

Shared use of mineral supplement in extensive farming and its potential for infection transmission at the wildlife-livestock interface

1 **Running title:** Wildlife/livestock mineral supplement use

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8 **Summary**

9 Recently, the survival of *Mycobacterium bovis* on livestock mineral blocks has been confirmed, but little is
10 known about its implication in the transmission of animal tuberculosis (TB) under field conditions. The
11 objective of this study was to describe the shared use of mineral supplements in four extensive beef cattle
12 farms from a high TB prevalence area in South Central Spain, to identify the main factors explaining their use,
13 and characterize its potential role for the transmission of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis complex* (MTC). This is
14 relevant to design control measures at the wildlife-livestock interface. Animal activity was monitored by
15 camera-trapping at 12 mineral supplementation points during spring and fall. Additionally, swabs were
16 periodically taken from the mineral substrates and analyzed by PCR searching for MTC DNA. Cattle, pig,
17 goat, sheep, wild boar and red deer were all recorded licking on mineral supplementation points. Livestock
18 species were the main users and presented a diurnal use pattern. Wild ungulates presented a nocturnal-
19 crepuscular use pattern, with scarce overlapping with livestock. Wild boar presence was positively related to
20 cattle presence at mineral supplementation points, whereas red deer presence was higher in supplemental
21 points closer to forested areas, mostly in absence of cattle. We recorded 266 indirect wildlife-livestock

interactions (i.e. two consecutive visits that occurred within 78h), all of them derived from 21 unique wildlife visits. All the analyzed swabs resulted negative to MTC DNA. Comparing to other environmental sources of MTC in our study area, mainly water ponds, this research evidenced that mineral blocks are less attractive to wildlife. However, the potential for interspecific transmission of MTC or other pathogens cannot be discarded. The risk for interaction at mineral supplementation points and further transmission can be prevented by implementing specific measures in the context of integral biosecurity plans at the wildlife-livestock interface, which are proposed.

Keywords: Bovine tuberculosis; Interactions; Interspecific transmission; Mineral block; *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* Complex; Photo-trapping.

Introduction

Animal tuberculosis (TB, caused by members of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* Complex, MTC) is shared by wildlife and livestock in different epidemiological contexts worldwide (Gortázar et al., 2015). The presence of the MTC at such interface is of economical, sanitary (including human health) and conservation concern (Krebs et al., 1998; Gortázar et al., 2010; Gormley and Corner, 2018). The wide range of (domestic and wild) host species together with the combination with cultural and environmental factors leads to many different epidemiological scenarios with their own risks for transmission (Humblet et al., 2009; Fitzgerald and Kaneene, 2013).

Previous studies in Spain highlighted the shared use of resources by wildlife and extensive livestock, namely, cattle, pigs, Eurasian wild boar (*Sus scrofa*) and red deer (*Cervus elaphus*) (Kukielka et al., 2013; Carrasco-García et al., 2016). These species, along with goats and sheep, are part of the MTC maintenance host community in the Iberian Peninsula (Santos et al., 2020). In this complex epidemiological system the transmission of MTC is mainly indirect (Cowie et al., 2016), and it has been attributed to shared pastures and water or feed contaminated with saliva, urine or feces from infected animals (Santos et al., 2015; Barasona, Torres et al., 2017; Barasona, Vicente et al., 2017). It is known that MTC are relatively resistant to environmental factors and under appropriate conditions may persist in the environment for weeks or months,

prolonging the likelihood of indirect transmission by ingestion (Fine et al., 2011). Recently, it has been reported that *M. bovis* can be isolated up to 78h post inoculation in mineral blocks, depending on the composition of the block and the environmental conditions (Kaneene et al., 2017). Previous studies highlighted the shared use of mineral blocks and their potential role as aggregation points between wildlife and livestock in extensive farming systems (Payne et al., 2016). However, little is known about their potential for MTC transmission, which depends on both mycobacteria survival and the specific use of the blocks by hosts. In this context, the aim of this study was to describe and quantify the shared use of mineral supplements by wildlife and livestock during two seasons in beef cattle farms from a high TB prevalence area (South and Central Spain, SCS), and to assess the presence of MTC DNA on the blocks. Results should be relevant to design preventive measures to reduce risk of transmission at the wildlife-livestock interface.

Materials and Methods

The study was carried out in four beef cattle farms from Ciudad Real (Castilla-La Mancha) and Córdoba (Andalucía), two provinces from SCS, during two different seasons, spring (April to May) and fall (September to October) of 2016. The mineral supplements used in the studied farms can be divided in two types: (i) *natural salt rocks* with impurities and variable composition, mainly sodium chloride (NaCl) with mineral traces; and (ii) *artificial mineral blocks* composed of 38% sodium (Na), 1% calcium (Ca) and 0.6% magnesium (Mg). Three mineral supplementation points (MP) were selected in each farm. The type and location of all MPs was those used by the farmers (Table 1).

Camera traps (Ltl-5310, Ltl ACORN® Futian, Shenzhen, China), one by MP, were attached to trees or wooden posts at 5 meters from the mineral supplement to record the presence of animals. Camera traps were set to take 3 consecutive pictures after animal detection, with 1 min interval between consecutive activations. Camera traps remained on the field a minimum of 14 days per season, resulting in 315 operative camera days that were used for the statistical analysis (147 camera-days were discarded due to operativity failures).

70 In order to measure wildlife activity independently to the MP, we set camera traps in two active wildlife trails
 71 per farm and season. Two cameras per farm were installed in natural and obvious wildlife trails up to 250 m
 72 from a MP and separated an average of 1 km from each other to assure spatial independence.

73 The pictures recorded by each camera trap in MP were visualized to determine the animal activity at “visit”
 74 level. A *visit* was defined as a consecutive series of pictures where a single animal or a group of them
 75 (belonging to the same species) were recorded in a given camera, and separated more than 15 minutes of the
 76 next series of the same species. The interval between visits (IBV, 15 min) was established following the
 77 procedure described in Kukiela et al. (2013). Briefly, IBV was assessed after a trial of 5, 15, 30, 45 and 60
 78 minutes carried out with the data from three randomly selected CT. The smallest changes of number of visits
 79 per IBV at each camera appeared when selecting for 15 minutes IBV or more (i.e., defining IBV as 15 or 30 or
 80 45 or 60 minutes resulted in similar number of visits). For each visit we recorded date, time, visit duration
 81 (difference between the first and last picture of the series), the species involved (cattle, sheep, goat, pig, wild
 82 boar or red deer), the maximum number of individuals in the group and number of pictures in each visit where
 83 at least one individual is licking directly on the mineral supplement .

84 Due to grazing management conducted by farmers, not all the livestock species could access to MP at any time
 85 (they rotate over grazing plots). In order to address this condition, when assigning the camera traps with
 86 presence of a given species, we used only the days in which the given species could potentially be captured by
 87 camera traps (Potentially Camera-trap day, PCT day; data provided by the farmers). For wildlife species, we
 88 assume that all camera-trapping days were PCT days, since fences were permeable to wildlife.

89 To characterize animal activity at the MPs, we calculated different parameters for each species: i) the daily
 90 presence rate (PR), calculated as the proportion of PCT days with presence of a given species, (ii) the daily
 91 visit rate (VR) per species, calculated as the number of visits per PCT day, (iii) the animal rate (AR),
 92 calculated as the sum of the maximum number of individuals of each species per visit and PCT day, (iv) the
 93 use index (UI), calculated as the time spent (in seconds) by each species in each visit per PCT day and (v) the

94 daily use pattern (DUP), assessed as the proportion of visits to MPs by hour of the day. Differences in the
 95 activity parameters among species and seasons were explored using non-parametric statistical tests.

96 Concerning the interactions between livestock and wildlife, a *direct interaction* was defined as a visit where
 97 two or more individuals of different species were captured in the same picture. Otherwise, an *indirect*
 98 *interaction* was defined as two consecutive visits that occurred within a specific Critical Time Window
 99 (CTW). We established a conservative CTW (78h), based on risk of TB transmission, using the maximum
 100 survival time of *M. bovis* on a mineral substrate reported by Kaneene et al. (2017). Both types of interactions
 101 can be classified as *interspecific* or *intraspecific*, depending on if the subsequent (or simultaneous) visit is a
 102 different species or not, respectively. Additionally, indirect interactions were classified depending on the
 103 number of visits that occurred between the first visit and the visit that produced the interaction (interaction
 104 visit) within the CTW. For that purpose, we named as first order interactions those in which the interaction
 105 visit first occurred after the first visit, second order interactions those in which the interaction visit happened
 106 after a first order interaction, and so on.

107 We followed the protocol for data exploration described by Zuur et al. (2010) in order to avoid type I or type II
 108 errors and potentially erroneous ecological conclusions. We tested if the animal activity parameters differed
 109 between species using non-parametric tests (Kruskal-Wallis and Mann-Whitney-Wilcoxon), since data was not
 110 normally distributed. Multivariable Poisson regression models were developed to identify the factors related
 111 with the activity of red deer and wild boar in MPs in each MP. We used as dependent variable the VR of a
 112 given species per camera trap and season, since this parameter reflects the use of mineral supplementation, and
 113 the potential for interaction and consequent transmission of pathogens. Models were run separately for wild
 114 boar and red deer. Regarding the explanatory variables, we used: season (spring vs fall, categorical), the UI of
 115 each livestock species (seconds, as indicative of livestock presence), the distance to cover (distance in meters
 116 from each camera to the nearest forest/scrubland patch, as a measure of proximity to wildlife habitat), and the
 117 relative abundance of wildlife (visits/PCT day in wildlife trails). Farm was included also as a fixed categorical
 118 factor. We selected the most parsimonious model, with a difference in the Akaike Information Criterion (AIC)

119 lower than 2 with the preceding model ($\Delta_i \text{AIC} > 2$; Burnham and Anderson, 2004). All statistical analyses
 120 were conducted using computing software R 3.5.1 (R Core Team, 2018).

121 Additionally, samples were collected from the surface of the mineral substrate every 2-3 days with a sterile
 122 swab (Copan Diagnostics Inc., Murrieta, CA, USA), properly tagged and frozen at -18°C until laboratory
 123 diagnostics were performed. Sixty swabs were selected and analyzed for the presence of MTC DNA. The
 124 sample selection was based on the previous presence of wildlife at the MP by camera-trapping in order assign
 125 any positivity to the use of the MP, and to maximize the probability of MTC detection. In the laboratory, the
 126 swabs were cleaned in buffered tampon and centrifuged. Manual DNA extraction was performed with
 127 FluoroLyse Kit (Hain Lifesciences, Nehren, Germany). MTC DNA amplification analyses and control
 128 elaboration were carried out following the procedure described in Barasona et al. (2017b).

129 **Results**

130 Within the potential TB reservoir species detected in the 1397 recorded visits, cattle (n=789), pigs (n=453),
 131 goats (n=37), sheep (n=92), wild boar (n=11) and red deer (n=15) were identified, and all of them were
 132 captured using mineral supplements at some point. Livestock species were the main users of mineral
 133 supplements compared with wild ungulates, and their presence was predominant in PR, VR, AR and UI
 134 (Mann-Whitney test $P < 0.05$ in any case) (Supporting Information 1). The presence of wild ungulates at MPs
 135 was sporadic (in 26 of the 315 days analyzed) and punctual (number of visits on these 26 days ranged from 1
 136 to 3 for red deer, with 1.5 visits on average, and wild boar only visited MPs once each day it appeared. No
 137 significant differences between red deer and wild boar were found in terms of the activity parameters (Mann-
 138 Whitney test $P > 0.05$ in any case).

139 Regarding seasonality, there were no significant differences in wild boar or red deer activity parameters
 140 between spring and fall (Wilcoxon test $P > 0.05$ in any case). However, we identified seasonal differences in
 141 some cases for domestic species (Cattle VR, AR and UI were significantly higher in autumn, while goat PR
 142 and VR, pig PR, and sheep PR, VR and AR were significantly higher in spring). In the Supporting Information

143 1 we show which species were absent per season and farm, where livestock management determined the
 144 presence or absence of a given species in the area.

145 There were also no significant differences in wild boar or red deer activity parameters depending on mineral
 146 supplement type (hanging artificial mineral block or natural salt rock on the ground), and neither for cattle
 147 (Wilcoxon test $P > 0.05$ in any case). Goat and sheep mineral supplement type preference could not be
 148 consistently analyzed because their presence was limited to specific farms, but we identified significant
 149 differences for pig (Wilcoxon test $P < 0.05$ in any case). These results are consistent with our empirical
 150 observations, since during picture visualization, it was possible to verify that wild boar and pig were not able
 151 to lick directly from mineral supplements on Farm 1, where the mineral blocks were hanging at least at 1
 152 meter from the ground (Figure 1). However, wild boar and pigs were attracted by the mineral remnants on the
 153 ground, since they showed rooting behavior immediately below the hanging mineral block.

154 Regarding the direct licking on mineral supplements (Supporting Information 2), cattle was the most frequent
 155 species in absolute terms (527 “licking” visits) and goat was the species with higher relative use (93.90% of
 156 the visits). Red deer “licked” MPs in 8/15 visits, and wild boar in 3/11 visits. No statistical differences were
 157 found in licking behavior (number of “licking” visits and proportion of visits with “licking” behavior) between
 158 seasons for red deer nor wild boar (Mann-Whitney test $P > 0.05$ in any case).

159 The results of Poisson regression models (Table 2) showed that wild boar VR significantly and positively
 160 associated with the time spent by cattle in MPs (cattle UI). The red deer model showed that VR was
 161 significantly lower in MPs further from the nearest forest/scrubland patch. The model also included a
 162 significant interaction between the nearest forest/scrubland patch (distance to wildlife cover) and the time
 163 daily spent by cattle in the given MP (cattle UI), indicating that for MPs with low use by cattle, red deer
 164 activity strongly decreased with distance to nearest cover habitat, whereas for MPs with high cattle use, deer
 165 activity at MP was independent of distance to cover. No seasonal differences in specific VR were observed
 166 neither in wild boar nor red deer.

167 As for the DUP, domestic species were mainly seen during daytime at MPs, while wildlife showed a nocturnal
 168 pattern (Figure 2).

169 Regarding the interactions, 42 direct interspecific events (two species in the same visit) were identified at
 170 MPs, mostly involving domestic species: 21 cattle-pig, 15 cattle-sheep, 5 cattle-goat, and 1 cattle-wild boar
 171 interaction. The only direct livestock-wildlife interaction occurred in fall season at 3:58 AM between one cow
 172 and four wild boar. Direct intraspecific interactions were recorded in 878 visits (62.85%), corresponding to
 173 those composed by more than one individual of the same species (Supporting Information 3).

174 In addition, 29,632 indirect interactions were recorded, from which 24,726 (83.44%) were intraspecific
 175 interactions, and 4,906 (16.56%) were interspecific interactions (Table 3). Wild ungulates were involved in
 176 503 indirect interspecific interactions (10.25% of the interspecific interactions), from which about half (266)
 177 presented wildlife-livestock directionality (58 deer-cattle, 41 deer-pig, 147 wild boar-cattle, 13 wild boar-
 178 sheep and 7 wild boar-goat), 80 occurring during spring season, and 186 during fall. Time lapse between
 179 wildlife-livestock interactions ranged between 1 h 35 min and 77 h 53 min, with 42 h 19 min on average. Only
 180 15 first order wildlife-livestock interactions were recorded (3.05% of the interspecific interactions, 5.63% of
 181 those presenting wildlife-livestock directionality), ranging from 1 h 35 min and 45 h 40 min, with 9 h 54 min
 182 on average (Figure 3). All 266 wildlife-livestock interactions originated from 21 visits (10 out of 15 red deer
 183 visits and all 11 wild boar visits).

184 All analyzed swabs tested negative to the presence of MTC DNA. Positive control performed correctly, so all
 185 the PCRs amplified.

186 **Discussion**

187 We recorded less activity and use of MPs by wild ungulates compared to livestock. As indicative, in terms of
 188 the proportion of days when wildlife activity was detected, our values (red deer mean = 2.53% of PCT days,
 189 SD = 15.73; wild boar mean = 3.48% PCT days, SD = 18.36) contrast with the 36% and the 28% of days
 190 previously reported for red deer and wild boar for other extensive farm resources, such as water points, in the
 191 same study area (Carrasco-García et al., 2016). This suggests that wildlife is not as strongly attracted to

192 mineral resources as it is to water (Kukielka et al., 2013). Additionally, we observed that VR, both for deer
 193 and wild boar, was higher in wildlife trails than in MPs, and wildlife was not present at all the farms in MPs,
 194 even if they were detected at the wildlife trails and were hunted (see hunting yields, Table 1). These findings
 195 contrast with the natural attractiveness of this type of resources for North American cervids looking for
 196 supplemental dietary Na (Lavelle et al., 2014), and with the behavior reported for red deer in French farm
 197 facilities, where salt licking was the most frequently detected behavior and where they performed the longer
 198 visits (Payne et al., 2016). Red deer and wild boar access to, and needs of, mineral have not yet been
 199 characterized in our study area. As indicative, saline soils and halophilous vegetation that can be found in
 200 uncultivated areas of central Spain (Bernáldez et al., 1989), may reduce the needs of mineral from
 201 anthropogenic sources, and therefore the behavior of the wild ungulates towards human-borne mineral
 202 supplementation devices intended for livestock use. However, the large number of indirect intraspecific
 203 interactions (especially for cattle and pig) reinforces the hypothesis that mineral supplementation is a potential
 204 source for disease transmission. Consistently with previous studies in extensive cattle farms in SCS (Kukielka
 205 et al., 2013; Carrasco-García et al., 2016), domestic reservoirs presented a more diurnal activity pattern at
 206 MPs, and a with a wider period of the day performing some activity.

207 In our study, wildlife-livestock interactions were mostly determined by the intense influx of livestock to the
 208 MPs, and not by the presence/abundance of wild ungulates. The best fitted model generated for wild boar VR,
 209 suggested that the presence of cattle in MPs is attractive to wild boar or they, independently, select the same
 210 MPs, similarly to results previously described between feral swine and cattle in Texas (Cooper et al., 2010),
 211 and between wild boar and cattle in SCS (Carrasco-García et al., 2016) in other types of aggregation points.
 212 This indicates that, at least, there is no indirect inter-species avoidance. This suggest that wild boar may find
 213 attractive resources associated with cattle presence, like the presence of invertebrates in cattle manure piles
 214 (Baubet et al., 2003; Acevedo et al., 2019).

215 Red deer presence was significantly higher as the MPs were closer to cover, in accordance with previous
 216 studies in SCS (Carrasco-García et al., 2016). This finding is also supported by the significant and negative
 217 correlation between the distance to cover and the presence of red deer on wildlife trails (Table 2). This factor

218 interacted with cattle UI, showing a stronger effect of the distance from wildlife cover in those cases where
 219 cattle was almost absent (0 seconds or less than one minute), which evidenced that cattle presence negatively
 220 influenced red deer visitation to MPs. It is widely demonstrated that cervid species exhibit a behavioral
 221 disturbance in presence of cattle, and that resource competition (specially in presence of cattle at high stocking
 222 densities) can lead to shifts in niche breadth and competitive spatial displacement of red deer (Gordon, 1988;
 223 Mattiello et al., 2002; Stewart et al., 2002).

224 The absence of MTC positive swabs is consistent with the low activity detected for wildlife in the studied
 225 mineral blocks, along with brevity of the visits and the shortage of visits with “licking” behavior performed by
 226 wild reservoirs (including the inability of the wild boar to reach devices located more than one meter high).
 227 Domestic species could also potentially contribute to the presence of MTC DNA in MPs, although the
 228 development of large TB lesions and MTC excretion is normally prevented by regular TB eradication
 229 campaigns (at least 2 in a year), which eliminate animals that are positive to the skin test. Whereas this
 230 technique has been described to have a good sensitivity, it is possible that low levels of MTC were
 231 undetectable using our sampling protocol. A recent study established that approximately a minimum of one
 232 third of TB positive wild boar randomly captured in our study area are potential MTC shedders (Barasona,
 233 Torres et al., 2017). Controlled experiments evaluating the survival of MTC in periodically eroded mineral
 234 blocks exposed to Mediterranean environmental conditions and its potential for disease transmission are still
 235 needed.

236 Throughout this work we have been able to verify how all present ungulate reservoirs, both domestic and wild,
 237 have been recorded licking on the mineral supplementation points. Livestock species, for which mineral
 238 blocks were intended, were the main users and presented a diurnal use pattern, while wild ungulates presented
 239 a nocturnal-crepuscular use pattern, with scarce overlapping with livestock. Wild boar presence was positively
 240 related to cattle presence at mineral supplementation points, suggesting the possible attraction of this suid for
 241 resources associated with livestock, whereas red deer presence was higher in supplemental points closer to
 242 forested areas, mostly in absence of cattle. We recorded 266 indirect wildlife-livestock interactions, all of them
 243 derived from 21 unique wildlife visits, raising the possibility that, by controlling the low number of wildlife

visits, most of the interspecific interactions with greater potential for pathogen transmission can be avoided. All this, together with the fact that none of the analyzed swabs resulted positive to MTC DNA, suggest that mineral supplement are less attractive to wildlife comparing to other environmental sources of MTC in our study area, mainly water ponds.

However, the potential for interspecific transmission of MTC or other pathogens cannot be discarded. The risk for interaction at mineral supplementation points and further transmission can be prevented by implementing specific measures in the context of integral biosecurity plans at the wildlife-livestock interface, which are:

- (i) Withdrawing mineral supplementation overnight may prevent most visits by wild ungulates. It can be carried out by mechanically removing the mineral supplement or using a device that can be closed (by a lid or trapdoor).
- (ii) Placing the mineral supplement at least one-meter high may prevent its use by wild boar, although not by red deer.
- (iii) Establishing mineral supplementation points in open pastures far from cover may reduce visits by red deer, and to a lower extent, wild boar.
- (iv) Segregating the use of MPs for the different livestock species making use of them, to prevent interspecific interactions, and hindering the indirect transmission of pathogens.

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Conflict of Interest

267 The authors declare that the research was conducted in the absence of any commercial or financial
 268 relationships that could be construed as a potential conflict of interest.

269 **Data Availability Statement**

270 The datasets generated for this study can be found in the [Mendeley Data](https://data.mendeley.com/datasets/bndtp9sx7w/1) repository (DOI:
 271 10.17632/bndtp9sx7w.1). Link: <https://data.mendeley.com/datasets/bndtp9sx7w/1>.

272 **Ethical Statement**

273 The authors confirm that the ethical policies of the journal, as noted on the journal's author guidelines page,
 274 have been adhered to. No ethical approval was required as there were not sample collection from animals or
 275 humans.

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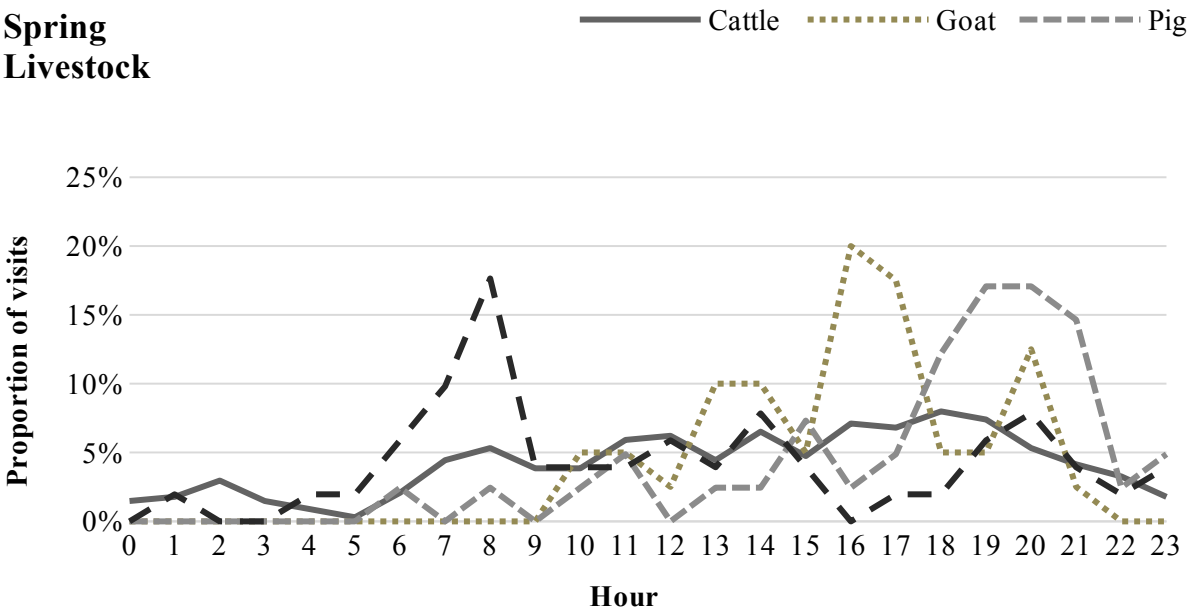
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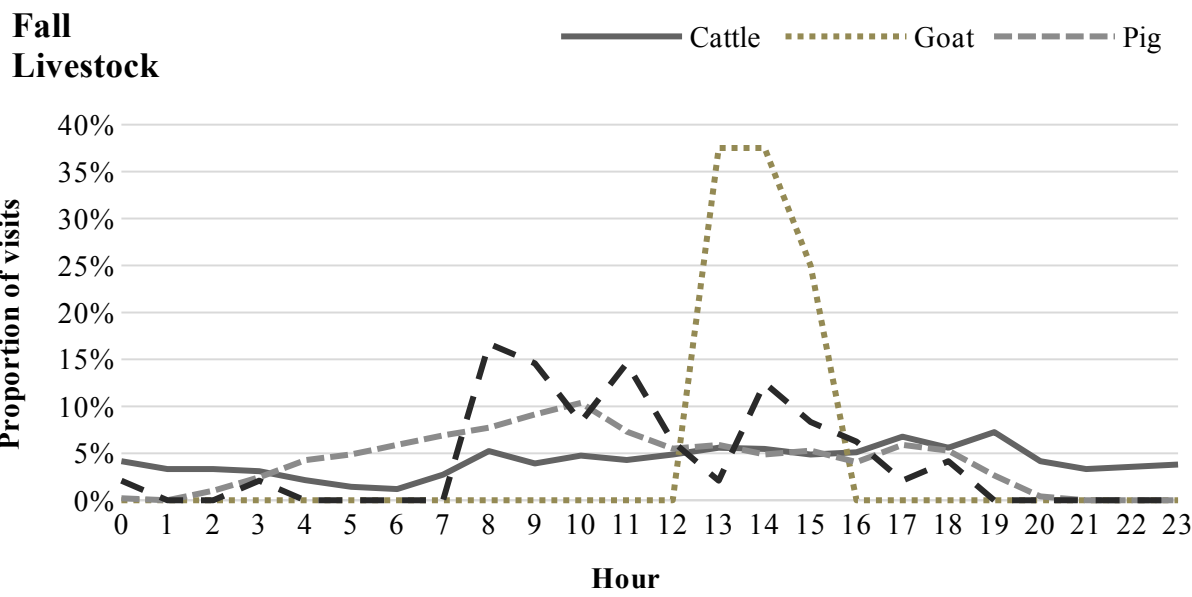
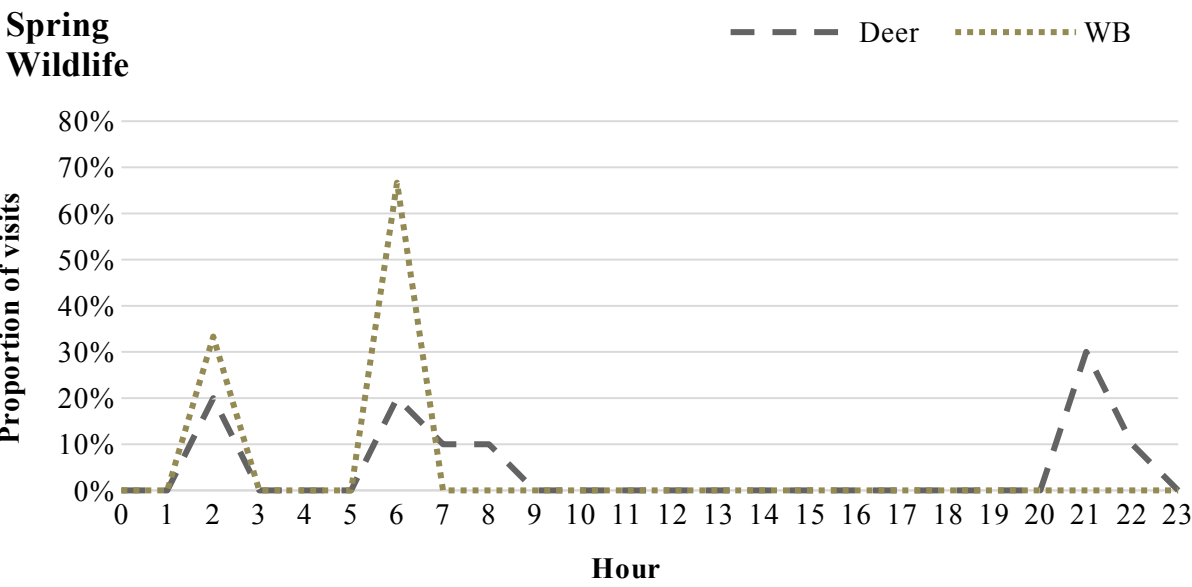
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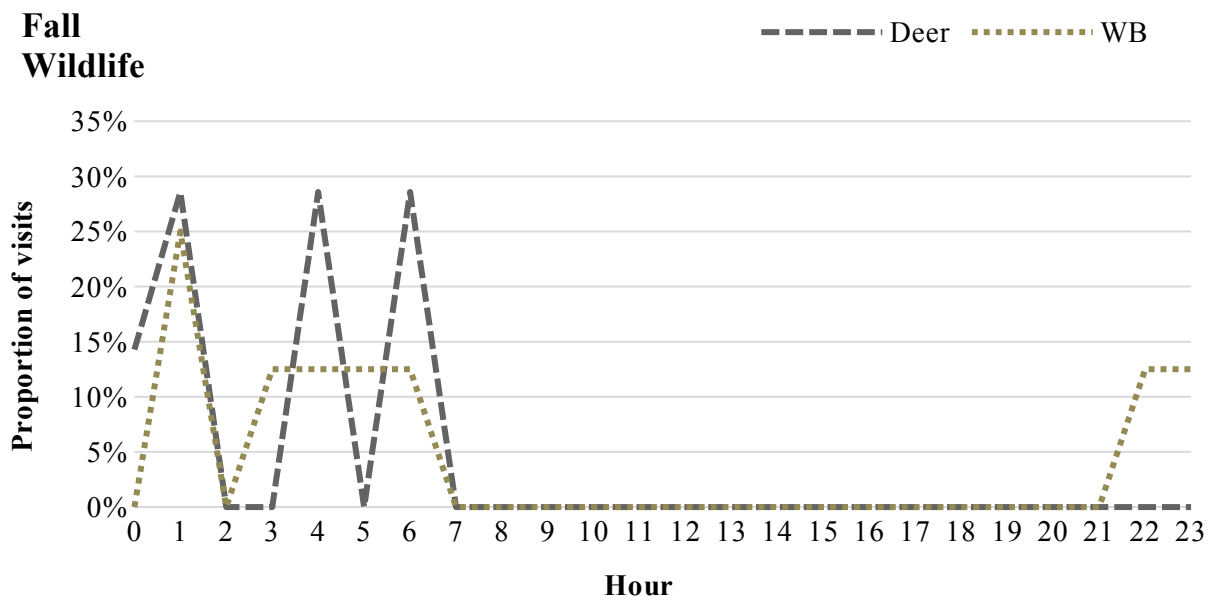
352 **Figures**

353 Figure 1. Example of different species interacting with a hanging mineral block MP. The species (from left to
354 right and from top to bottom) are: goat, cattle, wild boar, Iberian pig and red deer.

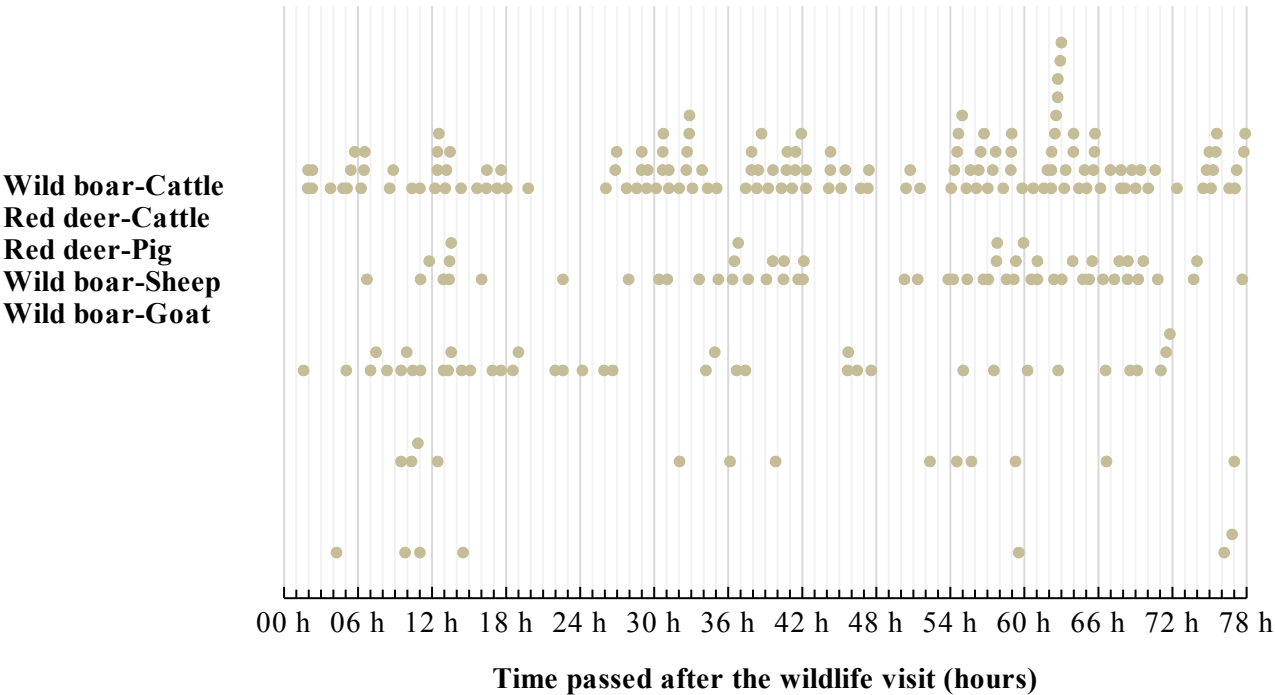
355 Figure 2. Livestock (above) and wildlife (below) daily use profile at mineral supplementation points during
356 spring and fall seasons assessed as the proportion of visits to mineral supplementation points by hour of the
357 day.







362 Figure 3. Indirect wildlife-livestock interactions and time passing between the wildlife visit and the following
363 visit (dots) to MP. The interactions in which livestock visited the MP immediately after wildlife are marked as
364 black dots (first order, n=15), grey dot interactions are second order or higher (n=251). Interactions are
365 grouped by hour ranges within the critical time window (0 to 78 hours). First interaction in the hour range is
366 presented in the baseline, and subsequent interactions in the same hour range are presented in successively
367 upper lines.



368

369

370 **Tables**

371 Table 1. Characterization of the selected farms in terms of livestock census, mineral supplementation, land use
 372 and game management. Game information includes hunting bag data (hunted animals/year) and trapping rates
 373 (TR, visits/camera·day) for both red deer and wild boar (see below).

		Farm 1	Farm 2	Farm 3	Farm 4
Census	Goat	80	0	0	6
	Pig	110	200	250	0
	Sheep	0	16	0	340
	Cattle	80	150	60	306
Mineral supplement	Composition	Artificial	Natural	Artificial	Natural
	Disposal	Hanging (1.2m)	Iron grid (0m)	Hanging (0.4m)	Ground (0m)
Land use	% <i>dehesa</i> (open oak woodland)	50%	61%	99%	11%
	% scrubland/woodland	50%	39%	1%	89%
	Total (ha)	300	560	181	728
	Use (livestock/hunting)	Both	Both	Livestock	Livestock
Hunting bag/ year	Red deer (n)	30	0	3	0
	Wild boar (n)	20	20	3	0
Wildlife trail camera	Red deer (TR)	2.58	0.65	0	0.83
	Wild boar (TR)	0.27	0.83	0.36	1.05

374

375 Table 2. Best Poisson regression models for wild boar and red deer daily visit rate (VR) in mineral
 376 supplementation points.

VR Models	Wild boar				Red deer			
	Estimate	S.E.	<i>z</i>	<i>p</i>	Estimate	S.E.	<i>z</i>	<i>p</i>
Intercept	-3.333	0.771	-4.324	<i>P</i> >0.05*	4.118	2.285	1.802	0.072
Farm 2	-19.840	0.007	-0.003	0.998	13.200	7.507	1.759	0.079
Farm 3	-16.190	0.007	-0.002	0.998	-11.160	12470	-0.001	0.999
Farm 4	0.272	0.987	0.276	0.783	27.760	17.130	1.621	0.105
Distance to wildlife cover	-0.001	0.001	-0.905	0.366	-0.045	0.022	-2.096	0.036*
CattleUI	0.001	2.635E-4	2.695	0.007*	-0.013	0.001	-1.843	0.065
CattleUI*Distance to wildlife cover					1.592E-5	7.813E-6	2.038	0.042*

377

378

379 Table 3. Number of total indirect interactions in mineral supplementation points from extensive cattle farms
 380 using a critical time window of 78 hours. The average indirect interactions per MP and week, excluding the
 381 days when they were not present, are presented in brackets.

		First species					
		Cattle	Goat	Pig	Sheep	Red deer	Wild boar
Second species	Cattle	16,431	158	478	1342	58	147
		(432.9)	(26.3)	(95.6)	(112.9)	(2)	(3.9)
	Goat	159	103	0	0	0	7
		(19.9)	(17.2)				(2.3)
	Pig	954	0	7375	0	41	0
		(190.8)		(351.2)		(4.6)	
	Sheep	1312	0	0	795	0	13
		(118.7)			(73.2)		(1.3)
	Red deer	37	0	65	0	19	4
		(1)		(7.2)		(0.316)	(0.1)
	Wild boar	103	3	0	17	8	3
		(2.8)	(1.5)		(1.7)	(0.1)	(0.1)

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