Dear Editor,

Our entry to the E4 Award, though not shortlisted, was deemed by you and the selection panel to be of sufficient interest to warrant a submission as a review article to Ecography. Here we present the results of our proposal entitled ‘A Recipe for Scavenging - the natural history of a behaviour’. This synthesis draws on basic ecological theory to investigate the drivers of scavenging over evolutionary time. By framing our manuscript in this way we are able to highlight the specific anatomies, physiologies, behaviours and environments of a species that would make scavenging a profitable lifestyle. This has allowed us to propose a scale of scavenging, whereby researchers can judge the likely importance of scavenging in the diet of any vertebrate carnivore past or present. Our work goes some way to redressing the underrepresentation of studies considering the importance of scavenging as a significant feeding ecology.

This manuscript has not been submitted elsewhere and is not currently under review or in press or published in any other journal. All sources of funding have been acknowledged. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dr. Adam Kane and co-authors