Human-wildlife interaction in mountains from an (evolutionary) ecologist view point

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Abstract

Animals live in varying environments in space and time. Some of this variability is predictable (for isntance seasonality) but part of is unpreditable. Therefore, animals have take behavioral decisions about where to be and what to do depending on the risks they may face, and constrained by the energy they need to acquire to survive and reproduce. Humans are increasing in numbers and impact wildlife by hunting or by their mere presence, being perceived by animals as a threat. Animals can respond to this perceived threat in different ways, incurring different costs. I will discuss the range of responses of animals to human disturbance, taking examples in the literature and from an itnerdisciplinary study performed in the French Alps on chamois-human interactions.