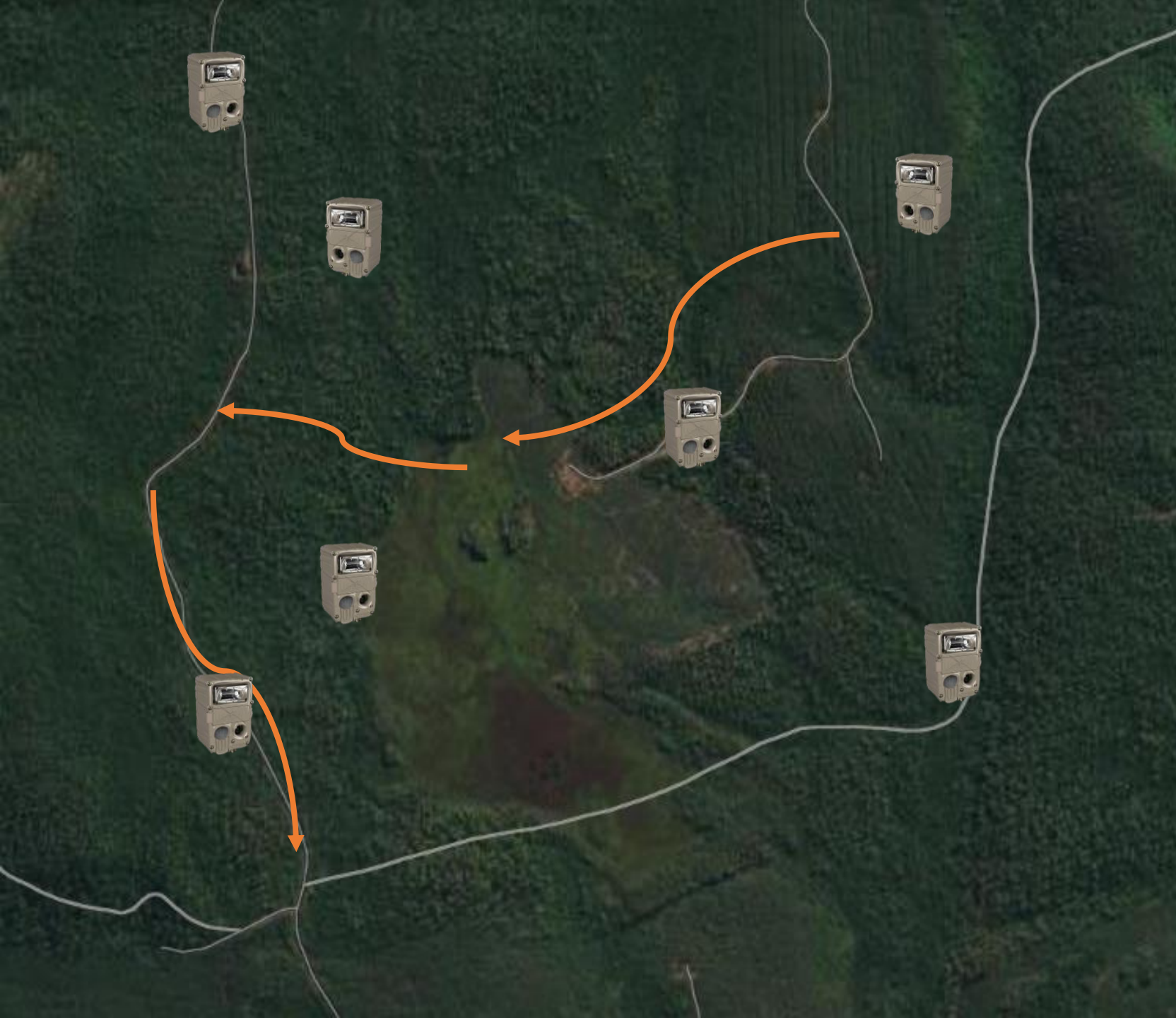


# Here kitty-kitty...

Lure choice for predator attraction in a temperate rainforest.

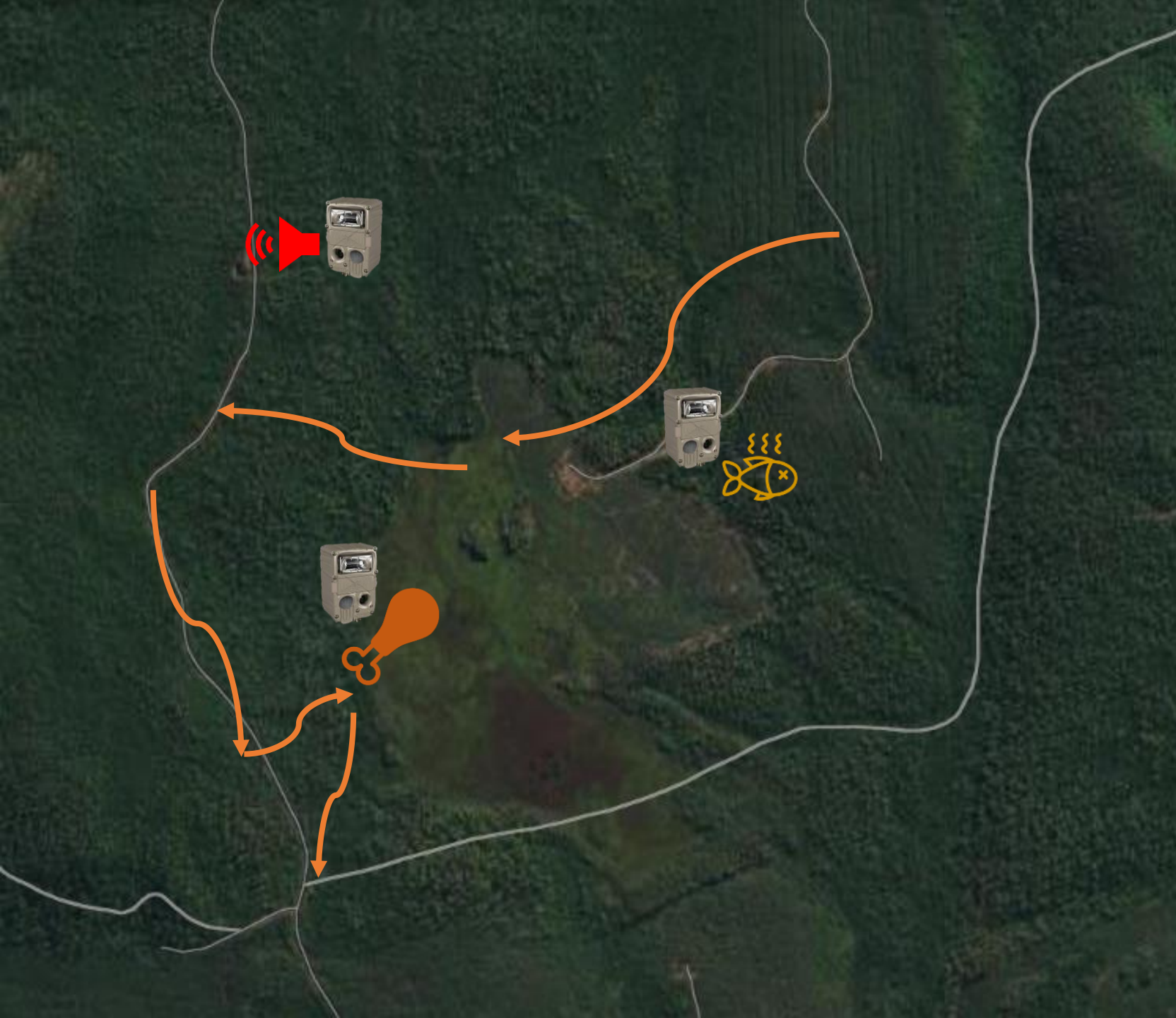
Alexandra Paton, University of Tasmania





# The problem with camera traps...

- Great data
- Need to increase detection probability
- Expensive
- More cameras?
- More time?



# Lures are a common aid

- Food and olfactory lures require frequent servicing
- Theoretically increase visitation



# Past research

## Lures influence behaviour

Edwards et. al. 1997: sun-rendered prawn and anal-gland scent for track-pads.

Hanke and Dickman 2013: cat urine good for hair-snare stakes.

But does this mean **lures increase camera visitation?**

Read et. al. 2015, no evidence visual, olfactory, or audio lures significantly increased visitation.

- Some behavioural response to audio lures.





But what's the harm?





# Study design



16 cameras, four grids.  
Lures rotated every month.  
Four months total.





# Lure focused

## Lure interaction



## Investigating lure



# Other focus

## Walking



## Investigating camera



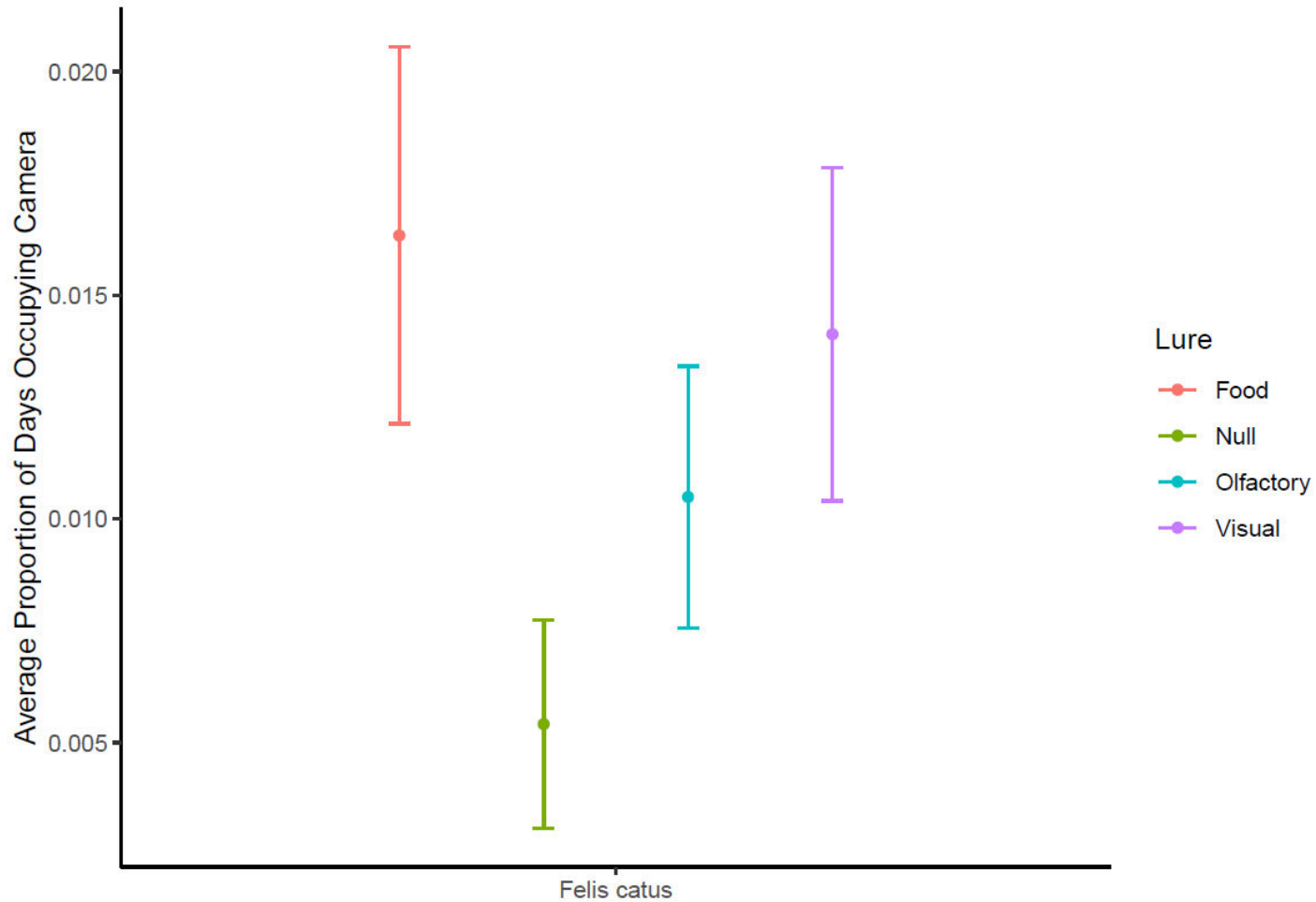
## Investigating environment



Behaviour  
classifying

Site visitation  
Site events  
Differences in  
behaviour

# Fashion cats and fussy eaters



## Visual:

Site visitation: 5.36 (CI = 1.58, 18.22)

Total site events: 3.65 (CI = 1.51, 8.81)

## Meat:

Site visitation: 4.22 (CI = 1.1, 16.12)

Total site events: 4.04 (CI = 1.5, 10.91)

## Olfactory:

Site visitation: 2.06, CI = 0.59, 7.2

Total site events: 2.78, CI = 1.05, 7.4

No reliable behavioural response



# The devil is in the detail...

- The interaction effect between food and devil activity decreased the odds of a detecting a cat by 0.65 (CI = 0.44, 0.95).
- Same effect for the olfactory lures (odds ratio = 0.63, CI = 0.43, 0.94)
- Not seen for the visual lures: (odds ratio = 0.99, CI = 0.56, 1.77)





# Final thoughts

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- Cautionary tale.
- Survey specific- be aware of species interactions.
- Visual lure performs as well as the food lure, but requires less servicing.