

## Scientific Reports

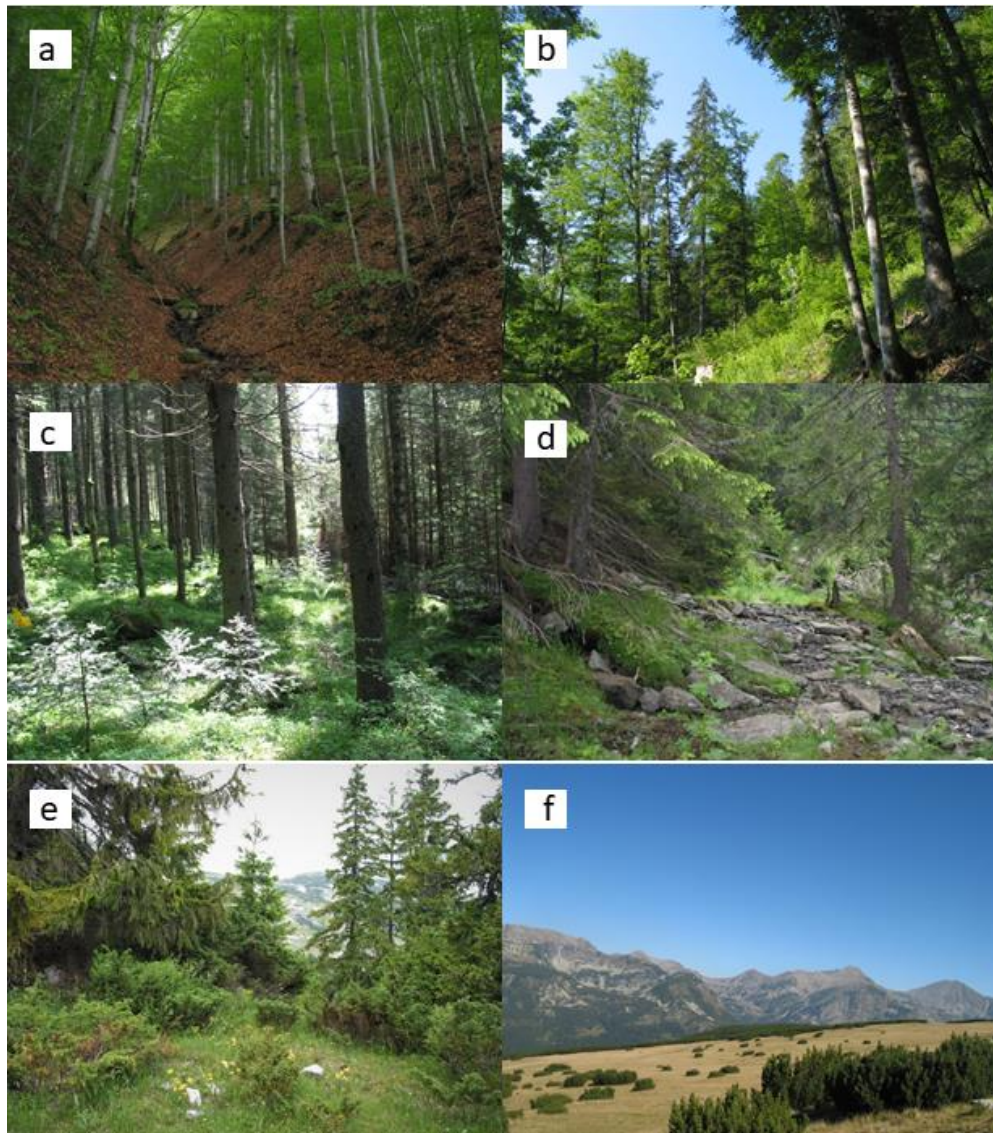
### Responses of small mammals to habitat characteristics in South Carpathian forests

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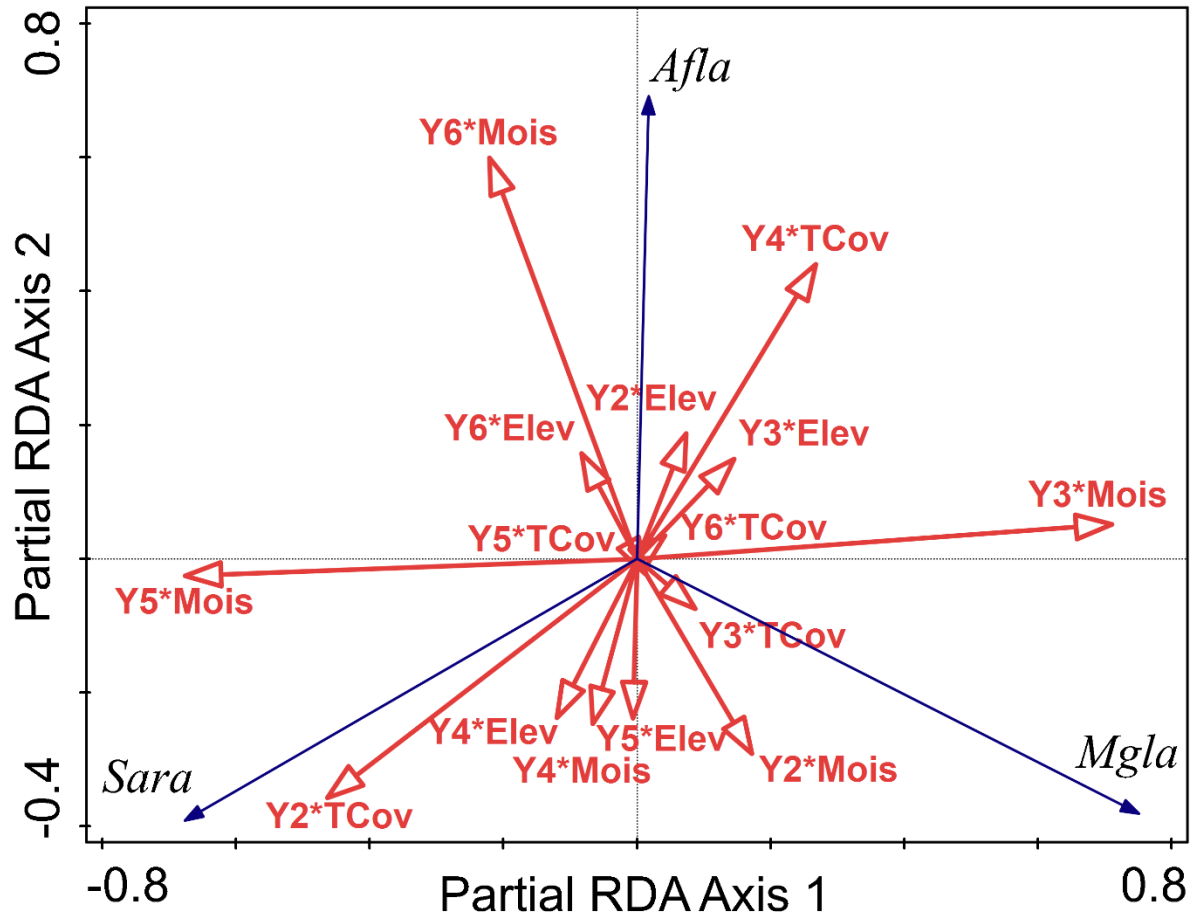
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#### Supplementary Information



**Fig. A1** Typical habitats along the altitudinal gradient in the study area: a – homogenous, dense canopy beech forest with sparse shrub and herbaceous layers; b – mixed forest dominated by beech, Norway spruce and silver fir with rich shrub and herbaceous layers, recently logged; c – dense Norway spruce forest with numerous saplings and rich undergrowth dominated by blueberry bushes; d – sparse spruce forest with hygrophilous vegetation and numerous rocky outcrops and stones; e – sparse spruce forest at timberline with dense juniper shrubs; f – sparse stone pine shrubs in the subalpine meadows, above the timberline



**Fig. A2** Biplot diagram from partial redundancy analysis (RDA) summarising the effect of the interaction between year (Y) and the significant habitat variables - tree cover (TCov), soil moisture (Mois) and elevation (Elev) - on the relative abundance of the three dominant species (response data were standardised by site). The symbol \* stands for interaction. The main effects of the predictors were included as covariates. The codes for species are: *Afla* – *Apodemus flavicollis* (yellow-necked mouse), *Mgla* – *Myodes glareolus* (bank vole), *Sara* – *Sorex araneus* (common shrew). The codes for years are: 2 – 2002, 3 – 2003, 4 – 2004, 5- 2005, 6 – 2006

**Table A1** Descriptive statistics of the quantitative environmental variables in the surveyed habitats. The lower and upper 95% confidence limits of the mean are designated as lower c.l. and upper c.l., SE is the standard error of the mean

|            | Distance to<br>water (m) | Tree<br>cover (%) | Shrub cover<br>(%) | Herbaceous<br>cover (%) | Herbaceous<br>height (cm) | Conifers in<br>the tree cover<br>(%) | Elevation<br>(m) |
|------------|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| Mean       | 137.9                    | 65.14             | 18.29              | 45.75                   | 29.24                     | 72.47                                | 1382             |
| Lower c.l. | 86.8                     | 58.66             | 14.41              | 39.01                   | 25.95                     | 63.92                                | 1311.5           |
| Upper c.l. | 189.1                    | 71.62             | 22.16              | 52.50                   | 32.54                     | 81                                   | 1452.6           |
| SE         | 25.7                     | 3.25              | 1.94               | 3.38                    | 1.65                      | 4.29                                 | 35.4             |