HABITAT LOSS AND POPULATION DECLINE: A META-ANALYSIS OF THE PATCH SIZE EFFECT

DARREN J. BENDER, THOMAS A. CONTRERAS, AND LENORE FAHRIG
Department of Biology, Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1S 5B6

Abstract. We evaluated the conditions under which patch size effects are important determinants of local population density for animals living in patchy landscapes. This information was used to predict when patch size effects will be expected to occur following habitat loss and fragmentation. Using meta-analysis, we quantitatively reviewed the results of 25 published studies that tested for a relationship between patch size and population density. Patch size effects were strong for edge and interior species (negative and postive patch size effects, respectively), but negligible for generalist species that use both edge and interior habitat. We found significant differences in mean patch size effects between migratory and residential species, between herbivores and carnivores, and among taxonomic groups. We found no evidence that patch size effects were related to landscape characteristics such as the proportion of landscape covered by habitat, median patch size, or the scale at which a study was conducted. However, species in the Western Hemisphere tended to have larger absolute effect sizes, and eastern species tended to be more variable in their response.

For landscapes undergoing habitat loss and fragmentation, our results predict the following: (1) among generalist species that use both the edge and the interior of a habitat patch, the decline in population size associated with habitat destruction should be accounted for by pure habitat loss alone; (2) for interior species, the decline in population size associated with habitat fragmentation per se will be greater than that predicted from pure habitat loss alone; (3) for edge species, the decline in population size will be less than that predicted by pure habitat loss alone; (4) these relative effects will not be influenced by the extent of habitat loss, but they will be affected by the pattern of habitat when large or small patches are preferentially removed; and (5) as loss and fragmentation increase within a landscape, migratory species will generally suffer less of a decline in population size than resident species.

Key words: conservation; fragmentation; habitat destruction; landscape change; meta-analysis; patch size effects; patchiness; population density; review article.

Introduction

Human activities, such as forest clear-cutting or the expansion of agricultural land, have exacerbated the natural fragmentation of landscapes. For many organisms, new habitat patches are interspersed in an unfamiliar or hostile environment, which leads to the heterogeneous distribution of populations at different scales (Weins 1989a, Gilpin and Hanski 1991). There has been considerable interest in modeling the spatial dynamics of populations in patchy or fragmented landscapes so that we may better understand how the spatial pattern of the landscape influences population processes (reviewed by Levin 1976, Hastings 1990, Kareiva 1990, Dunning et al. 1995). Recently, there has been a growing interest in applying these models in conservation strategies (Fahrig and Merriam 1994), particularly for determining the consequences of habitat fragmentation on resident populations (e.g., Murphy and Noon 1992, Lamberson et al. 1994, Baz and Garcia-Boyero 1995, Turner et al. 1995).

Habitat fragmentation is a term that has been used in many different ways. Habitat fragmentation, by definition, is an event that creates a greater number of habitat patches that are smaller in size than the original contiguous tract(s) of habitat. Yet, the term commonly is used to describe human practices that destroy habitat. This usage is misleading because there are situations in which habitat can be removed without fragmenting the landscape whatsoever. To avoid confusion, we define our terms here. We use the term habitat destruction to refer to processes, particularly anthropogenic, that remove habitat cover. Habitat destruction can then be pictured as having two distinct components: habitat loss per se and habitat fragmentation (Fahrig 1997). The effect of losing habitat is obvious: when habitat is lost from the landscape, the animals that are subsequently displaced may also be lost, producing a population decline. The effects of fragmentation are less obvious, but they are very important; fragmentation effects can potentially compound the effects of pure

Manuscript received 11 November 1996; revised 26 March 1997; accepted 4 April 1997.

habitat loss, often producing an even greater population decline.

We examined the most notable effect of habitat destruction: the reduction in average patch size. In patchy or fragmented landscapes, patch size effects should be relatively simple to detect. Consider the following illustration. Habitat loss is expected to produce a proportional decline in the number of animals living in a particular landscape. For example, if a piece of forest habitat supports a large population of some animal and 50% of that forest is removed, then one might expect a decline in animal abundance of 50%. However, it often has been found that species abundance declines beyond that predicted by habitat loss alone. This difference stems from the effects of reduced mean patch size and decreased connectivity in the landscape (i.e., a reduction in the rate of successful dispersal, sensu Merriam 1984; see also Venier and Fahrig 1996). A common way to test for patch size effects is to compare the relative densities of organisms within differentsized patches. If patch size effects account for any additional decline in abundance, then we would expect density to be positively related to patch size. Therefore, the strength of the relationship between patch size and density can be used to index the strength of the patch size effect.

Our first goal in this study was to evaluate the conditions under which patch size effects are important determinants of local population size for animals living in patchy landscapes. To accomplish this, we quantitatively reviewed results of published studies that tested for the presence of patch size effects on population density. Using these results, we generalized about the conditions under which patch size effects influence population size. Because habitat fragmentation creates patchy landscapes, such generalizations are useful for generating predictions about situations in which patch size effects will emerge when a landscape undergoes loss and fragmentation. Thus, our second goal was to formulate testable predictions about how patch size effects are expected to affect the population size of animals following habitat loss and fragmentation.

METHODS

We adopted a procedure that is relatively new to ecological research (Arnqvist and Wooster 1995), known as meta-analysis. Meta-analysis is a powerful, quantitative form of analysis used for summarizing and analyzing multiple independent studies. In this form of analysis, the statistical results (as opposed to the raw data) of numerous studies are analyzed to determine whether studies share a common statistical relationship, and whether any "general" relationships are influenced by one or more predictor variables. Although the benefits and criticisms of using meta-analysis in ecological research can be found elsewhere (Gurevitch et al. 1992, Gurevitch and Hedges 1993, Arnqvist and Wooster 1995), we wish to emphasize that meta-analysis is par-

ticularly suited to studies that examine large-scale phenomena. Large-scale studies are often impractical to conduct because of the time, effort, and money that must be devoted to a single project. For example, it is very difficult to experimentally test hypotheses about habitat fragmentation because the units of observation are landscapes. However, a large body of literature deals with research conducted on single landscapes. Meta-analysis is a more practical approach to studying large-scale questions, because it allows one to accumulate information from these independent studies and to view each as replicates or observations in subsequent statistical analysis. Using meta-analysis, one can test for relationships that occur between the characteristics of a study (e.g., landscape attributes) and their outcomes

The intent of our literature review was to accumulate the findings of a number of studies that directly or indirectly tested for the effects of patch size on density. Any study that explicitly examined the relationship between habitat patch size and the local population density of a species was considered. In the literature, the most common method for assessing this relationship has been to sample the abundance of a species in different habitat patches within a landscape, and then to test for a correlation between patch area and population density. To be used in our meta-analysis, a study needed to have quantified this patch size-density relationship. Normally, we used the test statistic reported in the study, such as the Pearson product-moment correlation coefficient, r, that described the patch size-density relationship. This value not only describes the strength of the relationship between patch size and density, but also can be used as a measure of the intensity of the patch size effect on density. In meta-analysis terms, a statistic such as r is called an "effect size" (Hedges and Olkin 1985), although other effect size metrics can be used (see Rosenthal 1994). In this study, effect sizes with very large absolute values indicate a strong association between patch size and population density (hereafter, called the "patch size effect"), and very small effect sizes indicate that population density was unrelated to patch size.

We used the following criteria when selecting studies for our analysis. First, each study had to examine the relationship between habitat patch size and the population density for at least one species occurring in a patchy landscape. Most studies quantified this relationship by regressing observed within-patch abundance on patch area. This method is somewhat problematic, because different-sized patches require different sampling efforts if one wishes to provide equally reliable estimates of patch density. Accordingly, we excluded any study that did not consider this potential bias. Also, we did not use studies that combined several species into a single density estimate, although multiple effect sizes were obtained from a single study if there was a separate density estimate for each individual spe-

Table 1. Description of predictor variables used in the meta-analysis of studies examining the relationship between patch size and local population density.

Variable	Describes	Name	Description
Percent cover Geographic location Median patch size Scale of study Range in patch sizes Habitat association Migratory status Taxonomic group Trophic level	landscape landscape landscape landscape landscape species species species species	COVER LOCATION PSIZE AREA RANGE HABITAT MIGRATION TAXON TROPHY	proportion of landscape covered by habitat Eastern continents vs. Western continents median size of all censused habitat patches absolute size of study area maximum log ₁₀ (patch size) minus minimum log ₁₀ (patch size) edge, interior, generalist migrant, resident bird, mammal, insect herbivore, carnivore

cies. Second, the landscape type (e.g., forest habitat in an agricultural landscape) and the species name had to be given. Third, the test statistic for the patch sizedensity relationship was required, and either sample size or the P value of the test had to be given. If these values were not provided, but raw data were provided in the paper, we calculated these values ourselves. When these data existed in the form of a graph, we extracted numerical values from the figure using a Summagrid III digitizer (Summagraphics, Austin, Texas, United States) and SPANS TYDIG digitizing software (INTERA TYDAC Technologies, Nepean, Ontario, Canada). The Pearson product-moment correlation coefficient was calculated. Transformations that linearized the data (e.g., log transformation) were not used. Fourth, each study had to provide enough information for us to describe the study area landscape. In all cases, we used the definition of a habitat patch that was presented by the authors, i.e., we took all measurements of patch size and associated population density at face value. For many studies, this was necessary because the authors did not provide detailed information about each patch that was censused in the landscape.

We wished to determine whether characteristics of the landscape or certain life history traits of the organism were related to the presence and strength of patch size effects. To do this, we estimated a number of predictor variables for each patch size—density relationship (Hedges and Olkin 1985, Rosenthal 1991), which are summarized in Table 1. Values for the landscape attributes were generally given by each study. However, for the variables COVER and AREA, it was sometimes necessary to estimate values from maps of the study area (Bach 1984, Lynch and Whigham 1984, Adler et al. 1986, Nilsson 1986, Herkert 1994, Martin et al. 1995, Telleria and Santos 1995), or to obtain these values through direct communication with the authors (Blake and Karr 1987, Hertzberg et al. 1994).

We assessed whether the amount of habitat in the landscape influenced the presence of patch size effects. It has been hypothesized that patch size effects should be most pronounced at low levels of habitat cover (Andrén 1994, Bascompte and Solé 1996, Fahrig, in press). These studies have also suggested that there may be a

threshold value of habitat destruction that determines when fragmentation effects will emerge. Because the presence of such a threshold would implicitly predict that the relationship between habitat cover and fragmentation effects would not be a simple, linear one, we used polynomial regression to test for a nonlinear trend in addition to a linear trend.

The variables PSIZE, RANGE, and AREA were included in the analysis to determine if the scale of a study influenced its outcome, and to statistically control for such effects in our analysis. The variable PSIZE was calculated as the average (median) patch size observed in a study. The variable RANGE was calculated as the difference in the log-areas of the largest and smallest patches. Note that we used difference in logpatch size (i.e., difference in log values rather than absolute values) for the variable RANGE. This method was used because we wanted to give equal weight to studies that spanned equal orders of magnitude of patch sizes, regardless of the absolute scale at which the studies were conducted. The variable AREA was calculated simply as the overall extent at which each study was conducted, which can also be thought of as the landscape size. Thus, RANGE and AREA give relative and absolute measures of scale, respectively.

An important objective of this paper was look for general characteristics that make an animal prone to patch size effects. To characterize each species, we examined a number of life history traits, which were obtained either directly from the paper reporting the study or from other sources (Burt and Grossenheider 1980, National Geographic Society 1987, Bruun et al. 1988, Freemark and Collins 1992, Sibley and Monroe 1990).

We defined habitat association (HABITAT) to include three categories of species: edge, interior, and generalist (see also Hayden et al. 1985, Askins and Philbrick 1987, Freemark and Collins 1992). Edge species were defined as those associated primarily with the perimeter of a habitat patch and not the core. Interior species were those associated with the center of patches and that avoided the edge habitat. Generalist species were defined as those that utilized both edge and interior habitat. Such designations are very important in this study, because habitat patch size is re-

lated to the proportional amounts of edge and interior habitat. If the boundary for edge and interior habitat is defined at a fixed distance inward from the perimeter of the patch, then large patches will contain a greater proportion of interior habitat and a lower proportion of edge habitat than small patches (Wiens 1989a). Thus, we predicted that, for interior species, animal densities should be higher in large patches than in small patches, and vice versa for edge species. We wanted to assess such differences, and if present, to control for this effect while examining the influence of other variables.

The variable MIGRATION was used to distinguish migrant bird species from residents. Recently, there has been considerable interest in the effects of habitat fragmentation on bird populations, especially migratory songbirds (Askins et al. 1990, Askins 1995). Some have suggested that differences may exist in population trends between migrant and resident bird species, and that migrants may be more prone to fragmentation effects (e.g., O'Connor 1992, Maurer and Heywood 1993, Flather and Sauer 1996). We defined migrants as species that were represented within the study area on a seasonal basis; resident species were represented within the study landscape all year round (Askins and Philbrick 1987). Classification of migrants and residents was done on a study-by-study basis, rather than a species-by-species basis. We used the classification reported by the authors of each study, when available. Otherwise, we classified species as residents or migrants based on published range descriptions and/or maps (National Geographic Society 1987, Bruun et al. 1988, Sibley and Monroe 1990).

We also were interested in knowing whether there are differences in broad geographic locales, namely between the Eastern Hemisphere (Europe and Africa) and the Western Hemisphere (North and South America). This is particularly important for migrant birds, because their composition may be very different between hemispheres. For example, large-scale anthropogenic disturbance occurred earlier and to a wider extent in the Eastern continents, where, as a result, there appear to be fewer area-sensitive species and greater numbers of generalists (see Askins et al. 1990, Mönkkönen 1994, Newton 1995). The variable LOCATION was included to determine if such differences are related to the incidence of patch size effects, and to control for their effect.

We also categorized each effect size by the species' taxonomic group (TAXON) at the class level: birds, mammals, or insects. We wanted to assess patch size effects independently to control for potential differences in vagility and demographic characteristics between taxonomic groups. We also considered which trophic level the species occupied (TROPHY) to determine whether herbivores and carnivores shared similar responses to changes in patch size. Organisms were classified simply as either herbivores or carnivores. The

carnivore category was comprised of all second-order or higher consumers, including insectivores, piscivores, and omnivores.

Statistical methods

Each suitable study provided at least one effect size for the meta-analysis. Each effect size represented a value that quantified the statistical relationship between patch size and population density for a particular species. There are several possible measures of effect size (Rosenthal 1991), but we used the Pearson productmoment correlation coefficient, r. We did not differentiate between r values from simple correlation tests or partial r values that appeared in multiple correlation tests. It was possible to obtain multiple effect sizes from a single study when the patch size-density relationship was tested for more than one species. In many cases, r was not reported directly within a study, but could be obtained either (1) from reported raw data or (2) by transforming into r other test statistics (e.g., F, t) that tested for a relationship between patch size and density (see Rosenthal 1991). Occasionally, the actual value of the test statistic was not reported, but could be calculated when both the P value and degrees of freedom were provided. Prior to analysis, all effect sizes were transformed using the Fisher's Z transformation suggested by Rosenthal (1991).

We used a meta-analytic procedure that is analogous to parametric multiple regression analysis (Hedges and Olkin 1985, Hedges 1994a). In our analysis, the transformed effect sizes were used as the dependent variable in the regression equations, and various combinations of predictor variables were used as independent variables. This technique followed a fixed-effects, weighted least squares approach, in which each effect size was weighted by the inverse of its associated sampling variance (see Hedges and Olkin 1985, Hedges 1994a). For correlation coefficients, the sampling variance is a function of sample size and is directly related to the statistical power of the test. Thus, each effect size, r, was weighted by an index of its reliability. Studies with a high probability of Type II error, therefore, contributed less weight to the analysis than did those with greater statistical power.

One question in the literature is whether fixed-effects meta-analytic procedures are appropriate when the intent of the meta-analysis is to form broad generalizations (e.g., Hedges 1994b, Shadish and Haddock 1994). Although the conventional approach is to use fixed-effects models, Gurevitch and Hedges (1993) strongly encourage the use of mixed-effects models, which are more likely to satisfy statistical assumptions. However, to the best of our knowledge, no one has developed procedures for conducting multivariate, mixed-effects meta-analysis using correlation coefficients as the metric of effect size. As a compromise, we also conducted our meta-analysis using a combination of the more conservative random-effects procedure (following the

weighted-variance method in Shadish and Haddock 1994) and residual analysis (to remove the effect of habitat association).

Two types of significance tests were performed because two types of predictor variables were used. The first type were variables describing the landscape of a particular study (see Table 1). Often, we were able to obtain multiple effect sizes from a single study; however, these multiple effect sizes were not true replicates, because they were representative of a single landscape. To ensure that each study made an equal contribution to the fit of the regression and that we did not overestimate our statistical confidence, we applied a correction factor to each study with multiple effect sizes whenever we assessed the significance of a landscape variable (see Appendix A). The second type of predictors were categorical variables describing life history traits of the animal for which each effect size was generated. Multiple effect sizes were never reported for a single species within a study, so no correction factor was applied. These variables were simply coded to dummy variables so that they could be used in the regression models. Interactions between the two types of variables were assessed by using uncorrected significance tests.

We used two methods to assess statistical comparisons among groups. Pairwise comparisons were assessed using 95% confidence intervals, and multiple comparisons were performed using the Bonferroni adjustment described by Hedges (1994a).

RESULTS

Although we found >200 studies that examined patch size effects on animals in patchy landscapes, only 25 studies were suitable for our analysis. Most of the excluded studies could not be incorporated because either they did not examine the effect of patch size on population density (patch size and species richness relationships were more commonly tested), or they did not report sufficient statistical information to derive an effect size. The 25 studies examined patch size-density relationships for 134 different species of birds, mammals, and insects, and we were able to derive 153 effect sizes for the meta-analysis (Appendices B and C). Note that some species were represented more than once: 16 species of birds were represented twice, one mammal species was represented twice, and one bird species was represented three times (see Appendix C). Because each set of replicated species was censused by different authors at different sites in different years, we assumed that their effect sizes were reasonably independent of one another, and we did not subject them to any special analysis.

The first stage in the meta-analysis was to test for the presence of a common effect size among the data. The grand weighted-mean effect size (± 1 sE) was $Z_r = 0.0982 \pm 0.0416$. Although very small, this mean value was significantly different from zero, using 95%

confidence intervals. The overall heterogeneity of effect sizes was very large ($Q_{\text{TOTAL}} = 1590$ [where Q approximates an asymptotic chi-squared distribution], n = 153, P < 0.001), indicating that the individual effect sizes in our data did not share a common value. In other words, there were very highly significant differences among the reported relationships between patch size and density.

The next stage in the meta-analysis was to determine which predictor variables, alone or in combination, best accounted for the high degree of variation among effect sizes. The variable accounting for the greatest amount of variation was HABITAT (Q = 486.4, df = 2, P <0.001). When the individual effect sizes were categorized by habitat association, distinct differences were evident between groups (Fig. 1). On average, effect sizes for interior species tended to be strong and positive, whereas effect sizes for edge species were also strong, but negative. This indicates that there is a strong relationship between patch size and density for these two groups, although the direction of the relationship differs. The weighted-mean effect size for generalist species was positive, but very small, and did not differ significantly from zero (based on 95% CI; see Fig. 1), indicating no relationship between patch size and density for this group. To ensure that the effect of habitat association did not mask the effects of other underlying relationships, we performed all subsequent analyses by including HABITAT in each statistical model to control for its effects.

We found little evidence that COVER was related to the effect size reported by a study, although the association between COVER and effect size was negative and nearly significant after controlling for the effects of HABITAT (Q=3.69, df = 1, P=0.06; Fig. 2). However, the significance of this variable always decreased when other predictor variables (e.g., LOCATION, MIGRATION, TROPHY) were included in the statistical model, suggesting that the near-significant relationship for COVER and HABITAT was spurious. The addition of second- and third-order polynomial terms did not significantly improve the fit of the model, indicating lack of evidence for a nonlinear relationship between effect size and COVER.

None of the remaining landscape variables, PSIZE, AREA, or RANGE, accounted for significant amounts of variation between effect sizes. We tested nearly all of the possible combinations of predictor variables and first-order interactions, yet found no cases in which any of the remaining landscape-level variables were significant predictors of effect size.

The effects of MIGRATION and LOCATION were examined simultaneously in a three-way model that also included the variable HABITAT. To determine if the effects of MIGRATION would be contingent upon LOCATION, we tested for the presence of an interaction between these two variables. Weighted-mean effect sizes differed significantly between Eastern and

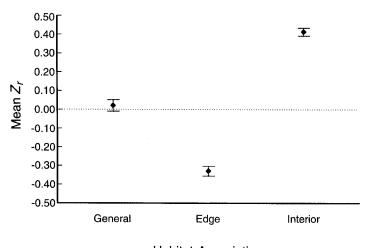


FIG. 1. Mean patch size effects (Z_r) categorized by the habitat association of the species. Edge species are those associated with the periphery of a habitat patch; interior species are "edge avoiders" that tend to be associated with the center of patches; generalists are species associated with both edge and interior habitat. Error bars indicate 95% CI.

Habitat Association

Western Hemisphere species (Q = 12.79, df = 1, P <0.001). The absolute values of effect sizes tended to be greater for Western species, as predicted, although the difference was only significant for interior species. Eastern species also appeared to be more variable in their response to patch size effects than Western species (Fig. 3). Contrary to prediction, the interaction term between MIGRATION and LOCATION was not significant (Q = 2.59, df = 1, P = 0.110), although there was a strong interaction between HABITAT and LO-CATION (Q = 13.05, df = 2, P = 0.001). After controlling for the effects of HABITAT and LOCATION, there was a significant difference in weighted-mean effect sizes between migrant and resident species (Q = 27.28, df = 1, P < 0.001). On average, migrant species tended to have lower effect sizes than resident species for both the edge and interior groups, although no differences occurred for generalists (Fig. 4). The interaction term for MIGRATION and HABITAT was not significant (Q=2.94, df = 2, P=0.230). Because birds accounted for all of the migrant species in this analysis, we removed the mammals and insects from the data set and recomputed the analysis. The observed trends were nearly identical to those shown in Fig. 4, although the significance of MIGRATION increased slightly (Q=32.9, df = 1, P<0.001).

After controlling for the effects of HABITAT, there were differences between mean effect sizes among the three taxonomic groups and the two trophic levels (TAXON: Q = 11.10, df = 2, P = 0.004; and TROPHY: Q = 13.77, df = 1, P < 0.001). On average, mammals tended to have higher effect sizes than birds, although these differences were not significant at the $\alpha = 0.05$ level (Fig. 5). There were no significant differences

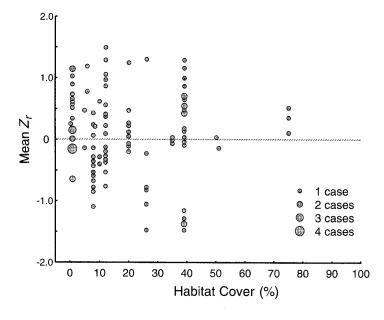


Fig. 2. Scatter plot of individual effect sizes against the percentage of landscape covered by habitat. Larger circles indicate points for which there is more than one effect size.

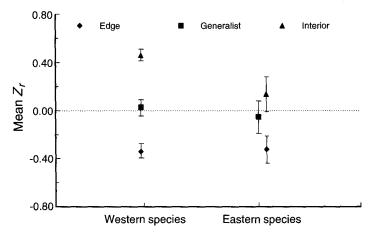


FIG. 3. Mean patch size effects (Z_r) for Western (North and South American) and Eastern (European and African) species. Error bars indicate 95% CI.

between herbivores and carnivores for either the interior or generalist species. However, herbivore edge species tended to have greater negative effect sizes than did carnivore edge species (Fig. 6).

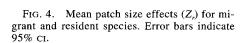
Although the patterns reported by the random-effects models were very similar to those generated in the fixed-effects procedure, the conclusions were not identical. Using the more conservative random-effects procedure, the variables TAXON and TROPHY were not significant, and the variable MIGRANT was only marginally significant (P < 0.10). We include this information so that the reader is aware that the generality of our results for these three factors may not be as strong as our fixed-effects analysis appears to indicate.

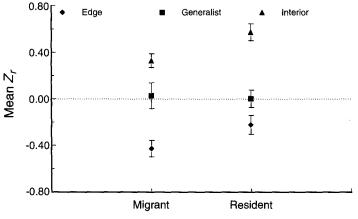
DISCUSSION

Habitat association explained most of the variation in effect sizes. Patch size effects were commonly observed for edge and interior species, but were not common for habitat generalists (Fig. 1). We anticipated this result, because animal densities were calculated in a biased fashion by many investigators. This bias occurred when the density of a species within a patch was calculated using total patch area, rather than the

area of the inhabited portion of the patch. When the animal densities are calculated using total patch size, values for edge and interior species are always underestimated. This underestimate is most pronounced in large patches for edge species, and in small patches for interior species, which we call the "geometric" effect. Because the degree of underestimation depends on patch size, there will always be an apparent relationship between density and patch size for edge and interior species. This effect was remarkably evident in our study and has been reported numerous times in the literature (e.g., Whitcomb et al. 1981, Lynch and Whigham 1984, Freemark and Merriam 1986, Blake and Karr 1987, Merriam and Wegner 1992, Johns 1993, McGarigal and McComb 1995).

Although we observed a large patch size effect for edge and interior species, we cannot say how much of this effect is attributable to the geometric effect alone. It could be hypothesized that edge and interior species are more prone to patch size effects for reasons other than the geometric effect; i.e., that other factors were also contributing to the effect sizes we observed. One could test this hypothesis by using an unbiased density measure, calculated using the area of the patch that is





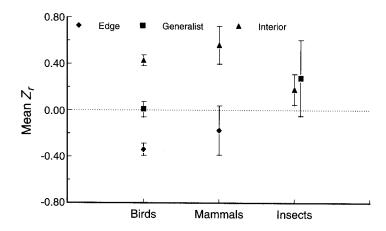


FIG. 5. Mean patch size effects (Z_r) for birds, mammals, and insects. Error bars indicate 95% CI.

actually inhabited by any given species rather than the entire patch area. Thus, a measure of the strength of the relationship between usable patch area and density would not be subject to the geometric effect, and a significant patch size effect would be attributable to something inherent in edge and/or interior species themselves. The difficulty in applying such an approach is that it is usually not possible or practical to determine the actual proportion of each patch that is used by a particular species. Although boundary distances have been reported for a few species (e.g., Kroodsma 1984), the actual boundaries that separate edge and interior habitat are difficult to define because they are "fuzzy." meaning that there is no distinct threshold beyond which the distribution of an animal abruptly begins or ends. The vast majority of studies that we reviewed for this paper made no attempts to distinguish between usable habitat and total habitat in a patch. It is also not appropriate to make simplifying assumptions about patch shape and the position of the boundary between edge and interior habitat within the patch to estimate the proportion of a patch that is usable. Such boundary distances are most certainly site specific because they are determined by local conditions (e.g., microclimate,

vegetation composition, presence of ecological enemies). Therefore, boundary distance estimates may be relevant only to the population under study and may not be reliably extrapolated to other populations within a species. For these reasons, we did not attempt to measure patch area at the resolution of usable patch area.

Perhaps our most interesting result was that generalist species regularly showed a mean patch size effect that was very close to zero, regardless of which landscape or life history variables were included in the statistical models (Figs. 3-6). This result suggests that for species not subject to geometric effects, patch size effects tend to be small or negligible. The paramount question then becomes, would edge and interior species show similarly negligible patch size effects had density been measured only for the habitable portion of the patch? Our results indicate that other variables, such as migration strategy or animal taxa, are related to the occurrence of patch size effects, which suggests that the relationship is more complex. This question has received remarkably little attention in the literature, and certainly warrants further investigation.

Although we could not partition out the source(s) of

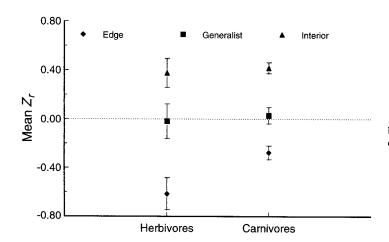


Fig. 6. Mean patch size effects (Z_r) for herbivorous and carnivorous species. Error bars indicate 95% CI.

the strong patch size effects that were observed for edge and interior species, this result is still interesting. It confirms that the patch size effect is a general and predictable effect that occurs for a broad set of edge and interior species living in patchy landscapes. Regardless of the mechanism(s), this result predicts that habitat loss and fragmentation will greatly affect the abundance of edge and interior species. In situations in which habitat loss and fragmentation create a greater number of smaller patches from pieces of previously contiguous habitat, interior species should always suffer a decline in population, attributable to these patch size effects, that occurs in addition to the decline attributable to habitat loss. This is because the actual density of the species within patches will be predicted to decline as patches get smaller and smaller. The opposite effect should be seen in edge species, for which population densities may actually increase as patches become smaller and proportional amounts of edge habitat increase. The pattern will continue as patches decline in size, until each patch no longer contains any interior habitat and is all edge habitat. This increase in density will offset the decline in population size associated with habitat loss that occurs when habitat is destroyed.

We also stress that these predictions are contingent upon the pattern of habitat destruction. They are based on the assumption that habitat destruction will subdivide existing habitat patches to form new patches that are (necessarily) smaller than those previously in the landscape (i.e., the process of fragmentation). Habitat destruction that only removes habitat and has little effect on the fragmentation of patches in the landscape will not produce the predicted effects. In fact, certain patterns of loss could produce the opposite effect. For example, one can envision a pattern of habitat destruction that removes all the small patches from a landscape, but nothing else. In this case, the layout of habitat patches within the landscape has not changed much, but the effect on edge and interior species will be opposite to our predictions. The removal of small patches will have more of an impact on edge species than on interior species, because small patches contain proportionally more edge habitat. Consequently, observed declines in regional abundance potentially will be greater for edge species than for interior species in such a case. Therefore, for edge and interior species, the decline in population size associated with habitat destruction will depend both on habitat fragmentation per se and on the pattern of habitat loss if large or small patches are preferentially removed.

We hypothesized that a number of different factors relating to landscape characteristics or species life history traits might explain when patch size effects are important determinants of population density. To remove the predictable geometric effect, we statistically controlled for the average effect of habitat association before assessing the significance of other predictor

variables. We found no relationship between effect size and COVER, so it appears that the proportion of habitat in the landscape does not determine the emergence of patch size effects. This result apparently contradicts the conclusions of another literature review (Andrén 1994) that demonstrated a tendency for patch size and isolation effects to emerge as percent cover decreased. Andrén predicted that, as the extent of habitat fragmentation within a landscape increased, patch size and isolation effects would emerge and contribute to the decline of species richness and abundance that occurs due to pure habitat loss alone. Andrén also suggested the presence of a threshold value of percent cover below which these patch size and isolation effects would begin to emerge, but we found no evidence of such a relationship in the studies we reviewed.

We offer two possible explanations for the apparent disagreement between Andrén's (1994) results and ours. First, Andrén used a vote-counting method to summarize the findings of each study he reviewed, which is prone to error. His response variable was simply a "yes" or "no" vote that described whether the study rejected the random-sample hypothesis. This type of response is very coarse in comparison to the continuous response variable we used in the meta-analysis approach. Also, this method does not account for direction of the effect. In meta-analysis, positive and negative effects tend to cancel each other out, whereas in a vote-counting approach, two opposing effects would appear to support one another. Thus, the two methods can yield different results even when similar data are used.

A second explanation for the discrepancy is that Andrén's (1994) review used studies that examined the effect of both patch size and patch isolation, whereas ours was concerned only with patch size effects. We did not assess isolation in our analysis because the data were simply not available. The isolation of individual patches was almost never given, even when patch size was reported. Andrén (1994) did assess isolation, but he did not differentiate between studies that reported significant patch size-density relationships and those that reported patch isolation-density relationships. Therefore, it is possible that many of the significant results Andrén encountered may have been due to isolation effects and not to patch size effects. An important, unanswered question is which effect is more important: patch size or isolation? Given that it is difficult to gather enough field data to assess this issue, spatially explicit population modeling is likely to be the most successful approach to answering this question.

The purpose of including the variables PSIZE, AREA, and RANGE was to determine whether the study design would influence the outcome of the test for a patch size—density relationship. We found no evidence that either the absolute scale of the study or the range in patch sizes was related to the study outcome. Further, these variables were never significant predic-

tors of effect size in any of the multivariate regression models, suggesting that the differences between studies that could be attributable to design were negligible. These results suggest that either (1) studies generally were conducted at spatial scales that were meaningful to the organism, or that (2) studies generally were never conducted at meaningful scales. Although we cannot conclude which is the case, we assume that it is the former.

Migratory status was the most significant life history predictor of the patch size effect. Many migrant species are thought to be more area sensitive, whereas resident species are said to be more "tolerant" of fragmentation effects because of differences in life history traits. For example, residents are reported to exhibit differences in nest-building behaviors that make them less susceptible to predators (Weins 1989b, Hansen and Urban 1992, Bohning-Gaese et al. 1993). However, our results contradict the literature, and suggest that the relationship is more complex. We found that patch size effects were contingent upon both migratory status and habitat association. Our results show that, on average, migrant species had significantly lower effect sizes than did residents (generalists exempt; Fig. 4). Therefore, as habitat loss and fragmentation occur and habitat patches are reduced in area, patch size effects should produce a greater decline for resident interior species than for migrant interior species. Because the patch size effects are negative for edge species, migrant edge species will be predicted to show a greater increase in density, due to patch size effects, than will resident edge species. In both cases, the population decline associated with patch size effects is predicted to be greater for resident than for migrant species, which is contrary to current conviction. It is likely that the current view has arisen from confusions in the use of the term habitat fragmentation. The term has often been used to imply both habitat loss and fragmentation, even though these are two different effects. Such a definition is dangerous because one can always expect an effect of habitat loss, even when there is no effect of habitat fragmentation. If one cannot separate these two effects, one will conclude that there is a "fragmentation" effect, even when habitat loss is the only factor affecting population decline (Fahrig 1997).

We also note that the differences we report between migrants and residents may have nothing to do with migratory habits at all, but rather they could be explained by phylogenetic differences between the two groups of species. For example, if all of the birds in the migratory class belonged to one taxon and the residents to another, then our results could also be explained in terms of phylogeny. However, this was not the case in our study, because we have a reasonably broad diversity of taxa from many different geographic locales (Appendix C). Although it would have been possible to examine phylogeny, we felt that a phylogenetic explanation for the pattern we observed was

unlikely, given the breadth and interspersion of bird species in our data.

One may have expected that patch size effects would differ between birds, mammals, and insects, because of differences in their ability to disperse between patches and across hostile territory. Presumably, flying animals should be better equipped to move around the landscape and to exploit the maximum amount of available habitat. However, our results indicate that dispersal ability may not be an important factor. In the only other study that has tested this prediction, Andrén (1994) demonstrated similar results that, surprisingly, there was no significant difference between birds and mammals in their responses to habitat fragmentation.

Our results suggest that fragmentation may actually have a tendency to increase densities of herbivore edge species more so than for carnivores (Fig. 6). We can only speculate on the reason, but it is possible that herbivore densities may be more closely linked to food production in edge habitat. It has been shown that the diversity and productivity of edge plant species is greater in small than in large patches (Levenson 1981). Relatively greater levels of primary productivity may result in greater amounts of food for edge herbivores, particularly small, frugivorous mammals (Santos and Telleria 1994). Food levels for carnivores will not necessarily follow this same pattern.

Summary

The goal of this study was to summarize the patch size—density relationship for a variety of animals occurring in different landscape types to predict when patch size effects should be important determinants of population size. Using meta-analysis, we were able to produce generalizations that define the conditions under which patch size effects are expected to occur, and that allow us to predict the direction and magnitude of those effects. For landscapes undergoing habitat loss and fragmentation, it is important to know when patch size effects will emerge, because they will either contribute to or offset the decline of organisms that is attributable to habitat loss. The following is a summary of predictions that are based on results of our review:

- 1. For generalist species that are not associated with only the edge or only the interior habitat, the decline in population size associated with habitat destruction should be accounted for by pure habitat loss alone.—In other words, patch size effects are not expected to be an important factor in determining the population size of generalist species in fragmented landscapes.
- 2. For interior species, the decline in population size associated with habitat fragmentation per se will be greater than that predicted from pure habitat loss alone.—This will always occur, because the ratio of interior habitat to total patch size declines as patches become smaller following habitat fragmentation and loss.

- 3. For edge species, the decline in population size will be less than that predicted by pure habitat loss alone.—In fact, relative abundances of edge species may actually increase in the landscape following fragmentation, especially if fragmentation serves to increase the total amount of edge habitat for these species.
- 4. These relative effects will not be influenced by the extent of habitat loss, but they will be affected by the pattern of habitat loss for edge and interior species if only small or large patches are preferentially removed.—In other words, patch size effects are not expected to be dependent upon the amount of habitat cover that is present in the landscape. However, if the pattern of loss removes predominantly only small patches, pure habitat loss will have a greater effect on edge species than on interior species. Likewise, if only large patches are removed, habitat loss will have a greater effect on interior species.
- 5. As fragmentation increases within a landscape, migratory species will generally suffer less of a decline in population size than resident species.—Resident interior species show the largest patch size effects, indicating that this group should suffer the greatest amount of decline associated with habitat fragmentation. Conversely, migrant edge species show the most negative patch size effects, which will offset the population decline associated with habitat loss.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We wish to thank the faculty and students of the Ottawa-Carleton Institute of Biology who participated in a series of stimulating discussions regarding the design of this study and research synthesis using meta-analysis. In particular, we thank David Currie and Hans Damman for their input on a previous draft of this paper. We also thank Ed Connor for his insightful suggestions, and an anonymous reviewer who provided additional comments. This study was supported by NSERC through a postgraduate scholarship to D. J. Bender and a research grant to L. Fahrig, and by support from Carleton University.

LITERATURE CITED

- Adler, G. H., M. L. Wilson, and M. J. Derosa. 1986. Influence of island area and isolation on population characteristics of *Peromyscus leucopus*. Journal of Mammalogy 67:406– 409.
- Ambuel, B., and S. A. Temple. 1983. Area-dependent changes in the bird communities and vegetation of southern Wisconsin forests. Ecology 64:1057–1068.
- Andrén, H. 1994. Effects of habitat fragmentation on birds and mammals in landscapes with different proportions of suitable habitat: a review. Oikos 71:355-366.
- Apeldoorn, R. C. van, W. T. Oostenbrink, A. van Winden, and F. F. van der Zee. 1992. Effects of habitat fragmentation on the bank vole, *Clethrionomys glareolus*, in an agricultural landscape. Oikos 65:265-274.
- Arnqvist, G., and D. Wooster. 1995. Meta-analysis: synthesizing research findings in ecology and evolution. Trends in Ecology and Evolution 10:236-240.
- Askins, R. A. 1995. Hostile landscapes and the decline of migratory songbirds. Science 267:1956-1957.
- Askins, R. A., J. F. Lynch, and R. Greenberg. 1990. Population declines in migratory birds in eastern North America.

- Pages 1-58 in D. M. Power, editor. Current ornithology. Volume 7. Plenum Press, New York, New York, USA.
- Askins, R. A., and M. J. Philbrick. 1987. Effect of changes in regional forest abundance on the decline and recovery of a forest bird community. Wilson Bulletin 99:7-21.
- Bach, C. E. 1984. Plant spatial pattern and herbivore population dynamics: plant factors affecting the movement patterns of a tropical cucurbit specialist (*Acalymma innubom*). Ecology **65**:175–190.
- ——. 1988. Effects of host plant patch size on herbivore density: patterns. Ecology **69**:1090–1102.
- Bascompte, J., and R. V. Solé. 1996. Habitat fragmentation and extinction thresholds in spatially explicit models. Journal of Animal Ecology 65:465–473.
- Baz, A., and A. Garcia-Boyero. 1995. The effects of forest fragmentation on butterfly communities in central Spain. Journal of Biogeography 22:129–140.
- Blake, J. G., and J. R. Karr. 1987. Breeding birds of isolated woodlots: area and habitat relationships. Ecology 68:1724– 1734.
- Bohning-Gaese, K., M. L. Taper, and J. H. Brown. 1993. Are declines in North American insectivorous songbirds due to causes on the breeding range? Conservation Biology 7:76–86.
- Bruun, B., H. Delin, L. Svensson, A. Singer, and D. Zetterstrom. 1988. Country life guide to birds of Britain and Europe. Bordas, Paris, France.
- Burt, W. H., and R. P. Grossenheider. 1980. A field guide to the mammals: North America north of Mexico. Houghton Mifflin, Boston, Massachusetts, USA.
- Dongen, S. van, T. Backeljau, E. Matthysen, and A. A.
 Dhondt. 1994. Effects of forest fragmentation on the population structure of the winter moth *Operophtera brumata*L. (Lepidoptera, Gemetridae). Acta Oecologica 15:193–206.
- Dunning, J. B., Jr., D. J. Stewart, B. J. Danielson, B. R. Noon,
 T. C. Root, R. H. Lamberson, and E. E. Stevens. 1995.
 Spatially explicit population models: current forms and future uses. Ecological Applications 5:3-11.
- Fahrig, L. 1997. Relative effects of habitat loss and fragmentation on population extinction. Journal of Wildlife Management 61:603-610.
- Fahrig, L., and G. Merriam. 1994. Conservation of fragmented populations. Conservation Biology 8:50-59.
- Fitzgibbon, C. D. 1993. The distribution of gray squirrel dreys in farm woodland: the influence of wood area, isolation, and management. Journal of Applied Ecology **30**: 736–742.
- Flather, C. H., and J. R. Sauer. 1996. Using landscape ecology to test hypotheses about large-scale abundance patterns in migratory birds. Ecology 77:28–35.
- Freemark, K. E., and B. Collins. 1992. Landscape ecology of birds breeding in temperate forest fragments. Pages 443–454 in J. M. Hagan, III, and D. W. Johnson, editors. Ecology and conservation of neotropical migrant landbirds. Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington, D.C., USA.
- Freemark, K. E., and G. Merriam. 1986. Importance of area and habitat heterogeneity to bird assemblages in temperate forest fragments. Biological Conservation 36:115-141.
- Gilpin, M. E., and I. Hanski, editors. 1991. Metapopulation dynamics: empirical and theoretical investigations. Academic Press, San Diego, California, USA.
- Gurevitch, J., and L. V. Hedges. 1993. Mixed-effects models in meta-analysis. Pages 378–398 in S. M. Scheiner and J. Gurevitch, editors. Design and analysis of ecological experiments. Chapman and Hall, New York, New York, USA. Gurevitch, J., L. L. Morrow, A. Wallace, and J. S. Walsh.

- 1992. A meta-analysis of competition in field experiments. American Naturalist 140:539-572.
- Hansen, A. J., and D. L. Urban. 1992. Avian responses to landscape pattern: the role of species' life histories. Landscape Ecology 7:163–180.
- Hanski, I., T. Pakkala, and M. Kuussaalli. 1995. Metapopulation persistance of an endangered butterfly in a fragmented landscape. Oikos 72:21–28.
- Hastings, A. 1990. Spatial heterogeneity and ecological models. Ecology 71:426-428.
- Hayden, T. J., J. Faaborg, and R. L. Clawson. 1985. Estimates of minimum area requirements for Missouri forest birds. Transactions of the Missouri Academy of Science 19:11–22.
- Hedges, L. V. 1994a. Fixed effects models. Pages 285–299 in H. Cooper and L. V. Hedges, editors. Handbook of research synthesis. Sage Publications, Newbury Park, California, USA.
- 1994b. Statistical considerations. Pages 29-38 in H. Cooper and L. V. Hedges, editors. Handbook of research synthesis. Sage Publications, Newbury Park, California, USA.
- Hedges, L. V., and I. Olkin. 1985. Statistical methods for meta-analysis. Academic Press, Orlando, Florida, USA.
- Henderson, M. T., G. Merriam, and J. Wegner. 1985. Patchy environments and species survival in an agricultural land-scape. Biological Conservation 31:95–105.
- Herkert, J. R. 1994. The effects of habitat fragmentation on midwestern grassland bird communities. Ecological Applications 4:461-471.
- Hertzberg, K., H. P. Leinaas, and R. A. Ims. 1994. Patterns of abundance and demography: Collembola in a habitat patch gradient. Ecography 17:349-359.
- Johns, B. W. 1993. The influence of grove size on bird species richness in aspen parklands. Wilson Bulletin 105:256–264.
- Kareiva, P. 1990. Population dynamics in spatially complex environments: theory and data. Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London B 330:175-190.
- Keith, L. B., S. E. M. Bloomer, and T. Willebrand. 1993. Dynamics of a snowshoe hare population in fragmented habitat. Canadian Journal of Zoology 71:1385–1392.
- Kroodsma, R. L. 1984. Effect of edge on breeding forest bird species. Wilson Bulletin 96:426-436.
- Lamberson, R. H., B. R. Noon, C. Voss, and K. McKelvey. 1994. Reserve design for terrestrial species: the effects of patch size and spacing on the viability of the Northern Spotted Owl. Conservation Biology 8:185-195.
- Launere, A. E., and D. D. Murphy. 1994. Umbrella species and the conservation of habitat fragments: a case of a threatened butterfly and a vanishing grassland ecosystem. Biological Conservation 69:145–153.
- Levenson, J. B. 1981. Woodlots as biogeographic islands in southeastern Wisconsin. Pages 13-39 in R. L. Burgess and D. H. Sharpe, editors. Forest island dynamics in man-dominated landscapes. Springer-Verlag, New York, New York, USA.
- Levin, S. 1976. Population dynamics models in heterogeneous environments. Annual Review of Ecology and Systematics 7:287–310.
- Loman, J. 1991. Small-mammal and raptor densities in habitat islands: area effects in a south Swedish agricultural landscape. Landscape Ecology 5:183-189.
- Lynch, J. F., and D. F. Whigham. 1984. Effects of forest fragmentation on breeding bird communities in Maryland, USA. Biological Conservation 28:287–324.
- Martin, J. L., A. J. Gaston, and S. Hitier. 1995. The effect of island size and isolation in old-growth forest habitat and bird diversity in Gwaii Haanas (Queen Charlotte Islands, Canada). Oikos 72:115-131.

- Martin, J. L., and J. Lepart. 1989. Impoverishment in the bird community of a Finnish archipelago: the role of island size, isolation, and vegetation structure. Journal of Biogeography 16:159–172.
- Maurer, B. A., and S. G. Heywood. 1993. Geographic range fragmentation and abundance in Neotropical migratory birds. Conservation Biology 7:501–509.
- McGarigal, K., and W. C. McComb. 1995. Relationships between landscape structure and breeding birds in the Oregon Coast Range. Ecological Monographs 65:235–260.
- Merriam, G. 1984. Connectivity: a fundamental ecological characteristic of landscape pattern. Pages 5–15 in Proceedings of the First International Seminar on Methodology in Landscape Ecological Research and Planning. International Association for Landscape Ecology, Roskilde, Denmark
- Merriam, G., and J. Wegner. 1992. Local extinctions, habitat fragmentation, and ecotones. Pages 150–169 in A. J. Hansen and F. di Castri, editors. Landscape boundaries: consequences for biodiversity and ecological flows. Springer-Verlag, New York, New York, USA.
- Möonkkönen, M. 1994. Diversity patterns in Palearctic and Nearctic forest bird assemblages. Journal of Biogeography 21:183-195.
- Murphy, D. D., and B. R. Noon. 1992. Integrating scientific methods with habitat conservation planning: reserve design for Northern Spotted Owls. Ecological Applications 2:3–17.
- National Geographic Society. 1987. Field guide to the birds of North America National Geographic Society, Washington, D.C., USA.
- Newton, I. 1995. The contribution of some recent research on birds to ecological understanding Journal of Animal Ecology 64:675–696.
- Nilsson, S. G. 1977. Density compensation and competition among birds breeding on small islands in a South Swedish lake. Oikos 28:170–176.
- ——. 1986. Are bird communities in small biotope patches random samples from communities in large patches? Biological Conservation 38:179-204.
- O'Connor, R. L. 1992. Population variation in relation to migrancy status in some North American birds. Pages 64–74 in J. M. Hagan, III, and D. W. Johnson, editors. Ecology and conservation of neotropical migrant landbirds. Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington D.C., USA.
- Robbins, C. S., D. K. Dawson, and B. A. Dowell. 1989. Habitat area requirements of breeding forest birds of the middle Atlantic states. Wildlife Monographs 103:1-34.
- Rolstad, J., and P. Wegge. 1987. Distribution and size of Capercaillie leks in relation to old-forest fragmentation. Oecologia 72:389–394.
- Rosenthal, R. 1991. Meta-analytic procedures for social research. Sage Publications, Newbury Park, California, USA.
- ——. 1994. Parametric measures of effect size. Pages 231–244 in H. Cooper, and L. V. Hedges, editors. Handbook of research synthesis. Sage Publications, Newbury Park, California, USA.
- Santos, T., and J. L. Telleria. 1994. Influence of forest fragmentation on seed consumption and dispersal of Spanish juniper *Juniperus thurifera*. Biological Conservation 70: 129-134.
- Shadish, W. R., and C. K. Haddock. 1994. Combining estimates of effect size. Pages 261–281 in H. Cooper and L. V. Hedges, editors. Handbook of research synthesis. Sage Publications, Newbury Park, California, USA.
- Sibley, C. G., and B. L. Monroe, Jr. 1990. Distribution and taxonomy of birds of the world. Yale University Press, New Haven, Connecticut, USA.
- Smith, A. T. 1974. The distribution and dispersal of pikas: consequences of insular population structure. Ecology: 55: 1112–1119.

Telleria, J. L., and T. Santos. 1995. Effects of forest fragmentation on a guild of wintering passerines: the role of habitat selection. Biological Conservation 71:61-67.

Thiollay, J. M., and B. Meyburg. 1988. Forest fragmentation and the conservation of raptors: a survey on the island of Java. Biological Conservation 44:229–250.

Turner, M. G., G. J. Arthaud, R. T. Engstrom, S. J. Hijl, J. Liu, S. Loeb, and K. McKelvey. 1995. Usefulness of spatially explicit population models in land management. Ecological Applications 5:12-16.

Venier, L. A., and L. Fahrig. 1996. Habitat availability causes the species-abundance distribution. Oikos 76:564-570. Weins, J. A. 1989a. Spatial scaling in ecology. Functional Ecology 3:385–397.

1989b. The ecology of bird communities. Volume
 processes and variations. Cambridge University Press,
 New York, New York, USA.

Whitcomb, R. F., C. S. Robbins, J. F. Lynch, B. L. Whitcomb, M. K. Klimkiewicz, and D. Bystrak. 1981. Effects of forest fragmentation on avifauna of the eastern deciduous forest. Pages 125–205 in R. L. Burgess and D. M. Sharpe, editors. Forest island dynamics in man-dominated landscapes. Springer-Verlag, New York, New York, USA.

APPENDIX A

Procedures for determining the loss function of the weighted least squares regression equations for landscape-level variables

All effect sizes within an individual study shared common values for each of the landscape-level variables. Because of this, a single study with multiple effect sizes could produce a cluster of data points that would potentially bias the fit of the regression equations in the meta-analysis. This would be particularly evident if there were some aspect of the study that resulted in consistently high or low effect sizes. In such a case, the effect of the within-study bias would be a function of the number of effect sizes contributed by that study, such that a greater number of effect sizes would translate into a greater bias.

When landscape-level variables were tested, we ensured that each study contributed an equal weight to the fit of the regression equations, regardless of the number effect sizes contributed. To achieve this, we modified the loss function of the regression equation so that each effect size was also

weighted by the inverse of the number of effect sizes contributed by its respective study.

The unmodified loss function used for calculating the regression coefficients in the meta-analysis was

$$\sum (Y_{ij} - Y_{\text{predicted}}) w_{ij}$$
 (A.1)

where w_{ij} is the reciprocal of the sampling variance for the *j*th effect size of the *i*th study.

A second weighting factor was applied to Eq. A.1 so that each effect size was weighted by the reciprocal of the number of effect sizes that each study reported. The modified loss function then became

$$\sum (Y_{ij} - Y_{\text{predicted}}) w_{ij} n_i^{-1}$$
 (A.2)

where n_i is the number of effect sizes contributed by the *i*th study. Therefore, the relative contribution of each study to the fit of the regression equation was equal, after weighting by sampling variance. This method is preferable because it approximates a significance test that uses only a single sampling unit per study, but accounts for variable responses (i.e., many effect sizes) that may occur within a study.

APPENDIX B Summary of studies and data used in the meta-analysis.

Source	Journal	Taxon	Number of effect sizes	Habitat type
Adler et al. (1986)	Journal of Mammalogy	mammals	1	salt-marsh
Ambuel and Temple (1983)	Ecology	birds	1	forest
Apeldoorn et al. (1992)	Oikos	mammals	1	forest
Bach (1984)	Ecology	insects	2	forest
Bach (1988)	Ecology	insects	3	artificially constructed landscape; host plant: buttercup squash
Blake and Karr (1987)	Ecology	birds	15	forest
van Dongen et al. (1994)	Acta Õecologia	insects	1	forest
Fitzgibbon (1993)	Journal of Applied Ecology	mammals	1	forest
Hanski et al. (1995)	Oikos	insects	1	grassland
Henderson et al. (1985)	Biological Conservation	mammals	1	forest
Herkert (1994)	Ecological Applications	birds	12	grassland
Hertzberg et al. (1994)	Ecography	insects	4	grassland (Carex tussocks)
Keith et al. (1993)	Canadian Journal of Zoology	mammals	1	forest
Launere and Murphy (1994)	Biological Conservation	insects	1	grassland
Loman (1991)	Landscape Ecology	mammals	3	non-agricultural habitat patches in agricultural landscape
Lynch and Whigham (1984)	Biological Conservation	birds	22	forest
Martin and Lepart (1989)	Journal of Biogeography	birds	23	forest
Martin et al. (1995)	Oikos	birds	24	forest
Nilsson (1977)	Oikos	birds	8	forest
Nilsson (1986)	Biological Conservation	birds	14	wetlands
Robbins et al. (1989)	Wildlife Monographs	birds	4	forest
Rolstad and Wegge (1987)	Oecologia -	birds	1	forest
Smith (1974)	Ecology	mammals	1	forest
Telleria and Santos (1995)	Biological Conservation	birds	7	forest
Thiollay and Meyburg (1988)	Biological Conservation	birds	1	forest

APPENDIX C
Species used in the meta-analysis.

	Species use	d in the met	a-amary sis.	•		
				No.	Effect	
				pat-	size	
Species	Locality	Habitat	Status	ches	(<i>r</i>)	Study
) Birds						
Aegithalos caudatus	Spain	generalist	resident	31	0.03	Telleria and Santos (1995)
Agelaius phoeniceus	Illinois, USA	edge	migrant	14	0.59	Blake and Karr (1987)
Agelaius phoeniceus	Illinois, USA	edge	migrant	24	-0.57	
Ammodramus henslowii Anas crecca	Illinois, USA Sweden	interior edge	migrant migrant	24 27	$0.81 \\ -0.59$	Herkert (1994) Nilsson (1986)
Anas creccu Anas platyrhynchos	Sweden	edge	resident	30	-0.69	Nilsson (1986)
Anthus trivialis	Finland	edge	migrant	11	0.36	
Archilochus colubris	Maryland, USA	edge	migrant	10	0.24	Lynch and Whigham (198
Ardea cinerea	Sweden	edge	migrant	8	-0.13	
Bartramia longicauda	Illinois, USA	edge	migrant	24		Herkert (1994)
Branta canadensis	Sweden	generalist	migrant	22	-0.53 -0.49	Nilsson (1986)
Bucephala clangula	Sweden Illinois, USA	edge generalist	resident resident	20 14	0.49	Nilsson (1986) Blake and Karr (1987)
Cardinalis cardinalis Carduelis pinus	British Columbia, Canada	interior	resident	65	0.82	Martin et al. (1995)
Carduelis spinus	Finland	interior	migrant	12	0.51	Martin and Lepart (1989)
Catharus guttatus	British Columbia, Canada	interior	migrant	65	0.41	Martin et al. (1995)
Certhia americana	British Columbia, Canada	interior	resident	65	0.57	Martin et al. (1995)
Cistothorus platensis	Illinois, USA	interior	migrant	24	0.14	Herkert (1994)
Coccyzus americanus	Illinois, USA	interior	migrant	14	0.63	Blake and Karr (1987)
Coccyzus americanus	Maryland, USA	interior	migrant migrant	72 65	$0.25 \\ -0.04$	Lynch and Whigham (198 Martin et al. (1995)
Colaptes auratus Colaptes auratus	British Columbia, Canada Maryland, USA	edge edge	resident	106	0.07	Lynch and Whigham (198
Columba palumbus	Finland	edge	migrant	6	0.78	Martin and Lepart (1989)
Contopus virens	Maryland, USA	interior	migrant	71	0.08	Lynch and Whigham (19
Corvus caurinus	British Columbia, Canada	edge	resident	65	-0.88	Martin et al. (1995)
Corvus corax	British Columbia, Canada		resident	65	0.18	Martin et al. (1995)
Corvus corone	Finland	edge	migrant	13	-0.24	1 \
Cuculus canorus	Finland USA	generalist	migrant	156	$0.90 \\ -0.05$	Martin and Lepart (1989) Lynch and Whigham (19
Cyanocitta cristata	Maryland, USA British Columbia, Canada	generalist	resident resident	156 65	0.40	Martin et al. (1995)
Dendragapus obscurus Dendroica caerulescens	Maryland and	interior	migrant	13	0.48	Robbins et al. (1989)
Dental of the the the test of	W. Virginia, USA	********				
Dendroica townsendi	British Columbia, Canada	interior	migrant	65	0.04	Martin et al. (1995)
Dolichonyx oryzivorus	Illinois, USA	interior	migrant	24	0.81	Herkert (1994)
Dryocopus martius	Finland	interior	resident	5	-0.64	Martin and Lepart (1989)
Dryocopus pileatus	Maryland, USA	interior	resident	6 24	0.85	
Dumetella carolinensis Emberiza schoeniclus	Maryland, USA Sweden	edge edge	migrant migrant	6	0.44	Lynch and Whigham (19 Nilsson (1977)
Empidonax difficilis	British Columbia, Canada		migrant	65	0.70	
Empidonax virescens	Maryland, USA	interior	migrant	101	0.07	
Empidonax virescens	Illinois, USA	interior	migrant	14	0.73	
Erîthacus rubecula	Finland	generalist	migrant	12		Martin and Lepart (1989)
Fringilla coelebs	Sweden	edge	migrant	6	-0.78	
Gavia arctica	Sweden	edge	migrant	10		Nilsson (1986)
Geothlypis trichas	Illinois, USA	generalist interior	migrant migrant	24 15		Herkert (1994) Lynch and Whigham (19
Helmintheros vermivorus Hylocichla mustelina	Maryland, USA Illinois, USA	interior	migrant	14	0.15	Blake and Karr (1987)
Ixoreus naevius	British Columbia, Canada		migrant	65		Martin et al. (1995)
Junco hyemalis	British Columbia, Canada		resident	65	0.61	Martin et al. (1995)
Larus argentatus	Sweden	generalist	migrant	9	0.40	Nilsson (1986)
Larus canus	Sweden	edge	resident	34	-0.35	
Larus marinus	Sweden	generalist	migrant	8	-0.28	
Loxia curvirostra	British Columbia, Canada	interior generalist	resident resident	65 14	$0.71 \\ 0.64$	Martin et al. (1995) Blake and Karr (1987)
Melanerpes carolinus Melospiza georgiana	Illinois, USA Illinois, USA	edge	migrant	24	-0.14	
Melospiza melodia	Illinois, USA	edge	migrant	24	-0.57	` ,
Melospiza melodia	British Columbia, Canada		migrant	65	-0.88	
Mergus merganser	Sweden	edge	resident		-0.24	Nilsson (1986)
Mergus serrator	Sweden	edge	resident		0.07	
Mniotilta varia	Maryland, USA	interior	migrant		0.22	,
Molothrus ater	Illinois, USA	edge	migrant	_	0.58	
Motacilla alba	Sweden Finland	generalist edge	migrant migrant		-0.66 0.11	
Muscicapa hypoleuca Muscicapa striata	Finland	generalist			-0.11	
Myiarchus crinitus	Maryland, USA	edge	migrant		-0.07	
Pandion haliaetus	Sweden	generalist			-0.40	
Parus atricapillus	Illinois, USA	generalist	resident			
Parus bicolor	Illinois, USA	generalist	resident	14	0.48	Blake and Karr (1987)

APPENDIX C. Continued.

				pat-	Effect size	
Species	Locality	Habitat	Status	ches	(r)	Study
Parus bicolor	Maryland, USA	generalist	resident	181	-0.05	Lynch and Whigham (198
Parus caeruleus	Finland	generalist	resident	8	-0.35	Martin and Lepart (1989)
Parus caeruleus	Spain	generalist	resident	31	-0.07	Telleria and Santos (1995
Parus carolinensis	Maryland, USA	generalist	resident	159	-0.05	Lynch and Whigham (19)
Parus cristatus	Spain	generalist	resident	31	0.07	Telleria and Santos (1995
Parus major	Finland	generalist	resident	12	-0.49	Martin and Lepart (1989)
Parus major	Spain	generalist	resident	31	0.00	Telleria and Santos (1995)
Parus montanus	Finland	generalist	resident	8	-0.19	Martin and Lepart (1989)
Parus rufescens	British Columbia, Canada	interior	resident	65	0.50	Martin et al. (1995)
Parus spp.	Sweden	generalist	resident	6	0.86	Nilsson (1977)
Passerella iliaca	British Columbia, Canada		migrant	65	-0.90	Martin et al. (1995)
Phasianus colchicus	Illinois, USA	generalist	resident	24	-0.14	Herkert (1994)
Pheucticus ludovicianus	Maryland and W. Virginia, USA	interior	migrant	56	0.10	Robbins et al. (1989)
Pheucticus ludovicianus	Wisconsin, USA	interior	migrant	26	0.44	Ambuel and Temple (198
Phylloscopus sibilatrix	Finland	interior	migrant	8	0.70	Martin and Lepart (1989
Phylloscopus trochilus	Finland	edge	migrant	13	0.09	Martin and Lepart (1989
Phylloscopus trochilus	Sweden	edge	migrant	6	-0.68	Nilsson (1977)
Picoides pubescens	Illinois, USA	generalist	resident	14	0.52	Blake and Karr (1987)
Picoides villosus	Illinois, USA	interior	resident	14	0.77	Blake and Karr (1987)
Picoides villosus	British Columbia, Canada	interior	resident	65	0.76	Martin et al. (1995)
Picoides villosus	Maryland, USA	interior	resident	44	-0.10	Lynch and Whigham (19
Pipilo erythrophthalmus	Maryland, USA	edge	resident	116	-0.06	Lynch and Whigham (19
Piranga olivacea	Maryland, USA	interior	migrant	155	-0.05	Lynch and Whigham (19
Piranga olivacea	Illinois, USA	interior	migrant	14	0.72	Blake and Karr (1987)
Podiceps cristatus	Sweden	edge	migrant	16	-0.80	Nilsson (1986)
Polioptila caerulea	Maryland, USA	edge	migrant	26	0.14	Lynch and Whigham (19
Prunella modularis	Finland	edge	migrant	10	0.75	Martin and Lepart (1989
Regulus ignicapillus	Spain	interior	migrant	31	-0.07	Telleria and Santos (199:
Regulus regulus	Spain	interior	migrant	31	-0.07	Telleria and Santos (199)
Regulus regulus	Finland	interior	migrant	13	0.39	Martin and Lepart (1989
Regulus satrapa	British Columbia, Canada	interior	resident	65	0.50	Martin et al. (1995)
Seiurus noveboracensis	Maryland and W. Virginia, USA	interior	migrant	33	0.34	Robbins et al. (1989)
Selasphorus rufus	British Columbia, Canada	edge	migrant	65	-0.86	Martin et al. (1995)
Sitta canadensis	British Columbia, Canada		resident	65	0.45	Martin et al. (1995)
litta carolinensis	Maryland, USA	interior	resident	14	-0.20	
Sitta carolinensis	Illinois, USA	interior	resident	14		Blake and Karr (1987)
Sitta europaea	Spain	interior	resident	31	0.02	Telleria and Santos (199)
Sphyrapicus ruber	British Columbia, Canada		resident	65	0.14	Martin et al. (1995)
pilornis cheela	Java	interior	resident	5	0.75	Thiollay and Meyburg (1988)
Spiza americana	Illinois, USA	interior	migrant	24	0.14	Herkert (1994)
Spizella pusilla	Illinois, USA	edge	migrant	24		Herkert (1994)
sterna hirundo	Sweden	generalist	migrant	14		Nilsson (1986)
Sturnella magna	Illinois, USA	interior	migrant	24	0.57	Herkert (1994)
Sturnus vulgaris	Illinois, USA	edge	resident	14		Blake and Karr (1987)
'ylvia borin	Finland	edge	migrant	10		Martin and Lepart (1989
Sylvia borin	Sweden	edge	migrant	6	-0.12	Nilsson (1977)
Sylvia curruca	Finland	interior	migrant	13	0.22	
etrao urogallus	Norway	interior	resident	11	0.04	Rolstad and Wegge (198
Thryothorus ludovicianus	Maryland, USA	edge	resident	75	0.04	Lynch and Whigham (19
ringa hypoleucos	Sweden	edge	migrant	6	-0.66	Nilsson (1977)
Troglodytes troglodytes	British Columbia, Canada		resident	65	-0.09	Martin et al. (1995)
roglodytes troglodytes	Finland	interior	migrant	7	-0.11	Martin et al. (1993) Martin and Lepart (1989)
Turdus iliacus	Finland	edge	migrant	11	-0.13	Martin and Lepart (1989
Turdus merula	Finland	generalist	migrant	13	-0.17	Martin and Lepart (1989
Turdus merula	Sweden	generalist	migrant	6	-0.22	Nilsson (1977)
Turdus merutu Turdus migratorius	British Columbia, Canada		migrant	65	-0.22	Martin et al. (1995)
Furdus philomelos	Finland	edge	migrant	8	-0.31	Martin et al. (1993) Martin and Lepart (1989
Turdus pilaris	Finland	edge	migrant	6	0.23	Martin and Lepart (1989 Martin and Lepart (1989
Vermivora celata	British Columbia, Canada			65	-0.23	
Vireo flavifrons	Maryland, USA	interior	migrant migrant	11	0.23	Martin et al. (1995) Lynch and Whigham (19
Vireo guivijions Vireo griseus	Maryland, USA	generalist		34	0.23	
/ireo griseus /ireo olivaceus	Maryland, USA		migrant			
vireo olivaceus Vireo olivaceus	Illinois, USA	generalist	migrant	172	0.05	Lynch and Whigham (19
Vireo ottvaceus Vilsonia canadensis	Maryland and	generalist interior	migrant	14 22	0.63	Blake and Karr (1987)
r woma canadensis	W. Virginia, USA	111101	migrant	22	0.36	Robbins et al. (1989)
Wilsonia pusilla	British Columbia, Canada	intonion	migrant	65	0.40	Martin et al. (1995)

APPENDIX C. Continued.

•				No.	Effect	
Species	Locality	Habitat	Status	pat- ches	size (r)	Study
B) Insects						
Acalymma innubom	U.S. Virgin Islands	interior	resident	18	0.66	Bach (1984)
Acalymma innubon	U.S. Virgin Islands	interior	resident	32	0.17	Bach (1984)
Acalymma vittatum	Michigan, USA	interior	resident	21	-0.04	Bach (1988)
Diabrotica undecimpunctata	Michigan, USA	generalist	resident	21	0.26	Bach (1988)
Diabrotica virgitera	Michigan, USA	generalist	resident	21	0.28	Bach (1988)
Euphydryas bayensis	California	interior	resident	27	0.21	Launere and Murphy (1994)
Folsomia quadrioculata	Sweden	interior	resident	30	0.82	Hertzberg et al. (1994)
Folsomia sexoculata	Sweden	interior	resident	30	-0.71	Hertzberg et al. (1994)
Hypogastrura longispina	Sweden	interior	resident	30	-0.79	Hertzberg et al. (1994)
Nelitaea cinxia	Finland	interior	resident	30	0.25	Hanski et al. (1995)
Onychiurus groenlandicum	Sweden	interior	resident	30	0.83	Hertzberg et al. (1994)
Operophtera brumata	Belgium	generalist	resident	7	0.79	van Dongen et al. (1994)
C) Mammals						
Clethrionomys glareolus	Sweden	edge	resident	11	-0.38	Loman (1991)
Clethrionomys glareolus	Netherlands	interior	resident	46	0.23	van Apeldoorn et al. (1992)
Lupus americana	Wisconsin, USA	edge	resident	7	-0.13	Keith et al. (1993)
Microtus agrestis	Sweden	edge	resident	11	-0.28	Loman (1991)
Ochotona princeps	California	interior	resident	78	0.65	Smith (1974)
Peromyscus leucopus	Massachusetts, USA	interior	resident	21	0.33	Adler et al. (1986)
Sciurus carolinensis	England	edge	resident	68	-0.13	Fitzgibbon (1993)
Sorex araneus	Sweden	interior	resident	11	0.55	Loman (1991)
Tamias striatus	Ontario, Canada	interior	resident	5	0.83	Henderson et al. (1985)