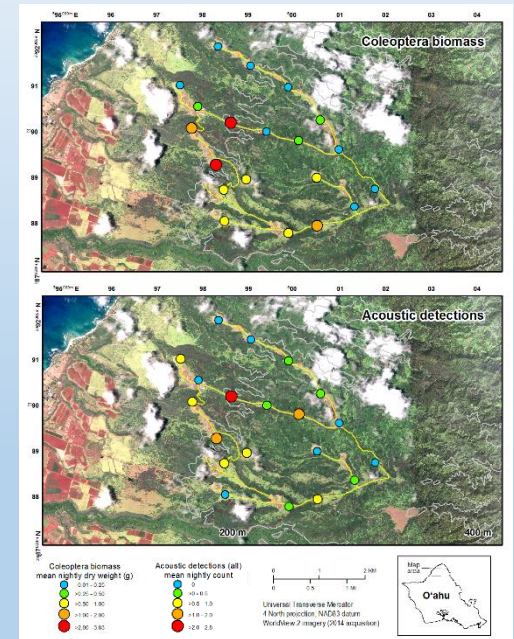
**Accepted:** September 20, 2018

**Published:** October 31, 2018



# Multi-state occupancy modeling

- bat distribution
- activity & behavior → habitat use
- associations with habitat attributes and resources (prey availability)
- large-scale (landscape) applications
- baseline or post-management bat response
- mobile sampling equipment



# Acknowledgements

Kawailoa Wind, LLC, for funding and access.

Tetra-tech for logistical support.

Ruth-Marie Stecker for many hours of insect sorting.

**Modeling foraging habitat suitability of the  
Hawaiian hoary bat**

**Hawaiian hoary bat conservation genetics**

**Hawaiian hoary bat conservation biology:  
movements, roosting behavior, and diet**

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# Hawaiian hoary bat conservation genetics

## Bat tissue sampling for sex genotyping, genomic analyses

- Ongoing
  - 260 samples (2005 – present) including representatives from Hawaii, Maui, Oahu, and Kauai
    - 72 samples from wind facilities statewide
- Increase geographic coverage (planned)
  - Kauai – mist netting trip fall 2019
  - Maui – augmented samples from Auwahi Tier 2 bat research project (11) with samples from HT Harvey Maui bat research (20)
  - Molokai/Lanai – historic museum sampling late 2019, using DNA from teeth
- Mitochondrial DNA sequencing of pop structure
  - 140 bats completed, ~45 in progress

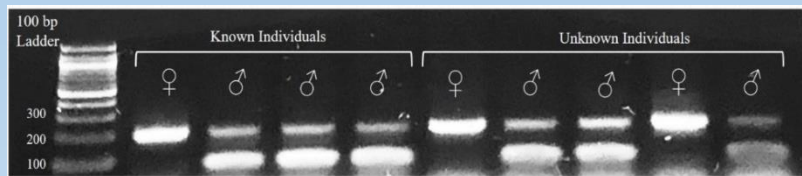


# Hawaiian hoary bat conservation genetics

## Sex Genotyping

- “A test of sex specific genetic markers in the Hawaiian hoary bat and relevance to population studies” Pinzari & Bonaccorso, 2018 Technical Report HCSU-TR085
- USGS Data Release

<https://doi.org/10.5066/P9R7L1NS>





# Hawaiian hoary bat conservation genetics

## Genomic analysis - single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs)

- Genomic diversity, population structure, effective population size, colonization timing, gene signatures of selection
  - 23 bats
  - draft ms
- Next: 24 additional Hawaiian + 10 North American hoary bats
  - Species level genetic differences, bottlenecks, divergence, inter-island migration
  - Reference genome
- SNPs will generate suite of HHB specific microsatellite markers
  - Subpopulation structure, effective population estimates on larger number of samples



Modeling foraging habitat suitability of the  
Hawaiian hoary bat

Hawaiian hoary bat conservation genetics

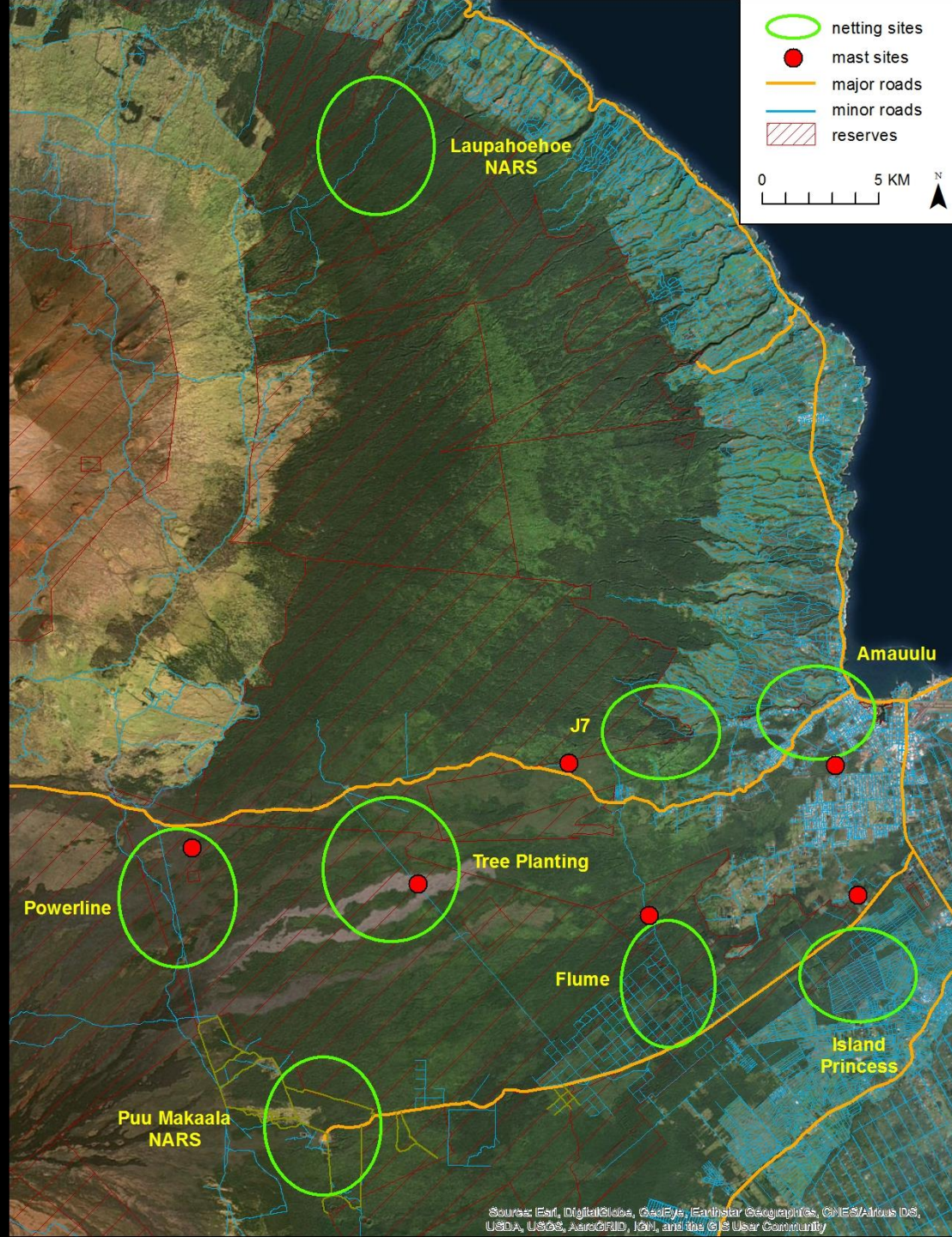
**Hawaiian hoary bat conservation biology:  
movements, roosting behavior, and diet**

Auwahi Wind Power bat research  
at Waihou Mitigation Area

# **Hawaiian hoary bat conservation biology: movements, roosting behavior, and diet**

## Objectives

- Home range – scale of movement
- Habitat use – foraging, roosting, and breeding
- Roost fidelity and roost tree characteristics
- Mother-pup behavior at roosts
- Movement patterns and food availability
- Insect prey-host plant associations
- Diet analysis – insect prey selection and availability using molecular bar-coding techniques
- Tissue collection – genetic, diet and pesticide studies













# **Hawaiian hoary bat conservation biology: movements, roosting behavior, and diet**

17 bat captures (May 2018 to present)

- 4 adult females, post-lactating or not visibly pregnant
- 13 adult males, testes not enlarged

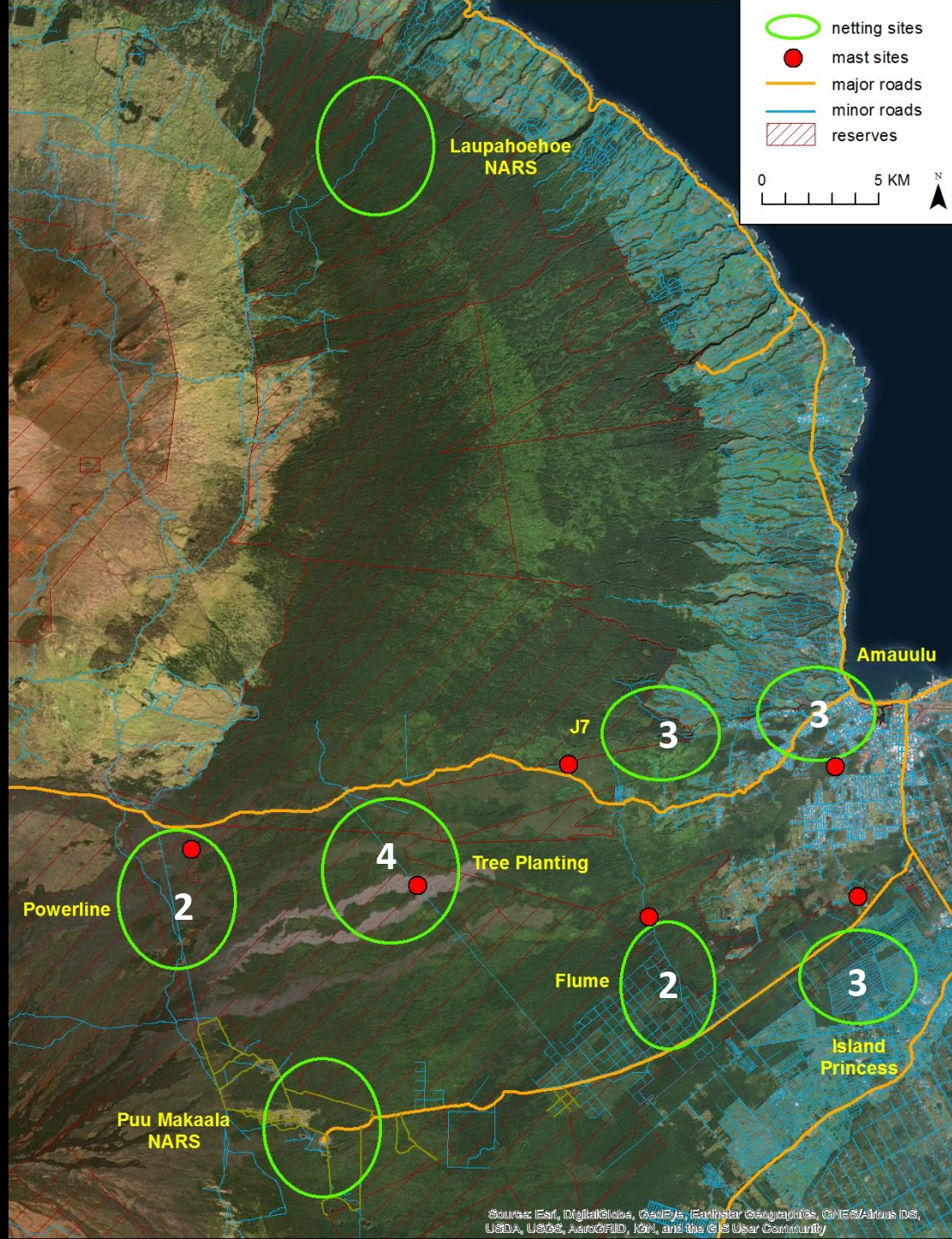
Roosts located to

- individual trees for 5 bats
- stand-level only for 5 bats

Fecal pellets collected for diet study

- 11 bats
- other samples – hair, wing biopsy









# Hawaiian hoary bat conservation biology: movements, roosting behavior, and diet

## Insect reference library

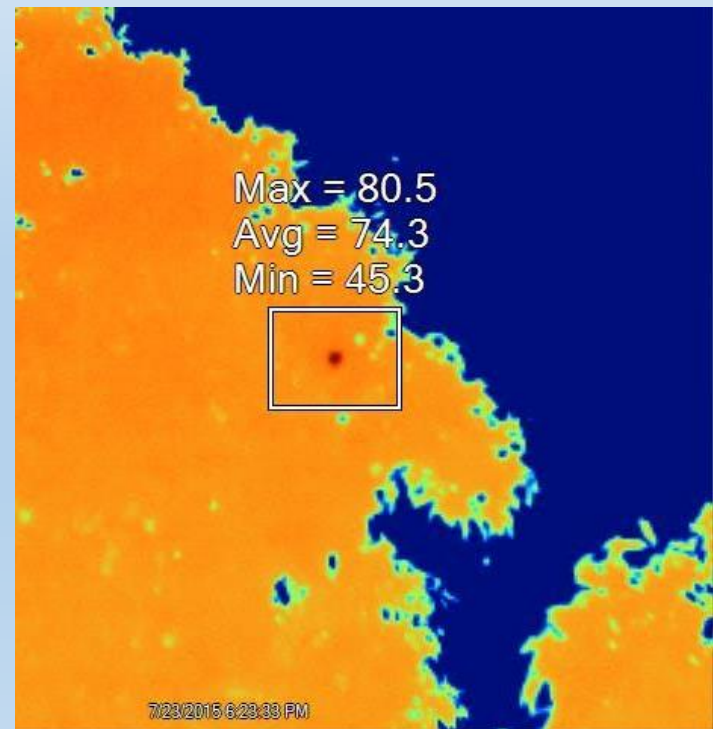
- diversity, relative abundance of prey available to bats
- subset of samples preserved for barcoding and matching to DNA sequenced from bat fecal samples
- collect insects from plants



# Hawaiian hoary bat conservation biology: movements, roosting behavior, and diet

Roost attributes → tree and stand-level

- tree species
- tree and roost height
- tree diameter
- canopy cover
- canopy volume
- basal area
- stand age
- density
- aspect





Modeling foraging habitat suitability of the  
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Hawaiian hoary bat conservation genetics

Hawaiian hoary bat conservation biology:  
movements, roosting behavior, and diet

**Auwahi Wind Power bat research  
at Waihou Mitigation Area**

# **Auwahi Wind Power bat research at Waihou Mitigation Area**

## Objectives

- Determine bat core area size and composition on Maui using radio telemetry
- Evaluate bat seasonal use and activity patterns over time in the vicinity of the Waihou mitigation area using acoustic monitoring and radio telemetry.
- Assess insect prey base in the vicinity of the Waihou mitigation area during the season of peak bat activity.
- Determine prey ingestion by bats in the Waihou mitigation area while activity patterns are tracked.

# Auwahi Wind Power bat research at Waihou Mitigation Area

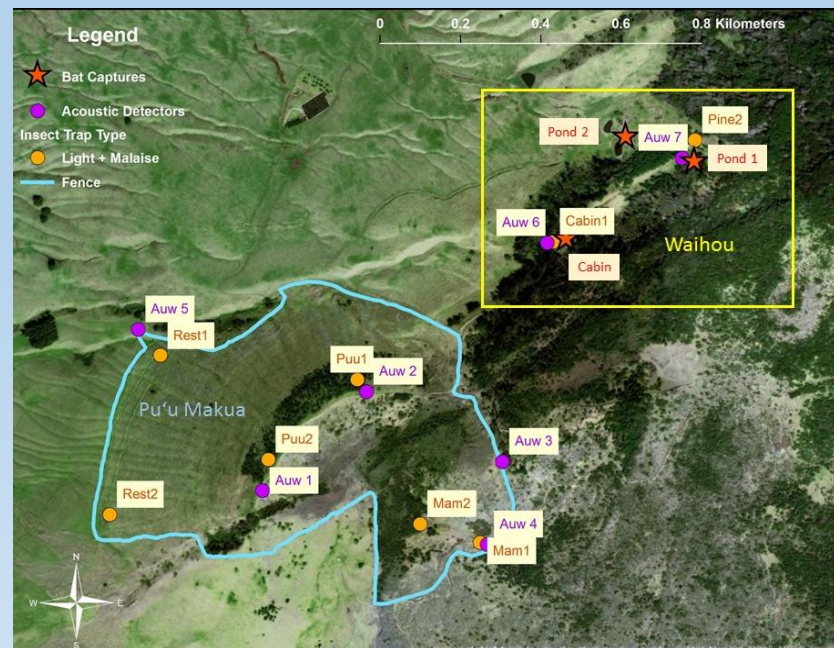
## Objectives

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- Assess insect prey base in the vicinity of the Waihou mitigation area during the season of peak bat activity.
- Determine prey ingestion by bats in the Waihou mitigation area while activity patterns are tracked.
- Increase bat capture effort for genetic and fecal sampling.
- Add 2<sup>nd</sup> season insect sampling; include Duck Pond area.
- Increase number insect prey species to be bar-coded.

# Auwahi Wind Power bat research at Waihou Mitigation Area

## Technical Report in progress

- Acoustic data (2015-2018)
  - 7 stations Waihou, 3 stations Auwahi wind farm area
- Bat captures in Waihou
  - November 2016 – 3 bats (males)
  - June 2017 – 8 bats (5 males, 3 females; 2 pregnant, 1 lactating)





# Auwahi Wind Power bat research at Waihou Mitigation Area

## Technical Report in progress

- Acoustic data (2015-2018)
  - 7 stations Waihou, 3 stations Auwahi wind farm area
- Bat captures in Waihou
  - November 2016 – 3 bats (males)
  - June 2017 – 8 bats (5 males, 3 females; 2 pregnant, 1 lactating)
- Diet composition (insect order, family, some genus- and species-level identifications made) ~ 39 taxa identified
  - 7 guano samples from Waihou area
  - 1 guano sample from carcass found at Auwahi turbine 2 on August 2016 (female)
- Prey availability – two seasons of insect collection
- Waihou barcode reference library
  - ~ 57 unique taxa