

Animal behavior change in the face of urbanization



Kate Ritzel

As humans continue to engineer and expand urban ecosystems, extant wildlife is increasingly exposed to novel pressures that drive changes in their spatial and temporal patterns, foraging tactics, anti-predator strategies, and other behaviors. Such behavior shifts in urban wildlife can increase the potential for conflict with humans and present other challenges to species' survival. Although behavior change in some urban species (e.g., birds) are widely studied, there is limited research on changing behavior in urban mammals. In this seminar, we will discuss what the primary literature reveals about behavior change in wild urban mammals and the implications of urban-induced behavior adaptation.