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Lecture Series Environment & Biodiversity

Acoustic signals as a behavioural ecology tool – what can calls tell us about cheetah behaviour?

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Host: Dr. Noreen Mutoro

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Faculty of Natural Sciences and Life
Science, Hellbrunner Str, 34, Salzburg
Room 424, 2th floor



Research field: Acoustic Communication in Cheetahs



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Abstract

Acoustic signals transfer a wide variety of information and are particularly useful for communication over medium to long distances or in dense habitat. Cheetahs produce very high-pitched vocalizations that are termed chirps. Besides information transfer, those chirps may have a cryptic function, allowing the cheetah to remain undetected by prey or competitors. In this talk, we will look into how animal vocalizations are shaped by a species ecological niche, exemplified by the cheetah chirp.

About the speaker

Katharina Prager is a PhD student from the mammal communication group, lead by Dr. Angela Stöger. Her research focuses on carnivore acoustic communication and its social and environmental context. In her current work she is investigating the adaptive function of cheetah vocalizations.