

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

Urban conservation hotspots: predation release allows the grassland-specialist burrowing owl to perform better in the city

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Fig. S1. Urban and rural habitat availability and their use by burrowing owls in each of the years surveyed. Savage selectivity indexes are shown right to the bars (***: $p < 0.0001$).

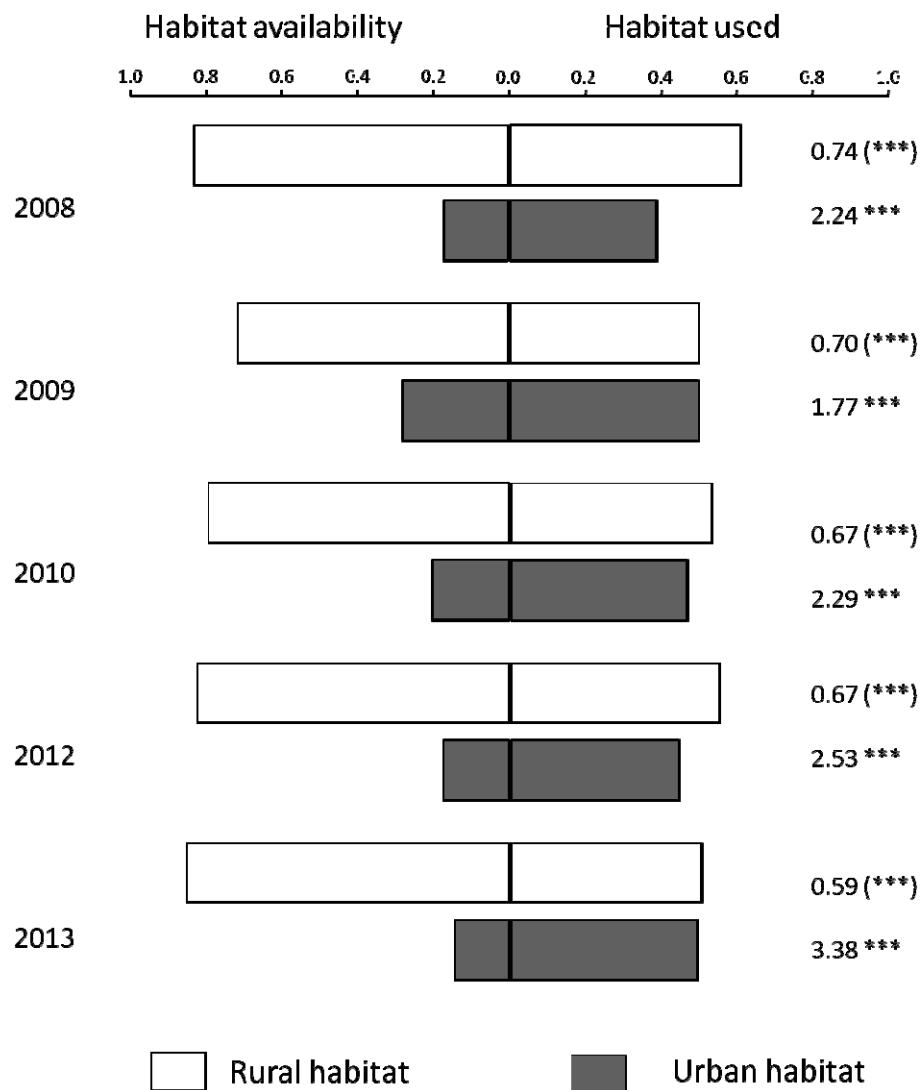


Table S1. Abundance (average $\pm$ SE) of aerial and terrestrial predators (individuals/hs) of burrowing owls in urban and rural habitats.

Avian predators	Rural	Urban
Southern Caracara (<i>Caracara plancus</i>)	1.30 $\pm$ 0.30	0.11 $\pm$ 0.04
Long-winged Harrier (<i>Circus buffoni</i>)	0.14 $\pm$ 0.04	0.02 $\pm$ 0.01
Cinereous Harrier (<i>Circus cinereus</i>)	0.03 $\pm$ 0.01	0.01 $\pm$ 0.004
Variable hawk (<i>Geranoetus polyosoma</i>)	0.04 $\pm$ 0.01	0.003 $\pm$ 0.003
Aplomado Falcon (<i>Falco femoralis</i>)	0.07 $\pm$ 0.01	0.04 $\pm$ 0.01
Roadside Hawk (<i>Rupornis magnirostris</i>)	0.009 $\pm$ 0.004	0.05 $\pm$ 0.02
Black-chested Buzzard-eagle (<i>Geranoaetus melanoleucus</i>)	0.002 $\pm$ 0.002	0 $\pm$ 0
Harris's Hawk (<i>Parabuteo unicinctus</i>)	0 $\pm$ 0	0.02 $\pm$ 0.01
Terrestrial predators	Rural	Urban
Domestic cat (<i>Felis silvestris catus</i>)	0.02 $\pm$ 0.02	0.007 $\pm$ 0.003
Pampas Cat (<i>Leopardus colocolo</i>)	0.0005 $\pm$ 0.005	0 $\pm$ 0
Molina's Hog-nosed Skunk (<i>Conepatus chinga</i>)	0.015 $\pm$ 0.005	0.0007 $\pm$ 0.0007
Pampa Fox (<i>Pseudalopex gymnocercus</i>)	0.15 $\pm$ 0.08	0 $\pm$ 0
Lesser grison (<i>Galictis cuja</i>)	0.003 $\pm$ 0.002	0 $\pm$ 0
Armadillos ¹	0.03 $\pm$ 0.008	0.006 $\pm$ 0.004
Snakes ²	0.026 $\pm$ 0.015	0.009 $\pm$ 0.008

¹Large hairy armadillo (*Chaetophractus villosus*) and Southern long-nosed armadillo (*Dasypus hybridus*)

²*Paraphimophis (Clelia) rusticus*, *Philodryas patagoniensis*, *Erythrolamprus (Liophis) poecilogyrus*, *Xenodon (Lystrophis) dorbignyi*

Table S2. Models obtained for abundance and richness of potential aerial and terrestrial predators of burrowing owls in urban and rural habitats.

Abundance of total predators¹	Estimate	SE	F	P
Habitat (urban)	-1.56	0.12	157.94	< 0.0001
Year			4.19	0.0010
Time	0.07	0.03	6.01	0.0145
Abundance of aerial predators¹	Estimate	SE	F	P
Habitat (urban)	-1.50	0.13	131.47	< 0.0001
Year			4.44	0.0006
Time	0.05	0.03	3.29	0.0703
Abundance of terrestrial predators²	Estimate	SE	χ^2	P
Habitat (urban)	-2.02	0.29	77.53	< 0.0001
Year			41.47	< 0.0001
Time	0.17	0.04	17.48	< 0.0001
Richness of total predators²	Estimate	SE	χ^2	P
Habitat (urban)	-1.09	0.11	117.96	< 0.0001
Year			20.09	0.0012
Time	0.10	0.02	22.24	< 0.0001
Richness of aerial predators²	Estimate	SE	χ^2	P
Habitat (urban)	-0.95	0.12	74.38	< 0.0001
Year			14.49	0.0128
Time	0.08	0.02	12.96	0.0003
Richness of terrestrial predators²	Estimate	SE	χ^2	P
Habitat (urban)	-1.82	0.31	51.73	< 0.0001
Year			28.97	< 0.0001
Time	0.15	0.05	10.94	0.0009

¹ negative binomial error distribution, log-link function

² Poisson error distribution, log-link function