Giovedì 19 Ottobre 2017 ore 15:00 Aula B6 Dipartimento di Scienze della Terra e dell'Ambiente Via Ferrata 9, Pavia

TO FIGHT OR NOT TO FIGHT? BEHAVIOURAL INTERFERENCE BETWEEN WILD UNGULATES



Sandro Lovari

Behavioural Ecology, Ethology and Wildlife Management Department of Life Sciences University of Siena, Italy



Disentangling mechanisms of interspecific interactions can shed light on evolution of animal populations. Interspecific competition occurs through exploitation of scarce, shared resources, or through interference, i.e. direct behavioural interactions. Interference is widespread in carnivorous mammals, with larger species often killing smaller ones and affecting their behaviour, ecology and numbers. A synthesis is lacking for ungulates, although they have potentially killing weapons (e.g. horns/antlers) and may be expected to use them in interspecific aggressive interactions.