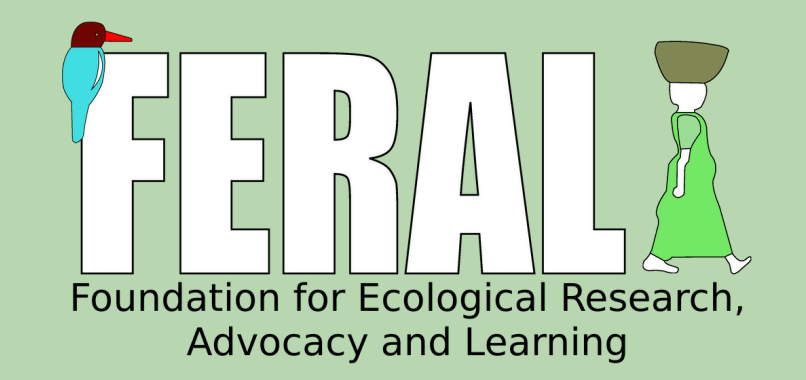


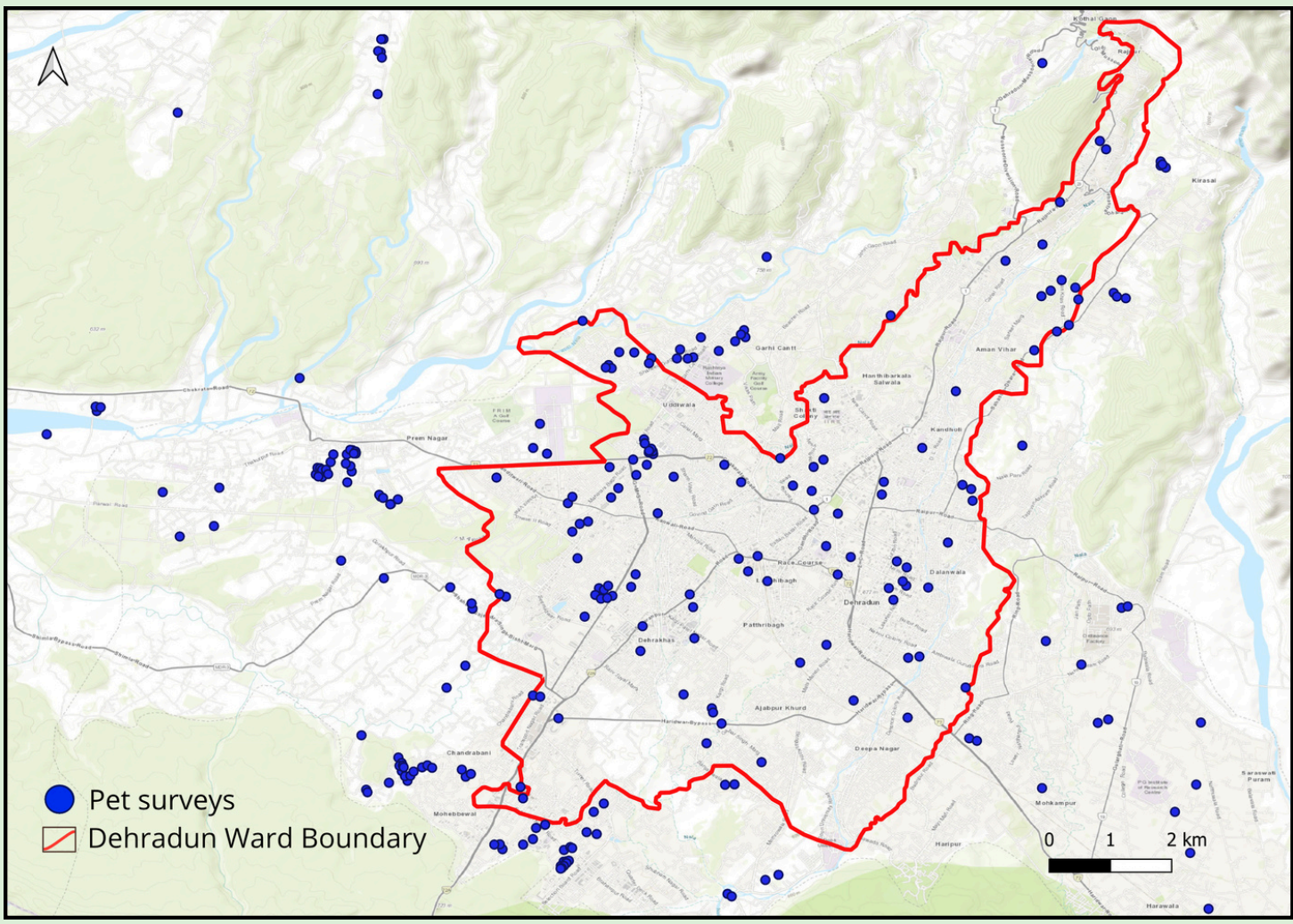
# Assessing the Predation Pressure of Free-Ranging Domestic Cats on Urban Wildlife in Dehradun, India



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**Aim :** Understand the effect of free-ranging domestic cats density on the bird community in urban green spaces in Dehradun

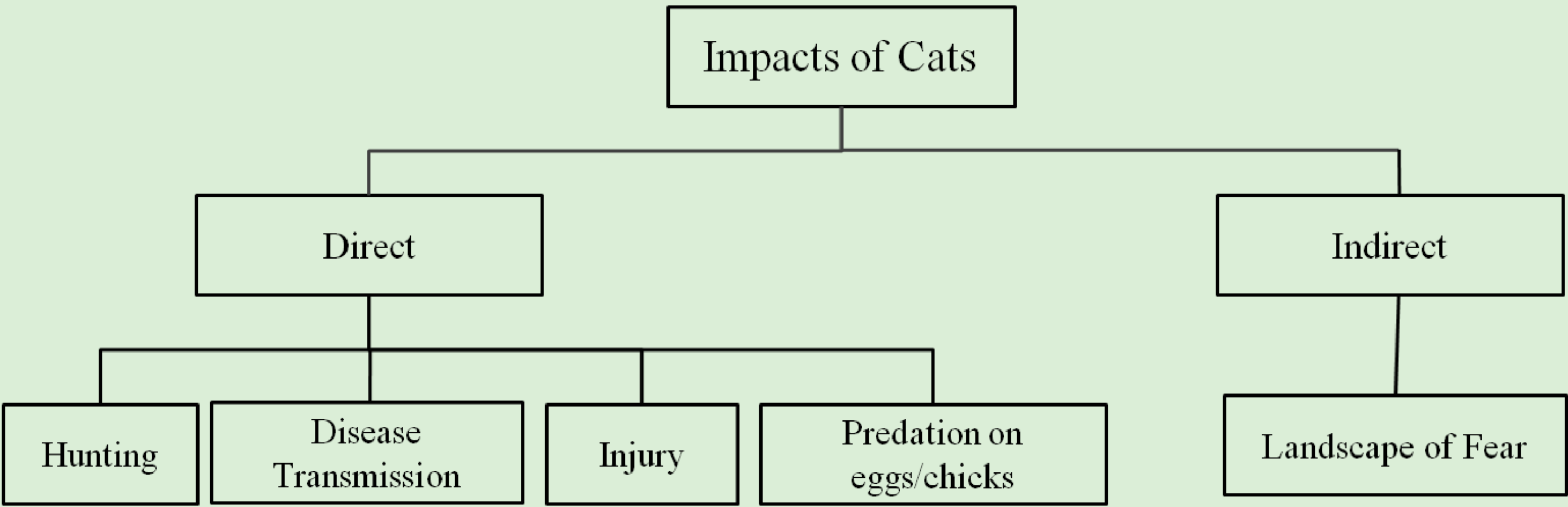
Total surveys conducted across Dehradun- **421**  
Households with pet- **324**  
Household with cats- **85**



## Background

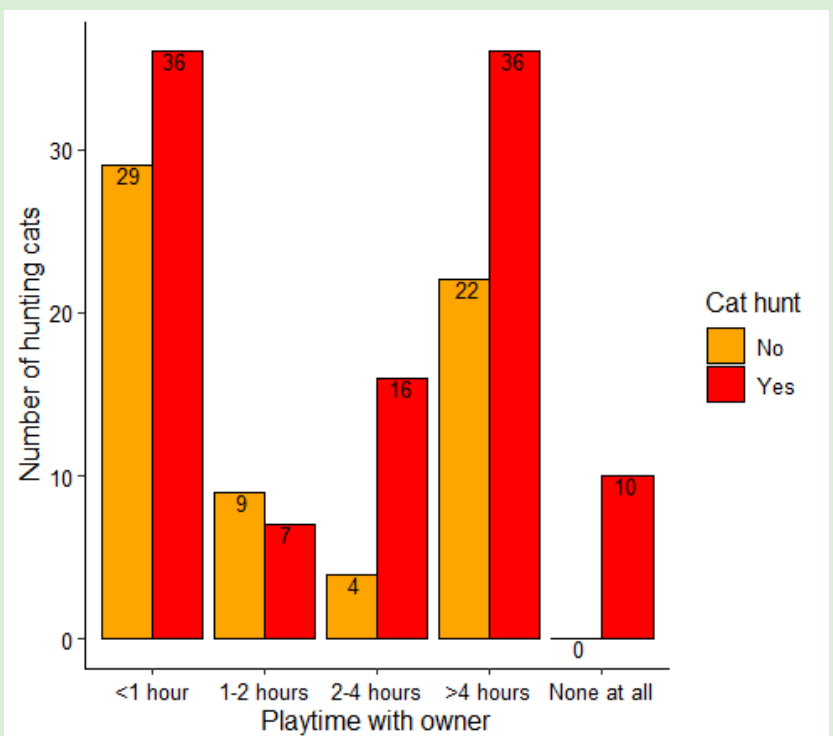
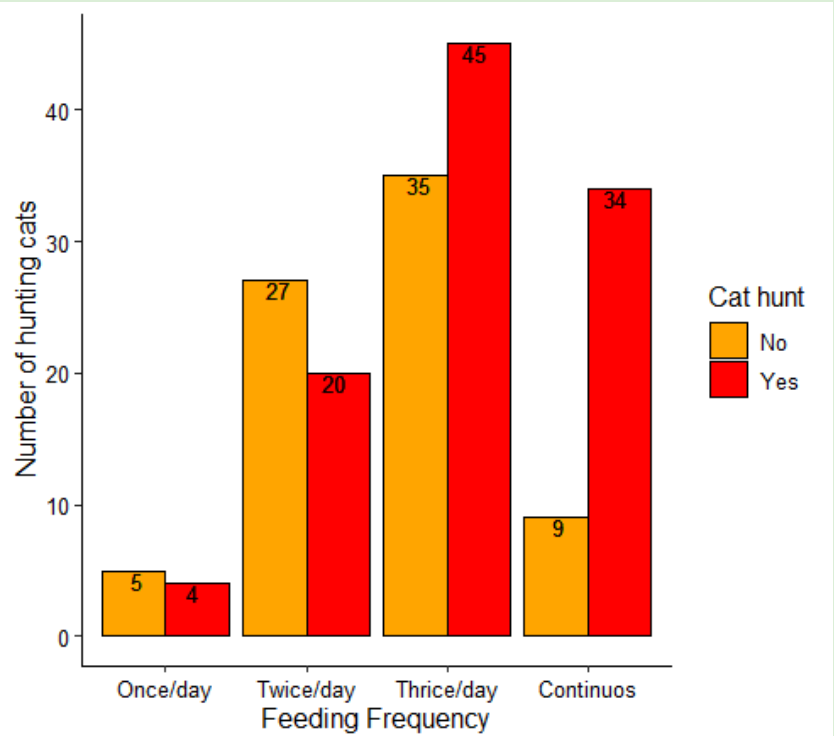
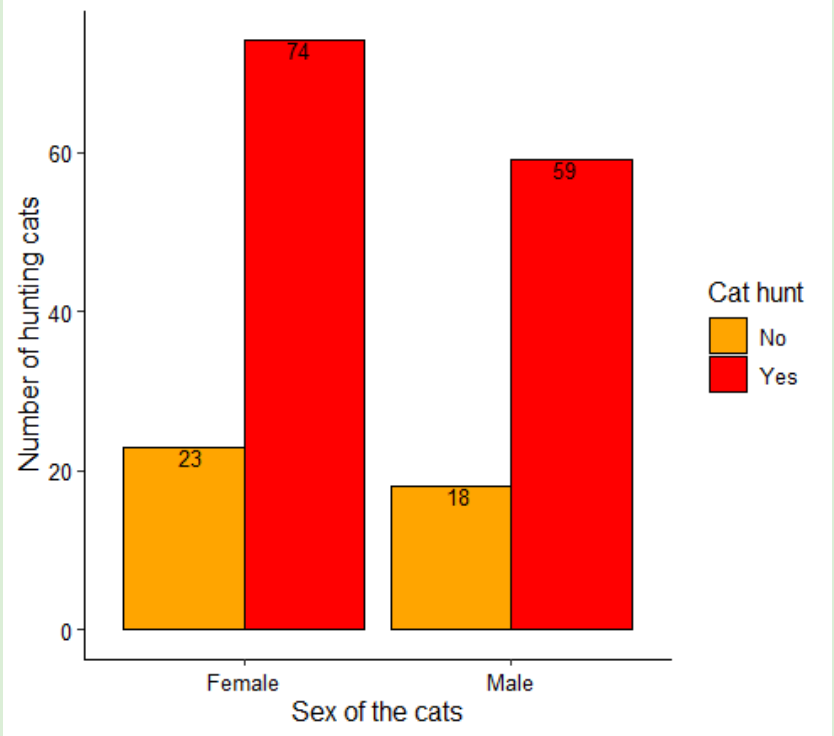
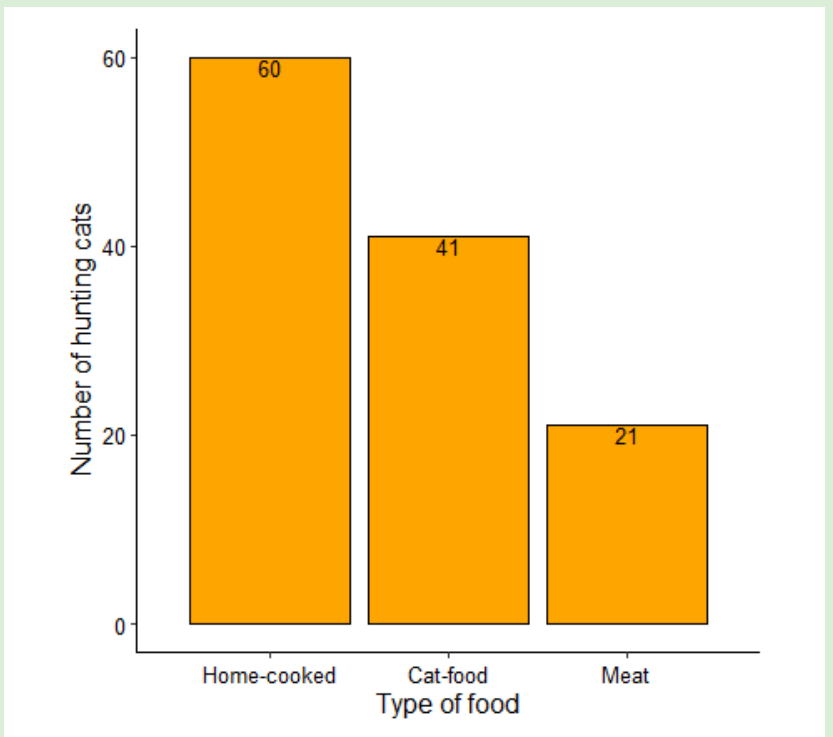
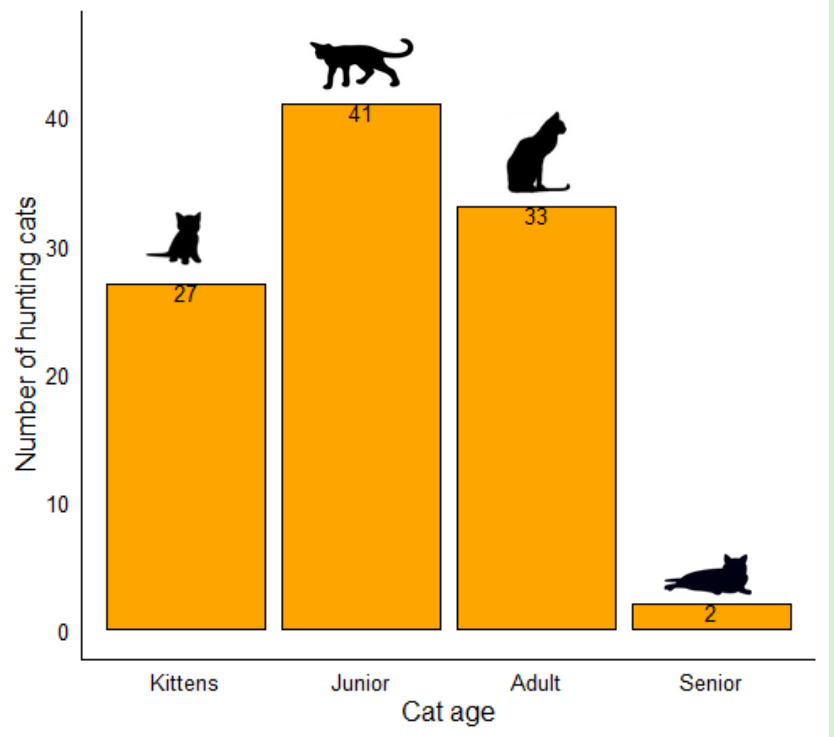
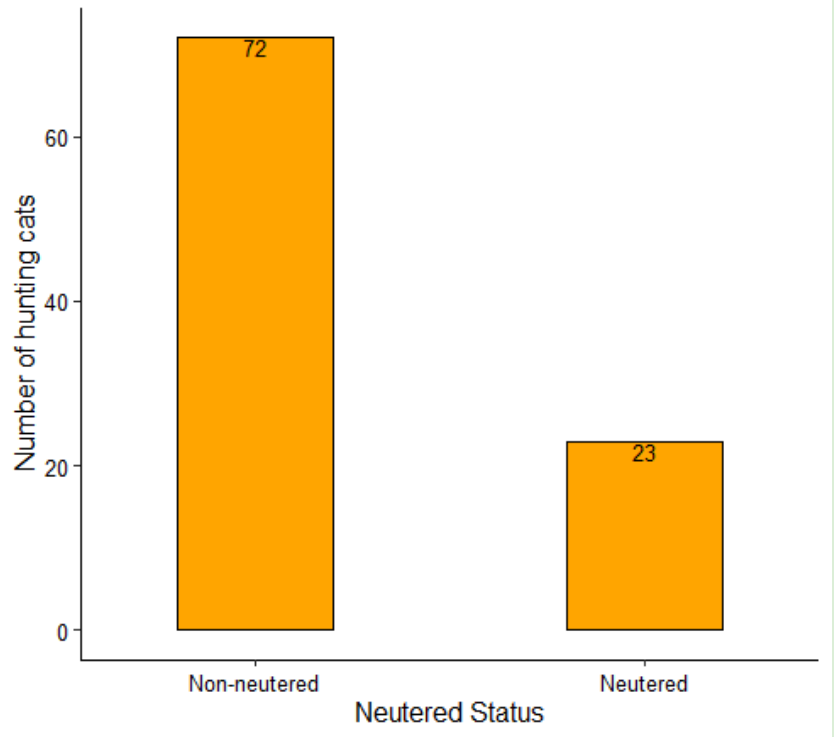
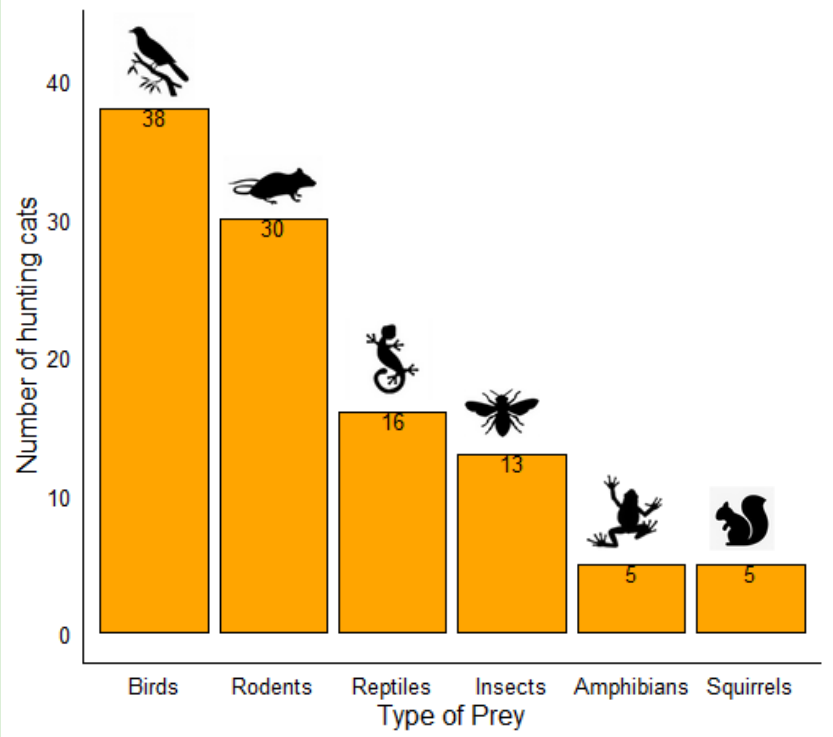
- Cats were domesticated 5000 to 8000 years ago
- Cats further spread across the world through ships
- Free-ranging domestic cats kill 1.3–4.0 billion birds and 6.3–22.3 billion mammals annually in the US (Loss et al., 2013)
- Environment Canada: Domestic and feral cats kill 200 million birds
- In Bristol, UK: Mean predation rate of domesticated cats was estimated to be 21 prey/cat/annum (Baker et al. - 2005)

## Impact of free-ranging domestic cats on birds

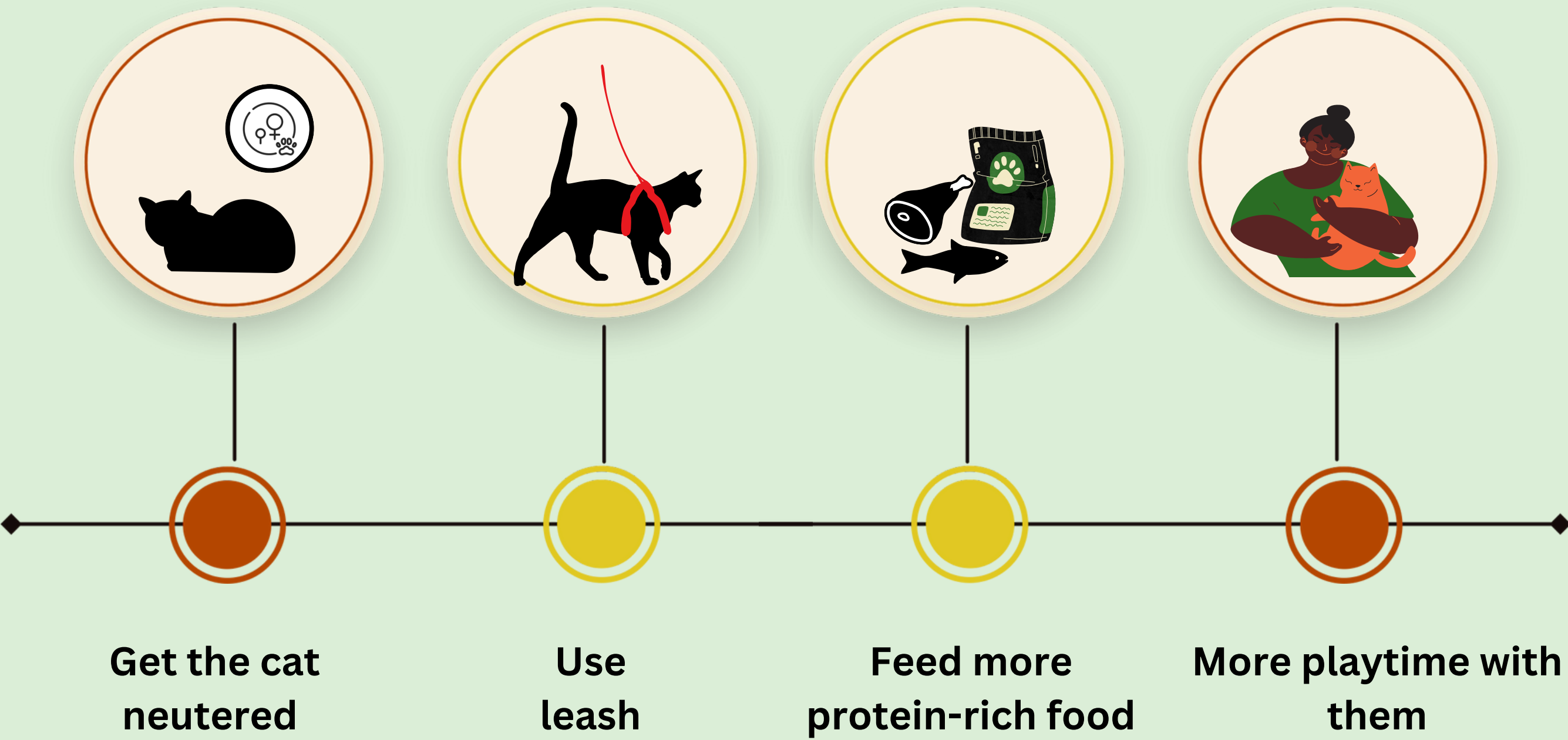


## Results

- Birds were the most hunted species
- There is not much difference in the hunting behavior between female and male cats
- Non-neutered cats hunted more than neutered
- Junior cats hunted more than the other age groups
- Cats offered low protein food hunted more
- Cats with less playtime with their owners hunt more often



## What can be done?



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We would like to express our gratitude to the participants who contributed to this study, particularly the cat owners who participated by observing and reporting their pets' activities. We also want to recognize the efforts of the interns Saumya Dhamanda, Soni Rawat, Sanjay Sivaprakassan and volunteers in data collection and analysis. Additionally, we are grateful to the vet clinics and cafes who allowed us to use their space to display our pet survey posters. We would like to thank Foundation for Ecological Research, Advocacy and Learning for administration help.

Participate in our PET SURVEY by scanning this QR Code-



### KEY REFERENCES-

1. Loss, Scott R., Will, Tom, and Marra, Peter P. 2013. "The impact of free-ranging domestic cats on wildlife of the United States." Nature Communications. 4 (1396):<https://doi.org/10.1038/ncomms2380>
2. Baker, P.J., Bentley, A.J., Ansell, R.J. and Harris, S., 2005. Impact of predation by domestic cats Felis catus in an urban area. Mammal Review, 35(3-4), pp.302-312

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