Foraging results

Juliana Balluffi-Fry

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The most parsimonious model for explaining foraging efforts of control hares (dela AIC < 2) was that which included twig biomass and temperature as fixed effects (Table 1, model D2). We found that hares foraged 28.8 ± 5.4 minutes more per day for every 10 kg per hectare increase in available twig biomass (t = 5.2; Figure 3A). For every 10 degree C increase in temperature, hares foraged 48 ± 3.6 minutes more per day (t = 12.81; Figure 3B).

After testing this model (D2) on the food treatment data set, we found no effect of available twig biomass on foraging effort for either controls or food supplemented females (t = 1.61; Figure 3C). Similar to the control model, we did find that foraging effort increased 57 ± 4.2 minutes per day for every 10 C increase in temperature (t = 14.6; Figure 3D). Overall, food supplemented individuals foraged 20.4 ± 28.8 minutes less than controls, but this effect was not significant (t = -0.7).