

# VISUAL CUES AS LURES FOR MAMMAL SURVEYS

A white-tailed deer is standing in a forest, facing right. The deer is the central focus of the image, appearing as a light-colored silhouette against the darker background of the woods. The forest floor is covered with leaves and twigs, and several tree trunks are visible in the background.

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Sleepy Hollow

10<sup>th</sup> Grade

# Introduction

- ❑ Camera traps are devices that are triggered when it senses movement in the infrared spectrum
- ❑ The experiments purpose is to try and use a different sense other than smell to bring animals to a camera trap in the wild
- ❑ Bait is generally a piece of meat and a lure is generally something like a CD



# Introduction Continued

- ▣ We study these animals for different reasons like conservation or population
- ▣ Biodiversity
- ▣ Balance of animal population (EX. 2 Deer to 1 Coyote)
- ▣ The mammals at Teatown are Deer, Raccoon, Coyote, Weasels



# Methods

- ▣ Set up 3 different sites
- ▣ 4 cameras at each site
- ▣ 1 lure on 3
- ▣ 1 control



# Procedure

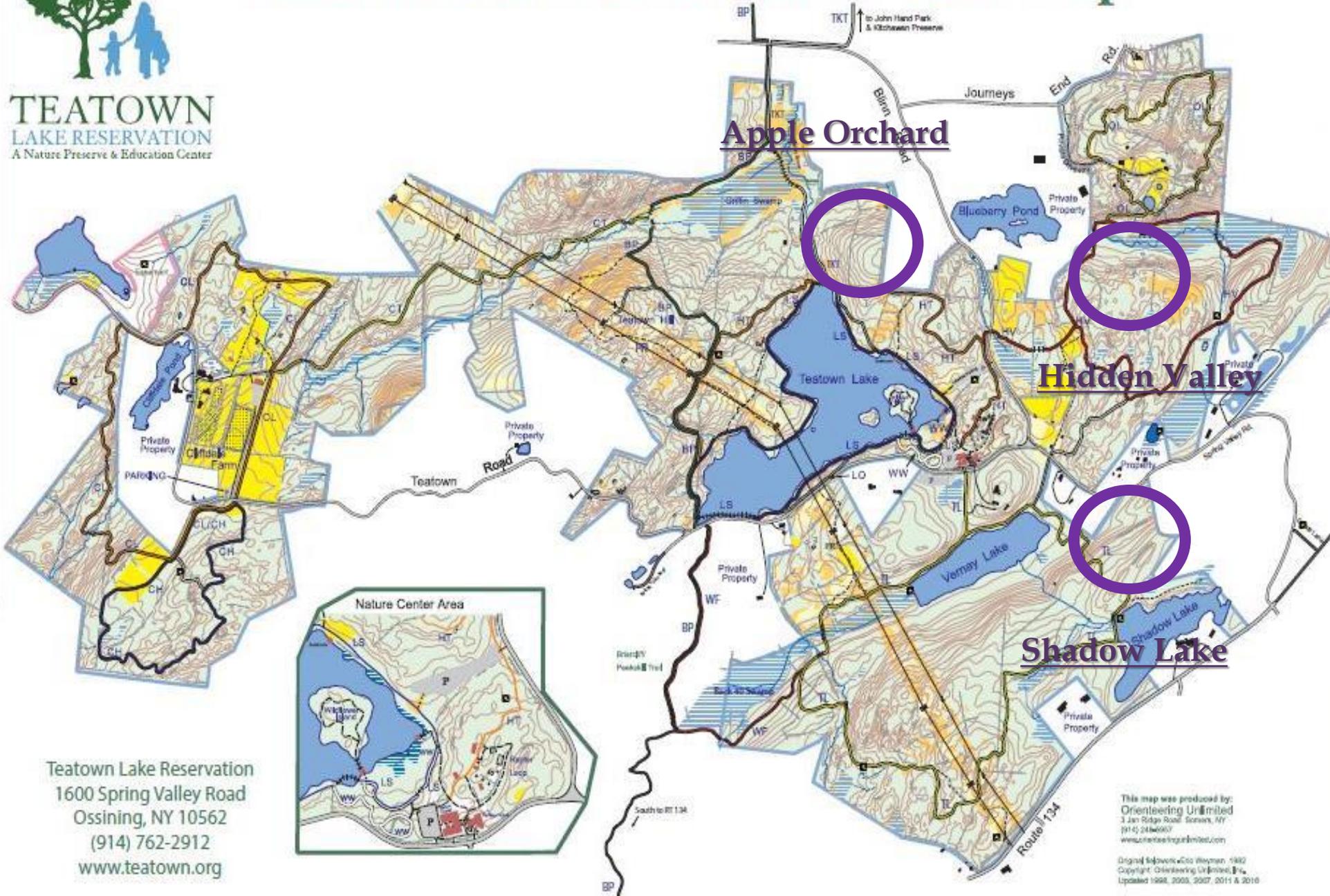
- ▣ Set up cameras
- ▣ They are about 22.5 meters
- ▣ Put a lure on 3





# Teatown Lake Reservation Trail Map

**TEATOWN**  
LAKE RESERVATION  
A Nature Preserve & Education Center



Teatown Lake Reservation  
1600 Spring Valley Road  
Ossining, NY 10562  
(914) 762-2912  
[www.teatown.org](http://www.teatown.org)

This map was produced by:  
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# Apple Orchard

- ▣ We placed 4 cameras near the apple orchard at Teatown
- ▣ This spot was the most productive in the number of animals caught on camera here



# Hidden Valley

- ▣ This site is in the deep forest
- ▣ This site was in the middle for the number of animals caught on camera



# Shadow Lake

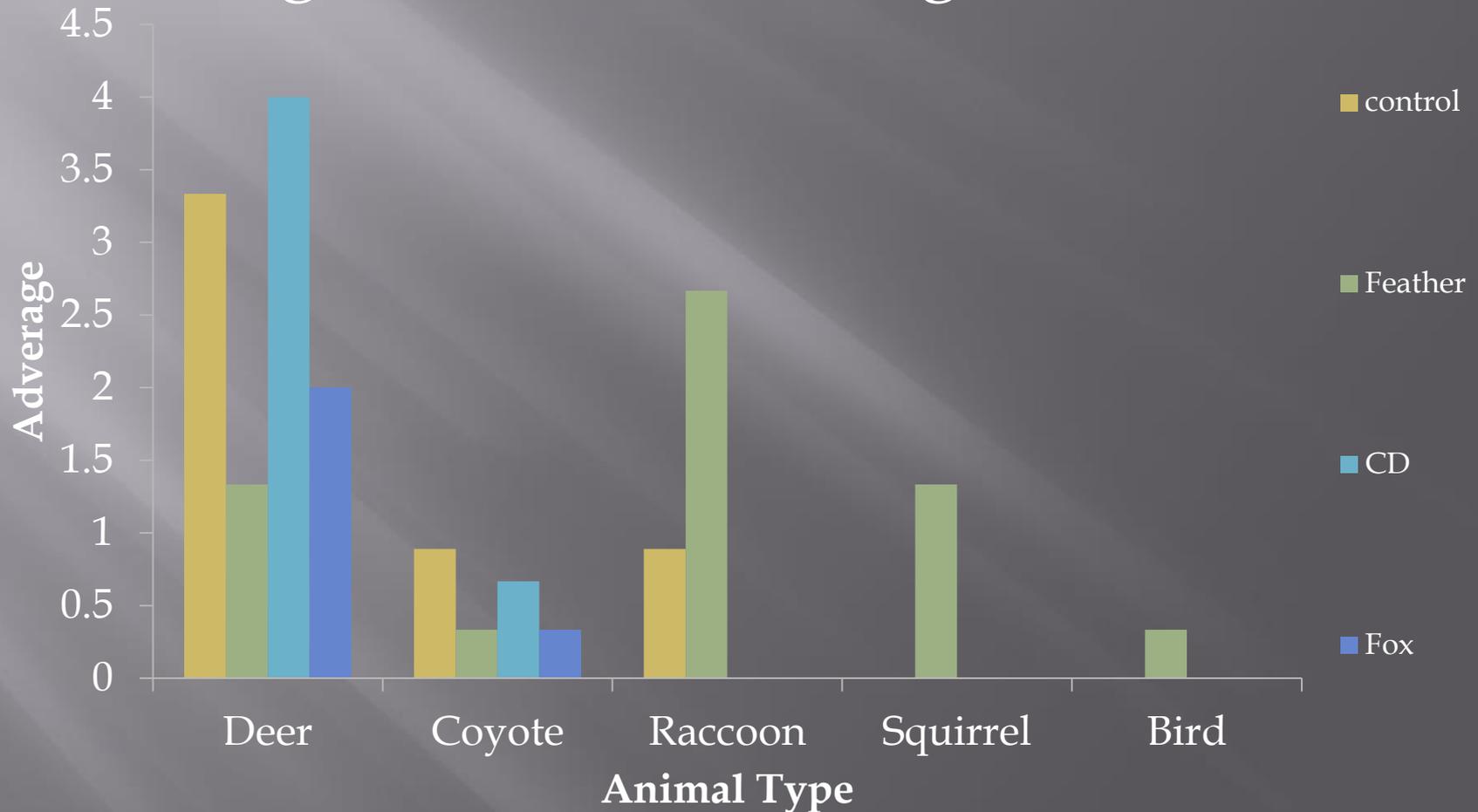


- ▣ This site was in the wooded area next to shadow lake
- ▣ This site was the least productive in the number of animals caught on camera



# Graph of Results

Average # of animals caught on camera



# Results

- ▣ The cameras with the CD or the Feather had the most photos of animals
- ▣ The fox did not have a lot of photos on them
- ▣ The Shadow lake spot was not a good choice
- ▣ The most successful was the Apple Orchard



# Conclusion

- ▣ The results of my study was that the cameras with the Feather or the CD attracted the animals to the camera traps
- ▣ The cameras with the Stuffed Fox did not draw animals to the cameras
- ▣ I need to look for more research concerning visual cues



# Conclusion Continued

- ▣ Distance in-between the sites was a problem
- ▣ Time
- ▣ Resources
- ▣ My results were what I expected to get
- ▣ A new hypothesis is that what if I added a item that makes sound like a music box



# Acknowledgments

- ▣ I would like to thank...
- ▣ The TESA students and mentors
- ▣ My parents

