

# Effects of anthropogenic sources of food on the diet of hyaenas inside Hwange National Park



Fritz, H., Drouet-Hoguet, N., Jombart, T. & Pontier, D.

[fritz@biomserv.univ-lyon1.fr](mailto:fritz@biomserv.univ-lyon1.fr)



CENTRE NATIONAL  
DE LA RECHERCHE  
SCIENTIFIQUE



- Hyaenas are dominant in HNP
- Hyaenas respond well to anthropogenic food sources
- Could culling operation have led Hyaenas to be dominant in HNP?
- Could anthropogenic food subsidies affect predator-prey relationship?

Project set up to assess:

**Effect on diet and foraging behaviour → poster**

Effect on hyaena population dynamics (next year may be!)

Ultimately on their prey population (...one day...!!)



## Summary and conclusions

- Our results confirmed that spotted hyaena is an opportunistic scavenger.
- Accordingly the introduction of additional food resources through human activities has benefited the hyaena through the widening of the range of food sources (~1/3 of available carcasses).
- In general, the overall high use of predated carcasses does not suggest a major disruption in their behaviour.
- However the local difference in diet between our two studied clans suggest a switch from their main hunted prey (kudu) to large carcasses provided by management (elephant and buffalo), which clearly calls for further investigation.