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# Biogeography, Morphology, and Systematics of the Mountain Cottontail, *Sylvilagus nuttallii* (Bachman, 1837), Mammalia: Lagomorpha: Leporidae

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Biogeography, Morphology, and Systematics of the  
Mountain Cottontail, *Sylvilagus nuttallii* (Bachman, 1837), Mammalia:  
Lagomorpha: Leporidae

by

Johnnie H. French

A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the  
requirements for the degree of

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## Abstract

Widespread species often present taxonomic conundrums: are they truly a single panmictic species, or, is the widespread species in fact a polytypic species complex constituted by independently evolving, morphologically or otherwise cryptic species? One such broadly distributed taxon is *Sylvilagus nuttallii*, with distribution across the western United States, ranging from South Dakota to California, and from Canada to Arizona. The three subspecies constituting *S. nuttallii* are, however, geographically isolated and it has been hypothesized that they likely constitute independent, species level taxa. However, that study examined only two of the three holotypes, rather than broader geographic and non-geographic variation. In this study I examined the three subspecies under the framework of several distinct species concepts. I used 35 distinct cranial measurements, morphological, and dental, assessments, as well as molecular data in order to assess the taxonomic status of the subspecies in question constituting *S. nuttallii*. I collected *de novo* topotypic series, and examined all holotypes, as well as existing specimens in the American Museum of Natural History and Philadelphia Academy of Sciences. In addition, the effectiveness of species conservation efforts is contingent upon the understanding of its biology and evolutionary trajectory. By having a better understanding of the past, present, and hypothesized future of a species, conservation efforts may begin to mitigate the loss of biodiversity by the turn of the next century.

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## PREFACE

This work is the culmination of a hypothesis developed more than 20 years ago from the examination of two skulls. Over the course of the following chapters, we will re-examine those holotypes as well as the third holotype of *S. nuttallii* in the species complex. In addition to the holotype specimens, we will examine all the available topotype specimens in order to determine morphologically distinct characters that can be used in the future for identification of this cryptic species. We will also examine the shifting ranges of the three sub-species in the light of climate change from the last inter-glacial period up through the turn of next century. Finally, we will conduct genetic analysis of two mitochondrial genes from topotype specimens. Using these three methods we will test the hypothesis of conspecificity.



## CHAPTER 1

An introduction and background of Lagomorpha (Brandt 1855), Leporidae (Waldheim, Fischer 1817), and *Sylvilagus* (Gray 1867): Or, "What, if anything, is a rabbit (Wood 1957)?"

For most of the muddied taxonomic history of Lagomorphs, they have been combined into an order with the Rodents. Brandt (1855) was the first to name the rabbits, hares, and pikas as Lagomorphs. It was Gidley in 1912 (Wood 1957) to formally separate them into their own Order, based primarily on dental formula, particularly the second set of incisors, as well as several skeletal structures. He also suggested an ancient origin for both orders. Albert E. Wood (1957) notes, "The two lines are independent back to the Paleocene, with no suggestion of greater affinity than now. The similarities are of two types—those determined by the fact that both are gnawers, and those that merely indicate that both are rather primitive mammals." O'leary suggested a clade age for Lagomorpha of ~53 MYA based on fossilized morphological characters. Murphy et.al. (2007) and Meredith et.al. (2011) suggest a clade age range between 71 and 94 mya. Ruedas, Mora, Lanier (2018) give an excellent account of fossil descriptions supporting this clade age. The first true Lagomorphs occurred sometime before 42 mya and the divergence of the Ochotonids and Leporids which is indicated by the first occurrence of Ochotonidae in fossil record dated to ~42-46 mya (Storer 1984). The leporids diverged ~13 mya (Mathee et.al. 2004). Shortly thereafter, *Lepus*, the true hares, diverged at ~11.8 mya from the rest of the leporids (Mathee et.al. 2004). It should also be noted that this is the date when the cottontails, *Sylvilagus* and *Brachylagus* diverged on their own

evolutionary paths with *Brachylagus* being at the root of the clade (Mathee et.al. 2004). True cottontails diverged from their pygmy relative ~4 mya (Mathee et.al. 2004).

Within the genus *Sylvilagus*, there are 18 species and many more sub-species of cottontail, many of which are under contention or have been recently revised (Ruedas et.al. 2017, Ruedas et.al. 2019). The reason for this contention is simple, they are numerous and barely diversified (Simpson 1961). Consider this: the amount of divergence between the families *Ochotonidae* and *Leporidae* is substantially less than the average mammalian family, and in fact they are so close, it could be justifiable to consider them subfamilies of a single family instead of an Order (Simpson 1961).

For more than 20 years the taxonomic status of the *Sylvilagus nuttallii* group has been under scrutiny (Ruedas 1998), and questions about their place among the genera have been around since Marcus Lyon reorganized the Lagomorphs in 1904. This confusion was seemingly resolved with the Magnum Opus "A Molecular Supermatrix of Rabbits and Hares Allows for the Identification of Five Intercontinental Exchanges During the Miocene" by Mathee et.al. in 2004. In the paper, they conclude *S.nuttalli* is most closely related to *S. audubonii*. However, this analysis was based solely on genetic analysis with no voucher specimen for reference. Alves and Hacklander (2008) note that the most challenging problem within Lagomorpha is defining relationships between species. They conclude the only suitable way to proceed is to use an integrated taxonomic combination of morphological and molecular data in order to place taxa in evolutionary groups.

The *Sylvilagus nuttallii* group began its taxonomic history as two species and two subspecies: *Lepus nuttallii* (Bachman 1837), *Lepus sylvaticus pinetis* (Allen 1894) and *Lepus sylvaticus grangeri* (Allen 1894). During Nelson's revision of the Order in 1909, he classified them as one species, *S. nuttallii*, and three subspecies. However, even he had trouble distinguishing the slight morphological differences that have been conserved across the eons. He included five specimens of *Sylvilagus floridanus* in his cranial measurements of the species group, specifically, *S.n.pinetis* (Hoffmeister and Lee 1963). Even with this critical error, Nelson was seemingly correct in his determination that *S. nuttallii* is more closely related to *S. floridanus* than other members of the genus. Given the amount of historical and current disagreement on the taxonomic status of the Leporids, it is no wonder Albert Wood proposed his classic question “what, if anything, is a rabbit?” and went on to begrudgingly admit the existence of rabbits.

Here we present evidence of the existence of not one, but three species of rabbit using an integrative taxonomic approach based not just on morphological data, but molecular ecological data as well. With these data, we will test the hypothesis of conspecificity and make recommendations for the species complex moving forward.

## CHAPTER 2

Climate mediated ecological niche changes and spatial shifts in distribution patterns of the mountain cottontail species complex, *Sylvilagus nuttallii* (Bachman, 1837)

### ABSTRACT

The climate envelope of a species can be described as the range of environmental variation within which a species can survive. A species has two options to continue its survival in the face of a changing climate: adapt or move. Where adaptation occurs on the order of thousands or millions of years, climate change can occur much more rapidly. Consider the changes that have occurred since the last interglacial period, 150,000 years before the present (B.P.). Since then, the earth has seen an ice age advance and retreat, periods of relative climatic stability, and periods of rapid warming due to anthropogenic forcing. Herein, we use maximum entropy ecological niche modeling to examine the distributional patterns of the mountain cottontail species complex, *Sylvilagus nuttalli* (Bachman, 1837). We begin at the last interglacial period and run models through four possible scenarios for the future distribution of the species based on the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's fifth assessment report (IPCC5). We used 35 bioclimatic variables and elevation to predict past, present, and future distribution patterns based on current known occurrences. Areas of distribution range from a maximum of 1,483,125 km<sup>2</sup> during the Holocene Climate Optimum to a minimum of 289,844 km<sup>2</sup> during the Last Glacial Maximum climatic envelope. Predictions of future distributions based on the IPCC5 range from 1,092,656 km<sup>2</sup> under RCP 4.5 to 779,188

km<sup>2</sup> under RCP 8.5 at the end of this century, showing a loss of habitat of between 15% and 40% from the 1,291,719 km<sup>2</sup> currently occupied by the species complex.

## INTRODUCTION

Elucidating the varied elements forming a species' overall distribution has long been under scrutiny by evolutionary biologists (Parmesan, 2006) and ecologists alike (Caughley *et al.*, 1988, Lawton *et al.*, 1994). Climate change, even small changes in temperature, has already been identified a critical element in restricting and reducing existing species' distribution, as well as shifting and shrinking of geographic ranges, depending on the tempo and magnitude of the change (Beever *et al.*, 2011). The six warmest years on record have all occurred since 2010. Last year—2018—ranked as the second (NASA) or third (NOAA) warmest year on record after three straight years of record temperatures between 2014 – 2016. The average temperature was 0.84°C above normal and marked the 41st consecutive year in which the temperature exceeded the 20th century average as computed by NOAA.

Generally, species distributions follow the principle of maximum entropy and will expand their range until conditions are no longer favorable for their survival (Jaynes, 1957). Given that climate—and in particular temperature and humidity—can limit the distribution of species, it obtains that regional climatic envelopes can then be used to predict species distributions across geologic time scales. The climate envelopes can be considered as a multivariate space whose upper and lower boundaries limit when and where a species can survive in a particular area (Polly and Eronen, 2010). Recognizing the mechanisms altering species distribution affects not only the understanding of

population level responses but also conservation management efforts and strategies associated with the latter in order to mitigate the former (Stenseth *et al.*, 2002, Root and Schneider, 2006).

Lagomorpha, or lagomorphs, the order of mammals consisting of rabbits, hares, and pikas, has been shown to be particularly vulnerable to climate change (Beever, *et al.*, 2013). Within Lagomorpha, there are two extant families: Ochotonidae and Leporidae. The pika family, Ochotonidae, is constrained to high plateaus and talus fields in Asia and North America, with the caveat that they occur at lower elevations as latitude increases. Many of the species in Ochotonidae comprise restricted populations that are currently suffering from local extirpations or severe range contractions (Li and Smith, 2005; Galbreath, *et al.*, 2009; Beever, *et al.*, 2003; Grayson, 2005). The family Leporidae (rabbits, hares, and cottontails) has a much broader distribution and inhabits virtually every biome on the planet. In spite of this wide ranging distribution, several endemic genera and species also face extirpation or severe range shifts or contraction in the face of climate change, including *Brachylagus*, *Bunolagus*, *Caprolagus*, *Nesolagus*, *Pentalagus*, *Pronolagus*, *Romerolagus*, and several species in *Lepus* and *Sylvilagus* (Hoffman and Smith, 2005; Smith *et al.*, 2018).

We examined the last 150,000 years of distributional shifts of one species of Lagomorpha: the mountain cottontail *Sylvilagus nuttallii* (Bachman, 1837), using ecological niche modeling. The oldest examples of modelling species distribution date to 1924, with Thomas Harvey Johnston's attempt to predict invasive species spread in Australia and Hittinka's assessment of the distribution of European species based on

climate variables (Pearson and Dawson, 2003). The first peer reviewed niche model belongs to Nix et al.'s attempt to identify suitable habitats into which to expand cropland in Australia (Nix *et al.*, 1977). Since then, species distribution models have become an increasingly important tool in climate change research, ecology, conservation biology, and evolution (Guisan and Thuiller, 2005). Correlative species distribution models (SDMs) are used to predict potential distributions given known occurrence data and a set of bioclimatic envelopes which limit the entropy of distribution of the species (Elith *et al.*, 2010). Here, we use a set of 36 bioclimatic envelope layers to examine the distribution and shifting range of *S. nuttallii*. We examined five distinct time periods whose climates are hypothesized to differ, including: the Last Interglacial Period (LIG), the Last Glacial Maximum (LGM), the Holocene Climate Optimum (HCO), the current climate envelope, and the projected envelope at the end of the 21st Century. Projections for the end of the 21<sup>st</sup> century were based on the four representative concentration pathways outlined in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's fifth assessment report. The goal of this research was to 1) generate suitable habitat models for the *S. nuttallii* species complex; and 2) to identify climatic envelopes and environmental variables restricting species occupancy and range, thus providing a guide for conservation strategies associated with this key prey species and its predators.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

We developed the initial ecological niche models for *S. nuttallii sensu lato* (as currently construed) and *sensu stricto* (this paper), to estimate their past, present, and future distributions. The Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF 2014) was used

to retrieve known occurrence data. GBIF allows free access to records from many different natural history museum specimens worldwide. Specimen records that lacked latitude/longitude points were excluded from this assessment of distribution; because we could not physically verify the species identification of all the museum-based occurrence records, those that were known to be extralimital with respect to known current range were excluded from our data analysis. The trimmed occurrence data were then georeferenced in ArcMap 10.2 (ESRI 2013) to ensure the accuracy of recorded data and that plotted points corresponded with the original locality descriptions. Duplicate records and highly correlated environmental layer values (ENMTools 1.4.3) were removed to avoid a highly skewed output. We retrieved 35 environmental variables, 19 of which are available in WorldClim (Hijmans *et al.* 2005), with the remainder from CliMond (Kriticos *et al.* 2012), as well as elevation, the latter retrieved from Data Basin (2014). The bioclimatic layers used represent a range of climate conditions needed for species survival; bioclimatic envelope layers include a range of variables such as temperature, precipitation, isothermy, and solar radiation values. We used ArcMap 10.2 to limit variables to our defined study area. We then used MaxEnt v. 3.3.3k (Phillips *et al.* 2006) to run the ecological niche models in order to estimate past, present, and future, range distributions based on the existing museum data for specimens identified as *S. nuttallii* species or taxa subsumed therein as subspecies (Appendix A). MaxEnt models are based on the maximum-entropy principle developed by Jaynes (1957) and has proven to be an accurate and reliable method for predicting range shifts and species distributions (Rissler & Apodaca 2007). We developed models covering three paleoclimate time periods,



current, and future, to assess range shifts in the species. In addition, we used four scenarios for predicted global climate change from the special report on emissions developed under the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's fifth assessment report (IPCC 2014) to assess potential range expansion or contraction for the individual subspecies contained in *S. nuttallii*. IPCC scenario 2.6 hypothesizes a mean increase of 1°C by 2100 (range 0.3°– 1.7°). IPCC scenario 4.5 hypothesizes a mean increase of 1.8°C by 2100 (1.1°– 2.6°) while scenarios 6.0 and 8.5 hypothesize mean increases of 2.2°C (1.4°– 3.1°) and 3.7°C (2.6°–4.8°) respectively.

The methods used to analyze the importance of the bioclimatic variables in MaxEnt are: 1) percentage contribution and permutation importance and 2) the jackknife test of variable importance. We used environmental variable contribution and jackknife test results to assess which bioclimatic layer was most important in limiting the range of *S. nuttallii*. Both methods use slightly different algorithms to determine variable importance. In the first test, the MaxEnt algorithm permutes values along background and training points and calculates the decrease in area under the receiver-operator curve (AUC). AUC is a measure of predictive accuracy based only on the ranking of locations and is interpreted as the probability that a presence location is ranked higher than a random point (Merow et al. 2013). The greater the decrease in value, the greater the resulting model's reliance on that bioclimatic layer. The second test uses multiple models excluding each variable in turn and creating a new model with the remaining layers. Response curves are created to show how each variable affects the outcome of the predicted range. Environmental variables that contributed less than 1% to the model

were then excluded and the model run again, there by further restricting the model and reducing the number of variables used in subsequent analyses (Calkins *et al.*, 2012; Kale *et al.*, 2013).

## RESULTS

We used a Maximum Entropy (MaxEnt) model, based on a data set of 36 distinct ecogeographic variables to construct a more detailed, accurate, and reliable habitat map for *S. nuttallii* and to predict the effects of representative IPCC concentration pathways 2.6 (Appendix B), 4.5 (Appendix C), 6.0 (Appendix D), and 8.5 (Appendix E), as well as paleoclimate data from the last interglacial (Appendix F), last glacial maximum (Appendix G), and Mid-Holocene (Appendix H) on the species' distribution. The climate model was based on climatic variables fundamental to the distribution of species (Hijmans, *et al.*, 2008). Species Distribution Maps (SDMs) of paleoclimate matched hypothesized expansion and contraction patterns as determined based on fossil data, as well as latitudinal shifts based on warming and cooling climates over time. The predicted future distributions for *S. n. nuttallii*, *S. n. pinetis* and *S.n. grangeri* were of potential conservation concern. Our models predict a major loss of habitat and distribution across all of their currently accepted range under all four IPCC models.

## VARIABLE SIGNIFICANCE AND MODEL PERFORMANCE

Our test area under curve scores were .986, .988 and .965 respectively for *S. n. nuttallii*, *S. n. pinetis* and *S.n. grangeri*. These figures indicate that the models resulting from our bioclimatic analysis based on museum specimen location data is robust and performed well using the selected variables. The AUC is a test of model performance and

works on a 0 to 1 scale with 1 being a perfect prediction score and 0.5 being completely random (Phillips and Dudik, 2008). AUC values above .95 are indicative of high accuracy and are considered to be very informative (Fielding and Bell, 1997, Elith *et al.*, 2011). The most significant variable affecting habitable ranges for *S. n. grangeri* and *S. n. pinetis* was mean diurnal temperature range; for *S. n. nuttallii* it was mean temperature of the driest quarter that was most influential, based on percent contribution and permutation importance. Models for *S. n. grangeri* identified mean diurnal temperature range as the most important variable, followed by mean temperature of the wettest quarter, elevation, and precipitation of the warmest quarter (53.7%, 20.5%, 15.1%, and 10.8% respectively). Permutation importance matched the order of percent contribution (43%, 30.8%, 13.6% and 12.6% respectively). In *S. n. nuttallii*, mean temperature of the driest quarter was the most influential in both percent contribution and permutation importance (53.2% and 71 % respectively), followed by mean temperature of the wettest quarter (25% and 9.2%), precipitation of the warmest quarter (18.5% and 18.2%), and annual temperature range (3.3% and 1.7%). For the *S. n. pinetis*, mean diurnal temperature range had the highest percent contribution (45.9%, with a permutation value of 1%) while elevation had the highest permutation (48.8%, percent contribution 40.1%) followed by minimum temperature of the coldest week (7.8% and 40.4%), annual temperature range (3.4% and 7.4%), and precipitation of the warmest quarter (2.8% and 2.5%).

The jackknife test of variable importance for the *S. n. grangeri* models show mean diurnal temperature range had the highest gain when used in isolation and is the

most informative climate variable when used alone. The *S. n. nuttallii* model's jackknife test identified mean temperature of the driest quarter as the most influential variable when used alone and therefore the most influential variable in limiting distribution. Mean diurnal temperature range was the most informative when used alone for *S. n. pinetis*, while elevation decreased the gain the most when omitted, indicating these two variables are the most influential in restricting range for that taxon.

#### PREDICTED HABITAT MAPS

We generated species distribution maps for the LIG, LGM, HCO, current, and future (RCPs 2.6, 4.5, 6.0, and 8.5) distributions of *S. n. grangeri*, *S. n. nuttallii*, and *S. n. pinetis*, illustrating suitable habitat ranges ( $\geq 0.5$  probability of presence) across the western North America. Current total suitable habitat for the species complex encompasses an area of 1,291,719 km<sup>2</sup> from southern Canada in the north to the Mogollon Rim of Arizona in the south, and from the Black Hills of South Dakota to the Cascades and Sierra Nevada mountain ranges in the west. Total suitable habitat for *S. n. grangeri*, *S. n. nuttallii*, and *S. n. pinetis*, cover 794,937 km<sup>2</sup>, 294,437 km<sup>2</sup>, and 202,343 km<sup>2</sup> respectively. The distribution of *S. n. grangeri* covers Montana and stretches southwest to southern California; *S. n. nuttallii* inhabits the high deserts of the Pacific northwest east of the Cascades; the range *S. n. pinetis* covers the higher mountainous regions of Arizona, New Mexico, and Colorado.

During the Last Interglacial period, the *S. nuttallii* species complex had a distribution covering an area of 1,443,969 km<sup>2</sup>, with each subspecies covering an area of 962,718 km<sup>2</sup>, 102,812 km<sup>2</sup>, 378,437 km<sup>2</sup> for *S. n. grangeri*, *S. n. nuttallii*, and *S. n.*

*pinetis*, respectively. The MaxEnt model covering the Last Glacial Maximum suggests that the species complex had its smallest distribution during that period, as well as the farthest south shift to its range. Collectively, the total suitable habitat covered less than a quarter of today's range, at just 289,843.8 km<sup>2</sup>. Distributional areas for the subspecies during the LGM were: *S. n. grangeri*, 192,178 km<sup>2</sup>; *S. n. nuttallii* range shifted to southern California and was reduced to 59,062 km<sup>2</sup>; *S. n. pinetis* was forced south into Mexico and its range reduced to 38,062 km<sup>2</sup>, a remarkable 90% range reduction compared to the Interglacial. Suitable habitat reached its greatest extent during the Holocene Climate Optimum, during which time the range of *S. nuttallii* covered at least 1,483,125 km<sup>2</sup>. Each of the subspecies' suitable habitat areas also were reached their largest areas during that period in all the models we ran: *S. n. grangeri* was distributed over 917,875 km<sup>2</sup>; *S. n. nuttallii* covered 255,062 km<sup>2</sup> in the Pacific Northwest; *S. n. pinetis* stretched over 310,187 km<sup>2</sup> of the southern Rocky Mountains.

Predictive models based on the IPCC5 RCPs 2.6, 4.5, 6.0, and 8.5, scenarios were less favorable to *S. nuttallii*. Total distributional areas for the species complex ranged from 997,500 km<sup>2</sup>, 1,092,656 km<sup>2</sup>, and 874,125 km<sup>2</sup>, to 779,187 km<sup>2</sup>, respectively. Model outputs for *S. n. grangeri* show subspecies ranges of 524,281 km<sup>2</sup> for RCP 2.6, 1,092,656 km<sup>2</sup> for RCP 4.5, 385,000 km<sup>2</sup> for RCP 6.0, and 316,513 km<sup>2</sup> for RCP 8.5. Suitable habitat for *S. n. nuttallii* yield 238,000 km<sup>2</sup>, 229,468 km<sup>2</sup>, 155,968 km<sup>2</sup>, and 60,375 km<sup>2</sup> for each scenario, respectively. Models for *S. n. pinetis* predict 245,218 km<sup>2</sup>, 378,656 km<sup>2</sup>, 333,156 km<sup>2</sup>, and 402,281 km<sup>2</sup>.

When considering the three sub-species combined, our modeling results indicate that 1) our model are robust and performed well with the selected variables (Fielding and Bell, 1997; Phillips and Dudik, 2008); 2) had virtually identical AUCs with our initial model; and 3) indicated a need to secure suitable habitats for conservation efforts, if not for *S. nuttallii* itself then for the predators that depend heavily on it as a food source.

## DISCUSSION

Our models show clear, taxon-specific patterns of range shifts, expansions, and contractions, in response to temporal changes in climate. The models further result in identification of predictors of the relationship between bioclimatic envelopes as determinants of range predictors for a key prey species. Bioclimate features such as daytime temperature and precipitation, as well as habitat features such as elevation, are the most restrictive factors identified by our models to *S. nuttallii*, and force range shifts over time as a result of fluctuations in climate. Our modeled range shifts of the paleoclimate match fossil record data (Harris and Hearst, 1977) which lends additional credence to the validity of our methods and models for paleo-distributional modeling of *S. nuttallii* geographic distribution.

Models for *S. n. grangeri* suggest that taxon has a definite upper and lower limit of temperature for survival across its range. This has the effect of setting northern and southern latitudinal limits on its range. Elevation and late summer rainfall further restrict distribution. Similarly, *S. n. pinetis* also has an upper and lower temperature limitation. However, elevation is a more important determinant of suitability for the habitat of this taxon. This suggests *S. n. pinetis* is a montane restricted taxon bounded by warm lower

elevations and colder alpine environments. In contrast, *S. n. nuttallii* has its range most adversely restricted by precipitation and temperature as a function of the wet and dry seasons of the Columbia Basin and Oregon plateau.

Our models for the LIG show strict boundaries between ranges of the species complex (probability  $\geq .5$ ) with virtually no overlap (i.e., parapatry), suggesting strong competitive interactions among putative subspecies. These competitive interactions at range boundaries continued until the Holocene Climate Optimum, when ranges begin to overlap in portions of the range. Following the HCO, competition once again began to affect distribution: *S. n. grangeri* began losing area to *S. n. nuttallii* in the west and to *S. n. pinetis* in the south. Future model predictions show this trend will continue as ranges shift north due to warming climates. The magnitude of suitable habitat lost to competition and climate change depends heavily on which RCP model is used. As expected, range contraction of a lesser magnitude occurs under scenario 2.6 and progressively worsens through scenario 8.5. These competitive interaction at the boundaries among the *S. nuttallii* species complex have to date not been examined and should be considered an area in need of further research using field observational data, finer scale species distribution models, and additional bioclimatic envelope layers. The specimen-based ecological niche models resulted in hypotheses of distributions for each of the subspecies currently contained in *Sylvilagus nuttallii* that suggests temporally extensive spatial segregation among the subspecies. While some degree of spatial overlap between *S. n. grangeri* and *S. n. nuttallii* is exhibited in certain of the temporally bounded models (for example, Last Interglacial; Mid-Holocene), *S. n. pinetis* appear to

be spatially discriminated from the former subspecies in all time periods explored by our models. Given the consequent potential lack of exchange of genetic material among the subspecies currently contained in *S. nuttallii*, this in turn suggests that the hypothesis of conspecificity among the putative subspecies may be compromised.

Figure 2.1

Current distribution of the *Sylvilagus nuttallii* species complex across the western U.S.

*S.n. nuttallii* is shown in blue, *S.n. grangeri* is shown in orange, and *S.n. pinetis* is in green.

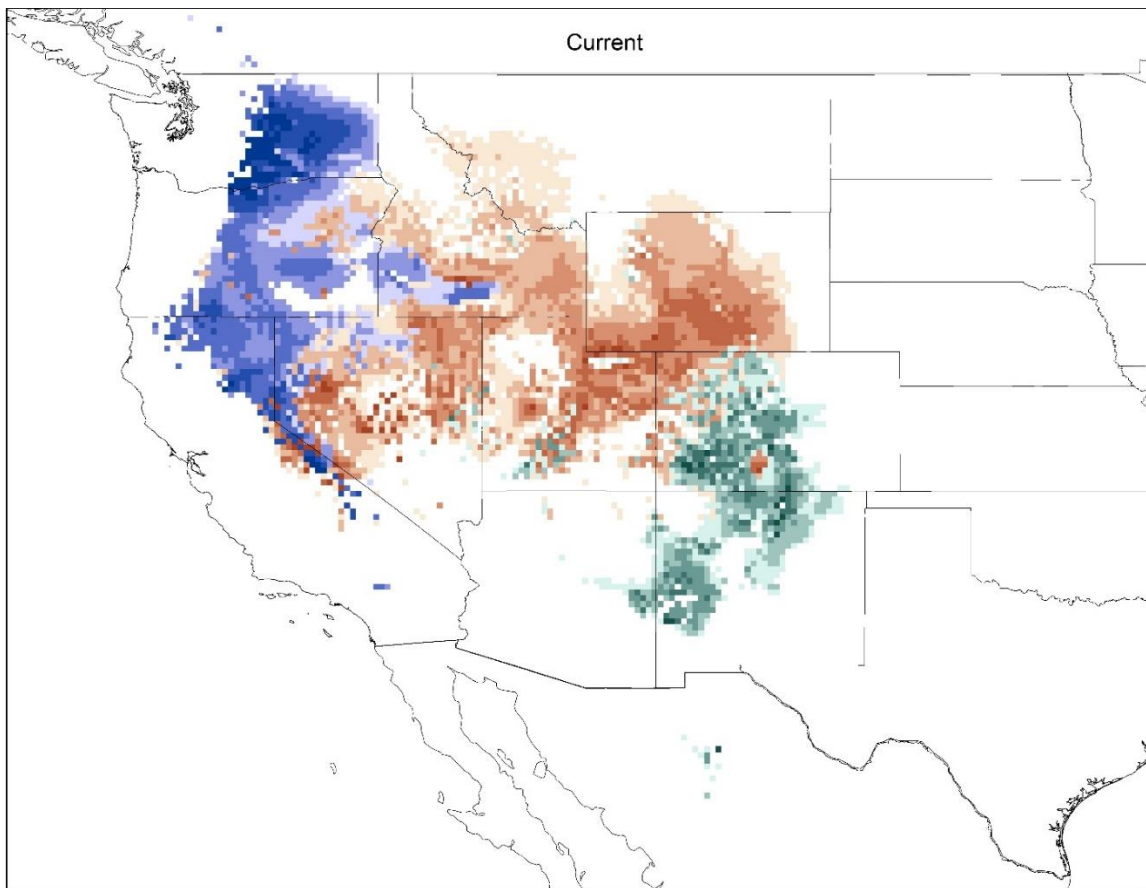




Figure 2.2

Distribution of the *Sylvilagus nuttallii* species complex during the Last Interglacial Period of the Western U.S. approximately 150,000 years ago.

*S.n. nuttallii* is shown in blue, *S.n. grangeri* is shown in orange, and *S.n. pinetis* is in green.

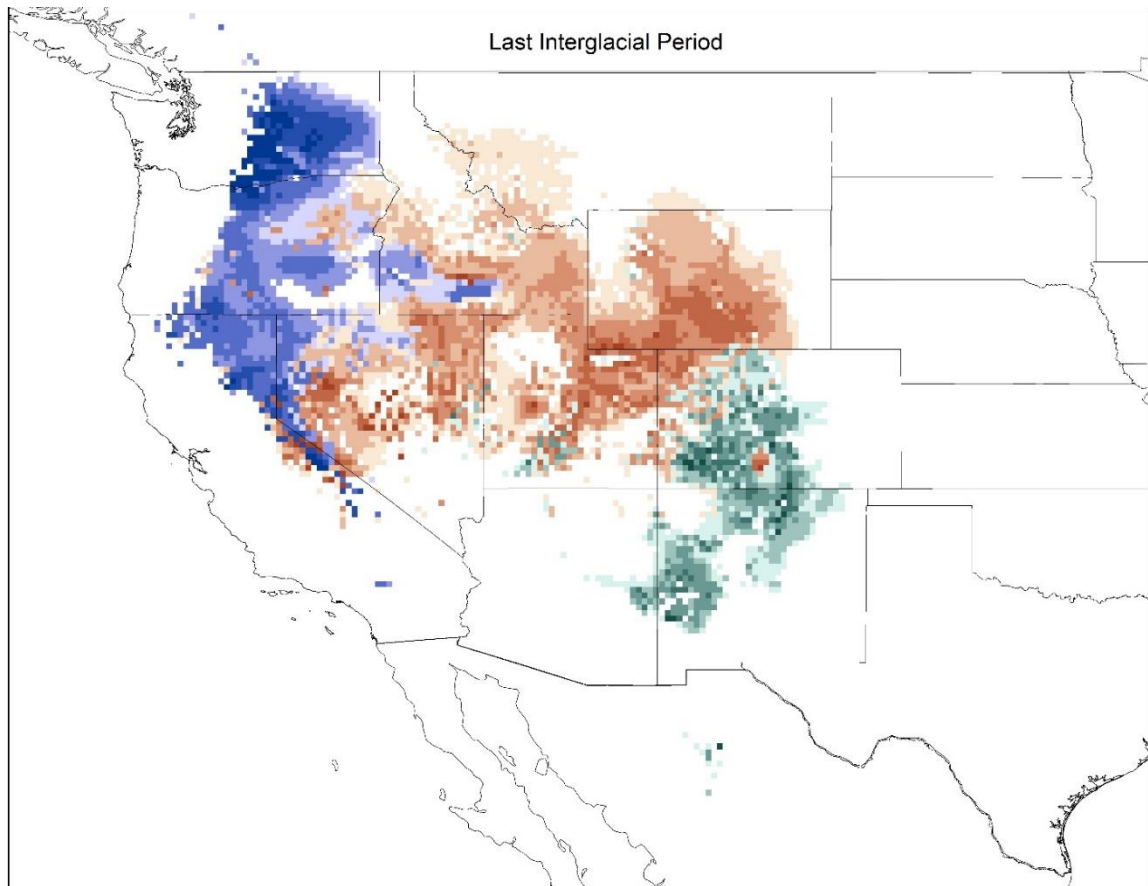


Figure 2.3

Distribution of the *Sylvilagus nuttallii* species complex during the Last Glacial Maximum approximately 12,000 years ago.

*S.n. nuttallii* is shown in blue, *S.n. grangeri* is shown in orange, and *S.n. pinetis* is in green.

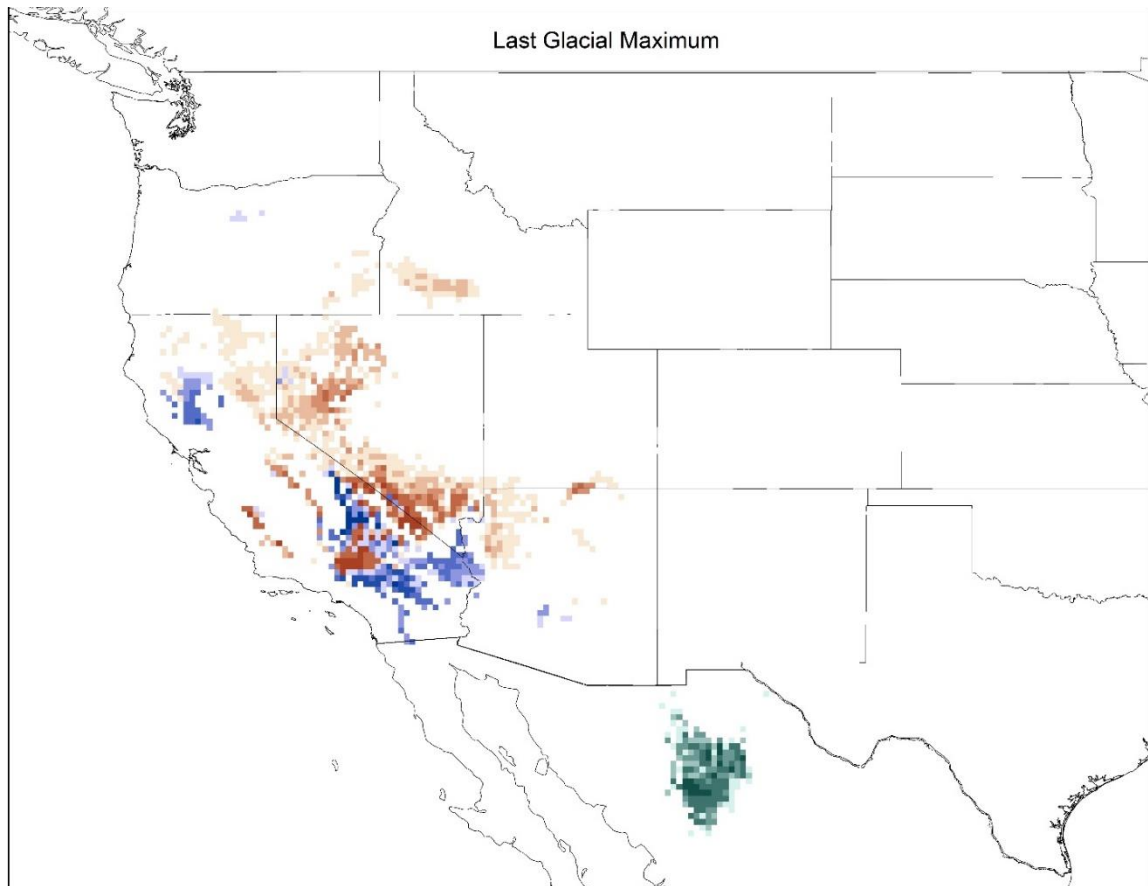


Figure 2.4

Distribution of the *Sylvilagus nuttallii* species complex during the Mid-Holocene Climate

Optimum of the Western U.S. approximately 6,000 years ago.

*S.n. nuttallii* is shown in blue, *S.n. grangeri* is shown in orange, and *S.n. pinetis* is in green.

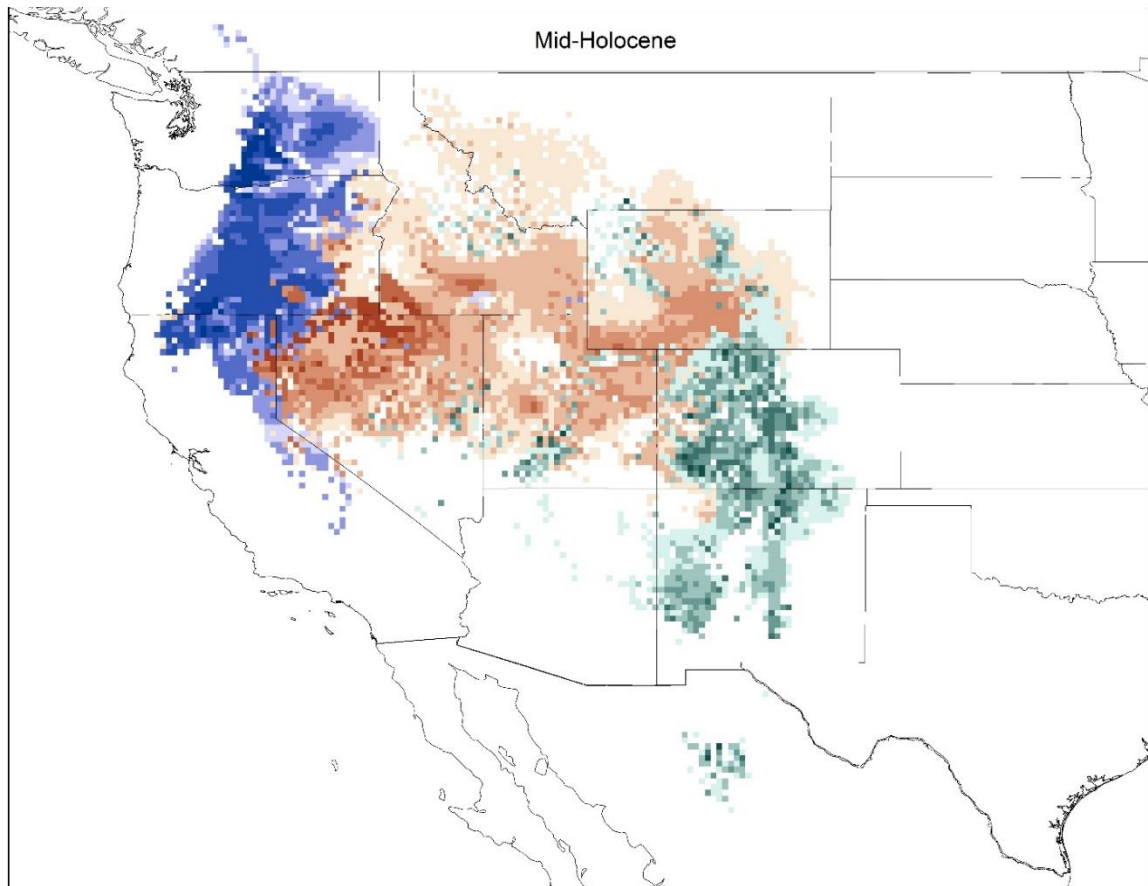


Figure 2.5

Distribution of the *Sylvilagus nuttallii* species complex under Representative Concentration Pathway 2.6. IPCC scenario 2.6 predicts a mean increase of 1°C by 2100 (range 0.3°– 1.7°).

*S.n. nuttallii* is shown in blue, *S.n. grangeri* is shown in orange, and *S.n. pinetis* is in green.

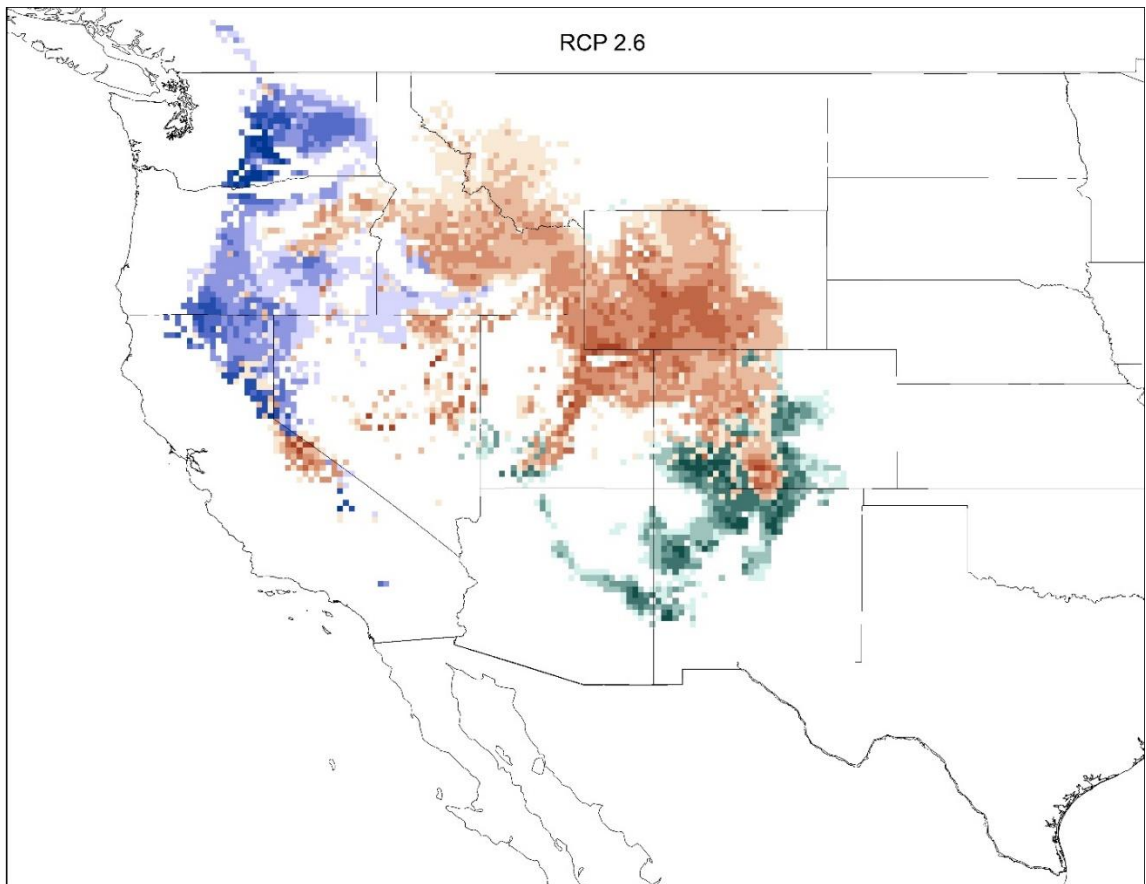


Figure 2.6

Distribution of the *Sylvilagus nuttallii* species complex under Representative Concentration Pathway 4.5. IPCC scenario 4.5 predicts a mean increase of 1.8°C by 2100 (1.1°– 2.6°).

*S.n. nuttallii* is shown in blue, *S.n. grangeri* is shown in orange, and *S.n. pinetis* is in green.

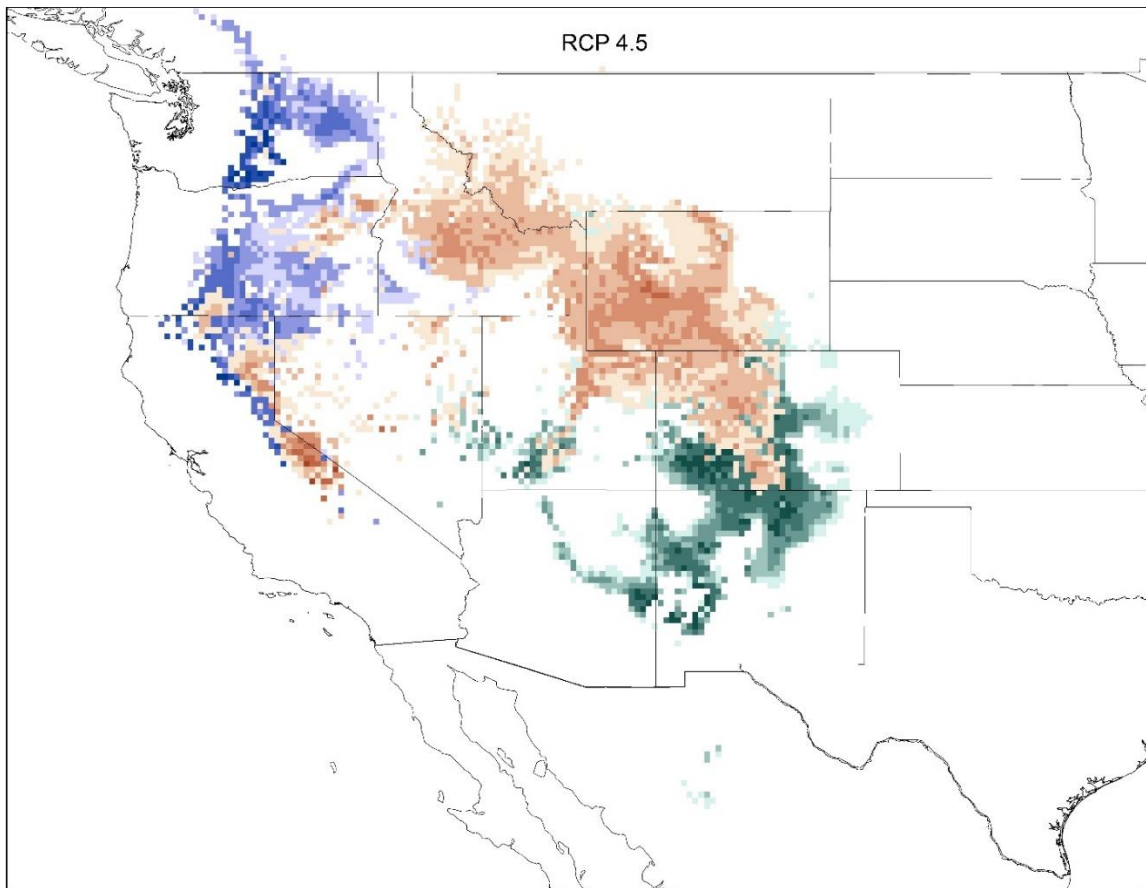


Figure 2.7

Distribution of the *Sylvilagus nuttallii* species complex under Representative Concentration Pathway 6.0 which hypothesizes a mean increase of 2.2°C (1.4°– 3.1°) by 2100.

*S.n. nuttallii* is shown in blue, *S.n. grangeri* is shown in orange, and *S.n. pinetis* is in green.

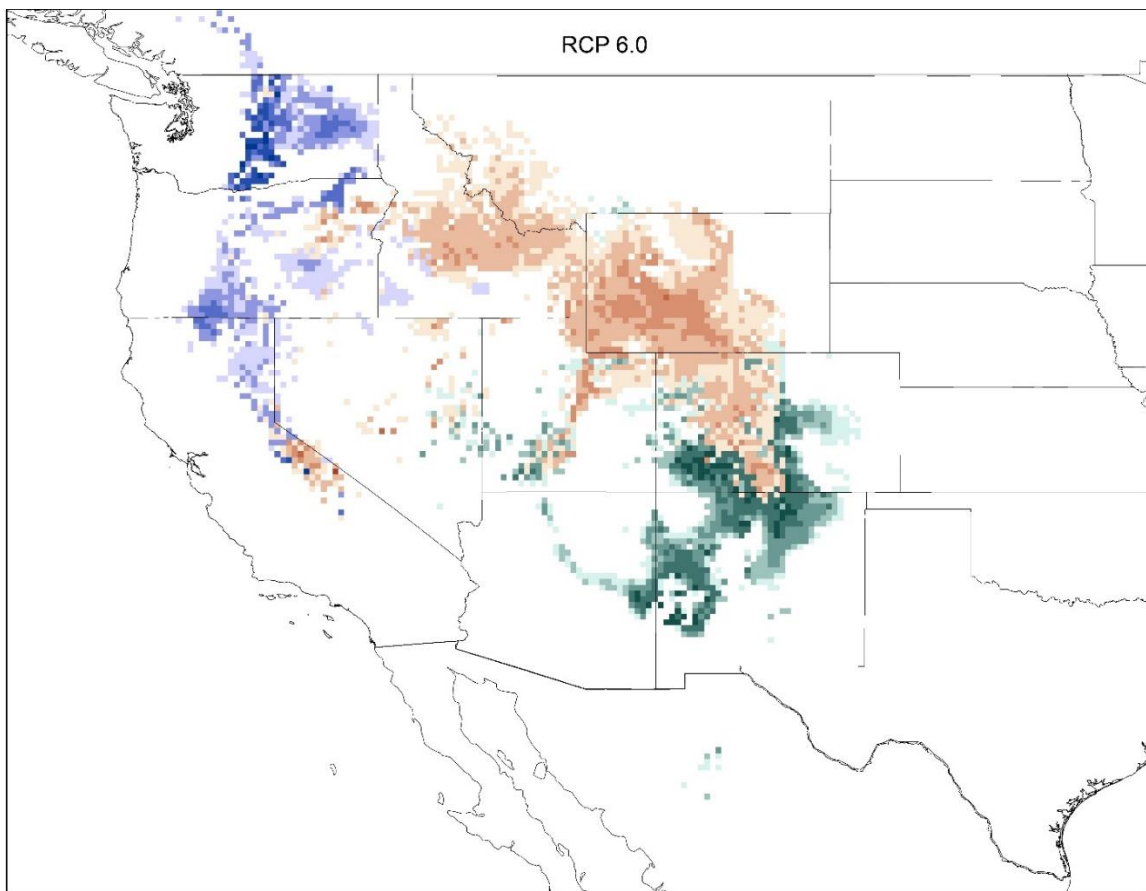
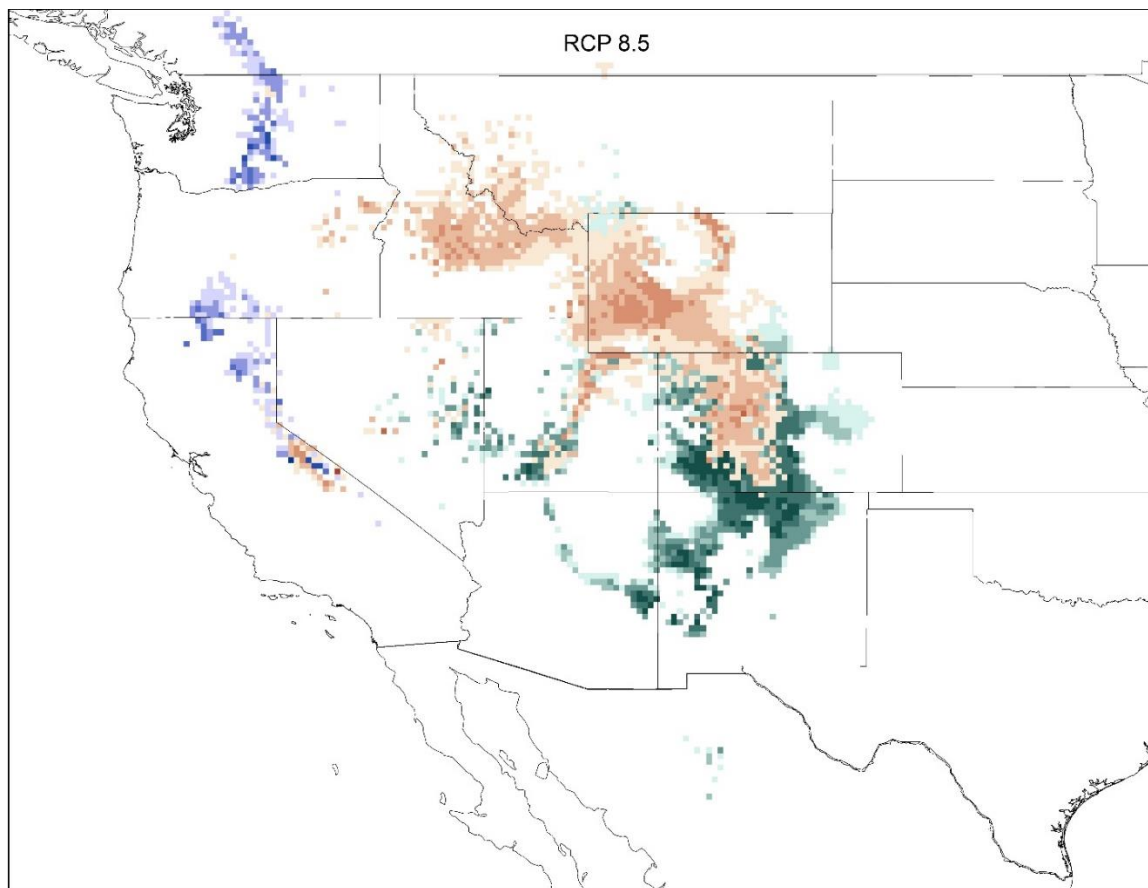


Figure 2.8

Distribution of the *Sylvilagus nuttallii* species complex under Representative Concentration Pathway 8.5 which predicts a rise in temperatures of 3.7°C (2.6°–4.8°) by 2100.

*S.n. nuttallii* is shown in blue, *S.n. grangeri* is shown in orange, and *S.n. pinetis* is in green.



## CHAPTER 3

Comparative cranial and dental morphology, with an analysis of diagnostic upper and lower premolar characteristics, of *Sylvilagus nuttallii* (Bachman, 1837) and its subspecies

### ABSTRACT

We examined 35 mensural cranial measurements, and four discrete cranial characters, as well as diagnostic characters of the second upper and third lower premolars in taxa comprising the *Sylvilagus nuttallii* (Bachman, 1837) species complex. We analyzed the holotypes and topotypical specimens, describe discrete characters, and provide an analysis of morphological variation across the species complex. Cranial morphology of Lagomorpha (rabbits, hares, and pikas) is highly conserved across extant taxa, and has been for most of the 40 million years of evolutionary history of the Order. Notwithstanding, it is the most important tool used in species differentiation. Mandibular measurements and premolar enamel ridge characters are described and used to discriminate among closely related taxa in both extinct and extant species. Mensural characteristics, cranial morphology, and odontological analysis of premolar characters definitively identify the three subspecies of *S. nuttallii* as distinct.



## INTRODUCTION

Early descriptions of Leporids were often vague and were based on general descriptions of size, locality, and external morphology; there were few if any notes on skull descriptions (Bailey, 1905). Taxonomic decisions were often assigned solely based on the locality and coloration of pelage (Cornalia, 1849[1850]; Thomas 1911). The first attempts at estimating a phylogeny of Lagomorpha were made by Dawson (1958) and Hibbard (1963) using dental morphology. Both authors found that the lower 3<sup>rd</sup> premolar (p3) and upper 2<sup>nd</sup> premolar (P2) were the most taxonomically and phylogenetically informative and character rich features when comparing or differentiating among species. Indeed, Hibbard (1963) traced the evolution of dental characters to the upper Pliocene Epoch and the now extinct †*Nekrolagus progressus*. Ancestral characters such as the trigonid and talonid basins can be found as far back as the Oligocene *Palaeolagus*, 20 million years before the emergence of *Nekrolagus* (Hibbard 1963).

Asher et al. (2005) and Meng et al. (2003) laid the modern framework for morphologically-based phylogeny of Stem Lagomorpha and Glires by analyzing 229 morphological characters of early lagomorphs. Asher et al. (2005) traced the appearance of Glires to the Cretaceous-Paleogene (K-Pg) Boundary. Rose et al. (2008) identified the earliest known leporids to ~53 mya in India. A molecular analysis by O'Leary et al. (2013) agreed with this date. However, other studies identify the emergence of Lagomorphs anywhere between 41 to 94.1 mya (Meredith et al. 2011, Murphy et al. 2007, Springer et al. 2003, Stucky and McKenna 1993) Asher et al. (2005) identified 92 cranial features useful in identifying Stem lagomorphs. However, many of those characters are primitive and found in nearly all placental mammals from the time period.

John R. Wible considered 59 cranial characters in his landmark 2007 study “*On the Cranial Osteology of the Lagomorpha*”. In that study, Wible (2007) described character differences in depth in one species from each extant family of Lagomorpha: Ochotonidae (pikas, *Ochotona princeps*) and Leporidae (rabbits, hares, and cottontails, *Romerolagus diazi*), as well as less detailed comparisons with five extant leporids and six extinct lagomorphs or taxa from allied families. Ochotonidae and Leporidae diverged ~42 mya based on the fossil record (Storer 1984). This underscores the fact that characters within Lagomorpha are highly conserved but may be useful certainly for taxonomic identification, but also, carefully considered, for identification of species relationships in a phylogenetic framework. Here, we consider closely related sister taxa currently assigned to *S. nuttallii*, and present discrete morphological characters that can be used to distinguish among the three taxa.

Recently published works on the taxonomy of the genus *Sylvilagus* in South America (Ruedas et al., 2017, and Ruedas et al., 2019) have built upon the techniques developed by Hibbard and included mensural and discrete cranial characteristics along with detailed analysis of premolar dentition in order to elucidate differences among taxa similarly once considered conspecific. Those descriptions, along with molecular data (see Chapter 3) were used in an integrative framework in order to assess the taxonomic status of these taxa. Here we use the same methods and framework to assess the taxonomic status of taxa constituting the *S. nuttallii* species complex.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

Specimens examined:

*S.n.nuttalli* ANSP382 (juv) (holotype), *S.n.grangeri* AMNH7403, *S.n.grangeri* AMNH7400, *S.n.grangeri* AMNH9094/7402 (holotype), *S.n.grangeri* AMNH7399, *S.n.grangeri* AMNH7401 (juv), *S.n.pinetis* AMNH7335, *S.n.pinetis* AMNH125929, *S.n.pinetis* AMNH 9041/7336 (holotype), *S.n.nuttalli* AMNH40889, *S.n.nuttalli* AMNH33605

Cranial morphology, features, and characters generally follow the terminology of Ruedas et al. (2017, 2019), Wible (2007), and Ruedas (1998). Dental morphology was adapted from but follows the terminology outlined in Ruedas et al. (2017), Angelone and Sesé (2009), López-Martínez et al. (2007), Wible (2007), Ruedas (1998), Dalquest et al. (1989) and Hibbard (1963). Drawings of P2 and p3 were created by tracing photographs taken with a Canon EOS 30D digital camera mated to a Canon MP-E 65 mm f/2.8 1-5X Macro Photo lens and tripod. While size was not ignored during our examinations, discrete characters were considered most important and informative for the purposes of this study; accordingly, photographs of teeth and skulls were re-sized to allow for a more accurate size free comparisons.

The dental characters are considered the most informative insofar as taxonomic identification and morphology-based phylogenetic analysis are concerned for Lagomorphs, and in particular, characters of the leporid is p3. Characters from this tooth have been used to good effect for systematic and taxonomic purposes (Hibbard 1963; Dalquest 1979; Dalquest et al. 1989; Ruedas 1998; Ruedas et al. 2017, 2019). Characters considered in the analysis of p3 include the condition and gross morphology of anteroflexid, lingual and labial anteroconid of the anterior lobe, trigonid basin, paraflexid,

protoflexid, metaconid, protoconid, and central angle of the anterior loph, as well as the hypoflexid, entoconid, hypoconid, and talonid basin on the caudal portion of the tooth. Also considered was the condition of the enamel in each of the previously mentioned characters. Characters, gross morphology and conditions considered in the analysis of P2 included the enamel, anterior cusp, mesoflexus, paraflexus, lagicone, postcone, mesial hypercone, hypoflexus, metaflexus, distal hypercone, poststyle, and distal hyperloph.

Cranial characters used in morphological examination are defined in, and generally follow Ruedas et al. (2017; 2019), Wible (2007), Asher et al. (2005), and Ruedas (1998); novel characters are defined below. Characters include: greatest length of skull, superior orbital length, postorbital process, antorbital process, zygomatic breadth at spine, greatest breadth of zygomatic arch, zygomatic length, dorsoventral depth of zygomatic arch, breadth of braincase, width at exoccipital bones, length of bullae, width of bullae, interorbital breadth, height of rostrum, width of rostrum, rostrocaudal length of incisive foramina, width of incisive foramina, length of palatal bridge, width of choana at first molar, breadth of alisphenoid constriction, alveolar length of maxillary tooth row, length of upper and lower diastema, length of dentary tooth row, height of mandible to p3 alveolus, height of mandible to m3 alveolus, breadth of mandible at articular head, breadth of mandible to masseteric line, greatest length of mandible to pterygoid tuberosity, greatest length of mandible to articular head, greatest length of nasal bones, combined width of nasals, lacrimal spine breadth, greatest height of skull from basisphenoid to frontal, and height of skull from palatal to frontal (Figures 1-4).

Specimens analyzed are listed in Appendix I.

## RESULTS

The holotype of *S. n. nuttallii* (ANSP 382) is of a juvenile; the skin has been lightly taxidermied, with glass eyes placed in the skin. The skull is not fully cleaned and is laterally crushed, leaving the frontonasal suture disarticulated and the nasal bones elevated above the frontals. The caudal end of the skull is missing behind the parietals. The mandible is still attached to the skull with dried tissue, making examination of the dental crowns impossible. The right side of the mandible body is fractured completely through at the premolars. Because of these factors, a more meaningful comparison is to undertake a comparison among adult topotypical and other holotypes of adult specimens representing remaining taxa currently construed to be subspecies of *S. n. nuttallii*.

A notable and obvious size difference is apparent between *S. n. pinetis* and remaining sub-species. The southern *S. n. pinetis* is nearly 6 mm longer when comparing the greatest length of skull (66.6 mm, v. 60.6 mm for *S. n. grangeri*, and 61.3 mm for *S. n. nuttallii*). In the dorsal view, moderate pitting is present on the frontals and parietals of *S. n. nuttallii*. In contrast, light pitting is present in a narrow band near the squamosal suture and absent on the frontals of both *S. n. pinetis* and *S. n. grangeri* (Fig. 5). The frontonasal suture of *S. n. nuttallii* forms a diamond shaped point on the caudad end. The well-defined medial and lateral angles are nearly parallel across the transverse plane. The rostral inflection extends to, or just beyond, the zygomatic process of the maxilla. In *S. n. grangeri*, the caudad end of the suture is broadly circular. The rostral inflection extends well beyond the zygomatic process. In *S. n. pinetis* the frontonasal suture extends caudally along the lateral edge before angling rostrally to the medial margin of a

long sharp rostral inflection. As in *S. n. grangeri*, the rostral inflection extends well beyond the zygomatic process of the maxilla (Figs. 6–8). The external occipital protuberance (EOP) of *S. n. nuttallii* has well defined nearly 90° lateral angles and runs parallel to the frontal plane to a medial crest extending toward the foramen magnum. *Sylvilagus n. grangeri* has a diamond shaped EOP with well-defined lateral angles that meet in a medial crest well below the frontal plane of the angles. *Sylvilagus n. pinetis* also has a medial crest which extends toward the foramen magnum; however, the EOP is broadly ovoid and lacks well defined lateral angles (Figs. 9–11). The lateral and ventral views of the skulls are similar in conformation (Figs. 12–14).

The lower third premolar (p3) is diagnostically distinct in most species of *Sylvilagus*; for taxa in the *S. n. nuttallii* species complex, this is no different. *Sylvilagus n. nuttallii* has enamel that rings the anterior loph from the hypoflexid to the posterior edge of the lingual anteroconid, whereas *S. n. grangeri* and *S. n. pinetis* has the entire anterior loph ringed with enamel. The rostral surface of p3 in *S. n. nuttallii* displays an unremarkable *Sylvilagus* anteroflexid and protoflexid, but lacks a paraflexid on the labial side. The central angle anterior to the hypoflexid is somewhat sharply angled. The lingual edge of the metaconid lacks enamel. *Sylvilagus n. pinetis* has a similar protoflexid, however, it also has a sharp, deep paraflexid and a double anteroflexid separated by a medial anteroconid that lacks enamel. The labial anteroconid is crenellated along the rostral edge. It has a well-defined central angle protruding into the hypoflexid. The entire edge of the entire anterior loph, excluding the medial anteroconid, displays enamel. In contrast, *S. n. grangeri* lacks an anteroflexid, displaying only a small

invagination into the enamel. The paraflexid is large and rounded. The rostral surface of the hypoflexid, lingual to the central angle, displays strong crenellations. The metaconid, lingual anteroconid, labial anterconid and protoconid display enamel (Figure 16).

Morphological comparison of the second upper premolar (P2) reveals noticeable differences across members of the species complex. The rostral and lingual edges have well defined enamel. *Sylvilagus n. pinetis* lacks a mesoflexus, where it is well defined in *S. n. nuttallii*, and only a small invagination is present in *S. n. grangeri*. The paraflexus of *S. n. grangeri* has a crenellated anterior surface where it is smooth in its sister taxa (Figure 15).

Principal component analysis of cranial measurements underscores the degree of morphological variation among the taxa. Three quarters of variation is explained in the first three principal components. These provide clear, well defined separation of species (Figure 17). More than 90% of the variation was accounted for in the first five principal components. All variation was accounted for by PC8 (Table 1).

Figure 3.1

Dorsal view of skull and the measurements taken. 1., Greatest Length of Skull, 2., Superior Orbital Length, 3., Posterior Orbital Process, 4., Anterior Orbital Process, 9., Breadth of Braincase, 13., Interorbital Breadth, 15., Width of Rostrum, 31., Length of Nasals, 32., Width of Nasals , 33., Lacrimal Spine Breadth.

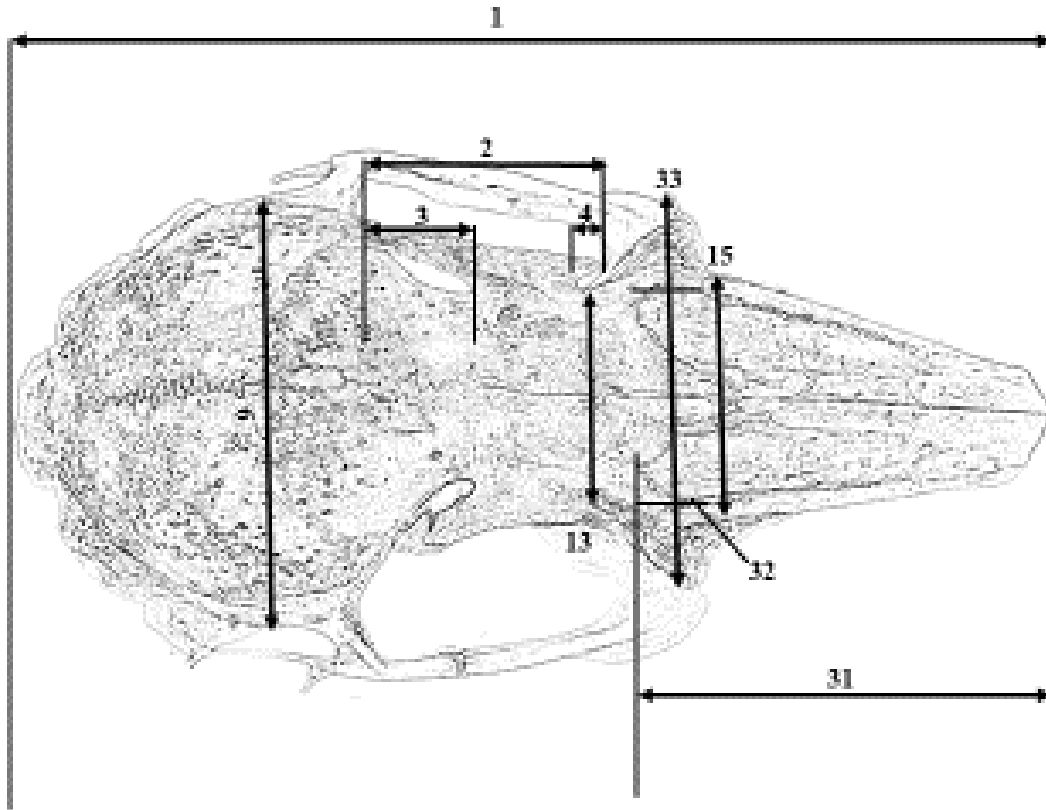




Figure 3.2

Ventral view of skull and the measurements. 5., Zygomatic Breadth at Spine, 6., Greatest Breadth of Zygomatic, 7., Zygomatic Length, 10., Width at Exoccipital Bones, 12., Width of Bullae 16., Rostrocaudal Length of Incisive Formina, 17., Width of Incisive Foramina, 18., Length of Palatal Bridge, 19., Width of Choana at First Molar, 20., Breadth of Alisphenoid Constriction, 21., Alveolar Length of Maxillary Tooth Row

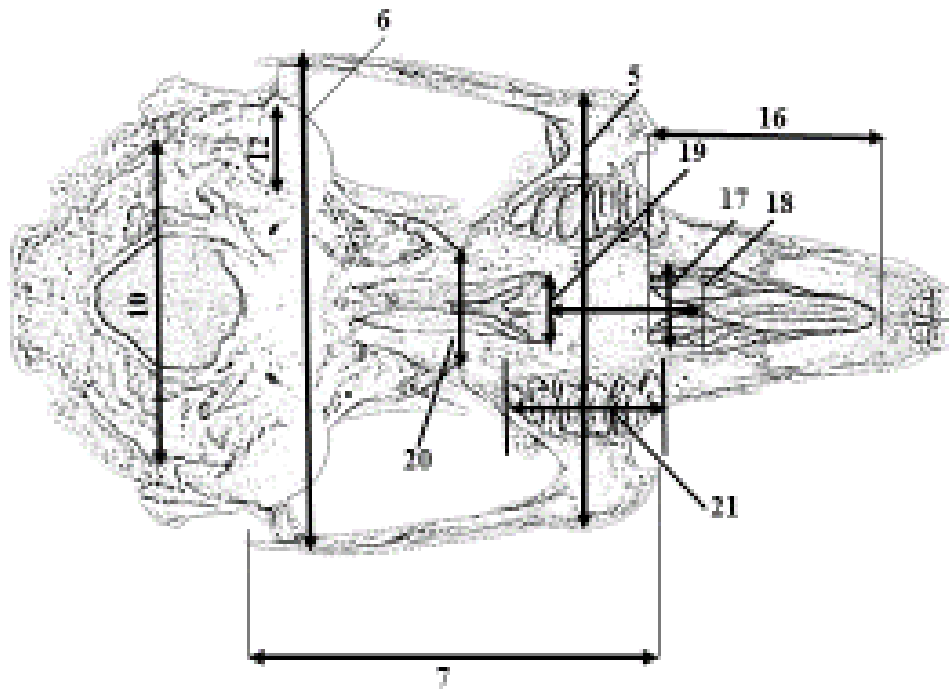


Figure 3.3

Mandibular measurements taken for principal component analysis. 23., Length of Denterary Tooth Row, 24., Height of Mandible to p3, 25., Height of Mandible to m3, 26., Breadth of mandible to Articular Head,

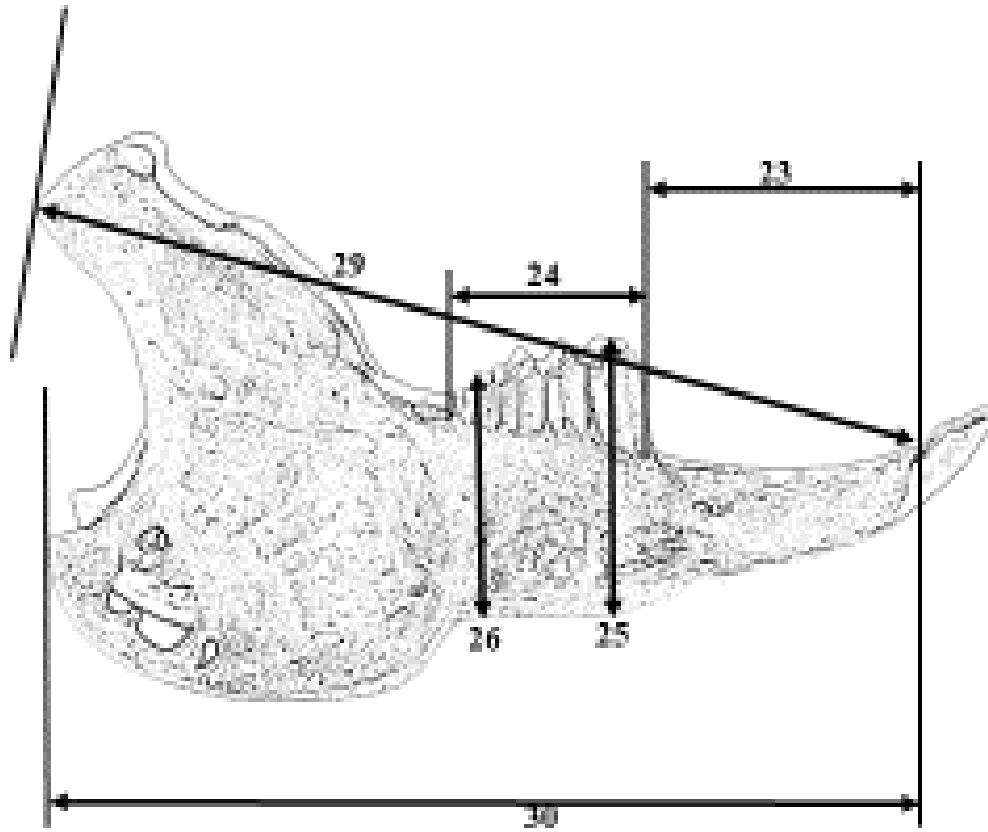


Figure 3.4

Dorsal view of *Sylvilagus nuttallii* subspecies holotypes and the proposed neotype. *S.n. nuttallii*'s holotype is a juvenile.

*S. n. grangeri*

*S. n. nuttallii*

*S. n. pinetis*



Figure 3.5  
Frontonasal suture of *S.n. grangeri* topotypes.

*Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri* frontonasal suture

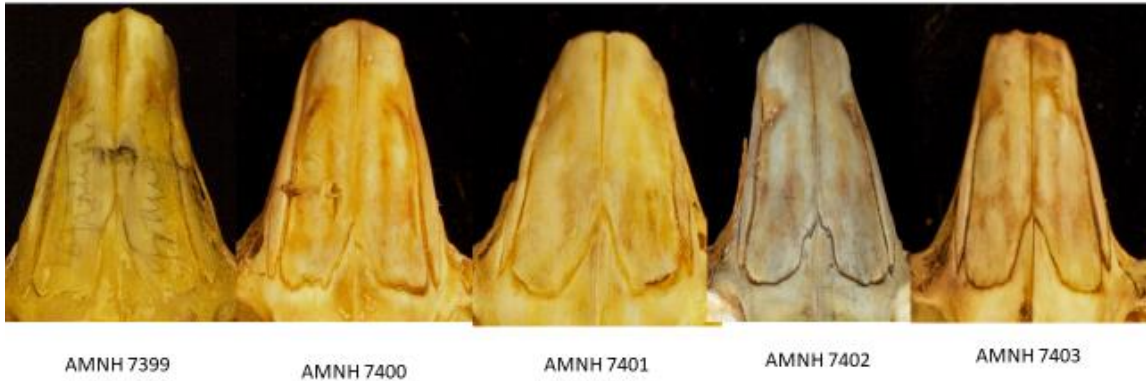


Figure 3.6  
Frontonasal suture of *S.n. nuttallii* topotypes.

*Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii* frontonasal suture

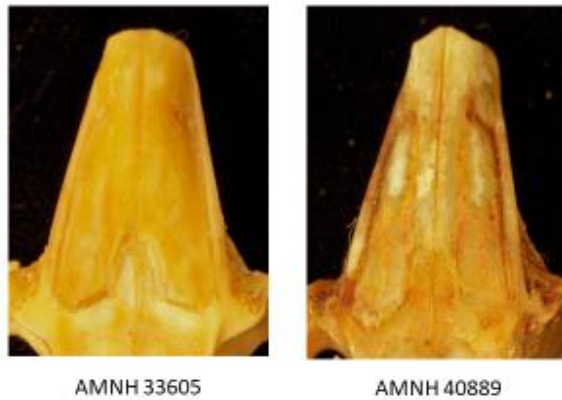


Figure 3.7  
Frontonasal suture of *S.n. pinetis* topotypes.

*Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis* frontonasal suture

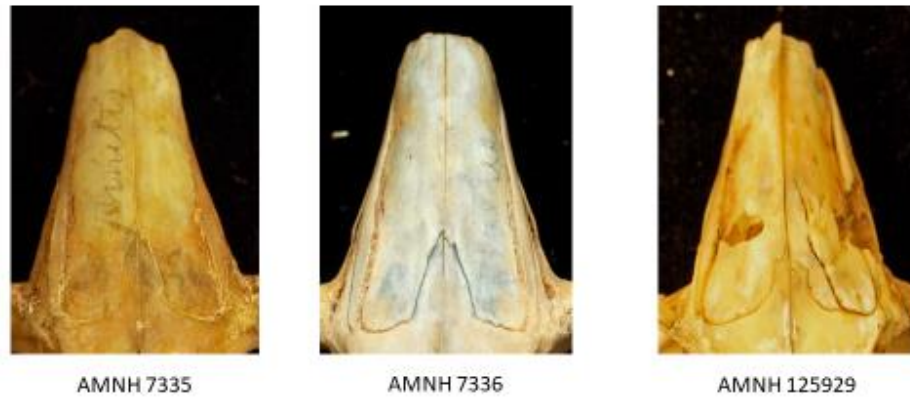


Figure 3.8  
Caudad view of the external occipital protuberance found on the holotype and topotypes of *S.n. grangeri*.

*Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri* external occipital protuberance

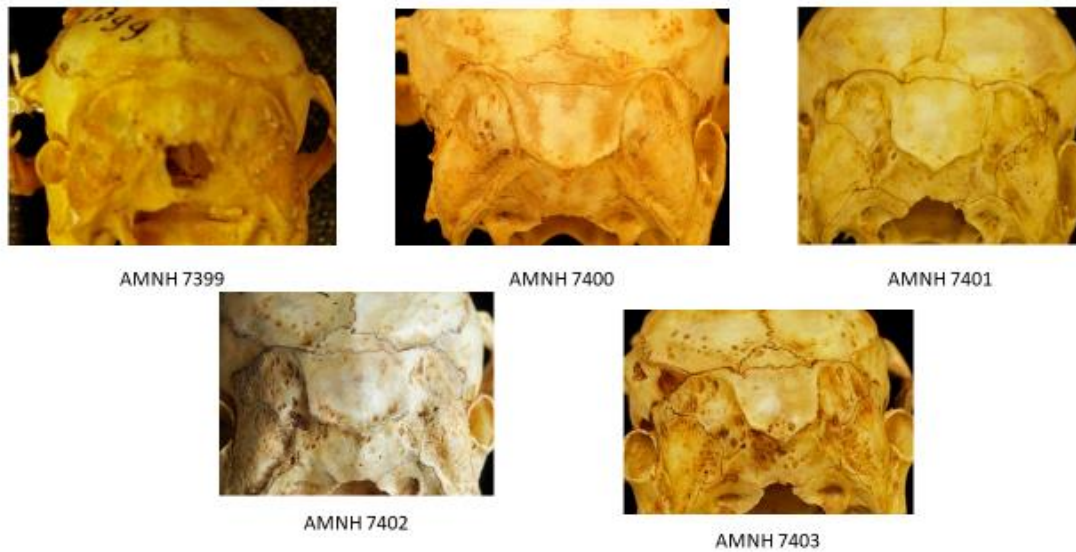
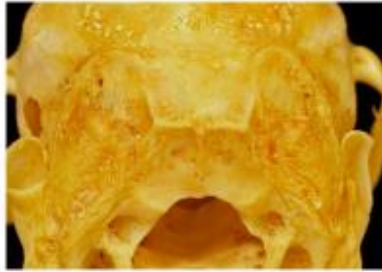


Figure 3.9  
Caudad view of the external occipital protuberance found on topotypes of *S.n. nuttallii*.

*Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii* external occipital protuberance



AMNH 33605



AMNH 40889

Figure 3.10  
Caudad view of the external occipital protuberance found on the holotype and topotypes of *S.n. pinetis*.

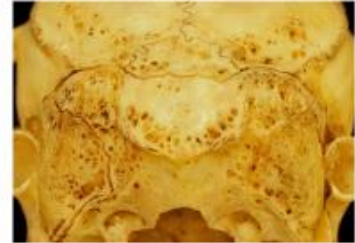
*Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis* external occipital protuberance



AMNH 7335



AMNH 7336



AMNH 125929

Figure 3.11

Ventral view of the holotypes and proposed neotype of the *Sylvilagus nuttallii*.

S. n. grangeri

S. n. nuttallii

S. n. pinetis



Figure 3.12

Left lateral view of the holotypes and proposed neotype of the *Sylvilagus nuttallii*.

S. n. grangeri

S. n. nuttallii

S. n. pinetis



Figure 3.13

Right lateral view of the holotypes and proposed neotype of the *Sylvilagus nuttallii*.

S. n. grangeri

S. n. nuttallii

S. n. pinetis

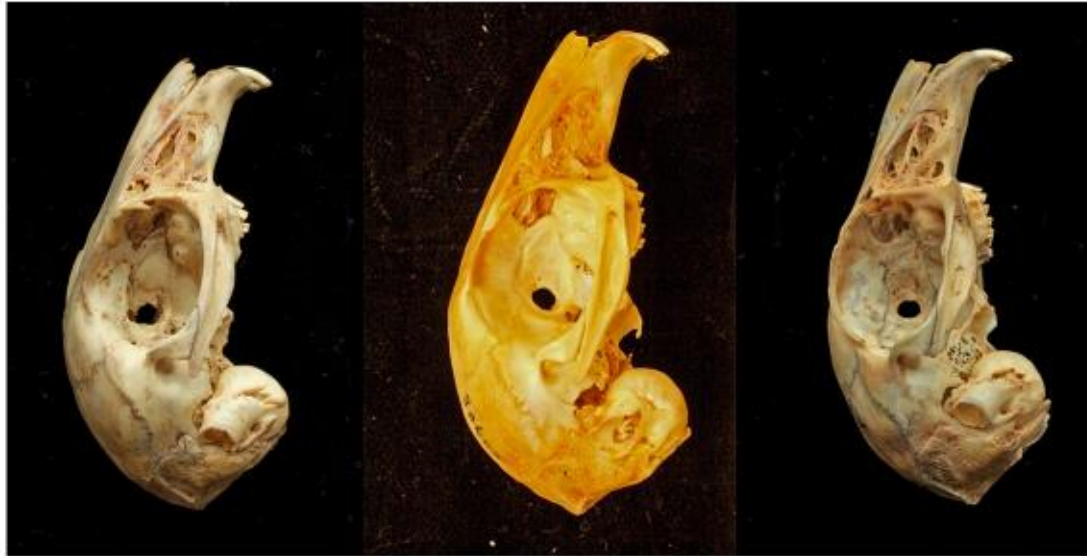


Figure 3.14

Side by side comparison of the 2<sup>nd</sup> upper pre-molar of *Sylvilagus nuttallii*.

P2 side by side comparison



S.n. grangeri holotype AMNH  
9094/7402 Female  
*Lepus sylvaticus grangeri* J.A. Allen  
11 Aug 1894  
Hill City, Custer County, SD  
W.W. Granger, # 292/1533  
Bull. Am. Mus. Nat. Hist. 7: 2654,  
Aug 21, 1895



S.n. pinetis holotype AMNH  
9041/7336 Male  
*Lepus sylvaticus pinetis* J.A.  
Allen 14 Aug 1894  
S Mount Ord, White Mtns,  
Apache Co, AZ  
B.C. Condit #2593  
Bull. Am. Mus. Nat. Hist. 6:  
348, Dec 7, 1894



S.n. nuttallii (designated  
neotype) AMNH 33605  
Female  
Ironsides, Malheur Co.,  
Oregon



Figure 3.15

Side by side comparison of the 3<sup>rd</sup> lower pre-molar of *Sylvilagus nuttallii*.

p3 side by side comparison

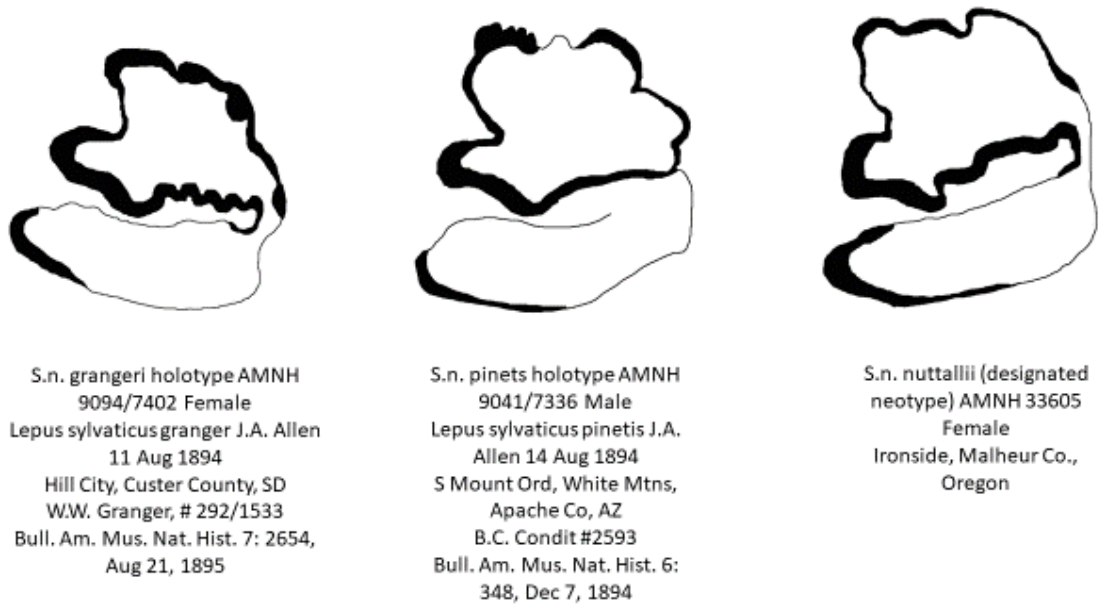


Figure 3.16 Principal component analysis of holotype and topotype skull measurements of the *Sylvilagus nuttallii* species complex. *S.n. pinetis* is shown in blue, *S.n. nuttallii* is shown in green, and *S.n. grangeri* is shown in red.

Scatter plot of PC1, PC2, and PC3

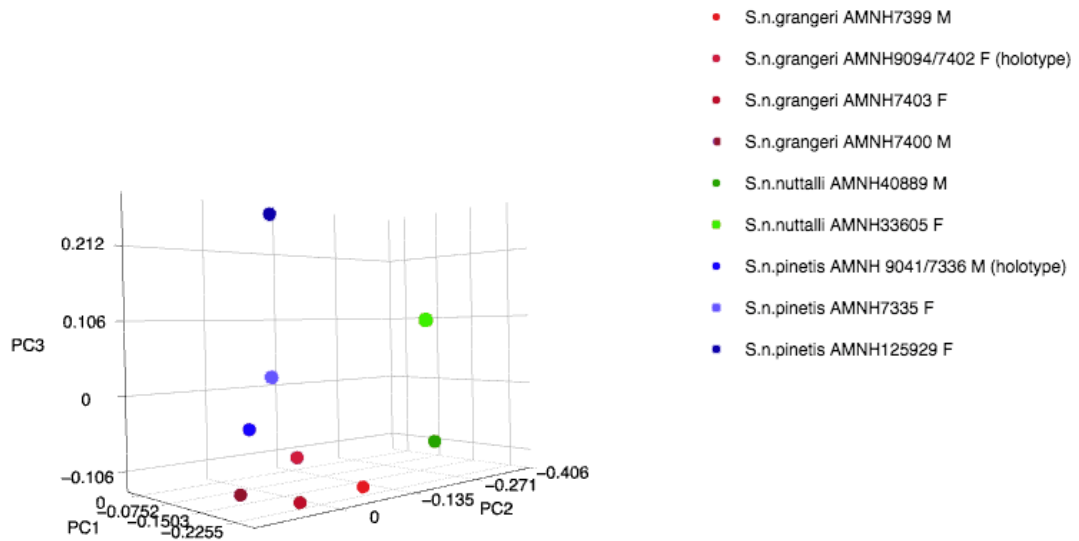


Table 3.1  
 Amount of variation accounted for during principal component analysis of *Sylvilagus nuttallii* skull shape and size

|            | PC1     | PC2     | PC3     | PC4     | PC5     | PC6     | PC7     | PC8     | PC9 |
|------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-----|
|            | 0.53177 | 0.14180 | 0.10880 | 0.07265 | 0.05224 | 0.04281 | 0.02925 | 0.02065 |     |
| Individual | 5       | 5       | 6       | 5       | 5       | 3       | 1       | 2       | 0   |
| Cumulative | 0.53177 | 0.67357 | 0.78238 | 0.85504 | 0.90728 | 0.95009 | 0.97934 |         |     |
|            | 5       | 9       | 5       |         | 4       | 7       | 8       | 1       | 1   |

## Chapter 4

Evolutionary relationships among the three subspecies of *Sylvilagus nuttallii* (Bachman 1837) derived from genetic analysis of Cytochrome *b*

### ABSTRACT

Molecular phylogeny of the *Sylvilagus nuttallii* species complex was inferred using mitochondrial cytochrome *b* (*cytb*) gene extracted from topotype specimens to determine conspecificity of the three subspecies. When analysed alone, monophyly with well differentiated subspecies could be argued of the species complex. However, when other *Sylvilagus* species are included in the analysis it is clear *S. n. grangeri* is a sister taxa of *S. n. pinetis*. *S. n. nuttallii* is basal to the sister groups of *S. n. grangeri* and *S. n. pinetis*. We therefore recommend excising the subspecies nomial and elevating the taxa to species status.

## INTRODUCTION

The term “genetic” been used since the early 1830’s as a descriptive term for the origins of a species (Bateson 2002). The concept of genetics as a realm of biological sciences traces its origin to the well-known studies of Gregor Mendel and his pea plants, which led to the lost, then found Laws of Mendelian Inheritance (Butler 2010). William Bateson, a champion of Mendel’s work, used the term genetics as a noun in 1905 giving us the form we know today (Bateson 2002). Simpson in 1943 and Dobzhansky in 1950 began laying the ground work for what would become the genetic species concept. It wasn’t until 1957 that the idea of a genetic species concept was proposed and described as a species being nothing more than a field for the exchange of genetic material and the recombination of genes (Carson 1957). Since then a contentious debate has ensued (Mayr 1959, 1963, 1981, 1992, Dobzhansky 1970, Coyne et al. 1988, Chandler and Gromko 1989, Masters and Spencer 1989, Mallet 1995, Bradley and Baker 2001, Baker and Bradley 2006) on how to define it, its tempo and mode, the underlying processes, speciation mechanisms and more.

With the publication of Bradley and Baker’s “A Test of the Genetic Species Concept: Cytochrome-*b* Sequences and Mammals” mammalogists finally had a concept that was workable, understandable, and could be applied across the board to differentiate between closely related species using genetic sequencing. In 2006 Baker and Bradley followed up their hallmark work with a proposed definition and explanation of the genetic species concept that is used today. In that work, they recognize the importance of vouchered museum specimens and the morphological value they hold. They conclude

there is substantial evidence supporting more than 2000 morphologically cryptic mammalian species worldwide. According to latest estimates, there are only 6399 extant mammal species (Burgin et al. 2018). Given those numbers, nearly a third of all extant mammals are yet to be described. Here we present data on three proposed species that fall into the morphologically cryptic 30% category.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

Tissue samples were collected from topotype specimens over the course of two field seasons. Field locations in Oregon were centered on 44.90, -117.26 and 43.58, -118.26. The South Dakota location was centered on 44.18, -103.26. The Arizona field sites were centered on 35.05, -111.40 and 34.09, -109.52. DNA was extracted using a Qiagen DNeasy Blood and Tissue kit using the manufacturer's recommendations. We used Cyt-B1F (5'-CAT CGT TGT TTT CAA CTA TAA GAA CC-3') and Cyt-B5R (5'-GGC CAG GGT AAT GAA TTA TAC TAC T-3') as primers for PCR amplification. Life technologies Taq PCR DNA polymerase PCR kit was used for PCR preparation. Final product for PCR was 2.5uL buffer, 1uL MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 0.5 uL Cyt-B1F, 0.5uL Cyt-b5R, 1 uL dNTPs, and 0.2 uL taq with a total volume of 25 uL. PCR cycling protocol was as follows: 94°C for 3 minutes, followed by 40 cycles of 94° C for 45 seconds, 52° C for 30 seconds, and 72° C for 90 seconds, and finished at 72° C for 10 minutes. All PCR products were purified using a QIAquick PCR purification kit.

### *Maximum likelihood analyses*

Sequencing was performed by Oregon Health Sciences University's sequencing laboratory using their protocols. Sequence alignments were conducted using Clustal X, version 2.0 (Larkin et al. 2007) using default values. Final alignments were adjusted

using Mesquite 3.02 (Maddison and Maddison 2015). Maximum likelihood (ML) analysis of the *cytb* gene was conducted using RAxML 8.2.4 (Stamatakis 2014). We performed 1000 replicate ML searches to assess clade confidence with 1000 bootstrap pseudoreplicates. Phylogenetic analysis was rooted using the *Sylvilagus* sister taxon *Brachylagus idahoensis* (Mathee et al. 2004)

#### *Phylogenetic analyses*

Cytochrome b (*cytb*) and 12S rRNA (12S) sequences were, respectively, aligned with other sequences available in the Genbank in Clustal W implemented in Bioedit v.7 (Thompson et al. 1994; Hall et al. 2011). Since most *Sylvilagus* specimens already sequenced had only one or the other fragment available, three sets of data were analyzed to a better level of comprehension for the phylogenetic relationships of the new data and other *Sylvilagus* representatives: *cytb*; 12S and *cytb*+12S (Table 1). Sequences for other leporids, *Ochotona princeps* and *Tamias striatus* were added as outgroup for the phylogenetic analyses (Table 1). For each dataset, the best-fitted partition set and respective models of substitution were chosen by PartitionFinder (Lanfear et al. 2012), using the Bayesian Information Criterion (BIC). *Cytb* was divided in three partitions, with the following models of evolution – K80+I+G; HKY+I+G and GTR+G; and 12S data set most likely evolved under a GTR+I+G model; both for the single locus and multilocus data sets.

MRBAYES v. 3.2.5 (Huelsenbeck and Ronquist 2001; Ronquist et al. 2012) was used to infer the phylogenetic relationships for both *cytb* and 12S data sets, running 1.2 and 1.0 million generations, respectively. For visualization purposes, neighbor joining trees for subsets of *cytb* and 12S datasets, comprising only *S. nuttallii*, *S. audubonii*, *S.*

*floridanus* and *S. robustus* sequences, were combined in a supernetwork after 1000 runs in SplitsTree v. 4.14.6 (Huson et al. 2004; Huson and Bryant 2006).

BEAST v.2.4.7 (Bouckaert et al. 2014) was used to estimate divergence times using the cytb+12S dataset. Following the review by Ruedas et al. (2017), two calibration points were used. The diversification of *Sylvilagus* was set at  $4\pm 1$  million years ago (MYA;  $M=1.4$  and  $S=0.1$ ) and for *Lepus* at  $4.5\pm 1$  MYA ( $M=1.5$  and  $S=0.1$ ). After initial runs to allow for tuning of the run operators (Drummond and Rambaut 2007; Bouckaert et al. 2014), a run of  $10^9$  generations was obtained based on an uncorrelated lognormal relaxed clock model (Drummond and Rambaut 2007) and a calibrated Yule model as priors. Clock models were linked, and clock rates were estimated based on the calibration points set and a gamma distribution with  $\alpha=0.001$  and  $\beta=1000$  was set as prior distribution for the overall clock model. This analysis was run in the CIPRES Science Gateway v. 3.3 (<http://www.phylo.org>). TreeAnnotator, part of the BEAST package, was used to summarize the resulting trees and target the maximum clade credibility tree. Final trees from MrBAYES and BEAST were visualized in FigTree, v. 1.4.2 (<https://github.com/rambaut/figtree/>).

#### *Genetic distances*

Pairwise genetic distances were calculated in MEGA v. 10.0.5 (Kumar et al. 2018), comparing the new DNA sequences for putative *S. nuttallii nuttallii* (01 and 03), *S. n. grangeri* (05 and 06) and *S. n. pineti* (07) and sequences for representatives of the following species: *S. nuttalli* (putatively from the same species), *S. audubonii* (closely related with *S. nuttallii*, both likely comprising complex of species; Ruedas et al. 2017;

Silva et al. 2019), *S. floridanus* and *S. robustus* (according to the phylogenetic analyses here performed, these two species seem to be the most closely related taxa to the new samples; Fig. 1-3). A Kimura 2-parameter model (Kimura 1980) was considered and all positions containing gaps and missing data were excluded from the analysis.

## RESULTS

### *Phylogenetic analyses*

As expected given the different composition of both datasets, cytb and 12S recovered slightly different phylogenetic relationships for the new DNA sequences and other, previously sequenced *Sylvilagus* species (Fig. 1 and 2, respectively). However, in both phylogenetic inferences, new sequences from the same putative *S. nuttallii* subspecies grouped together, but far from other sequences for this species and *S. audubonii*. This is best visualized in the supernetwork (Fig. 3). According to the split time estimates, the clade represented by the new sequences diverged about 1.34 Million years ago (C. I. 0.59-1.53), but the support given to the relationship between *S. floridanus* and samples 05 and 06 corresponded only to a posterior probability (PP) of 0.33, similar to the support for this group being sister to 01 and 03 (PP=0.32) (Fig. 4). Nonetheless, the clade formed by *S. floridanus* and the new sequences had high support (PP=1). This time estimates are however just tentative, since *S. robustus* could not be included, but seems to be closely related to the new samples (Fig. 1).

### *Genetic distances*

For both cytb and 12S datasets, the highest genetic distances were obtained between groups including the new DNA sequences and those comprising sequences available in



the GenBank for *S. nuttalli* and *S. audubonii* as depicted in bold in Table 2. Yet, depending on the dataset and group, the groups of new sequences were more similar to each other or to sequences for *S. floridanus* or *S. robustus*.

## DISCUSSION

Our genetic analyses strongly support the conclusions based on morphological assessments of three distinct albeit cryptic species. The samples of genetic material we collected could only be *S. nuttalli* subspecies based on the locations and elevations of the sample sites. No other *Sylvilagus* species occurs in sympatry at these localities. Very few sequence data exist for *S. nuttalli*. Those that do, e.g. in Matthee et.al., may be misidentified and actually represent *S. audubonii*. Our analysis shows *S. n. grangeri* is sister to {*S. floridanus*, *S. robustus*}, in a clade also including *S. n. pinetis*, while *S. n. nuttalli* is basal to three previously indicated taxa. In each of the analyses, the species complex was much more closely related to each other or to *S. robustus* and *S. floridanus* than to *S. audubonii* clearly represented by the supernetwork, which lends credence to the idea of currently available samples being previously mis-identified.

According to Matthee et. al. basal *Sylvilagus* diverged approximately 4 million years ago. Our analysis indicate that the taxa currently hypothesized to constitute the *S. nuttalli* species complex have been on separate genetic pathways for approximately 1.34 million years. Our 12S tree shows a clade more closely related to *S. floridanus* than to *S. audubonii* or currently available sequences presumed to be. The maximum likelihood analysis of cytb clearly shows *S. n. grangeri* and *S. n. robustus* are a closely related clade and sister to *S. n. pinetis*. *Sylvilagus n. nuttalli* is basal to those two groups. Given this

taxonomic arrangement, we must falsify the hypothesis of one species of *S. nuttallii* containing three subspecies.

Figure 4.1  
Cytochrome-b phylogeny developed from the topotype specimens collected during this study.

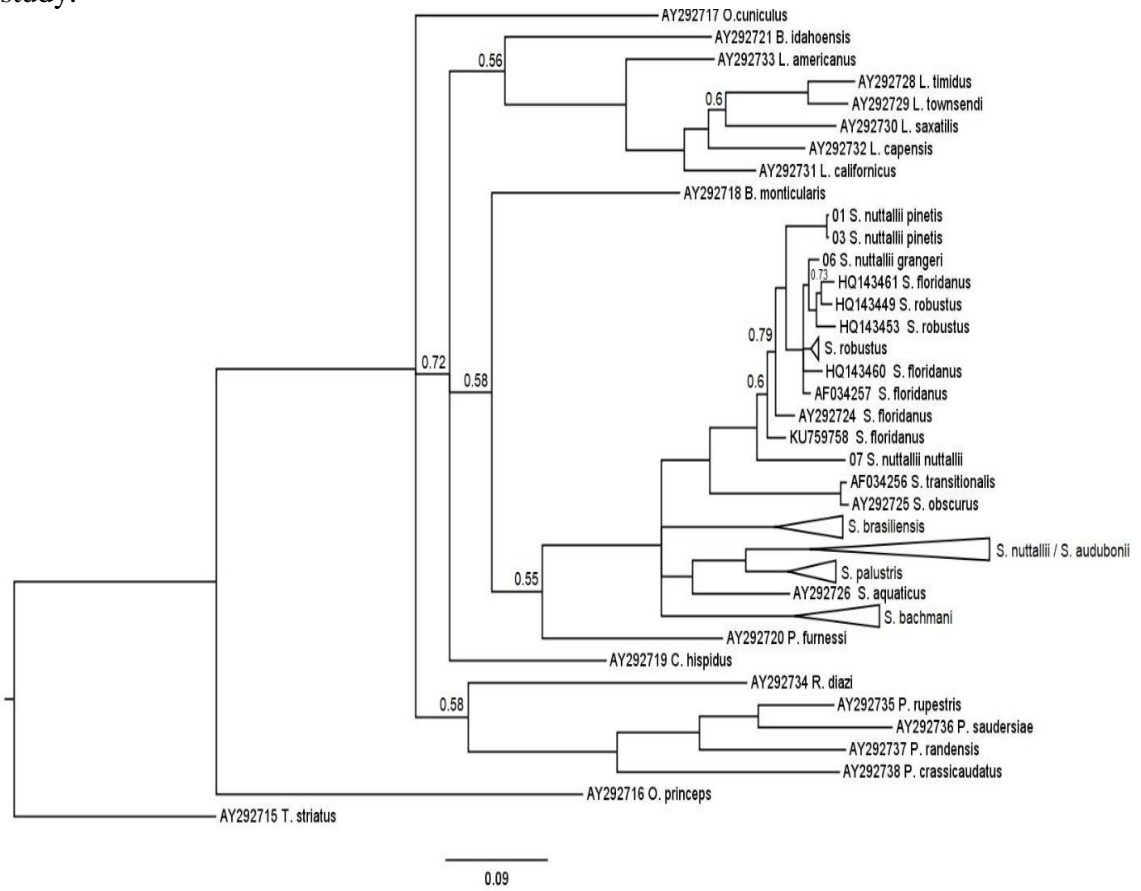


Figure 4.2

Ribosome 12S phylogeny derived from the sequencing and analysis of newly collected topotype specimens.



Figure 4.3

This supernetwork shows our new sequences from the *S. nuttallii* subspecies grouped together, but far from other sequences for this species and *S. audubonii*.

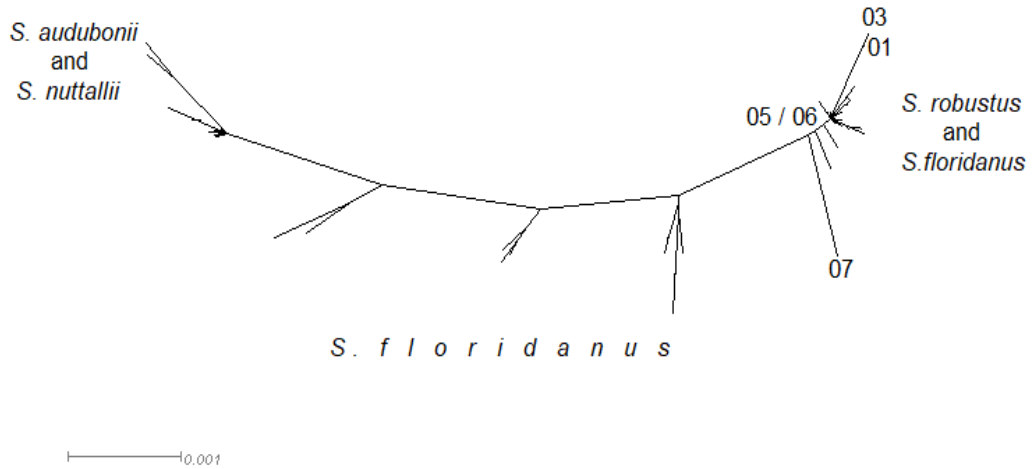


Figure 4.4

The clade represented by the new sequences diverged about 1.34 Million years ago (95% C. I. 0.59-1.53), according to the split time estimates.

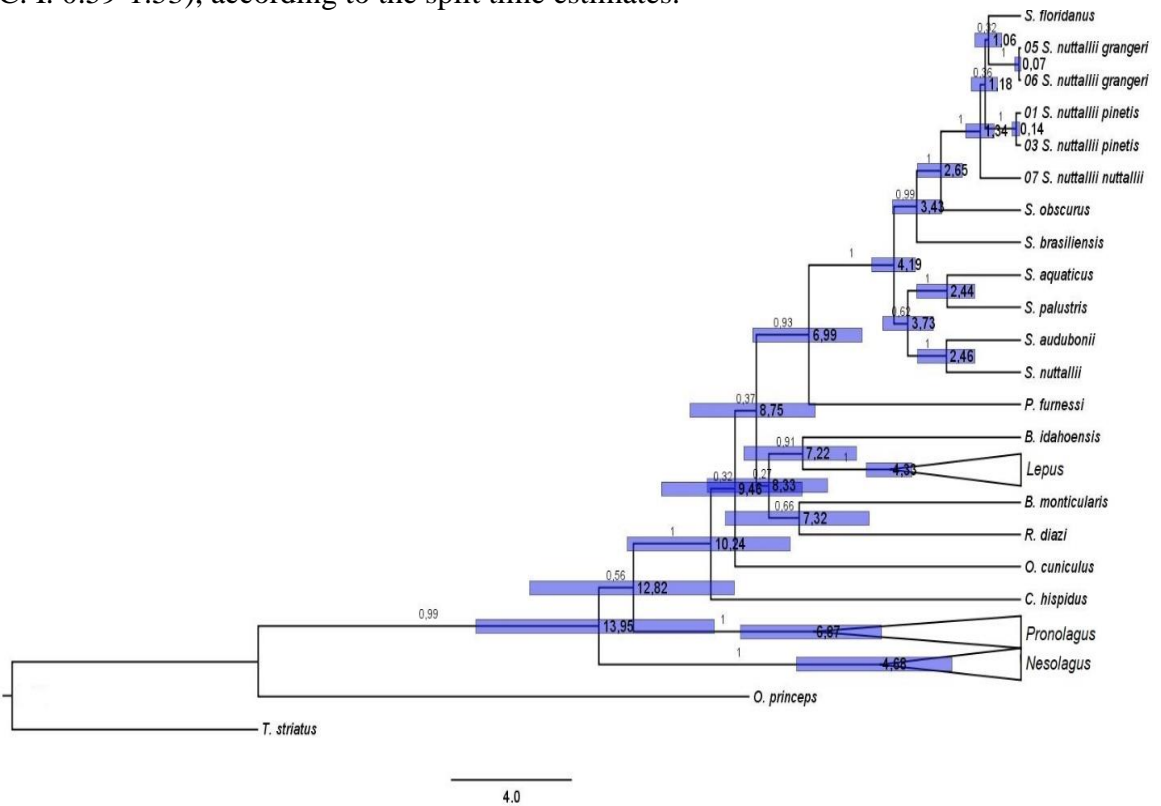


Figure 4.5  
 Maximum likelihood analysis showing the close relationship of *S.n. grangeri* and *S.robustus*.

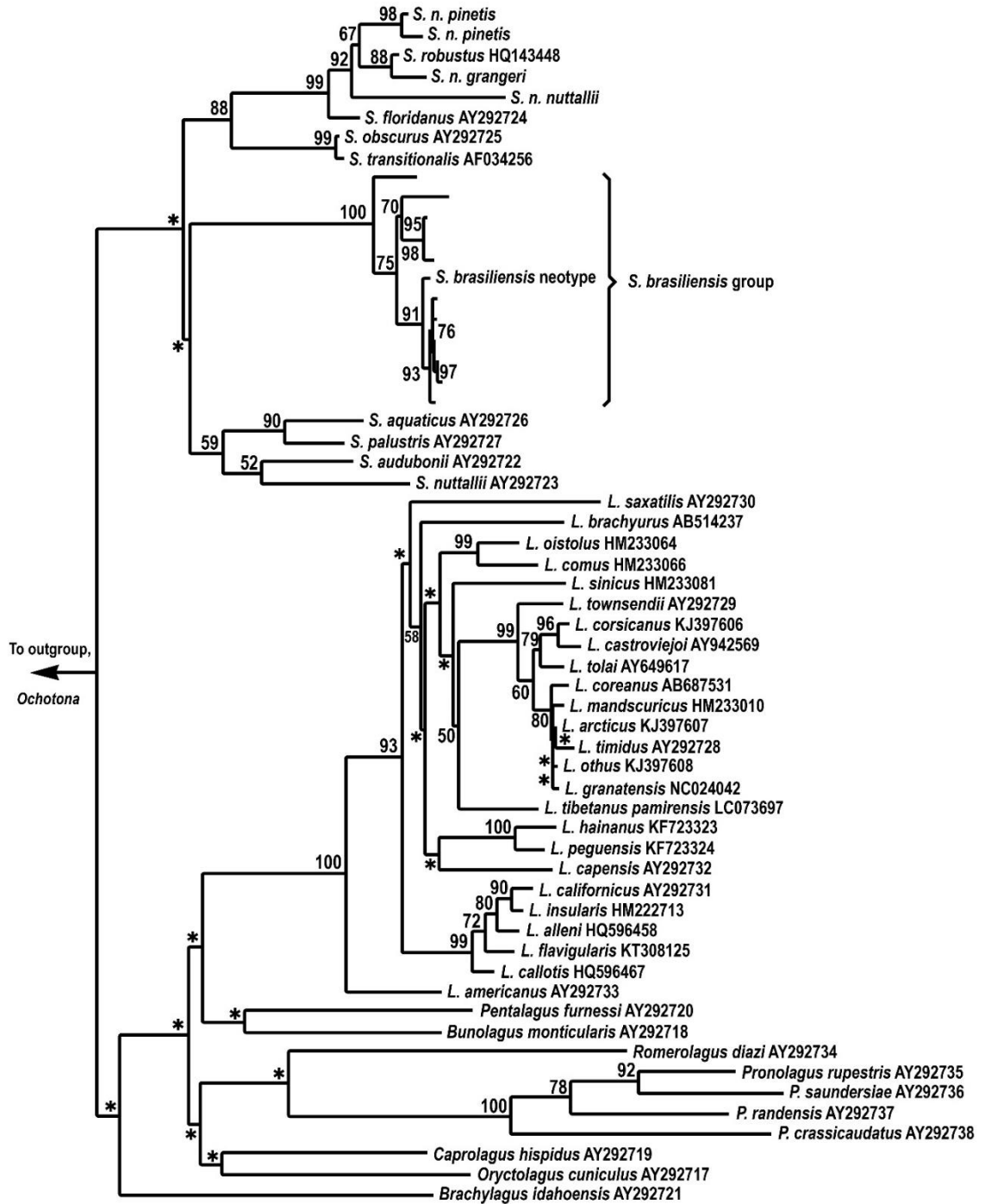


Table 4.1

Complete list of sequences used. Information on voucher number (whenever available), species or putative species complex, Genbank accession numbers, dataset and reference list are included.

| Voucher       | Species / Complex                     | MrBAYES       | MrBAYES      | BEAST         |              | Reference                             |
|---------------|---------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------------------------------|
|               |                                       | Fig.1<br>CYTB | Fig.2<br>12S | Fig.4<br>CYTB | 12S          |                                       |
| 01            | <i>S. nuttallii</i><br><i>pinetis</i> | ok            | ok           | ok            | ok           | This study                            |
| 03            | <i>S. n. pinetis</i>                  | ok            | ok           | ok            | ok           | This study                            |
| 05            | <i>S. n.</i><br><i>grangeri</i>       |               | ok           |               | ok           | This study                            |
| 06            | <i>S. n.</i><br><i>grangeri</i>       | ok            | ok           | ok            | ok           | This study                            |
| 07            | <i>S. n.</i><br><i>nuttallii</i>      | ok            | ok           | ok            | ok           | This study                            |
|               | <i>S. n.</i><br><i>nuttallii</i>      | AY292723      | AY292697     | AY292<br>723  | AY292<br>697 | Matthee et al. 2004                   |
|               | <i>S. audubonii</i>                   | AY292722      | AY292696     | AY292<br>722  | AY292<br>696 | Matthee et al. 2004                   |
| 14513         | <i>S. audubonii</i>                   | KU759759      |              |               |              | Álvarez-Castañeda and<br>Lorenzo 2017 |
| ASK7391       | <i>S. audubonii</i>                   | HQ143463      |              |               |              | Nalls et al. 2012                     |
| MSB262<br>536 | <i>S. audubonii</i>                   | KC661076      |              |               |              | Dickerman et al. 2013                 |
| MSB858<br>44  | <i>S. audubonii</i>                   | JQ965153      |              |               |              | Dickerman et al. 2013                 |
| BYU162<br>54  | <i>S. audubonii</i>                   | HQ596488      |              |               |              | Ramírez-Silva et al. 2010             |
|               | <i>S. aquaticus</i>                   | AY292726      | AY292700     | AY292<br>726  | AY292<br>700 | Matthee et al. 2004                   |
| MVZ218<br>243 | <i>S. bachmani</i>                    | KU759757      |              |               |              | Álvarez-Castañeda and<br>Lorenzo 2017 |
| MVZ218<br>031 | <i>S. bachmani</i>                    | KU759756      |              |               |              | Álvarez-Castañeda and<br>Lorenzo 2017 |
| MVZ218<br>018 | <i>S. bachmani</i>                    | KU759755      |              |               |              | Álvarez-Castañeda and<br>Lorenzo 2017 |
| MVZ206<br>869 | <i>S. bachmani</i>                    | KU759753      |              |               |              | Álvarez-Castañeda and<br>Lorenzo 2017 |
| MVZ208<br>257 | <i>S. bachmani</i>                    | KU759752      |              |               |              | Álvarez-Castañeda and<br>Lorenzo 2017 |
| MVZ202<br>374 | <i>S. bachmani</i>                    | KU759751      |              |               |              | Álvarez-Castañeda and<br>Lorenzo 2017 |
| 16458         | <i>S. bachmani</i>                    | KU759750      |              |               |              | Álvarez-Castañeda and<br>Lorenzo 2017 |
| 16457         | <i>S. bachmani</i>                    | KU759749      |              |               |              | Álvarez-Castañeda and<br>Lorenzo 2017 |
| 15982         | <i>S. bachmani</i>                    | KU759748      |              |               |              | Álvarez-Castañeda and<br>Lorenzo 2017 |

|               |                        |          |          |              |              |                                       |
|---------------|------------------------|----------|----------|--------------|--------------|---------------------------------------|
| 15932         | <i>S. bachmani</i>     | KU759747 |          |              |              | Álvarez-Castañeda and Lorenzo 2017    |
| 15931         | <i>S. bachmani</i>     | KU759746 |          |              |              | Álvarez-Castañeda and Lorenzo 2017    |
| 15930         | <i>S. bachmani</i>     | KU759745 |          |              |              | Álvarez-Castañeda and Lorenzo 2017    |
| 15929         | <i>S. bachmani</i>     | KU759744 |          |              |              | Álvarez-Castañeda and Lorenzo 2017    |
| 15928         | <i>S. bachmani</i>     | KU759743 |          |              |              | Álvarez-Castañeda and Lorenzo 2017    |
| 15174         | <i>S. bachmani</i>     | KU759742 |          |              |              | Álvarez-Castañeda and Lorenzo 2017    |
| 15173         | <i>S. bachmani</i>     | KU759741 |          |              |              | Álvarez-Castañeda and Lorenzo 2017    |
| 15172         | <i>S. bachmani</i>     | KU759740 |          |              |              | Álvarez-Castañeda and Lorenzo 2017    |
| 15171         | <i>S. bachmani</i>     | KU759739 |          |              |              | Álvarez-Castañeda and Lorenzo 2017    |
| 15170         | <i>S. bachmani</i>     | KU759738 |          |              |              | Álvarez-Castañeda and Lorenzo 2017    |
| 15169         | <i>S. bachmani</i>     | KU759737 |          |              |              | Álvarez-Castañeda and Lorenzo 2017    |
| 15168         | <i>S. bachmani</i>     | KU759736 |          |              |              | Álvarez-Castañeda and Lorenzo 2017    |
| 15167         | <i>S. bachmani</i>     | KU759735 |          |              |              | Álvarez-Castañeda and Lorenzo 2017    |
| 13445         | <i>S. bachmani</i>     | KU759734 |          |              |              | Álvarez-Castañeda and Lorenzo 2017    |
| 13444         | <i>S. bachmani</i>     | KU759733 |          |              |              | Álvarez-Castañeda and Lorenzo 2017    |
| 4910          | <i>S. bachmani</i>     | KU759732 |          |              |              | Álvarez-Castañeda and Lorenzo 2017    |
| UFPE174<br>0  | <i>S. brasiliensis</i> | MH115201 | KU057257 | MH115<br>201 | KU057<br>257 | Ruedas et al. 2017; Silva et al. 2019 |
| DPV5358<br>0  | <i>S. brasiliensis</i> | MH115206 |          |              |              | Silva et al. 2019                     |
| SP01          | <i>S. brasiliensis</i> |          | MH115195 |              |              | Silva et al. 2019                     |
| LG479         | <i>S. brasiliensis</i> | MH115205 | MH115193 |              |              | Silva et al. 2019                     |
| M1778         | <i>S. brasiliensis</i> | MH115204 | MH115192 |              |              | Silva et al. 2019                     |
| M1770         | <i>S. brasiliensis</i> | MH115203 | MH115191 |              |              | Silva et al. 2019                     |
| M1380         | <i>S. brasiliensis</i> | MH115202 | MH115190 |              |              | Silva et al. 2019                     |
| RS01          | <i>S. brasiliensis</i> | MH115208 |          |              |              | Silva et al. 2019                     |
| MPEG45<br>456 | <i>S. brasiliensis</i> | MH115212 |          |              |              | Silva et al. 2019                     |
| MPEG45<br>455 | <i>S. brasiliensis</i> | MH115211 |          |              |              | Silva et al. 2019                     |

|         |                        |          |          |          |          |                                    |
|---------|------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|------------------------------------|
| M1796   | <i>S. brasiliensis</i> | MH115209 | MH115197 |          |          | Silva et al. 2019                  |
| TOC013  | <i>S. brasiliensis</i> |          | MH115198 |          |          | Silva et al. 2019                  |
|         | <i>S. floridanus</i>   | AY292724 | AY292698 | AY292724 | AY292698 | Matthee et al. 2004                |
| 12554   | <i>S. floridanus</i>   | KU759758 |          |          |          | Álvarez-Castañeda and Lorenzo 2017 |
| ET462   | <i>S. floridanus</i>   | HQ143462 |          |          |          | Nalls et al. 2010                  |
| ASK4948 | <i>S. floridanus</i>   | HQ143461 |          |          |          | Nalls et al. 2010                  |
| ASK4764 | <i>S. floridanus</i>   | HQ143460 |          |          |          | Nalls et al. 2010                  |
|         | <i>S. floridanus</i>   | AF034257 |          |          |          | Snyder & Husband 1997              |
|         | <i>S. obscurus</i>     | AY292725 | AY292699 | AY292725 | AY292699 | Matthee et al. 2004                |
|         | <i>S. palustris</i>    | AY292727 | AY292701 | AY292727 | AY292701 | Matthee et al. 2004                |
| Spal14  | <i>S. palustris</i>    | JQ955720 |          |          |          | Tursi et al. 2013                  |
| Spal13  | <i>S. palustris</i>    | JQ955719 |          |          |          | Tursi et al. 2013                  |
| Spal25  | <i>S. palustris</i>    | JQ955718 |          |          |          | Tursi et al. 2013                  |
| Spal11  | <i>S. palustris</i>    | JQ955717 |          |          |          | Tursi et al. 2013                  |
| Spal17  | <i>S. palustris</i>    | JQ955716 |          |          |          | Tursi et al. 2013                  |
| Spal16  | <i>S. palustris</i>    | JQ955715 |          |          |          | Tursi et al. 2013                  |
| Spal15  | <i>S. palustris</i>    | JQ955714 |          |          |          | Tursi et al. 2013                  |
| Spal12  | <i>S. palustris</i>    | JQ955713 |          |          |          | Tursi et al. 2013                  |
| Spal27  | <i>S. palustris</i>    | JQ955712 |          |          |          | Tursi et al. 2013                  |
| Spal10  | <i>S. palustris</i>    | JQ955711 |          |          |          | Tursi et al. 2013                  |
| Spal19  | <i>S. palustris</i>    | JQ955710 |          |          |          | Tursi et al. 2013                  |
| Spal5   | <i>S. palustris</i>    | JQ955709 |          |          |          | Tursi et al. 2013                  |
| Spal22  | <i>S. palustris</i>    | JQ955708 |          |          |          | Tursi et al. 2013                  |
| Spal9   | <i>S. palustris</i>    | JQ955707 |          |          |          | Tursi et al. 2013                  |
| Spal23  | <i>S. palustris</i>    | JQ955706 |          |          |          | Tursi et al. 2013                  |
| Spal8   | <i>S. palustris</i>    | JQ955705 |          |          |          | Tursi et al. 2013                  |
| Sapl1   | <i>S. palustris</i>    | JQ955704 |          |          |          | Tursi et al. 2013                  |
| Spal24  | <i>S. palustris</i>    | JQ955703 |          |          |          | Tursi et al. 2013                  |
| Spal4   | <i>S. palustris</i>    | JQ955702 |          |          |          | Tursi et al. 2013                  |
| Spal3   | <i>S. palustris</i>    | JQ955701 |          |          |          | Tursi et al. 2013                  |
| Spal6   | <i>S. palustris</i>    | JQ955700 |          |          |          | Tursi et al. 2013                  |
| Spal31  | <i>S. palustris</i>    | JQ955699 |          |          |          | Tursi et al. 2013                  |
| Spal2   | <i>S. palustris</i>    | JQ955698 |          |          |          | Tursi et al. 2013                  |
| Spal32  | <i>S. palustris</i>    | JQ955697 |          |          |          | Tursi et al. 2013                  |
| Sapl7   | <i>S. palustris</i>    | JQ955696 |          |          |          | Tursi et al. 2013                  |
| Spal33  | <i>S. palustris</i>    | JQ955695 |          |          |          | Tursi et al. 2013                  |
| Spal28  | <i>S. palustris</i>    | JQ955694 |          |          |          | Tursi et al. 2013                  |
| Spal26  | <i>S. palustris</i>    | JQ955693 |          |          |          | Tursi et al. 2013                  |
| Spal20  | <i>S. palustris</i>    | JQ955692 |          |          |          | Tursi et al. 2013                  |
| Spal18  | <i>S. palustris</i>    | JQ955691 |          |          |          | Tursi et al. 2013                  |
| Spal30  | <i>S. palustris</i>    | JQ955690 |          |          |          | Tursi et al. 2013                  |
| Spal29  | <i>S. palustris</i>    | JQ955689 |          |          |          | Tursi et al. 2013                  |



|           |                          |          |                       |
|-----------|--------------------------|----------|-----------------------|
| Spal21    | <i>S. palustris</i>      | JQ955688 | Tursi et al. 2013     |
| TK84903   | <i>S. robustus</i>       | HQ143459 | Nalls et al. 2010     |
| TK83585   | <i>S. robustus</i>       | HQ143458 | Nalls et al. 2010     |
| TK79064   | <i>S. robustus</i>       | HQ143457 | Nalls et al. 2010     |
| ASK6334   | <i>S. robustus</i>       | HQ143456 | Nalls et al. 2010     |
| ASK6333   | <i>S. robustus</i>       | HQ143455 | Nalls et al. 2010     |
| ASK6332   | <i>S. robustus</i>       | HQ143454 | Nalls et al. 2010     |
| ASK6331   | <i>S. robustus</i>       | HQ143453 | Nalls et al. 2010     |
| ASK6268   | <i>S. robustus</i>       | HQ143452 | Nalls et al. 2010     |
| ASK6217   | <i>S. robustus</i>       | HQ143451 | Nalls et al. 2010     |
| ASK6216   | <i>S. robustus</i>       | HQ143450 | Nalls et al. 2010     |
| ASK6046   | <i>S. robustus</i>       | HQ143449 | Nalls et al. 2010     |
| ASK3518   | <i>S. robustus</i>       | HQ143448 | Nalls et al. 2012     |
|           | <i>S. transitionalis</i> | AF034256 | Snyder & Husband 1997 |
| PSU4944   | <i>S. nuttallii</i>      | KU057255 | Ruedas et al. 2017    |
| AK11178   | <i>S. audubonii</i>      | KU057237 | Ruedas et al. 2017    |
| QCAZ10893 | <i>S. andinus</i>        | KU057258 | Ruedas et al. 2017    |
| MVZ206386 | <i>S. bachmani</i>       | KU057239 | Ruedas et al. 2017    |
| MSB40683  | <i>S. bachmani</i>       | KU057238 | Ruedas et al. 2017    |
| MN24041   | <i>S. brasiliensis</i>   | KU057254 | Ruedas et al. 2017    |
| MVZ153492 | <i>S. brasiliensis</i>   | KU057243 | Ruedas et al. 2017    |
| TK61307   | <i>S. brasiliensis</i>   | KU057242 | Ruedas et al. 2017    |
| TTU79706  | <i>S. brasiliensis</i>   | KU057241 | Ruedas et al. 2017    |
| MSB55948  | <i>S. brasiliensis</i>   | KU057240 | Ruedas et al. 2017    |
| ROM105515 | <i>S. brasiliensis</i>   | KU057236 | Ruedas et al. 2017    |
| EPN954419 | <i>S. brasiliensis</i>   | KU057228 | Ruedas et al. 2017    |
| EM1556    | <i>S. brasiliensis</i>   | KU057227 | Ruedas et al. 2017    |
| CRIV6     | <i>S. brasiliensis</i>   | KU057226 | Ruedas et al. 2017    |
| CRIV5     | <i>S. brasiliensis</i>   | KU057225 | Ruedas et al. 2017    |
| CRIV4     | <i>S. brasiliensis</i>   | KU057224 | Ruedas et al. 2017    |
| CRIV2     | <i>S. brasiliensis</i>   | KU057223 | Ruedas et al. 2017    |
| CRIV1     | <i>S. brasiliensis</i>   | KU057222 | Ruedas et al. 2017    |

|            |                          |          |          |          |          |  |                     |
|------------|--------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|--|---------------------|
| CR1hsr     | <i>S. brasiliensis</i>   |          | KU057219 |          |          |  | Ruedas et al. 2017  |
| TTU114374  | <i>S. dicei</i>          |          | KU057256 |          |          |  | Ruedas et al. 2017  |
| TK147518   | <i>S. dicei</i>          |          | KU057251 |          |          |  | Ruedas et al. 2017  |
| IIBT349    | <i>S. floridanus</i>     |          | KU057253 |          |          |  | Ruedas et al. 2017  |
| AK11511    | <i>S. floridanus</i>     |          | KU057246 |          |          |  | Ruedas et al. 2017  |
| NP310      | <i>S. floridanus</i>     |          | KU057235 |          |          |  | Ruedas et al. 2017  |
| MVZ154373  | <i>S. floridanus</i>     |          | KU057231 |          |          |  | Ruedas et al. 2017  |
| hidra008   | <i>S. floridanus</i>     |          | KU057229 |          |          |  | Ruedas et al. 2017  |
| CR26gpv    | <i>S. floridanus</i>     |          | KU057220 |          |          |  | Ruedas et al. 2017  |
| ASNHC_2330 | <i>S. floridanus</i>     |          | KU057218 |          |          |  | Ruedas et al. 2017  |
| MSB158807  | <i>S. gabbi</i>          |          | KU057233 |          |          |  | Ruedas et al. 2017  |
| MSB158806  | <i>S. gabbi</i>          |          | KU057232 |          |          |  | Ruedas et al. 2017  |
| AK11516    | <i>S. obscurus</i>       |          | KU057248 |          |          |  | Ruedas et al. 2017  |
| AK11529    | <i>S. obscurus</i>       |          | KU057247 |          |          |  | Ruedas et al. 2017  |
| PSU4960    | <i>S. palustris</i>      |          | KU057249 |          |          |  | Ruedas et al. 2017  |
| AK11525    | <i>S. transitionalis</i> |          | KU057250 |          |          |  | Ruedas et al. 2017  |
|            | <i>B. idahoensis</i>     | AY292721 | AY292695 | AY292721 | AY292695 |  | Matthee et al. 2004 |
|            | <i>B. monticularis</i>   | AY292718 | AY292692 | AY292718 | AY292692 |  | Matthee et al. 2004 |
|            | <i>C. hispidus</i>       | AY292719 | AY292693 | AY292719 | AY292693 |  | Matthee et al. 2004 |
|            | <i>L. californicus</i>   | AY292731 | AY292705 | AY292731 | AY292705 |  | Matthee et al. 2004 |
|            | <i>L. capensis</i>       | AY292732 | AY292706 | AY292732 | AY292706 |  | Matthee et al. 2004 |
|            | <i>L. saxatilis</i>      | AY292730 | AY292704 | AY292730 | AY292704 |  | Matthee et al. 2004 |
|            | <i>L. timidus</i>        | AY292728 | AY292702 | AY292728 | AY292702 |  | Matthee et al. 2004 |
|            | <i>L. townsendi</i>      | AY292729 | AY292703 | AY292729 | AY292703 |  | Matthee et al. 2004 |
|            | <i>L. americanus</i>     | AY292733 | AY292707 | AY292733 | AY292707 |  | Matthee et al. 2004 |
|            | <i>N. netscheri</i>      |          | AY292709 |          | AY292709 |  | Matthee et al. 2004 |
|            | <i>N. timminsi</i>       |          | AY292710 |          | AY292710 |  | Matthee et al. 2004 |
|            | <i>O. cuniculus</i>      | AY292717 | AY292691 | AY292717 | AY292691 |  | Matthee et al. 2004 |
|            | <i>P. crassicaudatus</i> | AY292738 | AY292714 | AY292738 | AY292714 |  | Matthee et al. 2004 |

|                       |          |          |          |          |                     |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|---------------------|
| <i>P. furnessi</i>    | AY292720 | AY292694 | AY292720 | AY292694 | Matthee et al. 2004 |
| <i>P. randensis</i>   | AY292737 | AY292713 | AY292737 | AY292713 | Matthee et al. 2004 |
| <i>P. rupestris</i>   | AY292735 | AY292711 | AY292735 | AY292711 | Matthee et al. 2004 |
| <i>P. saundersiae</i> | AY292736 | AY292712 | AY292736 | AY292712 | Matthee et al. 2004 |
| <i>R. diazi</i>       | AY292734 | AY292708 | AY292734 | AY292708 | Matthee et al. 2004 |
| <i>O. princeps</i>    | AY292716 | AY292690 | AY292716 | AY292690 | Matthee et al. 2004 |
| <i>T. striatus</i>    | AY292715 | AY292689 | AY292715 | AY292689 | Matthee et al. 2004 |

Table 4.2

Pairwise genetic divergences between groups for the cytochrome b (cytb) and 12S rRNA (12S) data sets (below the diagonals), and respective standard errors (above the diagonals).

| Cytb                 | <i>S.n.pinetis</i> | <i>S.n.grangeri</i> | <i>S.n.nuttallii</i> | <i>S.audubonii</i> | <i>S.floridanus</i> | <i>S.robustus</i> | <i>S.nuttallii</i> |
|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| <i>S.n.pinetis</i>   |                    | 0.008               | 0.012                | 0.017              | 0.007               | 0.008             | 0.016              |
| <i>S.n.grangeri</i>  | 0.039              |                     | 0.012                | 0.017              | 0.004               | 0.004             | 0.017              |
| <i>S.n.nuttallii</i> | 0.076              | 0.076               |                      | 0.018              | 0.010               | 0.011             | 0.017              |
| <i>S.audubonii</i>   | 0.138              | 0.148               | 0.169                |                    | 0.016               | 0.017             | 0.010              |
| <i>S.floridanus</i>  | 0.040              | 0.020               | 0.070                | 0.143              |                     | 0.003             | 0.016              |
| <i>S.robustus</i>    | 0.037              | 0.012               | 0.075                | 0.142              | 0.018               |                   | 0.016              |
| <i>S.nuttallii</i>   | 0.125              | 0.134               | 0.147                | 0.057              | 0.126               | 0.125             |                    |

| 12S                  | <i>S.n.pinetis</i> | <i>S.n.grangeris</i> | <i>S.n.nuttallii</i> | <i>S.audubonii</i> | <i>S.floridanus</i> | <i>S.nuttallii</i> |
|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| <i>S.n.pinetis</i>   |                    | 0.006                | 0.004                | 0.005              | 0.004               | 0.005              |
| <i>S.n.grangeris</i> | 0.027              |                      | 0.005                | 0.005              | 0.005               | 0.005              |
| <i>S.n.nuttallii</i> | 0.014              | 0.017                |                      | 0.004              | 0.003               | 0.004              |
| <i>S.audubonii</i>   | 0.029              | 0.030                | 0.020                |                    | 0.004               | 0.004              |
| <i>S.floridanus</i>  | 0.022              | 0.025                | 0.014                | 0.021              |                     | 0.004              |
| <i>S.nuttallii</i>   | 0.032              | 0.034                | 0.023                | 0.028              | 0.027               |                    |

## CHAPTER 5

"I have met no one who questions the existence of rabbits and hares, and I have been reluctantly forced to accept them" (Wood 1957).

We began this research by returning to Albert Wood's famous question from 1957 "What, if anything is a rabbit?" In that work, Wood described the basic set of characteristics defining a lagomorph, including: a dental formula of I2/1 C0/0 P2-3/2 M2-3/2-3; upper tooth rows farther apart than the lower; a single layer of enamel, as opposed to two in rodents; highly fenestrated rostrum; elongated incisive foramina; midline of palate extending only to P4 or M1; supra orbital processes well developed; lacking ectotympanic with bullae formed solely from ectotympanic; solid rami with no movement at symphysis; lacking an epicondylar foramen; fused tibia and fibula; fibula and calcaneum articulating with each other; caecum has a spiral valve; lacking os penis; among other characters.

With respect specifically to *Sylvilagus nuttalli*, Edward W. Nelson described pelage differences of the mountain cottontails in great detail in his 1909 work, *The Rabbits of North America*. He described color differences in fresh and worn pelage, as well as post-juvenal and juvenal coloration differences of the three putative subspecies. Most notably, *S. n. pinetis* is pinkish to ochraceous in color, whereas *S. n. grangeri* is a light creamy buff that is darkened by black overlaying the lighter cream; *S. n. nuttalli* has a similar wash of black, but it overlays a dark dull fawn color with very little distinction between the back and rump.

Building upon the historical framework noted above, we have laid the groundwork pointing to the possibility of three distinct species being present in this taxonomic group. This work is the first to examine the species group using an integrative taxonomic approach to determine conspecificity. Each of the three taxa currently contained within *S. nuttalli* has had minimal overlap in their ranges and ecological niches since, at least, the last interglacial period. Dental examination of the lower third premolars show each group possesses unique characters not found in their subsumed putative sister taxa. Morphological examination shows distinct skull patterns unique to each taxon. These patterns, such as the exoccipital ridge, hold the same shape within the subspecies but are discretely distinct relative the other subspecies. Principal component analysis of skull measurements show clear clustering of the presumed subspecies and separation from remaining groups within the species complex. Genetic analysis of two mitochondrial genes show the presumed species group form part of different clades and more closely related to other species of *Sylvilagus* than to each other. In light of the foregoing, we feel the hypothesis of conspecificity in the group must be rejected based on the results of our analyses.

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APPENDIX A  
Ecological niche modeling data

Occurrence data and input files used for ecological niche modeling in chapter 1.

Known Occurrence data of the *S. nuttallii* species complex.  
Table A1

| Species                              | Longitude  | Latitude |
|--------------------------------------|------------|----------|
| <i>Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri</i> | -114.17691 | 39.27333 |
| <i>Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri</i> | -118.8512  | 39.47361 |
| <i>Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri</i> | -106.94583 | 41.77806 |
| <i>Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri</i> | -103.5173  | 43.8934  |
| <i>Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri</i> | -113.6774  | 43.5024  |
| <i>Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri</i> | -113.5568  | 42.6681  |
| <i>Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri</i> | -119.27939 | 38.46175 |
| <i>Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri</i> | -103.6139  | 44.0831  |
| <i>Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri</i> | -118.24639 | 40.5275  |
| <i>Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri</i> | -107.23806 | 41.8056  |
| <i>Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri</i> | -108.38722 | 42.04888 |
| <i>Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri</i> | -115.78266 | 37.45884 |
| <i>Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri</i> | -118.84251 | 39.42236 |
| <i>Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri</i> | -103.533   | 43.9019  |
| <i>Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri</i> | -108.58341 | 49.614   |
| <i>Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri</i> | -113.6661  | 43.3704  |
| <i>Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri</i> | -118.07989 | 37.43207 |
| <i>Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri</i> | -108.38722 | 42.04888 |
| <i>Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri</i> | -107.54583 | 41.02252 |
| <i>Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri</i> | -113.5568  | 42.6681  |
| <i>Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri</i> | -118.17378 | 37.49611 |
| <i>Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri</i> | -115.40083 | 37.64417 |
| <i>Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri</i> | -107.23806 | 41.83458 |
| <i>Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri</i> | -107.60111 | 42.52    |
| <i>Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri</i> | -117.46593 | 36.58766 |
| <i>Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri</i> | -113.7825  | 42.6081  |
| <i>Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri</i> | -113.6774  | 43.5024  |
| <i>Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri</i> | -106.94583 | 41.77806 |
| <i>Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri</i> | -113.6983  | 43.6367  |
| <i>Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri</i> | -103.5173  | 43.8925  |
| <i>Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri</i> | -118.18083 | 37.88056 |



|                               |            |          |
|-------------------------------|------------|----------|
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -119.80414 | 38.77554 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -117.51686 | 38.80111 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -117.4798  | 36.57316 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -118.30563 | 37.40494 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -112.2278  | 43.4582  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -112.3714  | 43.4667  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -117.10315 | 36.95078 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -106.94583 | 41.77806 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -113.6983  | 43.6367  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -103.4583  | 43.8803  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -116.20102 | 37.26159 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -114.8978  | 42.7832  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -115.51193 | 39.23256 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -118.16847 | 37.53385 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -114.21944 | 39.00556 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -114.0219  | 42.5186  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -117.1143  | 38.96403 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -103.6034  | 43.9126  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -119.26907 | 38.46837 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -117.1143  | 38.96403 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -117.50028 | 39.34111 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -114.1136  | 46.3142  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -114.8978  | 42.7832  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -107.23806 | 41.8056  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -109.72128 | 40.92846 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -108.37944 | 42.88013 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -118.06072 | 36.2393  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -112.2518  | 41.4719  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -117.1333  | 38.43694 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -119.01162 | 38.21172 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -114.02278 | 38.94167 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -115.40083 | 37.64417 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -112.5038  | 42.8714  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -107.23806 | 41.79111 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -113.5568  | 42.6681  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -117.06861 | 39.49333 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -105.05924 | 40.96288 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -108.6411  | 40.56936 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -114.1545  | 46.1814  |

|                               |            |          |
|-------------------------------|------------|----------|
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -103.533   | 43.9019  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -119.79492 | 38.77571 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -117.53538 | 38.80111 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -115.78266 | 37.45884 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -118.17054 | 37.33884 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -112.2278  | 43.4582  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -117.06861 | 39.49333 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -107.54583 | 41.02252 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -115.40083 | 37.64417 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -118.2352  | 37.40611 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -106.2392  | 45.3016  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -115.43111 | 41.91708 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -107.0792  | 47.5829  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -116.9328  | 43.6178  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -116.79333 | 39.0675  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -107.9096  | 40.03472 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -115.24    | 41.49    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -113.5568  | 42.6681  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -114.1545  | 46.1814  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -113.6983  | 43.6367  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -103.533   | 43.9019  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -115.50972 | 41.62736 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -114.302   | 45.8896  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -117.46593 | 36.58766 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -117.1333  | 38.43694 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -115.73389 | 37.45    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -114.2158  | 46.7589  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -117.79306 | 40.27833 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -107.23806 | 41.79111 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -108.2298  | 45.783   |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -114.7493  | 42.2181  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -114.28    | 38.96917 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -118.8512  | 39.47361 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -113.277   | 44.9068  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -119.50056 | 38.8972  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -116.67069 | 43.21565 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -117.06861 | 39.49333 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -107.23806 | 41.79111 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -103.533   | 43.9019  |

|                               |            |          |
|-------------------------------|------------|----------|
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -117.22    | 38.95    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -116.91658 | 38.66625 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -113.5568  | 42.6681  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -117.46593 | 36.58766 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -114.75167 | 41.63903 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -109.4371  | 42.48444 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -104.6514  | 47.1951  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -114.1545  | 46.1814  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -108.91056 | 41.68694 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -117.1143  | 38.96403 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -103.6034  | 43.9126  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -119.26907 | 38.46837 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -119.33746 | 39.59289 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -119.17389 | 38.4625  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -114.1136  | 46.3142  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -118.06072 | 36.2393  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -109.2457  | 42.11056 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -114.7493  | 42.2181  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -112.49    | 42.85    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -114.03    | 46.37    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -115.5     | 40.16    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -114.11    | 46.31    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -109.29    | 44.72    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -115.07    | 40.77    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -114.04    | 46.44    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -103.53    | 43.9     |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -115.07    | 40.77    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -109.23    | 47.16    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -103.54    | 44.19    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -105.50167 | 44.43594 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -118.0475  | 36.265   |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -114.64778 | 39.80556 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -117.46593 | 36.58766 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -108.38722 | 42.00541 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -119.05119 | 37.95584 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -115.40083 | 37.64417 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -118.88879 | 39.53553 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -117.46593 | 36.58766 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -119.1053  | 37.90891 |

|                               |            |          |
|-------------------------------|------------|----------|
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -107.23806 | 41.79111 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -103.533   | 43.9019  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -114.07    | 41.95    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -117.04991 | 36.1073  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -118.17054 | 37.33884 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -114.7493  | 42.2181  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -117.06861 | 39.49333 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -115.40083 | 37.64417 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -117.46593 | 36.58766 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -119.05119 | 37.95584 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -114.10722 | 39.01722 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -117.72442 | 36.14383 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -119.19788 | 38.36359 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -113.5568  | 42.6681  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -117.54591 | 36.52617 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -103.6034  | 43.9126  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -115.00694 | 38.97265 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -119.59285 | 39.5297  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -114.5     | 41.9     |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -117.1143  | 38.96403 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -114.1136  | 46.3142  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -117.06861 | 39.49333 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -118.00528 | 37.82389 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -118.09974 | 37.43216 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -116.97242 | 38.71333 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -117.93172 | 36.64799 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -103.4906  | 43.5603  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -117.94861 | 37.87919 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -103.6034  | 43.9126  |
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| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -115.78266 | 37.45884 |

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| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -116.88    | 47.81    |
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| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri | -114.16    | 46.17    |
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| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri  | -114.24    | 48.31    |
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| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri  | -112.96    | 46.61    |
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| Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri  | -114.24    | 46.24    |
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| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -120.4564  | 40.8915  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -122.27    | 49       |
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| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -122.27    | 49       |
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| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -119.99    | 40.61    |
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| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -119.46556 | 49.02939 |
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| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -119.97586 | 41.93305 |

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| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -120.68461 | 41.42048 |
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| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -118.3311  | 44.5781  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -118.59465 | 41.67064 |

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| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -120.32822 | 41.7999  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -120.31047 | 40.3678  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -118.43248 | 41.58799 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -119.91772 | 41.90407 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -117.96    | 44.43    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -119.96    | 41.9     |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -116.43    | 44.47    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -119.96    | 41.9     |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -119.96    | 41.9     |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -119.76667 | 46.2     |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -119.76667 | 46.2     |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -121.14523 | 41.45109 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -121.45692 | 41.94282 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -120.08978 | 41.211   |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -120.11621 | 41.32101 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -121.45692 | 41.94282 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -119.48333 | 46.26667 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -120.29767 | 41.27242 |

|                                |            |          |
|--------------------------------|------------|----------|
| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -121.14523 | 41.45109 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -121.45692 | 41.94282 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -120.11621 | 41.32101 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -119.48333 | 46.26667 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -119.96    | 41.9     |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -116.43    | 44.47    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -118.16667 | 44.2     |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -118.16667 | 44.2     |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -119.48333 | 46.26667 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -116.43    | 44.47    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -116.43    | 44.47    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -121.43    | 44.37    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -119.9     | 42.18333 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -121.4     | 44.39    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -116.43    | 44.47    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -118.9042  | 46.0856  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -122.27    | 49       |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -122.43026 | 41.45903 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -117.8333  | 44.9198  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -117.9708  | 46.5108  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii | -119.46556 | 49.02939 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis   | -105.82252 | 36.05844 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis   | -107.30786 | 37.13628 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis   | -105.51262 | 39.96195 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis   | -107.54291 | 40.51248 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis   | -105.55827 | 40.71936 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis   | -104.98947 | 38.81273 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis   | -106.65529 | 37.21131 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis   | -105.24403 | 39.73356 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis   | -105.38278 | 39.48111 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis   | -107.2745  | 37.02701 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis   | -106.71639 | 36.0851  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis   | -104.98947 | 38.81273 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis   | -107.03551 | 38.86583 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis   | -107.34873 | 40.48906 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis   | -105.81497 | 39.06574 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis   | -106.84278 | 37.03639 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis   | -106.29361 | 40.9438  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis   | -105.41388 | 39.8511  |

|                              |            |          |
|------------------------------|------------|----------|
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -109.45875 | 34.01005 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -104.3745  | 36.93159 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.51828 | 40.37437 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.95972 | 37.275   |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -106.61389 | 35.46667 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -108.2858  | 37.34229 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -104.91387 | 38.88527 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -107.30786 | 37.13628 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -107.30786 | 37.13628 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -106.13057 | 38.84221 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -106.90518 | 40.14969 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -109.46746 | 34.01005 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -109.53882 | 33.94336 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -106.84278 | 37.03639 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -107.87556 | 37.04583 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -106.65529 | 37.21131 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -107.32131 | 39.54777 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.775   | 38.65417 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -107.65931 | 38.77662 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.46254 | 38.13192 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -106.65529 | 37.21131 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -108.79248 | 37.26395 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -106.71639 | 36.0851  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.26719 | 40.01215 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -107.32131 | 39.54777 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.26694 | 39.38384 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -112.1797  | 36.0211  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -109.2011  | 33.8839  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -107.2745  | 37.02701 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -106.26113 | 40.61289 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -104.98947 | 38.81273 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -109.46746 | 34.01005 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -109.35    | 33.6006  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -106.97417 | 36.08778 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.97291 | 37.82608 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -106.65529 | 37.21131 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -107.54291 | 40.51248 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -104.3745  | 36.93159 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -106.67522 | 39.69998 |

|                              |            |          |
|------------------------------|------------|----------|
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -104.3745  | 36.93159 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.81497 | 39.06574 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -109.45676 | 34.04116 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.09321 | 39.142   |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.42306 | 40.58201 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -106.09576 | 38.42741 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -104.90847 | 37.62118 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.30704 | 40.04393 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -107.32131 | 39.54777 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -107.87556 | 38.47833 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -102.67639 | 40.89167 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.39555 | 36.69209 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -107.32131 | 39.54777 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.1889  | 40.07989 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -106.01417 | 38.44998 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -106.97417 | 36.08778 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.48067 | 39.64414 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -104.3745  | 36.93159 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -104.3745  | 36.93159 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -106.71639 | 36.0851  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -107.32417 | 39.55055 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -106.64167 | 35.82834 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -108.92431 | 38.37131 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.42778 | 39.93194 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -107.2745  | 37.02701 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -106.53472 | 40.80694 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.91077 | 38.71075 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -107.31501 | 37.16305 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -106.19448 | 36.43585 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.48067 | 39.64414 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -106.90518 | 40.14969 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -109.46746 | 34.01005 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.64417 | 35.9625  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -108.79248 | 37.26395 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -108.92431 | 38.37131 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.28613 | 38.94301 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.24528 | 39.04972 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -107.31769 | 37.16146 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -109.45676 | 34.04116 |

|                              |            |          |
|------------------------------|------------|----------|
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -104.3745  | 36.93159 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -104.3745  | 36.93159 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -106.19448 | 36.43585 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -109.45875 | 34.01005 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.88028 | 38.71582 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -107.32131 | 39.54777 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.18533 | 40.53887 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -107.86689 | 37.27151 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -107.32131 | 39.54777 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -107.2745  | 37.02701 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -102.22278 | 40.07583 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.88028 | 38.71582 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.4618  | 40.72652 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -107.65931 | 38.77662 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -104.67144 | 38.61189 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.27    | 40.01498 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -104.3745  | 36.93159 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -104.3745  | 36.93159 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -104.3745  | 36.93159 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -106.90518 | 40.14969 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.51529 | 37.43804 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -106.84278 | 37.03639 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.48067 | 39.64414 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -109.45875 | 34.01005 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -109.53882 | 33.94336 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.48    | 36.07    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -108.48    | 37.2     |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -106.18    | 36.27    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -106.18    | 36.4     |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.87    | 39.66    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -107.65931 | 38.77662 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.33116 | 38.12331 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -106.13057 | 38.84221 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -107.32131 | 39.54777 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -110.5421  | 36.7278  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -106.90518 | 40.14969 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.82252 | 36.05844 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -108.28862 | 37.34499 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -106.13057 | 38.84221 |



|                              |            |          |
|------------------------------|------------|----------|
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -104.82083 | 38.83388 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.01278 | 37.88137 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -107.69214 | 36.79985 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -109.51    | 37.6     |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -109.65    | 37.6     |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -106.5     | 38.14    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -108.49    | 37.26    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.4     | 39.97    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -106.18    | 36.41    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.19    | 39.65    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -106.18    | 36.4     |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.55    | 40.31    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.49    | 36.73    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.75    | 35.83    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -103.97    | 36.77    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -106.18    | 36.4     |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.27    | 40.01498 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -106.18    | 36.41    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -106.18    | 36.4     |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -106.18    | 36.27    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -106.18    | 36.5     |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.15    | 36.55    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -106.18    | 36.27    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -103.97    | 36.77    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.37    | 39.93    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -103.97    | 36.77    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -111.96    | 35.98    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -106.18    | 36.45    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -106.76    | 36.49    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -103.97    | 36.77    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -111.96    | 35.98    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -106.18    | 36.27    |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.35665 | 40.02385 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -107.34873 | 40.48906 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -108.2858  | 37.34229 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -104.91712 | 39.0576  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -104.9795  | 37.4063  |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -106.97417 | 36.08778 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.22056 | 39.75556 |

|                              |            |          |
|------------------------------|------------|----------|
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -108.92431 | 38.37131 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -104.98947 | 38.81273 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -108.9132  | 37.80129 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -105.88028 | 38.71582 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -109.30592 | 33.65339 |
| Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis | -104.3745  | 36.93159 |

List of bioclimate variables used for Ecological Niche Models.

Table A2

| Variable Number | Variable   | Minimum temp (°C) | Maximum temp (°C) | Rainfall (mm month <sup>-1</sup> ) | Radiation (W m <sup>-2</sup> d <sup>-1</sup> ) | Pan evaporation (mm d <sup>-1</sup> ) |
|-----------------|--|-------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| Bio01           | Annual mean temperature (°C)                               | ×                 | ×                 |                                    |  |                                       |
| Bio02           | Mean diurnal temperature range (mean(period max-min)) (°C) | ×                 | ×                 |                                    |  |                                       |
| Bio03           | Isothermality (Bio02 ÷ Bio07)                              | ×                 | ×                 |                                    |  |                                       |
| Bio04           | Temperature seasonality (C of V)                           | ×                 | ×                 |                                    |  |                                       |
| Bio05           | Max temperature of warmest week (°C)                       |                   | ×                 |                                    |  |                                       |
| Bio06           | Min temperature of coldest week (°C)                       | ×                 |                   |                                    |  |                                       |
| Bio07           | Temperature annual range (Bio05-Bio06) (°C)                | ×                 | ×                 |                                    |  |                                       |
| Bio08           | Mean temperature of wettest quarter (°C)                   | ×                 | ×                 | ×                                  |  |                                       |
| Bio09           | Mean temperature of driest quarter (°C)                    | ×                 | ×                 | ×                                  |  |                                       |
| Bio10           | Mean temperature of warmest quarter (°C)                   | ×                 | ×                 |                                    |  |                                       |
| Bio11           | Mean temperature of coldest quarter (°C)                   | ×                 | ×                 |                                    |  |                                       |
| Bio12           | Annual precipitation (mm)                                  |                   |                   | ×                                  |  |                                       |
| Bio13           | Precipitation of wettest week (mm)                         |                   |                   | ×                                  |  |                                       |
| Bio14           | Precipitation of driest week (mm)                          |                   |                   | ×                                  |  |                                       |
| Bio15           | Precipitation seasonality (C of V)                         |                   |                   | ×                                  |  |                                       |
| Bio16           | Precipitation of wettest quarter (mm)                      |                   |                   | ×                                  |  |                                       |
| Bio17           | Precipitation of driest quarter (mm)                       |                   |                   | ×                                  |  |                                       |
| Bio18           | Precipitation of warmest quarter (mm)                      | ×                 | ×                 | ×                                  |  |                                       |
| Bio19           | Precipitation of coldest quarter (mm)                      | ×                 | ×                 | ×                                  |  |                                       |
| Bio20           | Annual mean radiation (W m <sup>-2</sup> )                 |                   |                   |                                    | ×  |                                       |
| Bio21           | Highest weekly radiation (W m <sup>-2</sup> )              |                   |                   |                                    | ×  |                                       |
| Bio22           | Lowest weekly radiation (W m <sup>-2</sup> )               |                   |                   |                                    | ×  |                                       |
| Bio23           | Radiation seasonality (C of V)                             |                   |                   |                                    | ×  |                                       |
| Bio24           | Radiation of wettest quarter (W m <sup>-2</sup> )          |                   |                   | ×                                  | ×  |                                       |

|       |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|-------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bio25 | Radiation of driest quarter ( $W m^{-2}$ )  |   |   | × | × |   |
| Bio26 | Radiation of warmest quarter ( $W m^{-2}$ ) | × | × |   | × |   |
| Bio27 | Radiation of coldest quarter ( $W m^{-2}$ ) | × | × |   | × |   |
| Bio28 | Annual mean moisture index                  |   |   | × |   | × |
| Bio29 | Highest weekly moisture index               |   |   | × |   | × |
| Bio30 | Lowest weekly moisture index                |   |   | × |   | × |
| Bio31 | Moisture index seasonality (C of V)         |   |   | × |   | × |
| Bio32 | Mean moisture index of wettest quarter      |   |   | × |   | × |
| Bio33 | Mean moisture index of driest quarter       |   |   | × |   | × |
| Bio34 | Mean moisture index of warmest quarter      | × | × | × |   | × |
| Bio35 | Mean moisture index of coldest quarter      | × | × | × |   | × |

Correlation of variables used in Ecological Niche Models. Highly correlated variables were removed to prevent skewed model outputs.

Table A3

| bio7.asc | bio6.asc | bio5.asc | bio4.asc | bio3.asc | bio2.asc | bio1.asc | bio35.asc | SPECIES   |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0         | bio35.asc |
| 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0.118094  | bio1.asc  |
| 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0.824425 | -0.12701  | bio2.asc  |
| 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0.787089 | 0.893017 | 0.014529  | bio3.asc  |
| 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | -0.81785 | -0.42339 | -0.71283 | -0.34866  | bio4.asc  |
| 0        | 0        | 0        | -0.4541  | 0.781408 | 0.906858 | 0.941613 | -0.0329   | bio5.asc  |
| 0        | 0        | 0        | -0.88581 | 0.923512 | 0.684007 | 0.948048 | 0.200686  | bio6.asc  |
| 0        | 0        | 0.797139 | 0.862352 | -0.48899 | 0.074681 | -0.31632 | -0.37616  | bio7.asc  |
| 0.1505   | -0.59472 | 0.011341 | 0.862352 | 0.638038 | 0.776161 | 0.814993 | -0.1676   | bio8.asc  |
| -0.58    | 0.630751 | 0.897562 | -0.25804 | 0.874404 | 0.678926 | 0.87151  | 0.30837   | bio9.asc  |
| -0.04553 | 0.932541 | 0.724284 | -0.8681  | 0.782249 | 0.859767 | 0.95771  | -0.00839  | bio10.asc |
| -0.5241  | 0.825298 | 0.992309 | -0.4831  | 0.935728 | 0.746215 | 0.97133  | 0.17388   | bio11.asc |
| -0.62197 | 0.994565 | 0.843412 | -0.85537 | 0.350912 | 0.023759 | 0.386282 | 0.786651  | bio12.asc |
| -0.6058  | 0.511606 | 0.169206 | -0.62315 | 0.350912 | 0.023759 | 0.499915 | 0.579232  | bio13.asc |
| -0.51449 | 0.604969 | 0.297474 | -0.65998 | 0.518871 | 0.156005 | 0.499915 | 0.81672   | bio14.asc |
| 0.25343  | 0.255414 | -0.06872 | -0.42904 | 0.05376  | -0.16893 | 0.124256 | -0.6886   | bio15.asc |
| -0.60386 | 0.03399  | 0.232616 | 0.15618  | 0.201868 | 0.239193 | 0.125648 | 0.621499  | bio16.asc |
| -0.52908 | 0.581076 | 0.269217 | -0.64909 | 0.48651  | 0.128506 | 0.473229 | 0.829797  | bio17.asc |
| -0.42847 | 0.292127 | -0.03402 | -0.45836 | 0.089713 | -0.1375  | 0.162232 | 0.608302  | bio18.asc |
| -0.58218 | 0.504957 | 0.306265 | -0.52025 | 0.386884 | 0.158157 | 0.471993 | 0.806578  | bio19.asc |
| -0.2626  | 0.387812 | 0.045116 | -0.53409 | 0.223573 | -0.04858 | 0.237763 | 0.006623  | bio20.asc |
| 0.023541 | 0.883876 | 0.902143 | -0.67009 | 0.885198 | 0.855237 | 0.94043  | -0.26739  | bio21.asc |
| -0.4208  | 0.552635 | 0.70505  | -0.32839 | 0.581571 | 0.736655 | 0.635539 | -0.01292  | bio22.asc |
| 0.278578 | 0.903682 | 0.807958 | -0.75212 | 0.925607 | 0.755518 | 0.905911 | -0.01292  | bio23.asc |
| 0.313652 | -0.8964  | -0.90572 | 0.69021  | -0.86706 | -0.81894 | -0.96123 | -0.19921  | bio24.asc |
| -0.58143 | 0.426459 | 0.766    | -0.09206 | 0.48179  | 0.740034 | 0.638142 | -0.2634   | bio25.asc |
| -0.05475 | 0.637147 | 0.355803 | -0.72067 | 0.631706 | 0.406144 | 0.517744 | 0.349146  | bio26.asc |
| -0.41547 | 0.712881 | 0.845565 | -0.48119 | 0.714586 | 0.852037 | 0.80773  | -0.0571   | bio27.asc |
| -0.41547 | 0.894977 | 0.801132 | -0.74373 | 0.902037 | 0.726955 | 0.903038 | 0.022181  | bio28.asc |
| -0.44531 | 0.07789  | -0.23757 | -0.30643 | -0.09674 | -0.33902 | -0.0436  | 0.925626  | bio29.asc |
| -0.5597  | 0.230026 | -0.13425 | -0.43962 | 0.09099  | -0.25489 | 0.083508 | 0.859756  | bio30.asc |
| -0.29142 | -0.11054 | -0.35636 | -0.1275  | -0.28347 | -0.4215  | -0.20157 | 0.817978  | bio31.asc |
| -0.17601 | 0.367487 | 0.324891 | -0.27342 | 0.505685 | 0.337017 | 0.331064 | -0.40648  | bio32.asc |
| -0.53655 | 0.202161 | -0.15153 | -0.4146  | 0.058736 | -0.2686  | 0.060605 | 0.883764  | bio33.asc |
| -0.31552 | -0.08011 | -0.33662 | -0.15633 | -0.25913 | -0.40788 | -0.17521 | 0.838479  | bio34.asc |
| -0.42668 | -0.07056 | -0.40822 | -0.20687 | -0.20361 | -0.47993 | -0.20392 | 0.715101  | bio34.asc |

| bio17.asc | bio16.asc | bio15.asc | bio14.asc | bio13.asc | bio12.asc | bio11.asc | bio10.asc | bio9.asc | bio8.asc |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0        |
| 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0        |
| 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0        |
| 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0        |
| 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0        |
| 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0        |
| 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0        |
| 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0        |
| 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0        |
| 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0.5019   |
| 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0.736746 | 0.907713 |
| 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0.865638  | 0.92906  | 0.684528 |
| 0.708288  | 0.655238  | -0.14723  | -0.72963  | 0.589568  | 0.906077  | 0.477092  | 0.218967  | 0.537632 | 0.046628 |
| 0.831513  | 0.821588  | -0.7231   | 0.626053  | -0.09925  | 0.85687   | 0.578573  | 0.343603  | 0.582576 | 0.217713 |
| 0.079849  | 0.770602  | -0.27939  | 0.994534  | 0.993258  | -0.44991  | 0.217464  | -0.02497  | 0.342833 | -0.20169 |
| -0.23467  | 0.368504  | -0.49082  | 0.687044  | 0.619386  | 0.928894  | 0.05865   | 0.220615  | -0.09843 | 0.373246 |
| 0.129135  | -0.05498  | 0.14454   | 0.810217  | 0.816466  | 0.879985  | 0.553762  | 0.314538  | 0.56599  | 0.181342 |
| -0.22639  | 0.460218  | 0.186477  | -0.26182  | 0.738354  | 0.839995  | 0.501492  | 0.010286  | 0.378804 | -0.16951 |
| -0.23374  | 0.007121  | 0.310916  | 0.094923  | 0.389865  | 0.881512  | 0.341883  | 0.360014  | 0.470943 | 0.314082 |
| 0.36651   | 0.447601  | -0.09041  | -0.19112  | 0.48681   | 0.283396  | 0.917241  | 0.076971  | 0.482091 | -0.14772 |
| -0.03623  | 0.156593  | 0.069195  | -0.25932  | -0.53551  | -0.44043  | 0.588631  | 0.904312  | 0.814514 | 0.755685 |
| 0.149508  | 0.476117  | 0.161309  | 0.340176  | 0.035956  | 0.357099  | 0.924329  | 0.676028  | 0.518377 | 0.542034 |
| 0.833414  | 0.643718  | -0.67305  | -0.07016  | 0.168643  | -0.44043  | -0.92853  | 0.826931  | -0.82616 | 0.685919 |
| 0.739187  | 0.767091  | -0.49576  | 0.830812  | 0.602356  | 0.794935  | 0.496676  | -0.91317  | 0.315796 | -0.78687 |
| 0.785548  | 0.445379  | -0.68857  | 0.727738  | 0.740085  | 0.82534   | 0.187206  | 0.75501   | 0.835346 | 0.909548 |
| -0.43021  | 0.033991  | -0.583888 | 0.795543  | 0.398025  | 0.450001  | -0.13639  | 0.356006  | 0.835346 | 0.1186   |
| 0.755051  | 0.748448  | -0.52615  | -0.44856  | 0.06886   | 0.105144  | 0.755782  | 0.821081  | 0.686182 | 0.662047 |
| 0.803519  | 0.47325   | -0.70291  | 0.744694  | 0.715968  | 0.377206  | 0.915938  | 0.824049  | 0.794204 | 0.693816 |
| 0.717452  | 0.531334  | -0.55831  | 0.810827  | 0.427287  | 0.794935  | 0.042249  | -0.19573  | 0.143273 | -0.29776 |
|           |           |           | 0.726537  | 0.49851   | 0.82534   | 0.187206  | -0.09004  | 0.262647 | -0.22541 |
|           |           |           |           |           | 0.64536   | -0.13639  | -0.32041  | -0.03253 | -0.35713 |
|           |           |           |           |           | -0.18703  | 0.360674  | 0.312325  | 0.307016 | 0.223307 |
|           |           |           |           |           | 0.8213    | 0.160459  | -0.10897  | 0.24452  | -0.24266 |
|           |           |           |           |           | 0.671877  | -0.10708  | -0.29888  | -0.0043  | -0.34636 |
|           |           |           |           |           | 0.657714  | -0.10527  | -0.35706  | -0.03868 | -0.37447 |







## APPENDIX B

### Representative Concentration Pathway 2.6 model results

Model output results and figures for Representative Concentration Pathway 2.6 (RCP 2.6) from the IPCC 5th Assessment Report (AR5). RCP 2.6 projects a 1°C mean increase in temperature by 2100 (0.3 - 1.7 likely range).

#### Analysis of omission/commission

The following picture shows the test omission rate and predicted area as a function of the cumulative threshold, averaged over the replicate runs. The omission rate should be close to the predicted omission, because of the definition of the cumulative threshold.

Figure B1

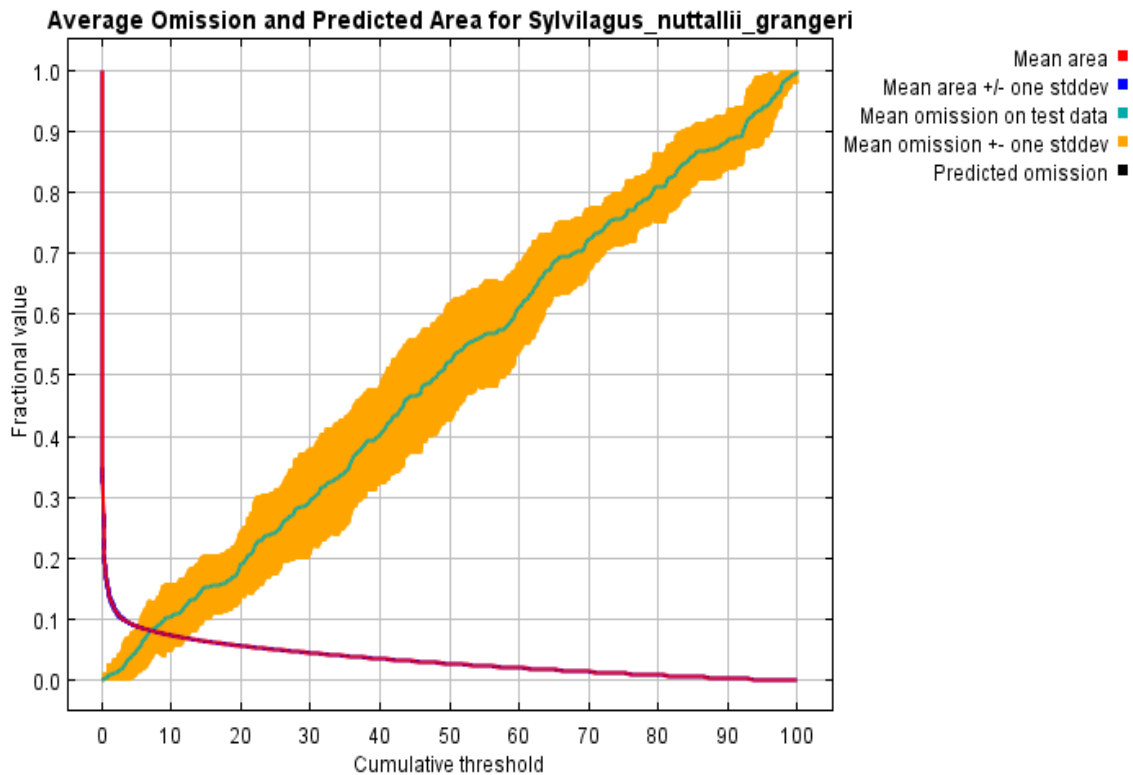


Figure B2

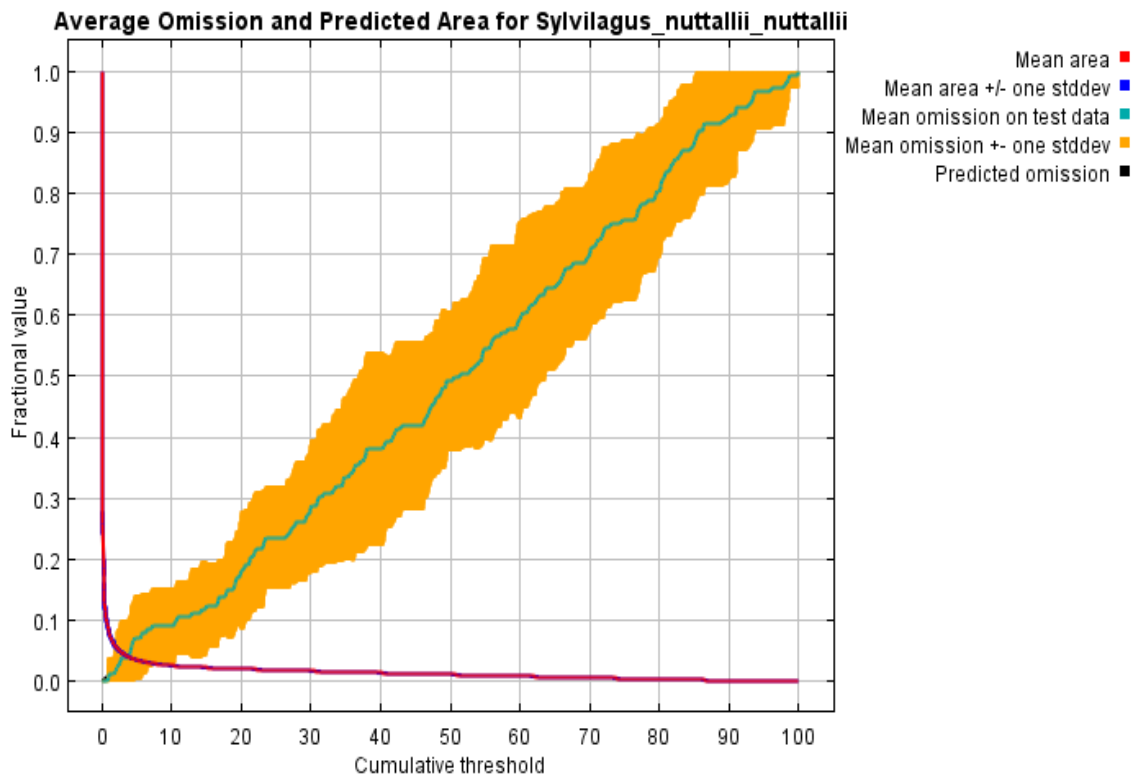
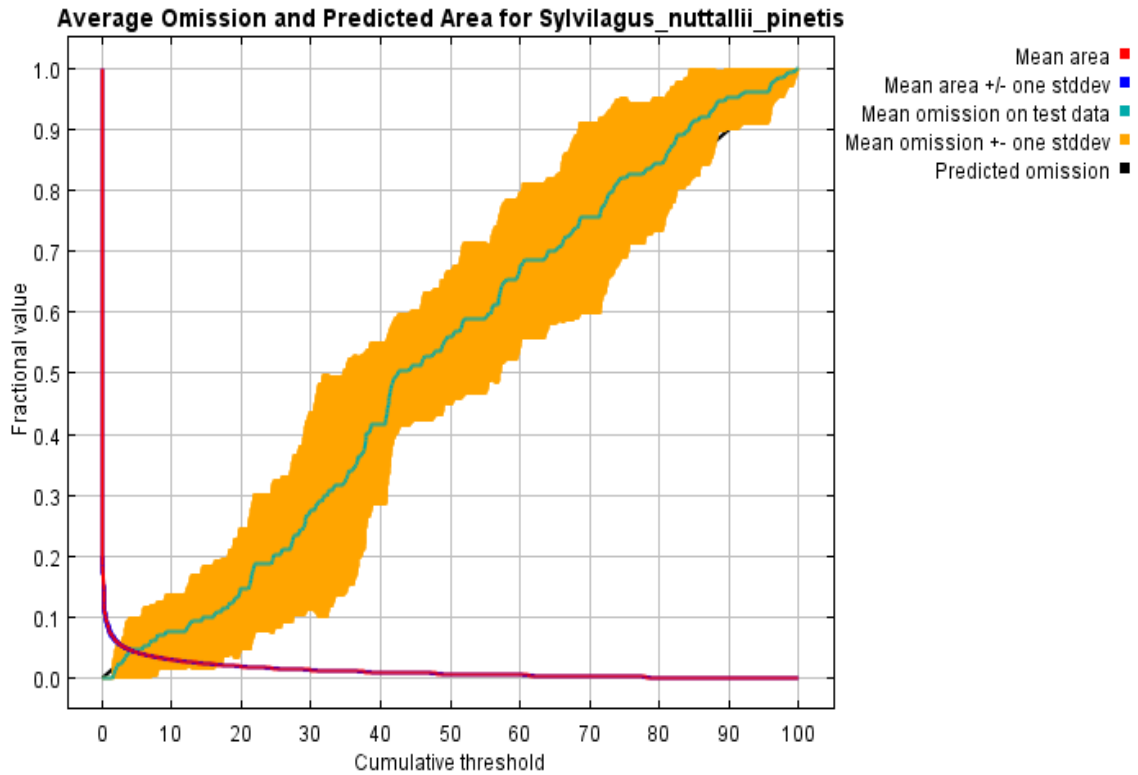


Figure B3



The next picture is the receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curve for the same data, again averaged over the replicate runs. Note that the specificity is defined using predicted area, rather than true commission (see the paper by Phillips, Anderson and Schapire cited for discussion of what this means). The average test AUC for the replicate runs is 0.965, 0.986, and 0.988 respectively and the standard deviation is 0.005.

Figure B4

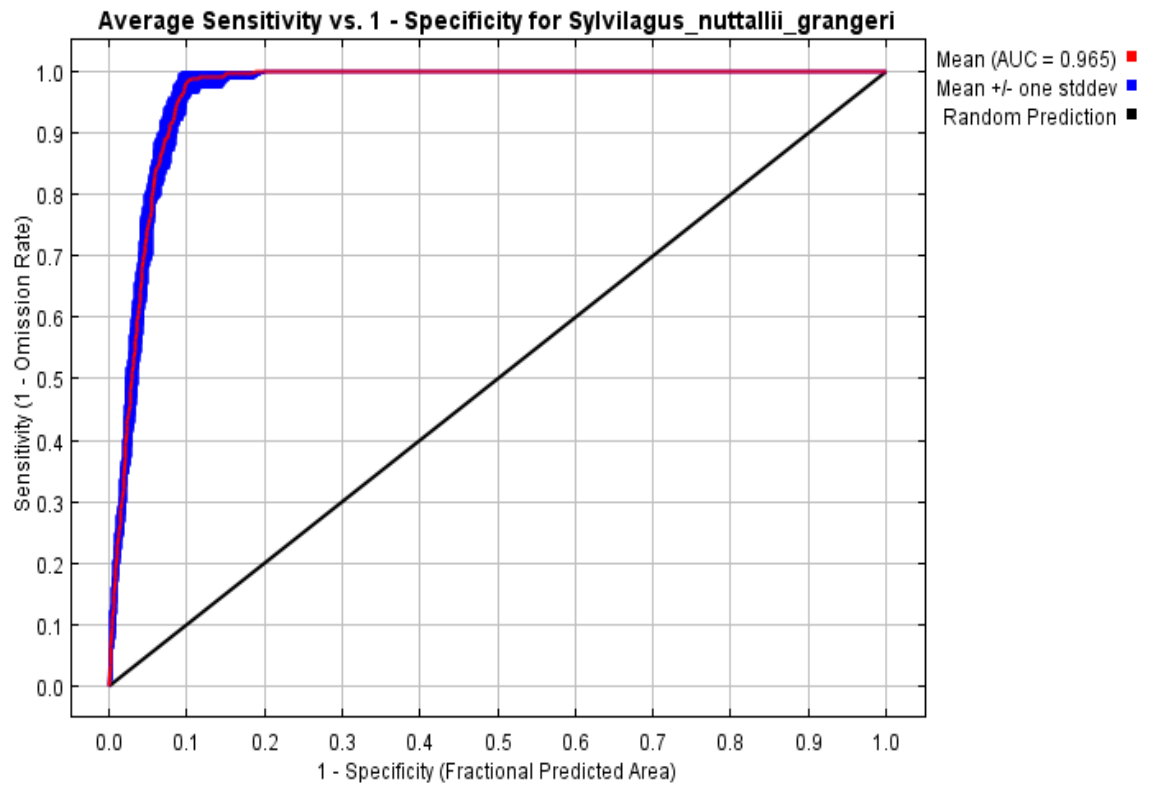


Figure B5

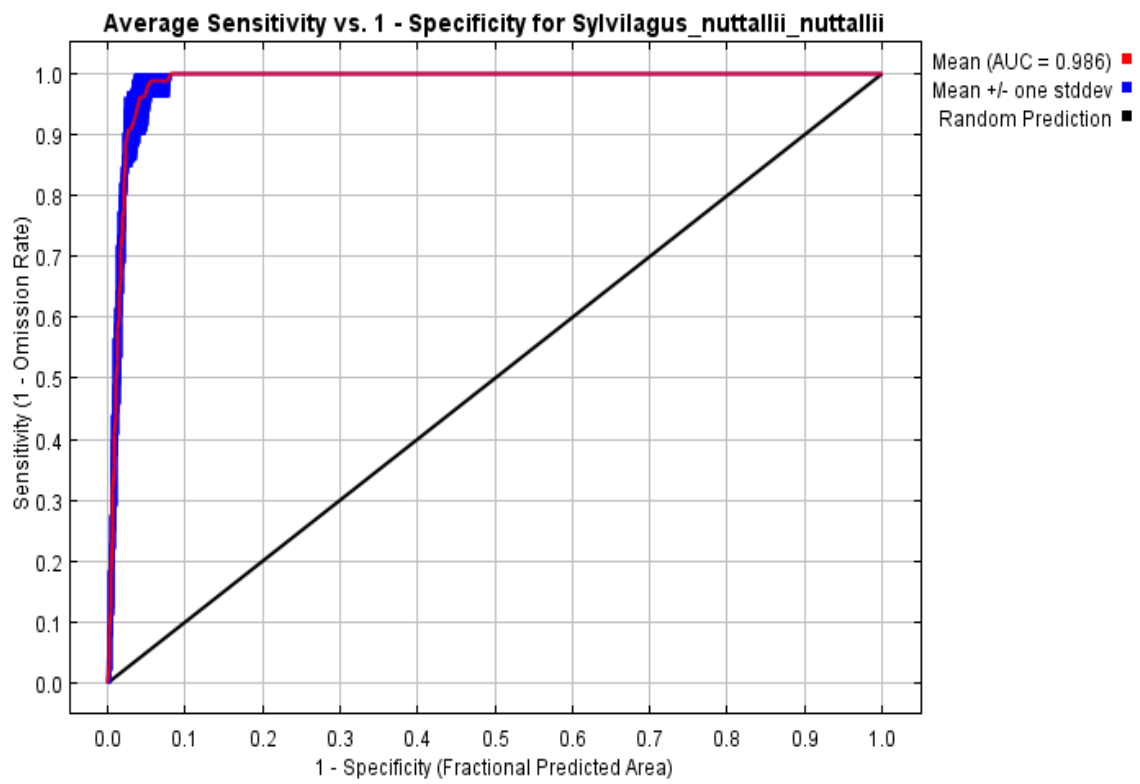
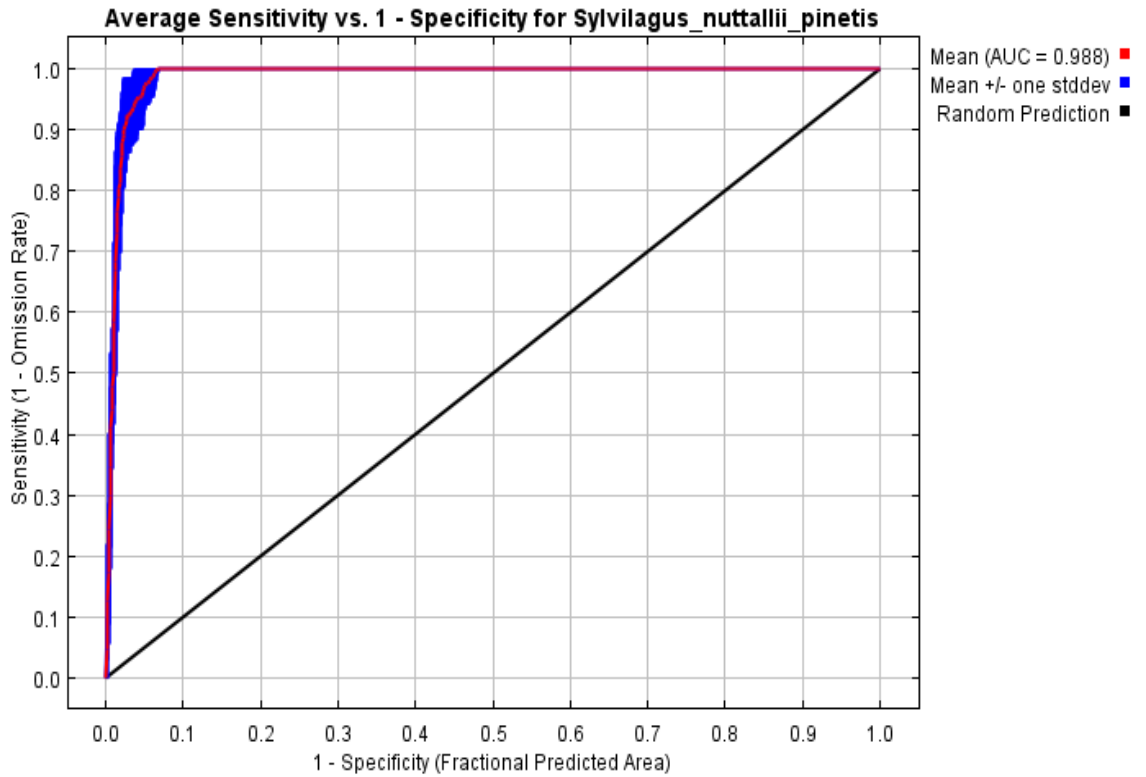


Figure B6



Pictures of the model

The following pictures show the point-wise mean and standard deviation of the 10 output grids. Other available summary grids are [min](#), [max](#) and [median](#).

*Sylvilagus\_nuttallii* grangeri:  
Figure B7



Figure B8



Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii:  
Figure B9



Figure B10



Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis:  
Figure B11



Figure B12



The following pictures show the point-wise mean and standard deviation of the 10 models applied to the environmental layers in ASCII. Other available summary grids are [min](#), [max](#) and [median](#).

*Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri*  
Figure B13



Figure B14



*Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii*:  
Figure B15





Figure B16



*Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis*:  
Figure B17



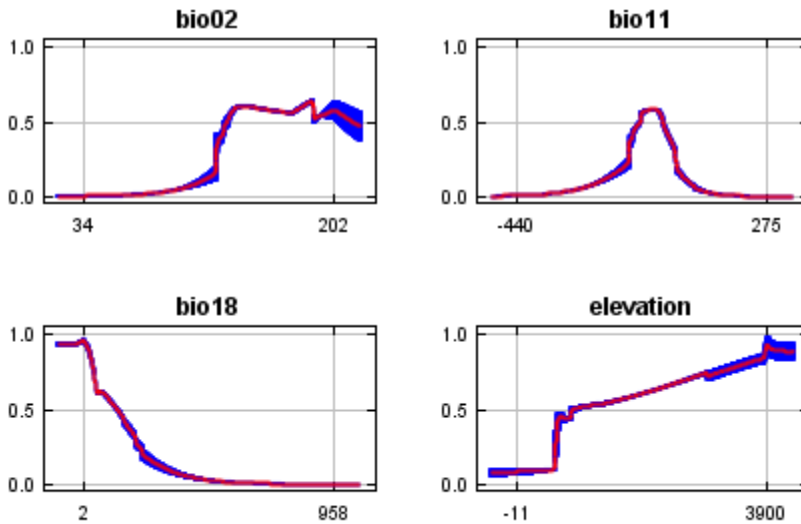
Figure B18



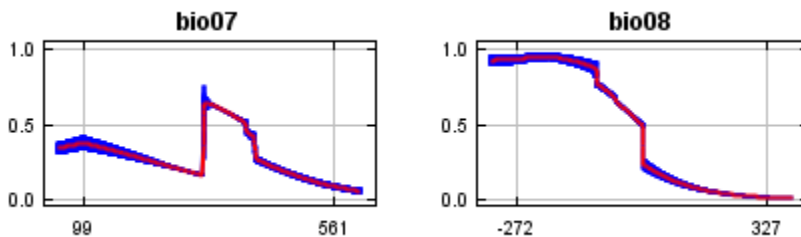
## Response curves

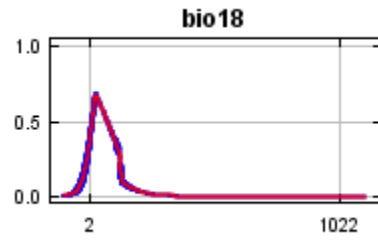
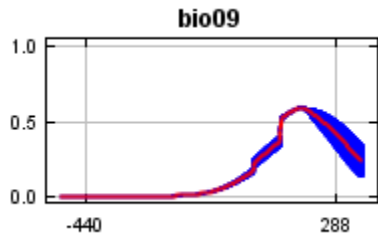
These curves show how each environmental variable affects the Maxent prediction. The curves show how the logistic prediction changes as each environmental variable is varied, keeping all other environmental variables at their average sample value. Click on a response curve to see a larger version. Note that the curves can be hard to interpret if you have strongly correlated variables, as the model may depend on the correlations in ways that are not evident in the curves. In other words, the curves show the marginal effect of changing exactly one variable, whereas the model may take advantage of sets of variables changing together. The curves show the mean response of the 10 replicate Maxent runs (red) and the mean  $\pm$  one standard deviation (blue, two shades for categorical variables).

*Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri*  
Figure B19

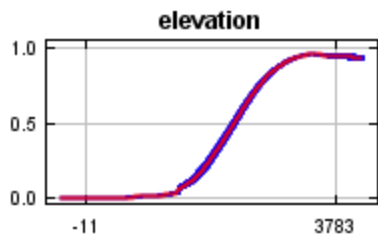
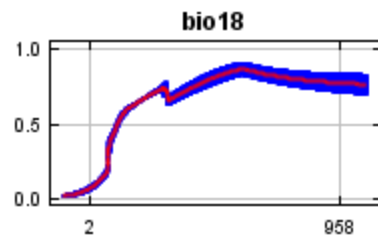
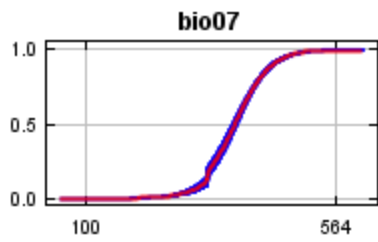
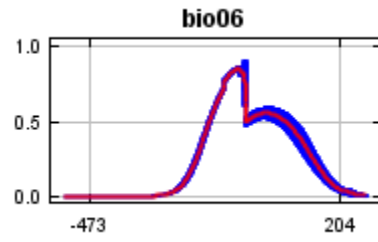
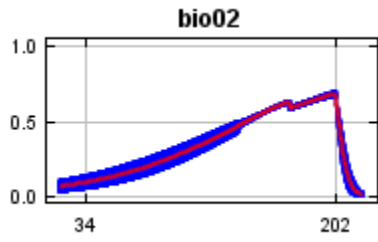


*Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii*  
Figure B20



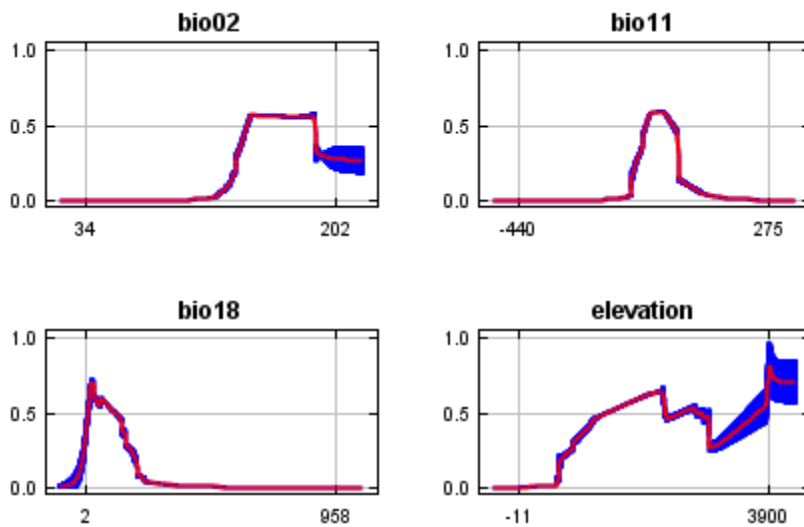


*Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis*  
Figure B21

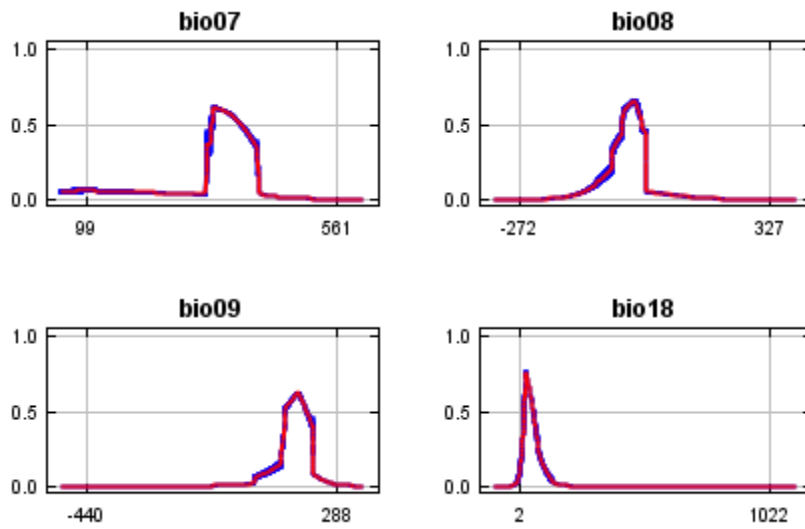


In contrast to the above marginal response curves, each of the following curves represents a different model, namely, a Maxent model created using only the corresponding variable. These plots reflect the dependence of predicted suitability both on the selected variable and on dependencies induced by correlations between the selected variable and other variables. They may be easier to interpret if there are strong correlations between variables.

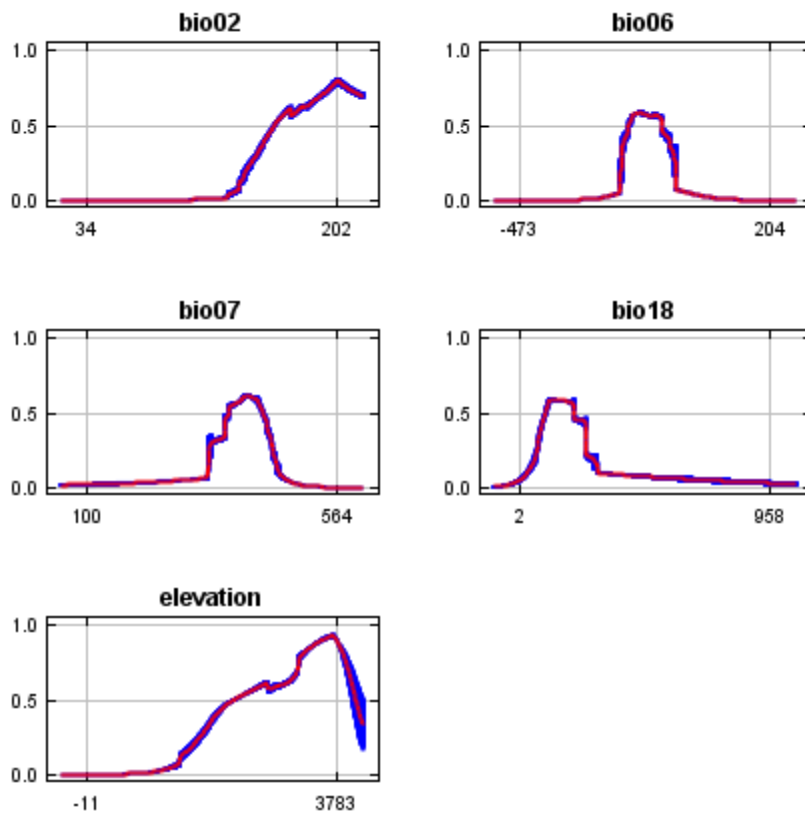
*Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri*  
Figure B22



*Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii*  
Figure B23



*Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis*  
Figure B24



## Analysis of variable contributions

The following table gives estimates of relative contributions of the environmental variables to the Maxent model. To determine the first estimate, in each iteration of the training algorithm, the increase in regularized gain is added to the contribution of the corresponding variable, or subtracted from it if the change to the absolute value of lambda is negative. For the second estimate, for each environmental variable in turn, the values of that variable on training presence and background data are randomly permuted. The model is reevaluated on the permuted data, and the resulting drop in training AUC is shown in the table, normalized to percentages. As with the variable jackknife, variable contributions should be interpreted with caution when the predictor variables are correlated. Values shown are averages over replicate runs.

### *Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri*

Table B1

| Variable  | Percent contribution | Permutation importance |
|-----------|----------------------|------------------------|
| bio02     | 53.7                 | 43                     |
| bio11     | 20.5                 | 30.8                   |
| elevation | 15.1                 | 13.6                   |
| bio18     | 10.8                 | 12.6                   |

### *Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii*

Table B2

| Variable | Percent contribution | Permutation importance |
|----------|----------------------|------------------------|
| bio09    | 53.2                 | 71                     |
| bio08    | 25                   | 9.2                    |
| bio18    | 18.5                 | 18.2                   |
| bio07    | 3.3                  | 1.7                    |

### *Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis*

Table B3

| Variable  | Percent contribution | Permutation importance |
|-----------|----------------------|------------------------|
| bio02     | 45.9                 | 1                      |
| elevation | 40.1                 | 48.8                   |
| bio06     | 7.8                  | 40.4                   |
| bio07     | 3.4                  | 7.4                    |
| bio18     | 2.8                  | 2.5                    |

The following picture shows the results of the jackknife test of variable importance. The environmental variable with highest gain when used in isolation is bio02, which therefore appears to have the most useful information by itself. The environmental variable that decreases the gain the most when it is omitted is bio11, which therefore appears to have the most information that isn't present in the other variables. Values shown are averages over replicate runs.

Figure B25

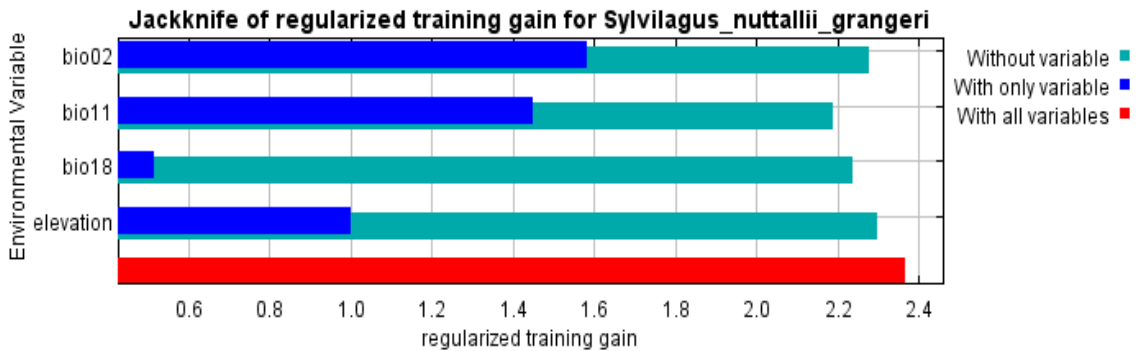


Figure B26

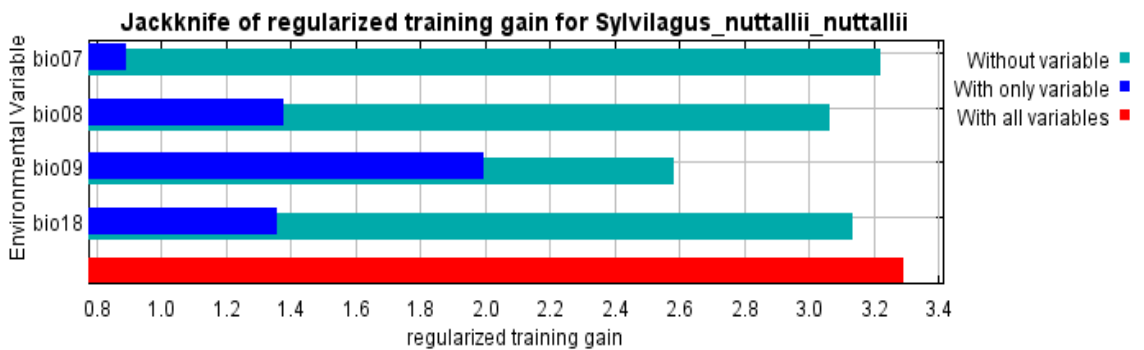
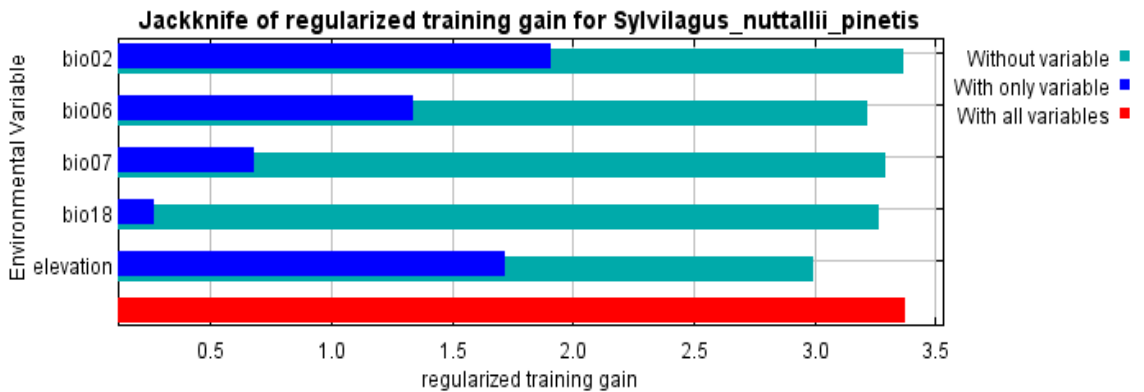


Figure B27



The next picture shows the same jackknife test, using test gain instead of training gain.

Note that conclusions about which variables are most important can change, now that we're looking at test data.

Figure B28

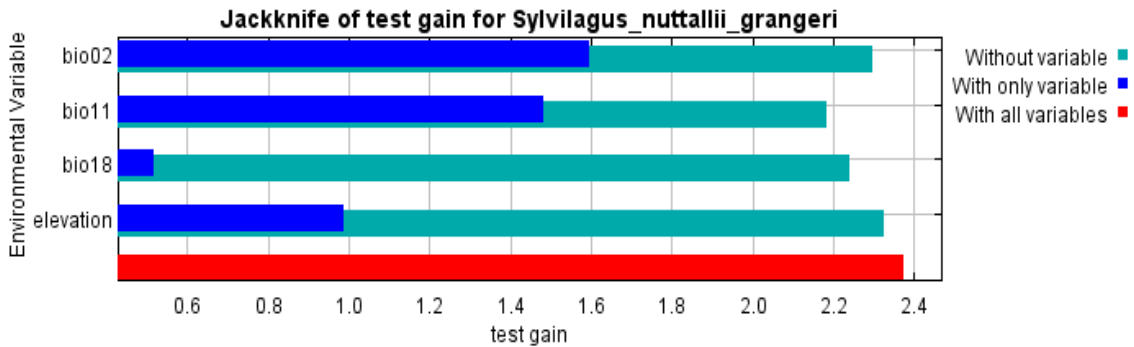


Figure B29

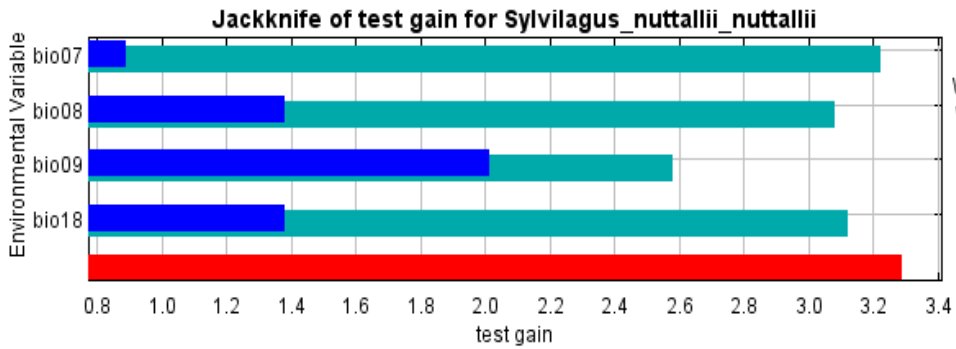
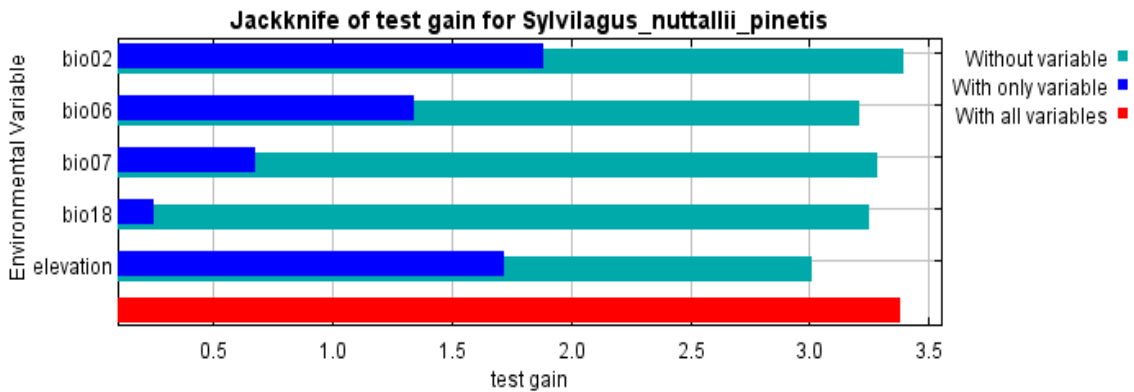


Figure B30



Lastly, we have the same jackknife test, using AUC on test data.

Figure B29



Figure B31

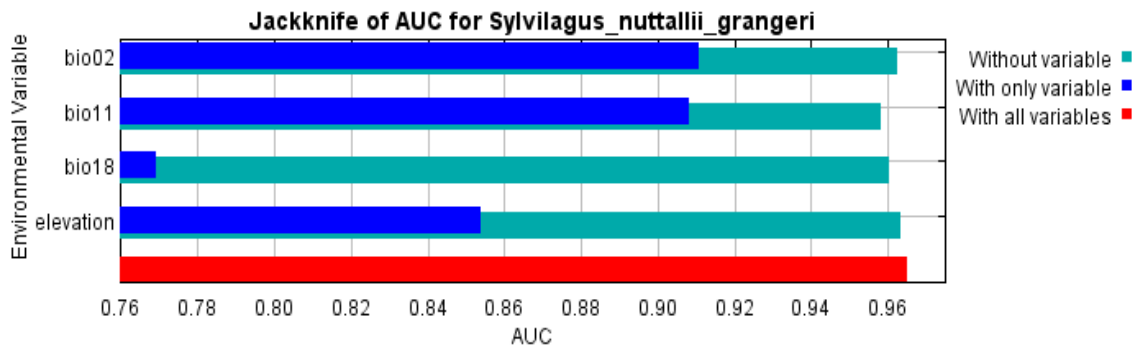


Figure B32

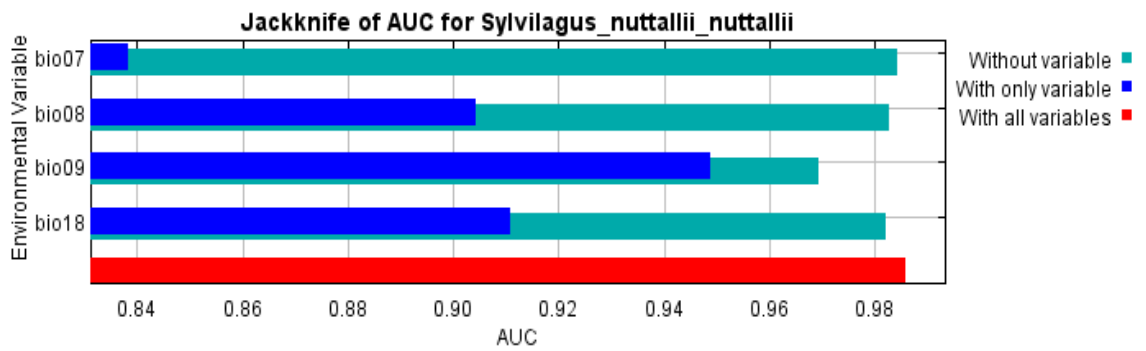
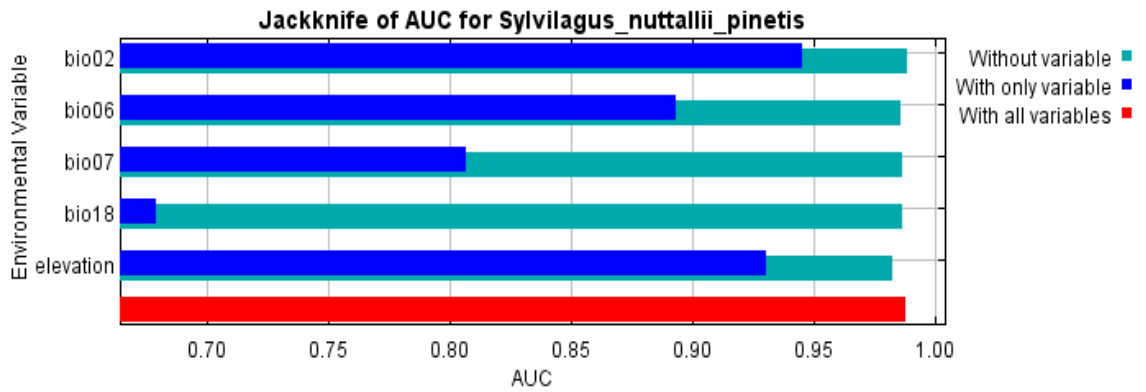


Figure B33



APPENDIX C  
Representative Concentration Pathway 4.5 model results

Model output results and figures for Representative Concentration Pathway 4.5 (RCP 4.5) from the IPCC 5th Assessment Report (AR5). RCP 4.5 projects a 1.8°C mean increase in temperature by 2100 (1.1 - 2.6 likely range).

Analysis of omission/commission

The following picture shows the test omission rate and predicted area as a function of the cumulative threshold, averaged over the replicate runs. The omission rate should be close to the predicted omission, because of the definition of the cumulative threshold.

Figure C1

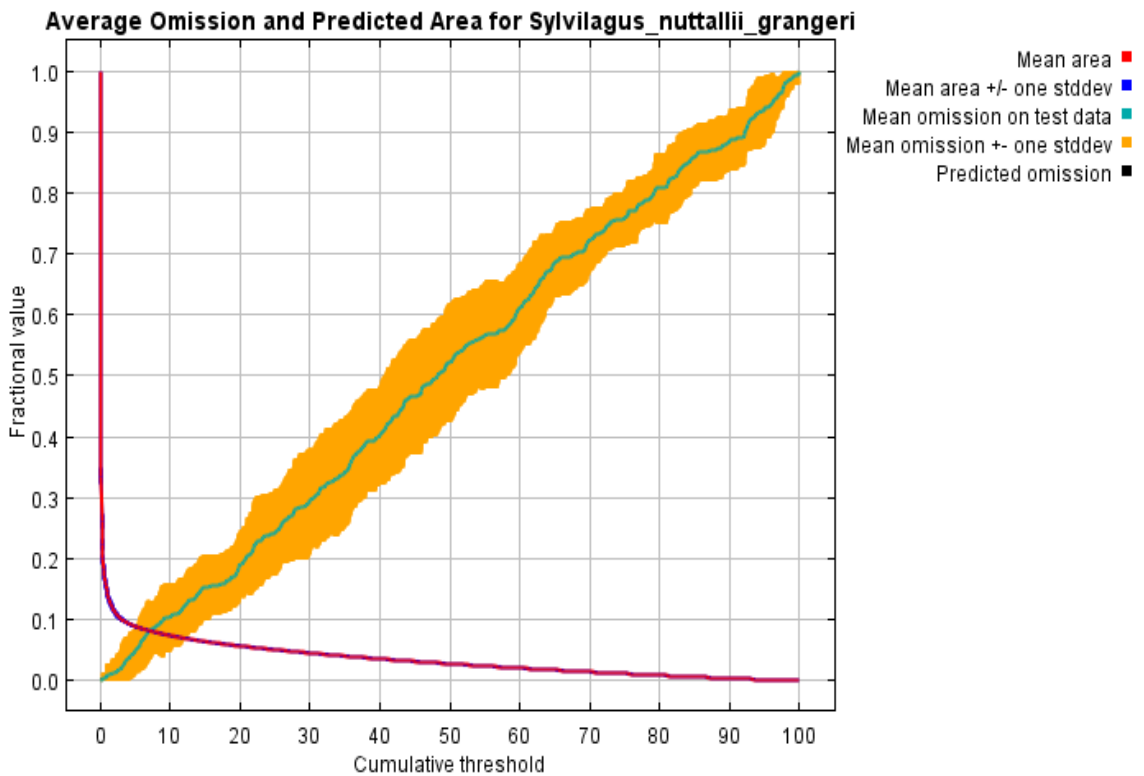


Figure C2

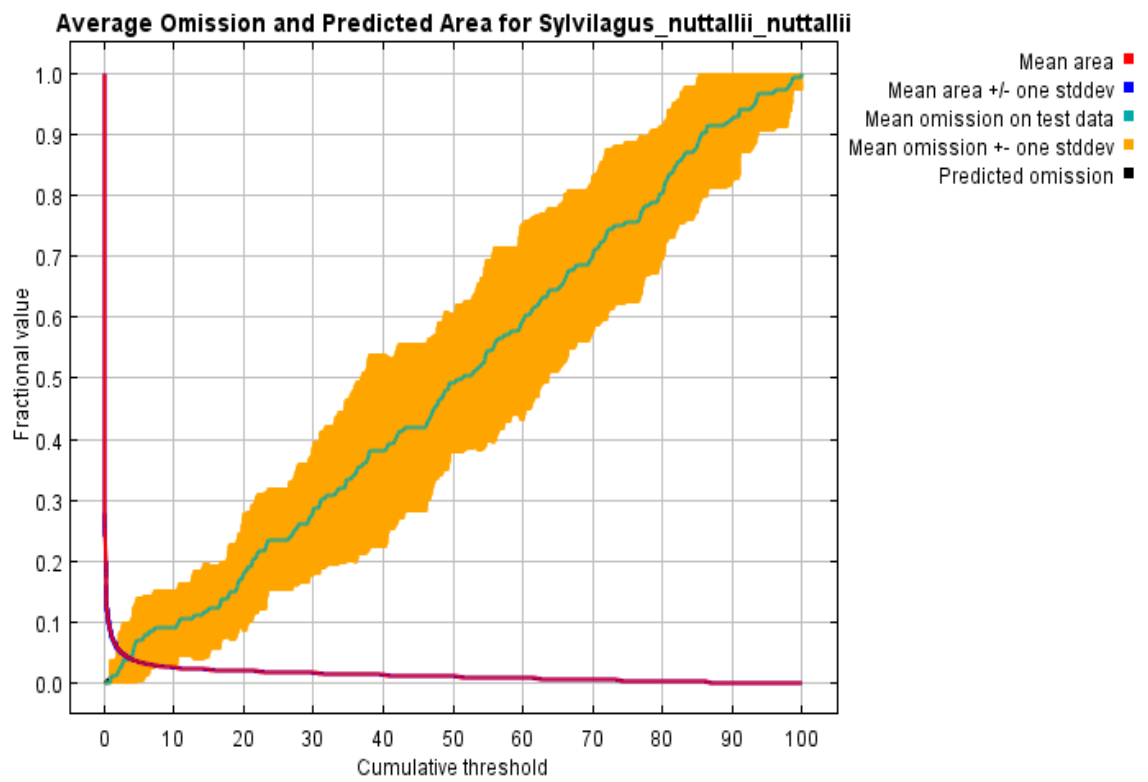
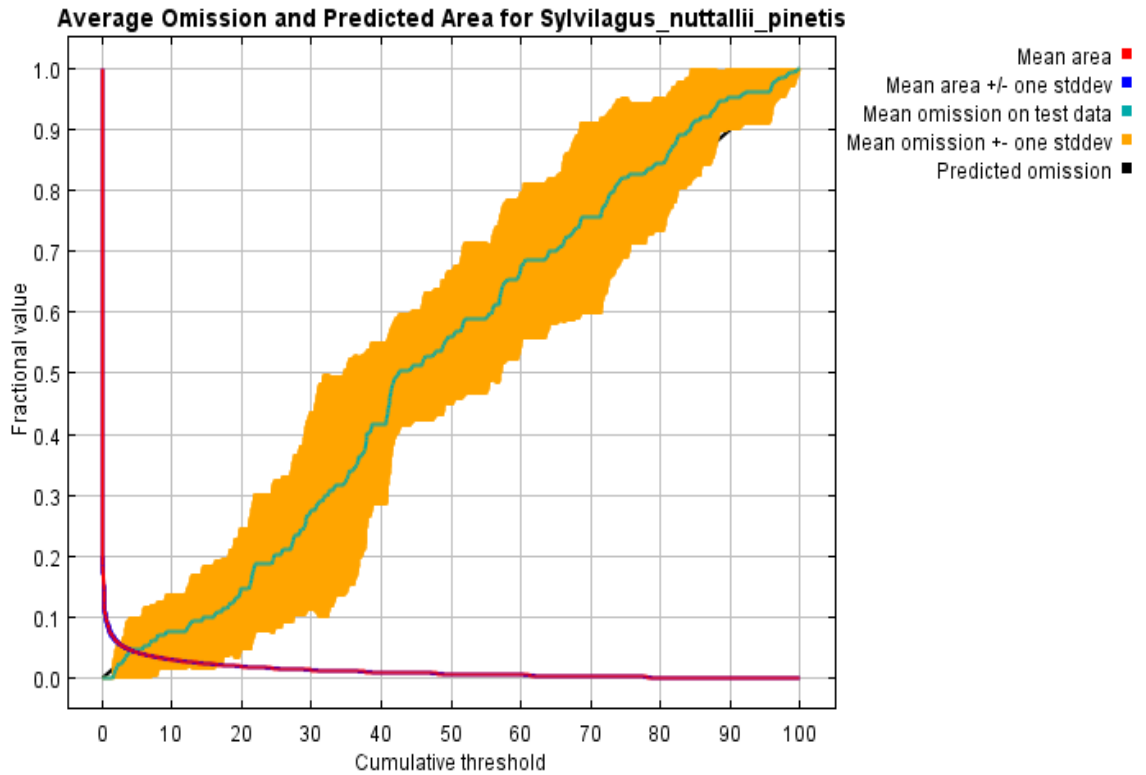


Figure C3



The next picture is the receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curve for the same data, again averaged over the replicate runs. Note that the specificity is defined using predicted area, rather than true commission (see the paper by Phillips, Anderson and Schapire cited for discussion of what this means). The average test AUC for the replicate runs is 0.965, 0.986, and 0.988 respectively and the standard deviation is 0.005.

Figure C4

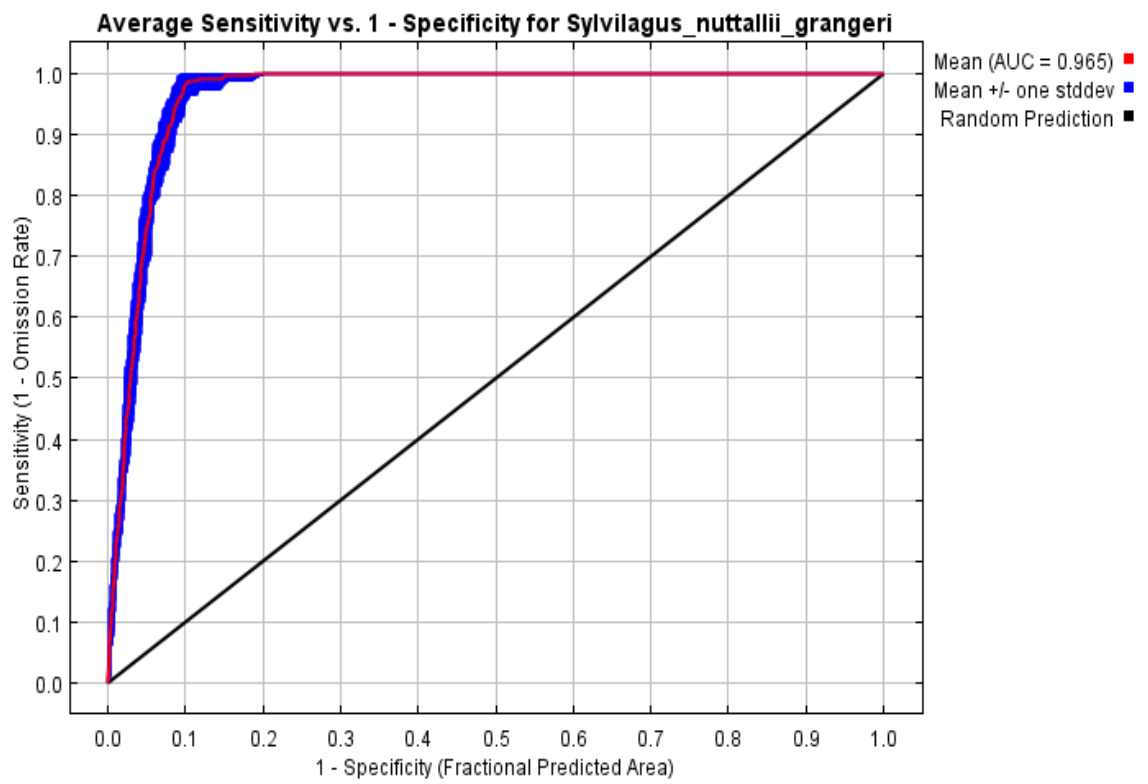


Figure C5

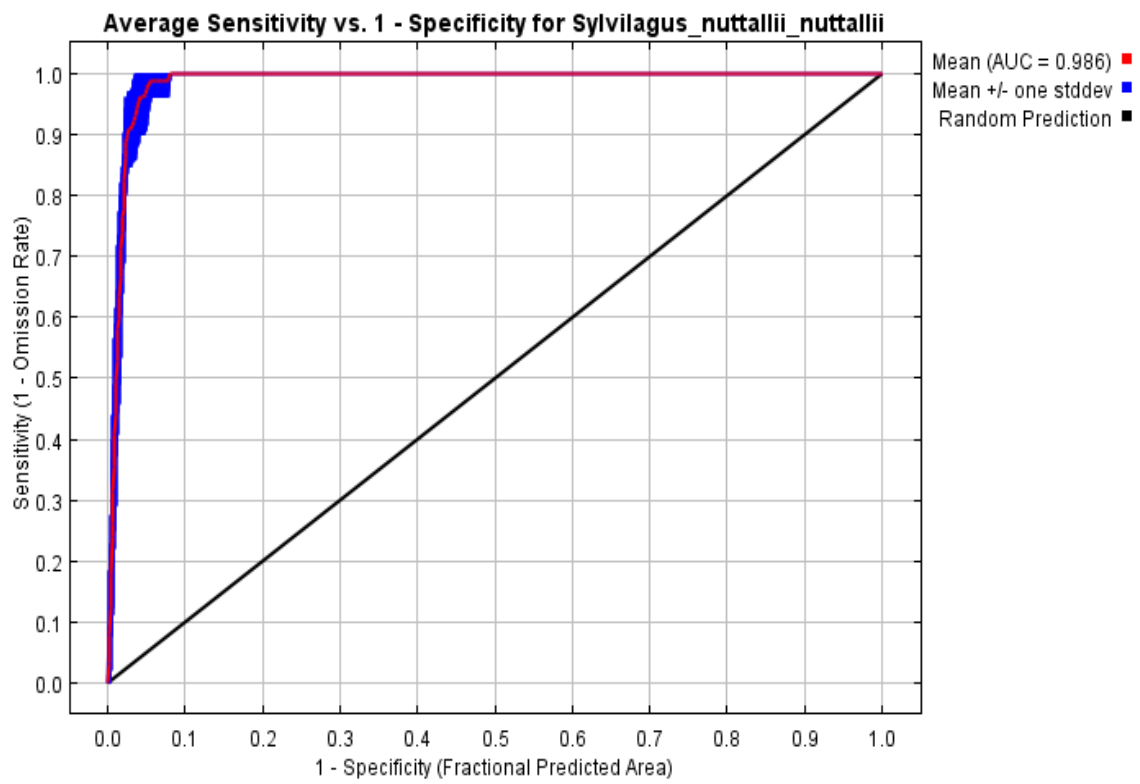
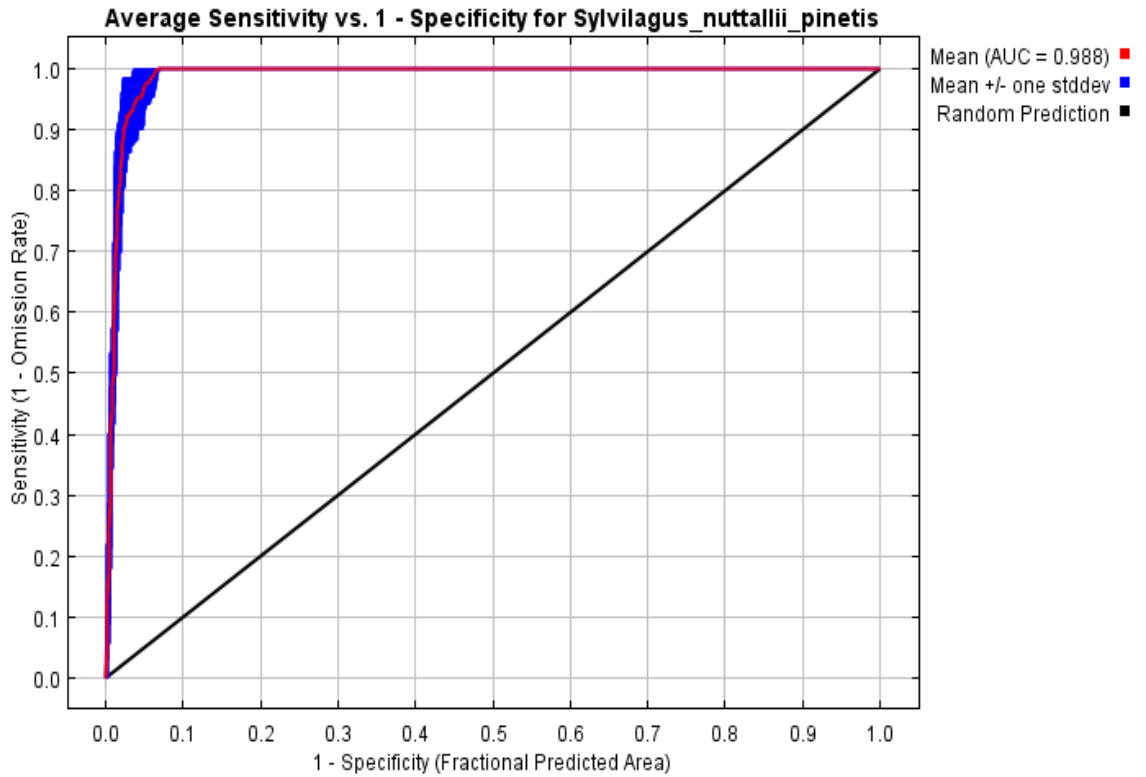


Figure C6



Pictures of the model

The following pictures show the point-wise mean and standard deviation of the 10 output grids. Other available summary grids are [min](#), [max](#) and [median](#).

*Sylvilagus nuttallii* grangeri:

Figure C7



Figure C8



Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii:  
Figure C9



Figure C10



Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis:  
Figure C11



Figure C12



The following pictures show the point-wise mean and standard deviation of the 10 models applied to the environmental layers in ASCII. Other available summary grids are [min](#), [max](#) and [median](#).



*Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri*

Figure C13

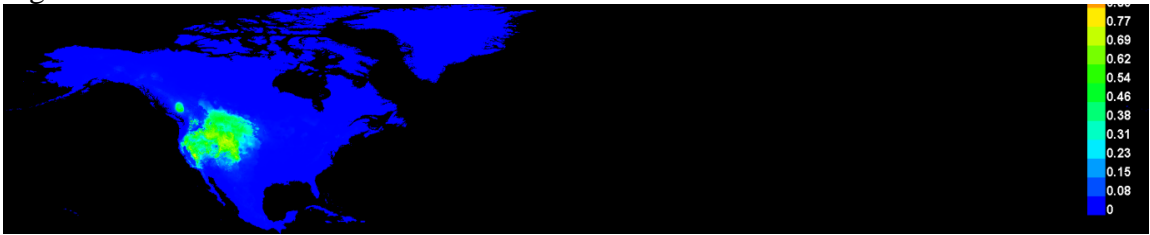


Figure C14



*Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii*:

Figure C15



Figure C16



*Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis*

Figure C17



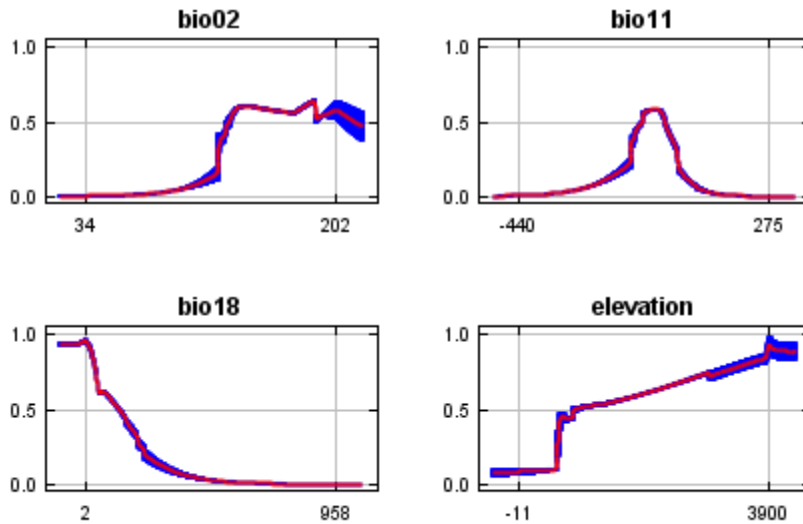
Figure C18



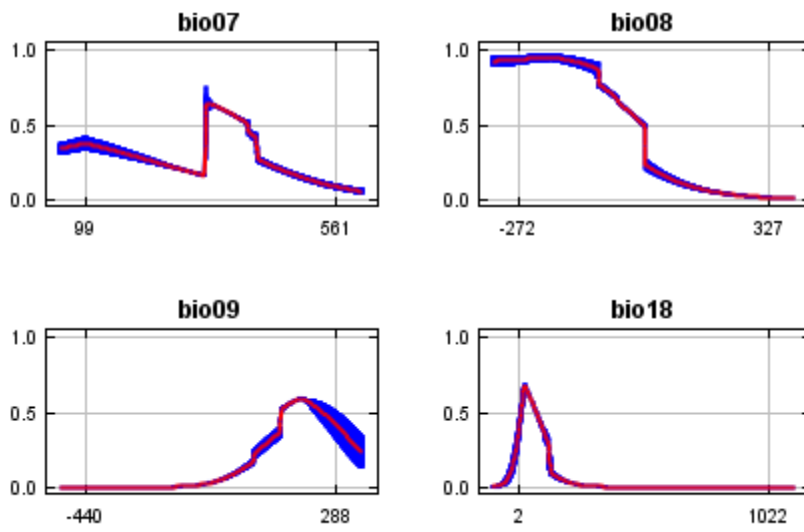
## Response curves

These curves show how each environmental variable affects the Maxent prediction. The curves show how the logistic prediction changes as each environmental variable is varied, keeping all other environmental variables at their average sample value. Click on a response curve to see a larger version. Note that the curves can be hard to interpret if you have strongly correlated variables, as the model may depend on the correlations in ways that are not evident in the curves. In other words, the curves show the marginal effect of changing exactly one variable, whereas the model may take advantage of sets of variables changing together. The curves show the mean response of the 10 replicate Maxent runs (red) and the mean  $\pm$  one standard deviation (blue, two shades for categorical variables).

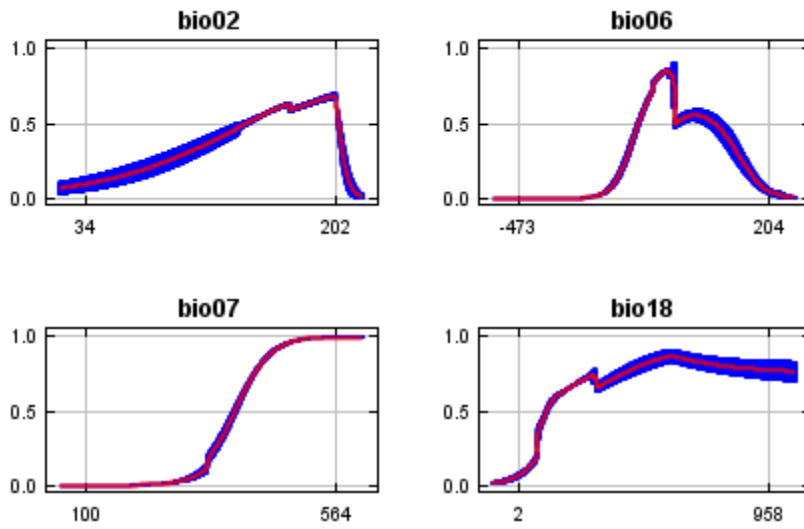
*Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri*  
Figure C19

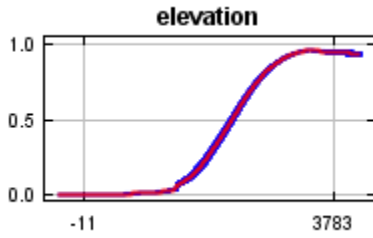


*Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii*  
Figure C20



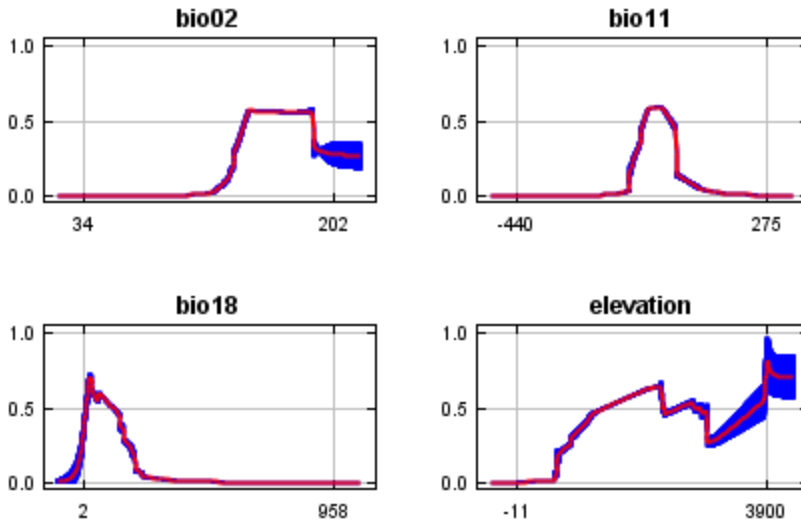
*Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis*  
Figure C21



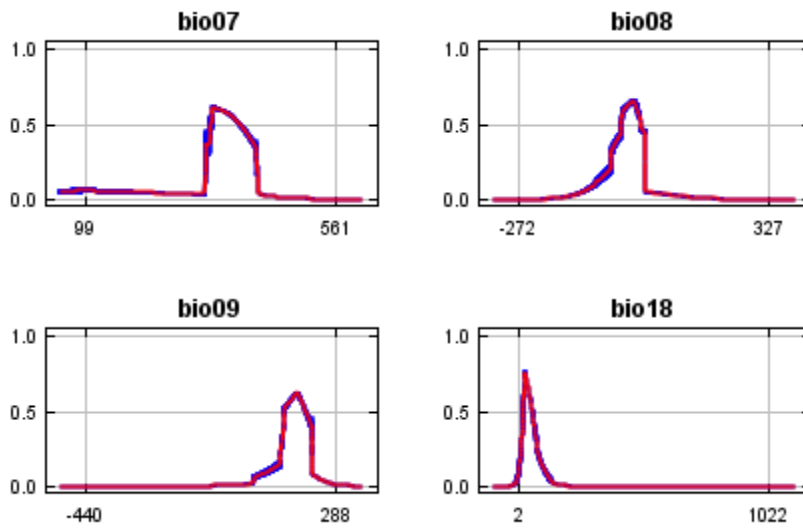


In contrast to the above marginal response curves, each of the following curves represents a different model, namely, a Maxent model created using only the corresponding variable. These plots reflect the dependence of predicted suitability both on the selected variable and on dependencies induced by correlations between the selected variable and other variables. They may be easier to interpret if there are strong correlations between variables.

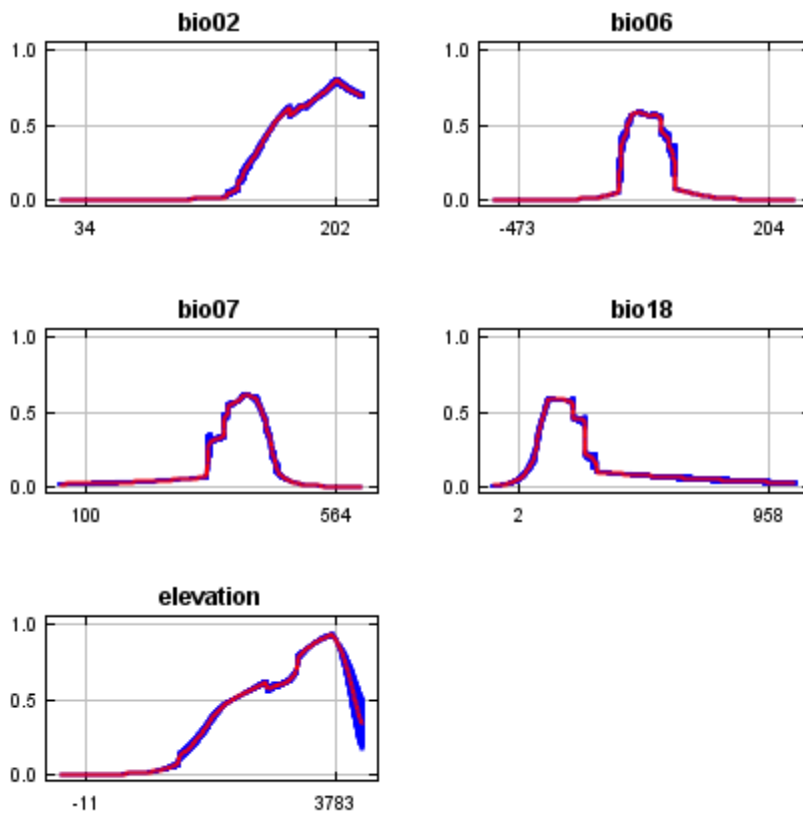
*Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri*  
Figure C22



*Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii*  
Figure C23



*Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis*  
Figure C24



## Analysis of variable contributions

The following table gives estimates of relative contributions of the environmental variables to the Maxent model. To determine the first estimate, in each iteration of the training algorithm, the increase in regularized gain is added to the contribution of the corresponding variable, or subtracted from it if the change to the absolute value of lambda is negative. For the second estimate, for each environmental variable in turn, the values of that variable on training presence and background data are randomly permuted. The model is reevaluated on the permuted data, and the resulting drop in training AUC is shown in the table, normalized to percentages. As with the variable jackknife, variable contributions should be interpreted with caution when the predictor variables are correlated. Values shown are averages over replicate runs.

### *Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri*

Table C1

| Variable  | Percent contribution | Permutation importance |
|-----------|----------------------|------------------------|
| bio02     | 53.7                 | 43                     |
| bio11     | 20.5                 | 30.8                   |
| elevation | 15.1                 | 13.6                   |
| bio18     | 10.8                 | 12.6                   |

### *Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii*

Table C2

| Variable | Percent contribution | Permutation importance |
|----------|----------------------|------------------------|
| bio09    | 53.2                 | 71                     |
| bio08    | 25                   | 9.2                    |
| bio18    | 18.5                 | 18.2                   |
| bio07    | 3.3                  | 1.7                    |

### *Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis*

Table C3

| Variable  | Percent contribution | Permutation importance |
|-----------|----------------------|------------------------|
| bio02     | 45.9                 | 1                      |
| elevation | 40.1                 | 48.8                   |
| bio06     | 7.8                  | 40.4                   |
| bio07     | 3.4                  | 7.4                    |
| bio18     | 2.8                  | 2.5                    |

The following picture shows the results of the jackknife test of variable importance. The environmental variable with highest gain when used in isolation is bio02, which therefore appears to have the most useful information by itself. The environmental variable that decreases the gain the most when it is omitted is bio11, which therefore appears to have the most information that isn't present in the other variables. Values shown are averages over replicate runs.

Figure C25

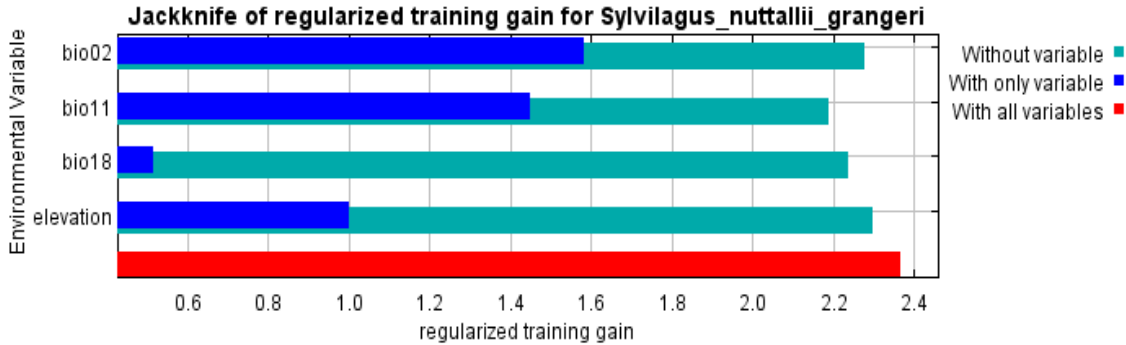


Figure C26

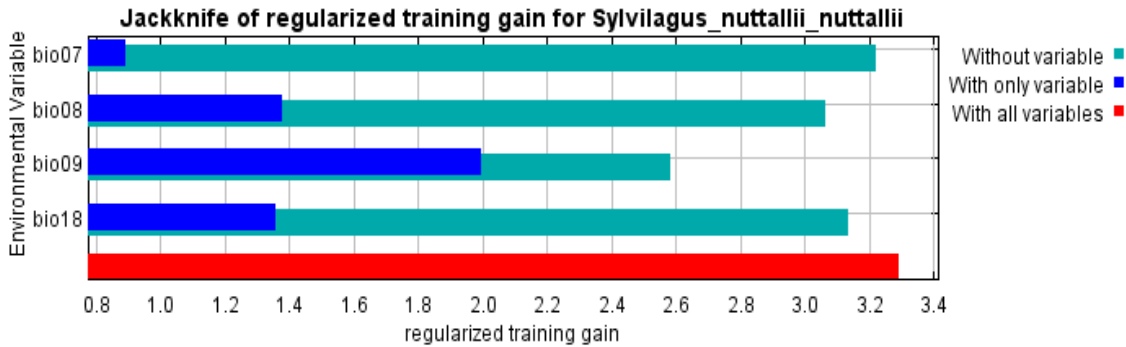
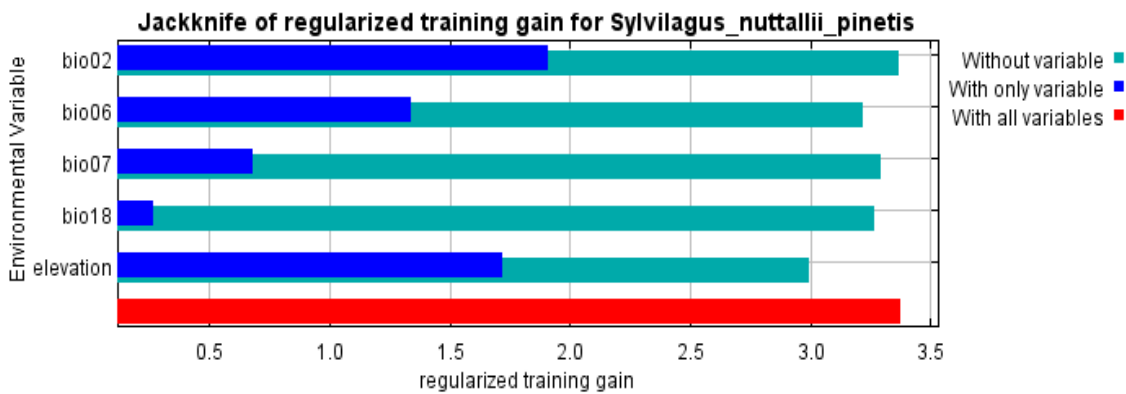


Figure C27



The next picture shows the same jackknife test, using test gain instead of training gain.



Note that conclusions about which variables are most important can change, now that we're looking at test data.

Figure C28

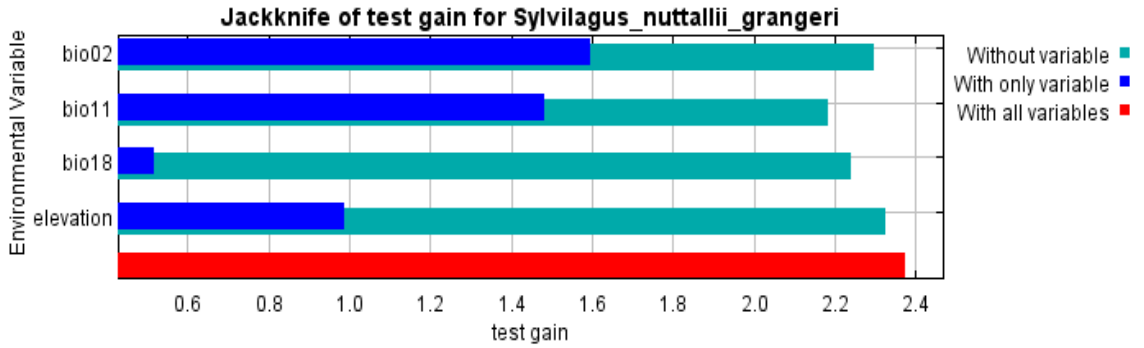


Figure C29

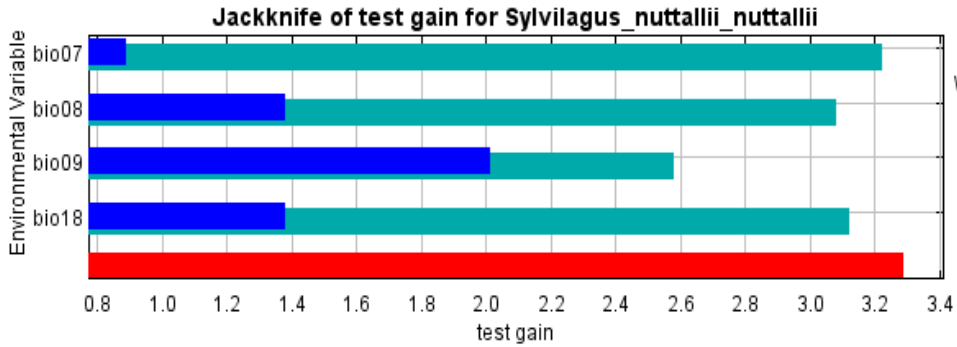
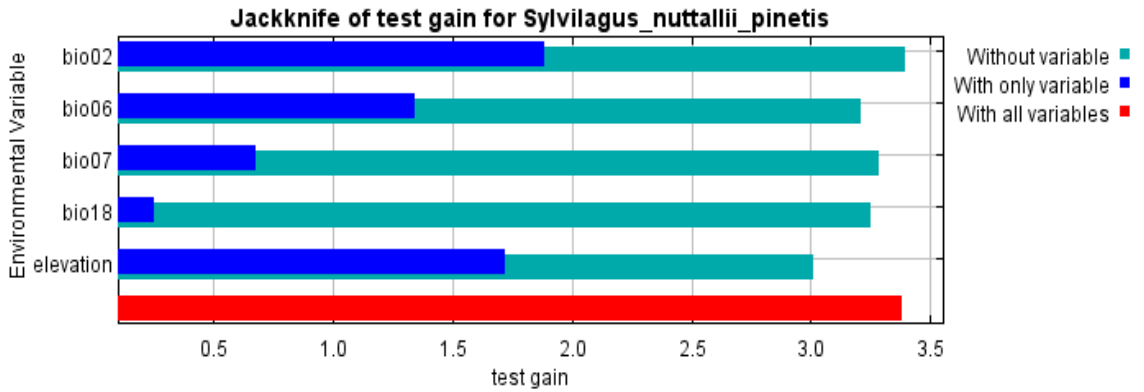


Figure C30



Lastly, we have the same jackknife test, using AUC on test data.  
Figure C31

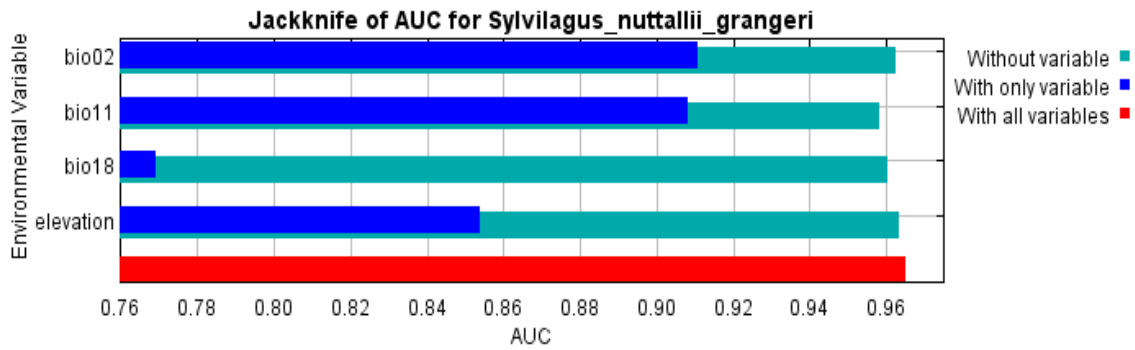


Figure C32

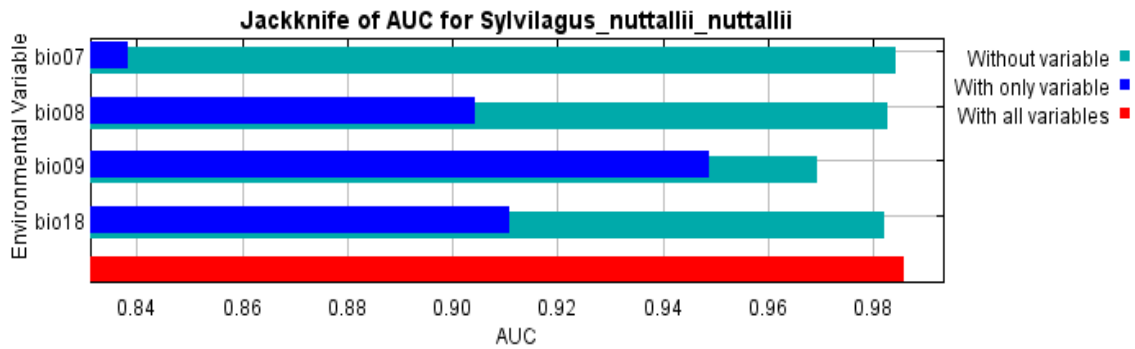
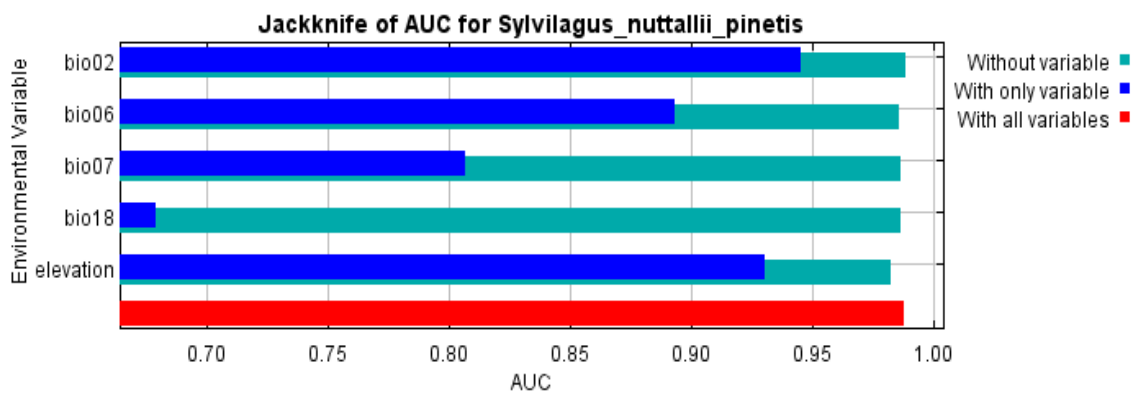


Figure C33



## APPENDIX D

### Representative Concentration Pathway 6.0 model results

Model output results and figures for Representative Concentration Pathway 6.0 (RCP 6.0) from the IPCC 5th Assessment Report (AR5). RCP 6.0 projects a 2.2°C mean increase in temperature by 2100 (1.4 - 3.1 likely range).

#### Analysis of omission/commission

The following picture shows the test omission rate and predicted area as a function of the cumulative threshold, averaged over the replicate runs. The omission rate should be close to the predicted omission, because of the definition of the cumulative threshold.

Figure D1

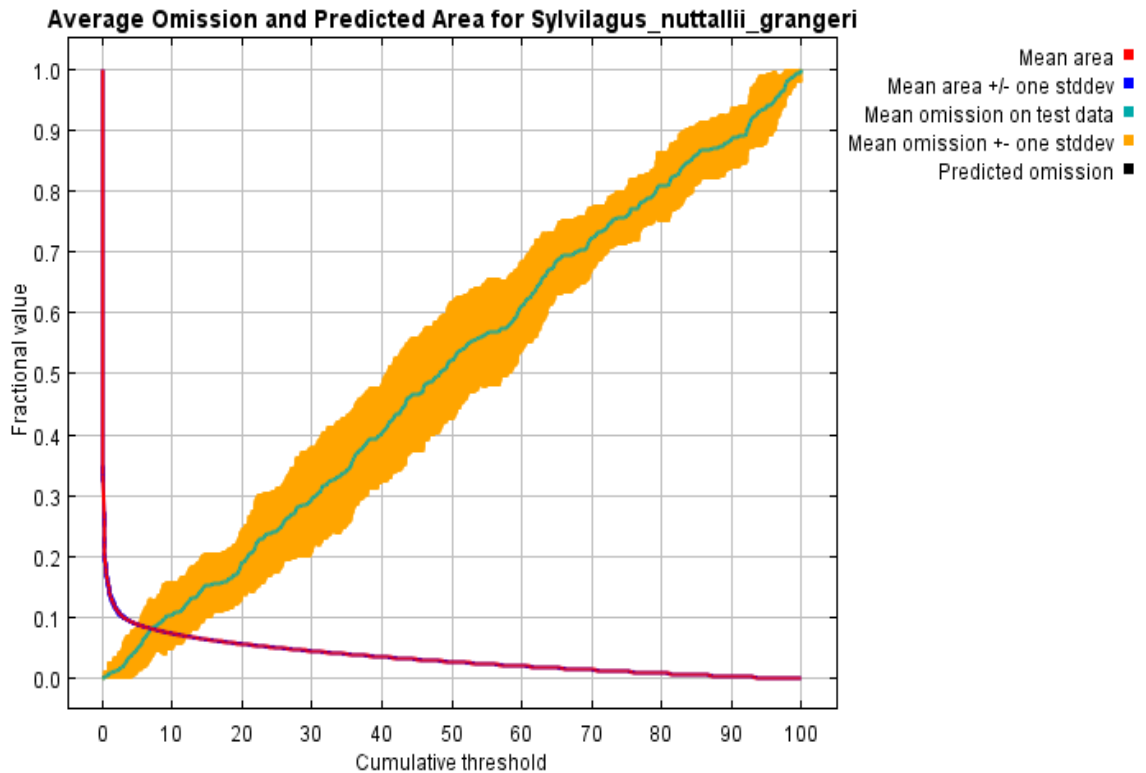


Figure D2

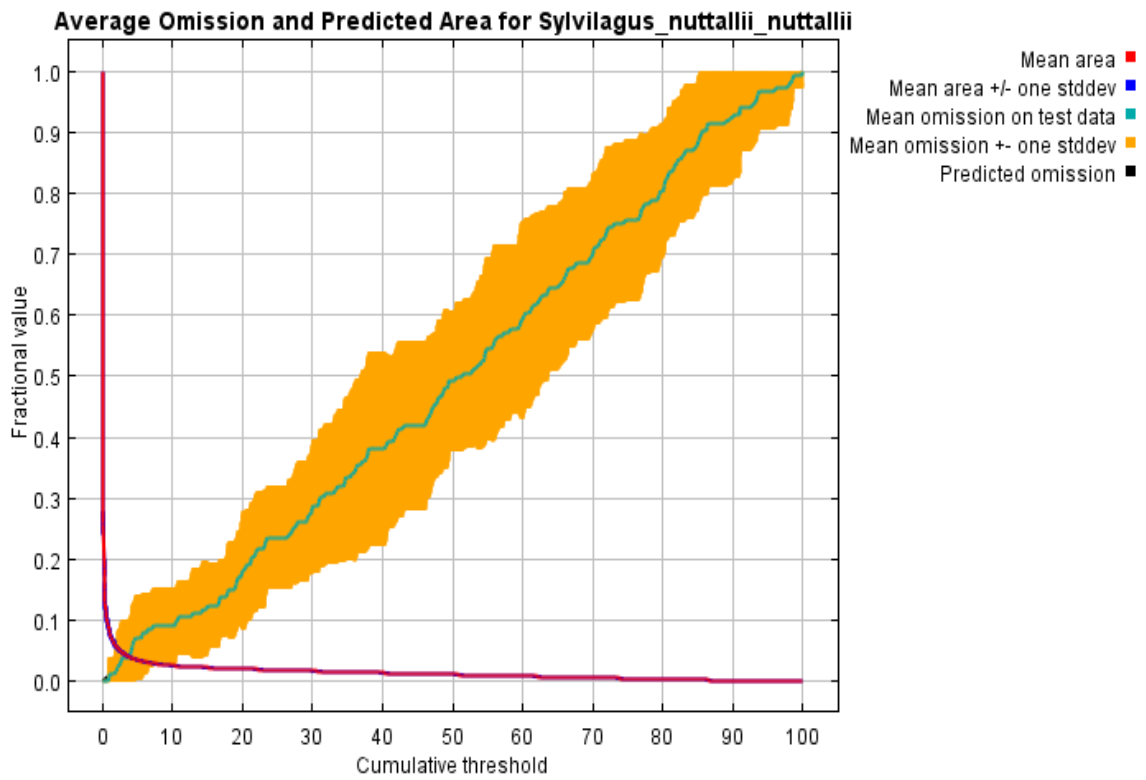
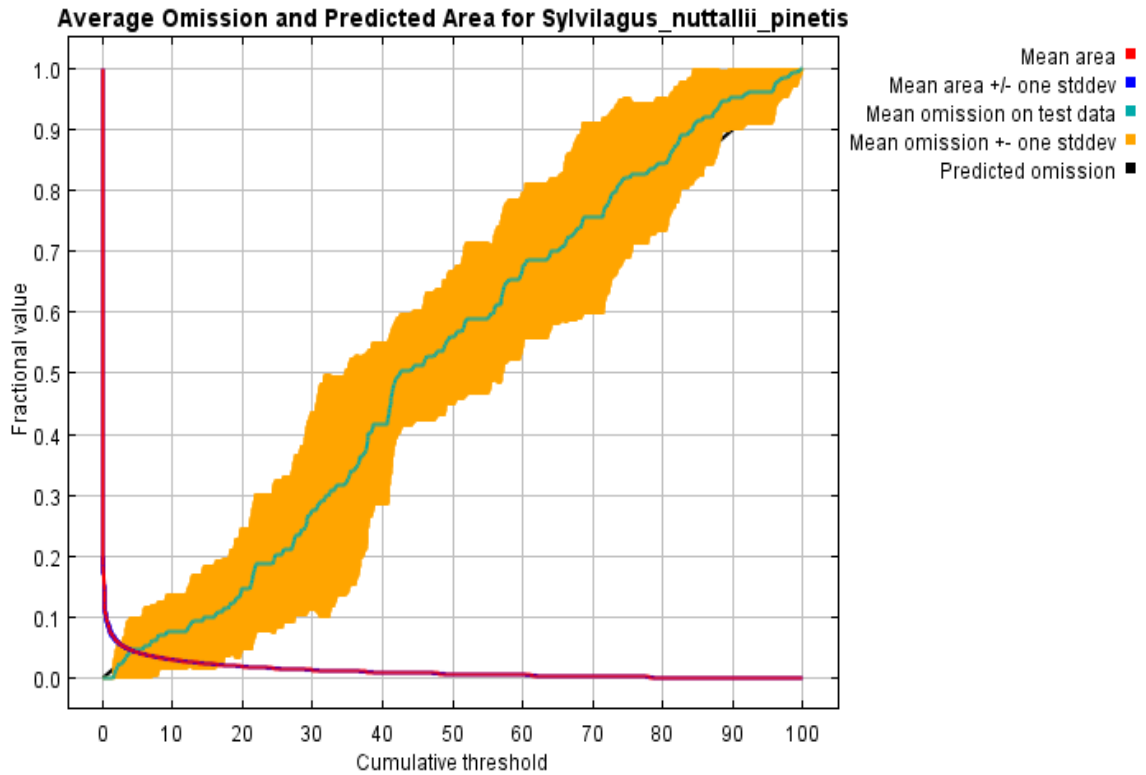


Figure D3



The next picture is the receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curve for the same data, again averaged over the replicate runs. Note that the specificity is defined using predicted area, rather than true commission (see the paper by Phillips, Anderson and Schapire cited for discussion of what this means). The average test AUC for the replicate runs is 0.965, 0.986, and 0.988 respectively and the standard deviation is 0.005.

Figure D4

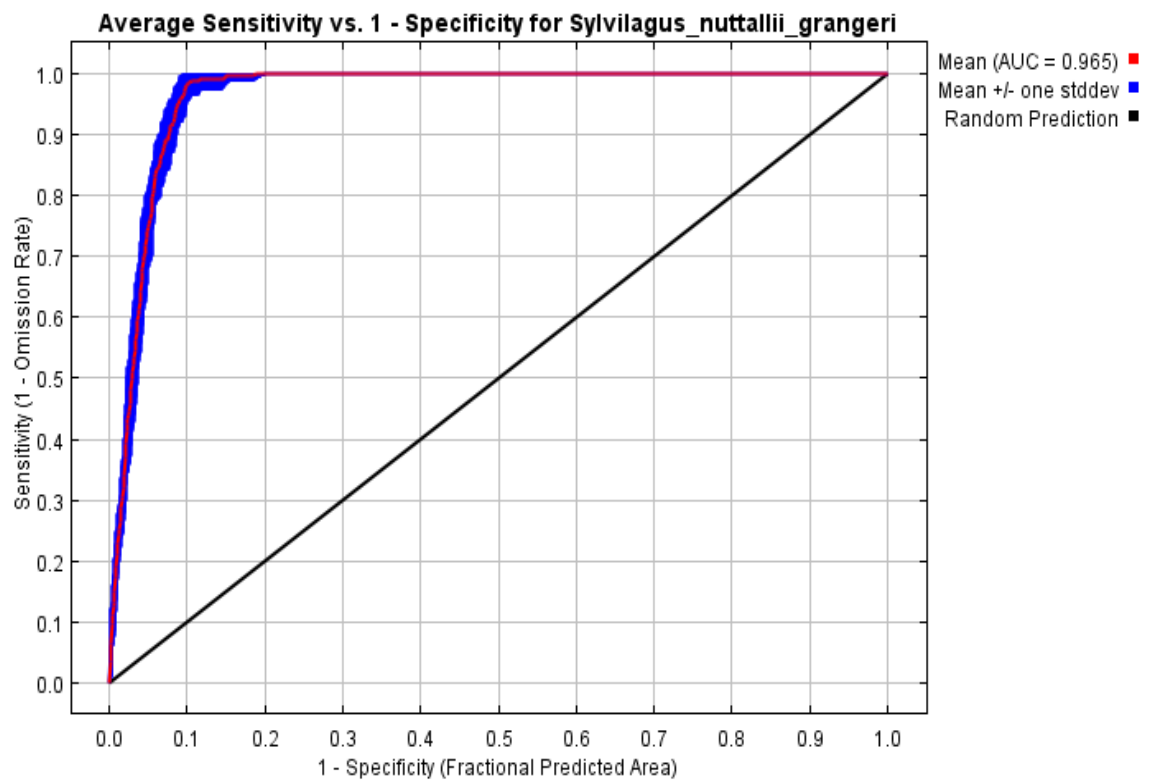


Figure D5

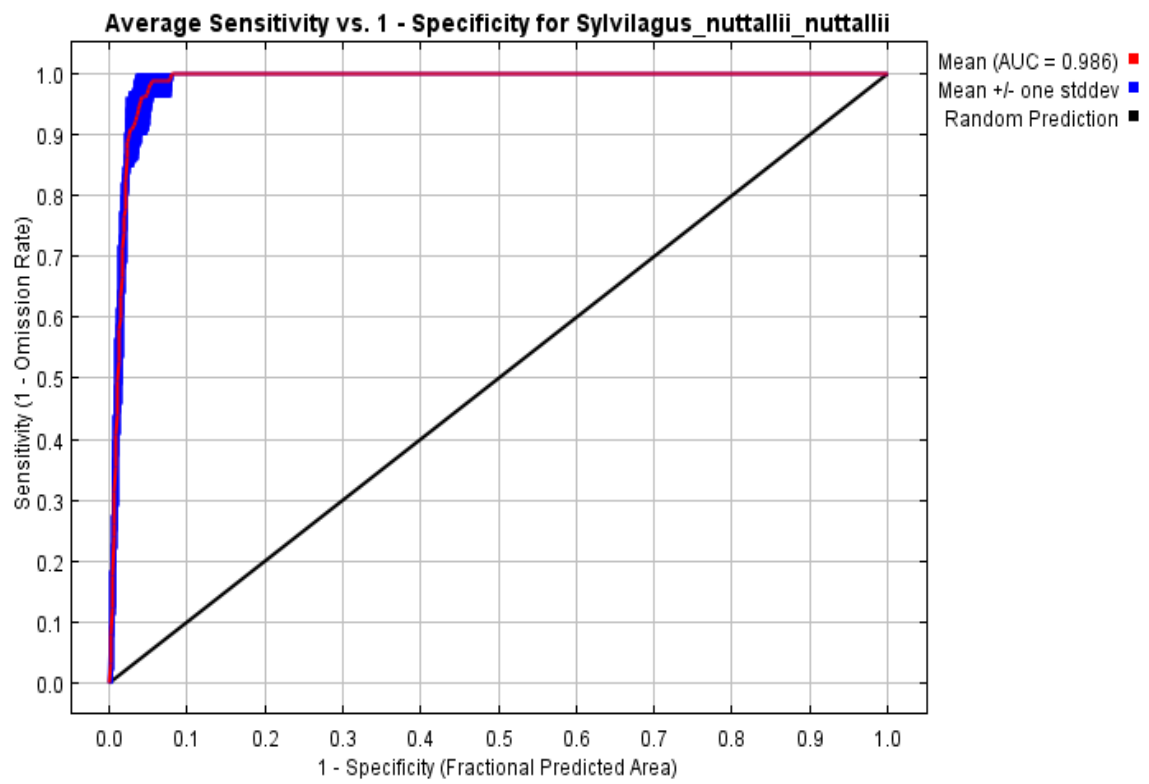
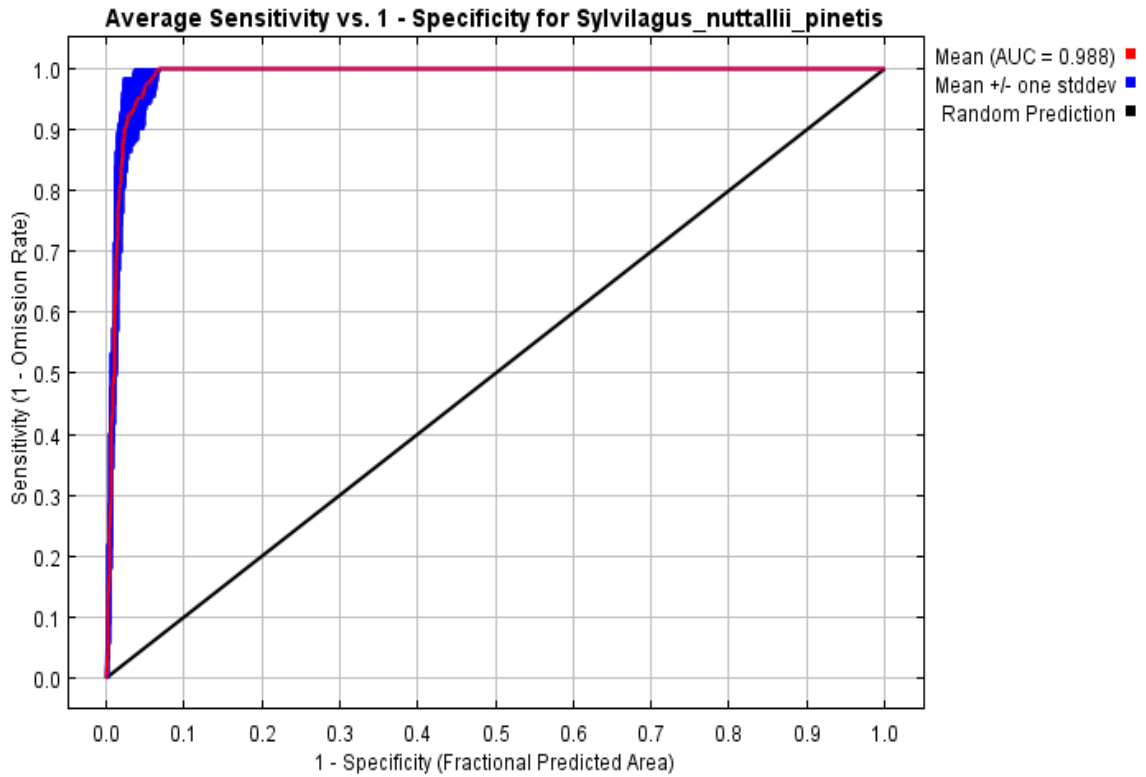


Figure D6



Pictures of the model

The following pictures show the point-wise mean and standard deviation of the 10 output grids. Other available summary grids are [min](#), [max](#) and [median](#).

*Sylvilagus\_nuttallii* grangeri:

Figure D7



Figure D8





*Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii*:

Figure D9



Figure D10

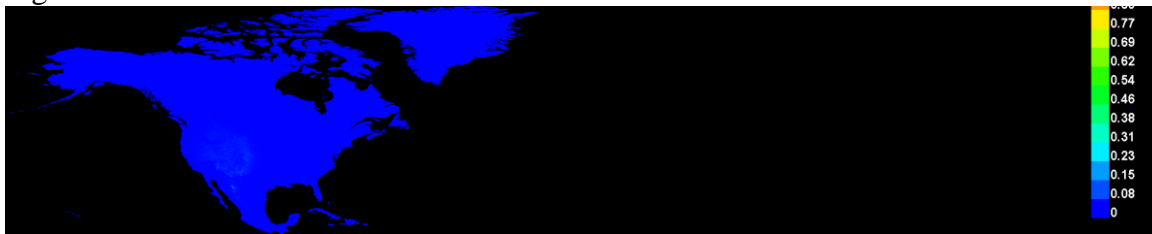


*Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis*:

Figure D11



Figure D12



The following pictures show the point-wise mean and standard deviation of the 10

models applied to the environmental layers in ASCII. Other available summary grids are [min](#), [max](#) and [median](#).

*Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri*

Figure D13



Figure D14



*Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii*:

Figure D15



Figure D16



*Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis*

Figure D17



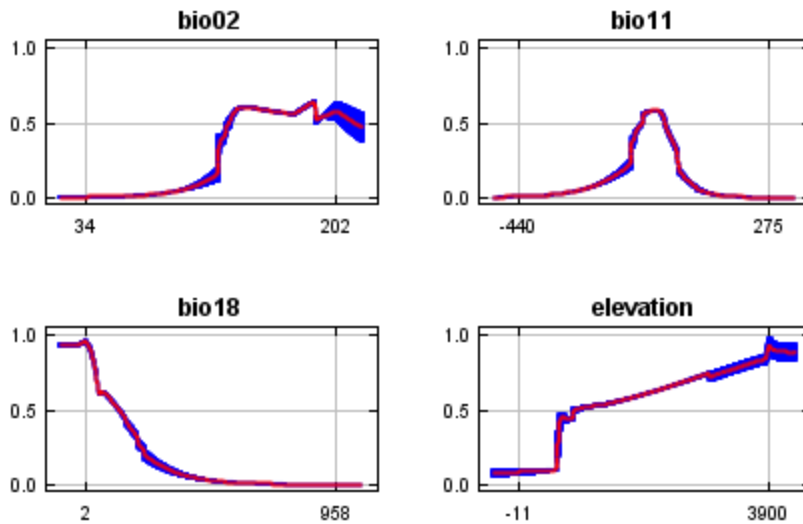
Figure D18



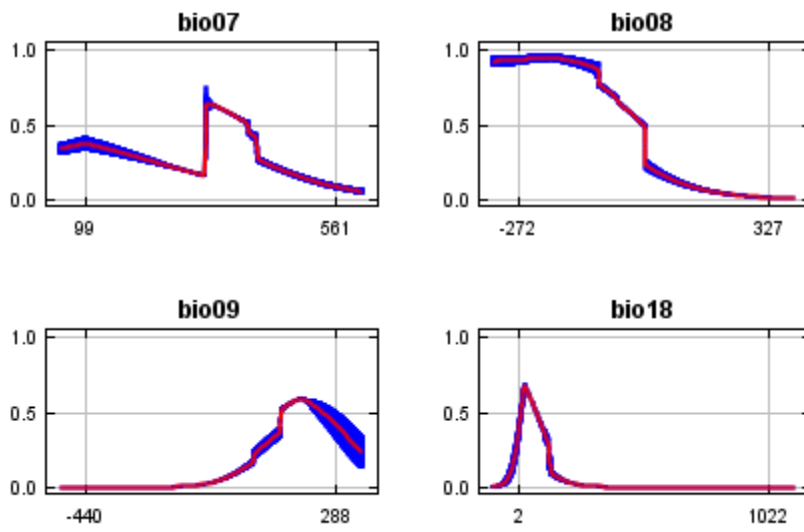
## Response curves

These curves show how each environmental variable affects the Maxent prediction. The curves show how the logistic prediction changes as each environmental variable is varied, keeping all other environmental variables at their average sample value. Click on a response curve to see a larger version. Note that the curves can be hard to interpret if you have strongly correlated variables, as the model may depend on the correlations in ways that are not evident in the curves. In other words, the curves show the marginal effect of changing exactly one variable, whereas the model may take advantage of sets of variables changing together. The curves show the mean response of the 10 replicate Maxent runs (red) and the mean  $\pm$  one standard deviation (blue, two shades for categorical variables).

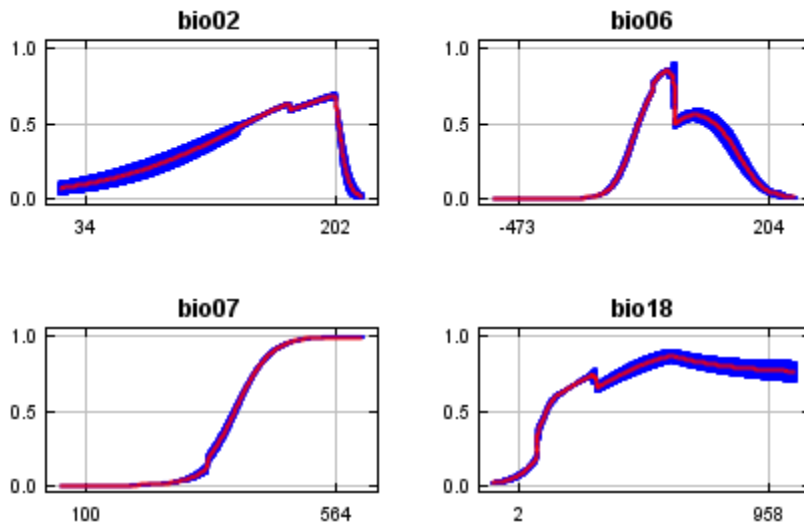
*Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri*  
Figure D19

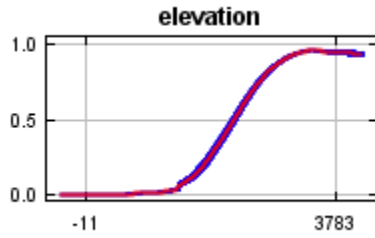


*Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii*  
Figure D20



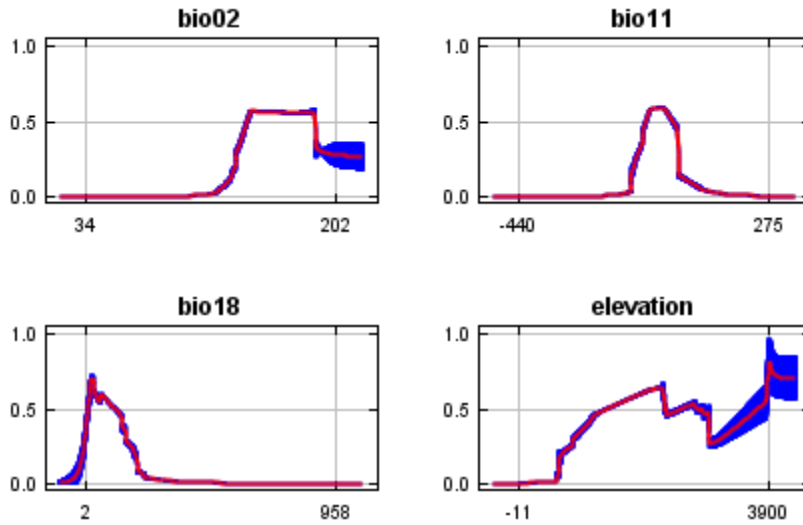
*Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis*  
Figure D21



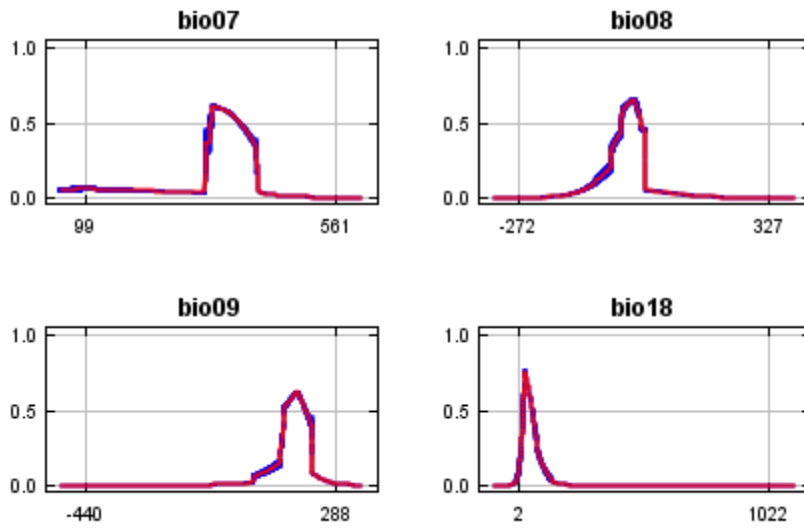


In contrast to the above marginal response curves, each of the following curves represents a different model, namely, a Maxent model created using only the corresponding variable. These plots reflect the dependence of predicted suitability both on the selected variable and on dependencies induced by correlations between the selected variable and other variables. They may be easier to interpret if there are strong correlations between variables.

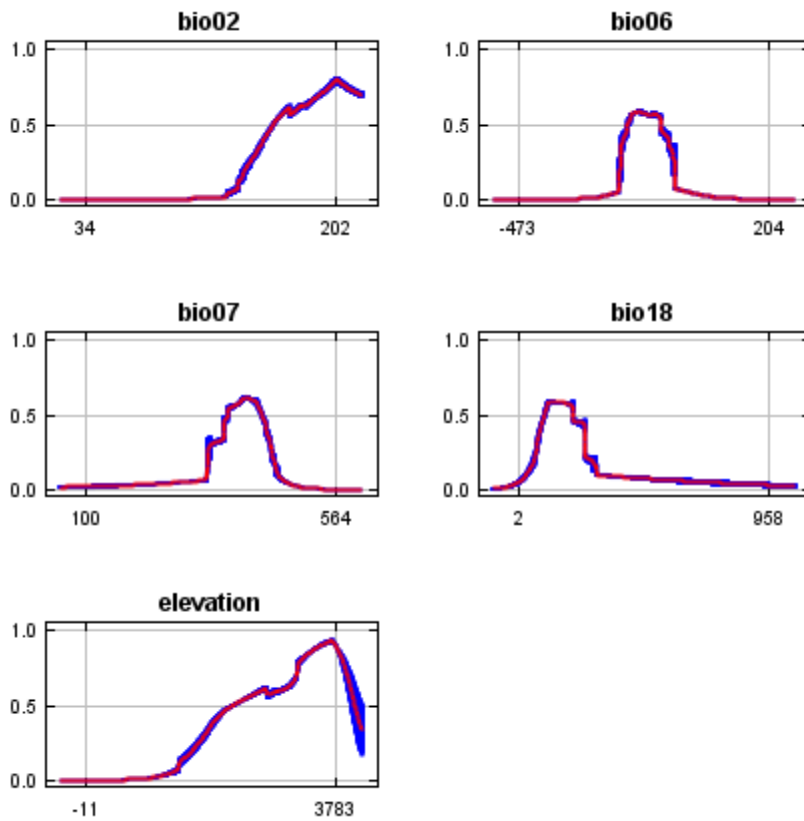
Figure D22  
*Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri*



*Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii*  
Figure D23



*Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis*  
Figure D24



## Analysis of variable contributions

The following table gives estimates of relative contributions of the environmental variables to the Maxent model. To determine the first estimate, in each iteration of the training algorithm, the increase in regularized gain is added to the contribution of the corresponding variable, or subtracted from it if the change to the absolute value of lambda is negative. For the second estimate, for each environmental variable in turn, the values of that variable on training presence and background data are randomly permuted. The model is reevaluated on the permuted data, and the resulting drop in training AUC is shown in the table, normalized to percentages. As with the variable jackknife, variable contributions should be interpreted with caution when the predictor variables are correlated. Values shown are averages over replicate runs.

### *Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri*

Table D1

| Variable  | Percent contribution | Permutation importance |
|-----------|----------------------|------------------------|
| bio02     | 53.7                 | 43                     |
| bio11     | 20.5                 | 30.8                   |
| elevation | 15.1                 | 13.6                   |
| bio18     | 10.8                 | 12.6                   |

### *Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii*

Table D2

| Variable | Percent contribution | Permutation importance |
|----------|----------------------|------------------------|
| bio09    | 53.2                 | 71                     |
| bio08    | 25                   | 9.2                    |
| bio18    | 18.5                 | 18.2                   |
| bio07    | 3.3                  | 1.7                    |

### *Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis*

Table D3

| Variable  | Percent contribution | Permutation importance |
|-----------|----------------------|------------------------|
| bio02     | 45.9                 | 1                      |
| elevation | 40.1                 | 48.8                   |
| bio06     | 7.8                  | 40.4                   |
| bio07     | 3.4                  | 7.4                    |
| bio18     | 2.8                  | 2.5                    |



The following picture shows the results of the jackknife test of variable importance. The environmental variable with highest gain when used in isolation is bio02, which therefore appears to have the most useful information by itself. The environmental variable that decreases the gain the most when it is omitted is bio11, which therefore appears to have the most information that isn't present in the other variables. Values shown are averages over replicate runs.

Figure D25

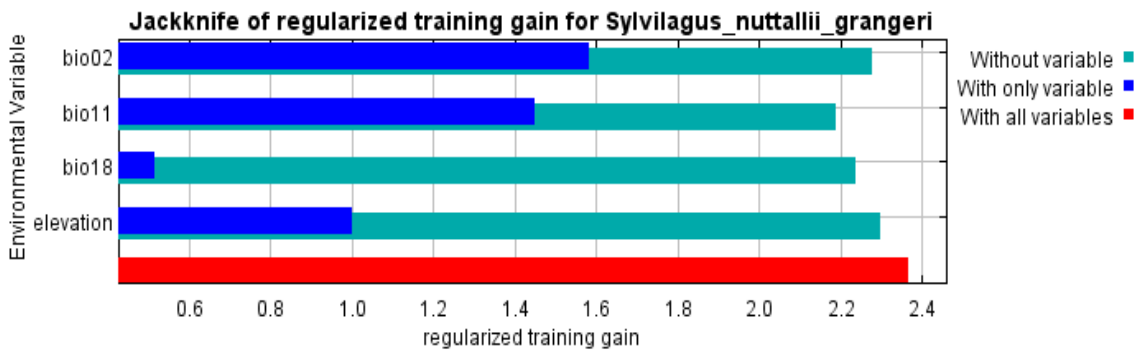


Figure D26

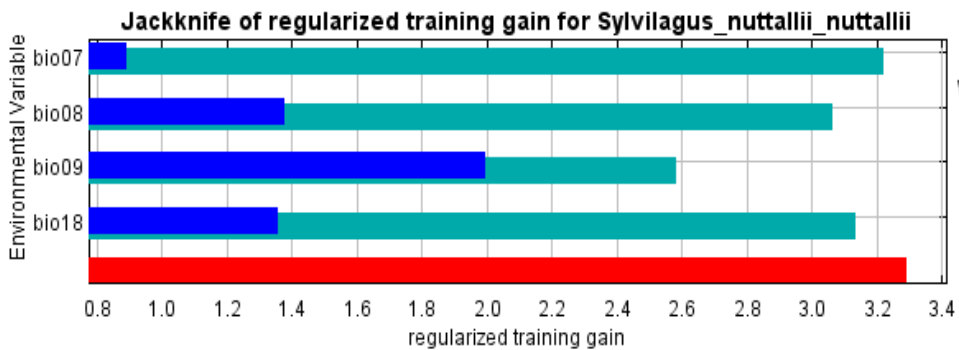
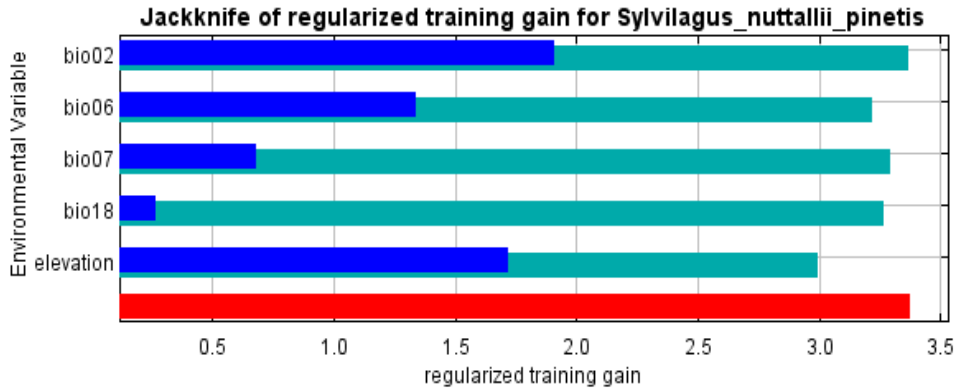


Figure D27



The next picture shows the same jackknife test, using test gain instead of training gain. Note that conclusions about which variables are most important can change, now that we're looking at test data.

Figure D28

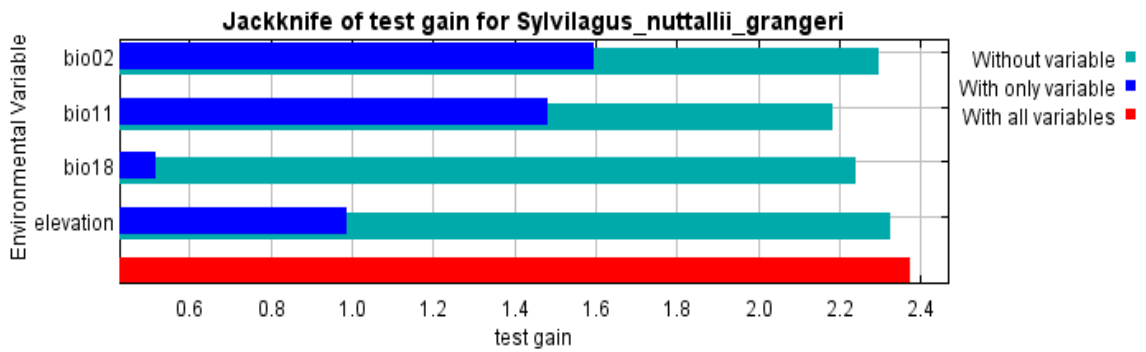


Figure D29

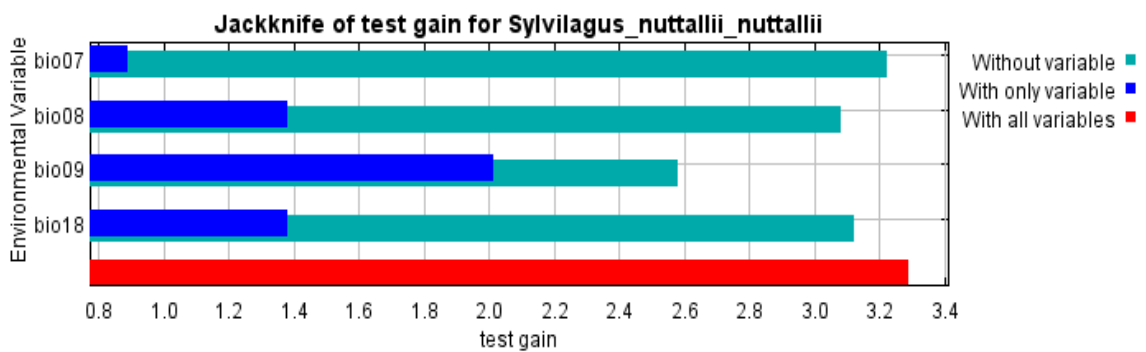
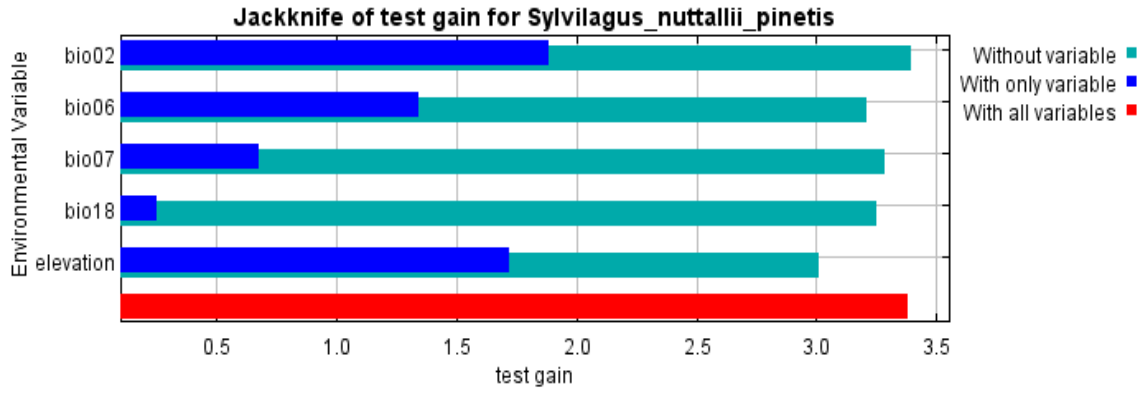


Figure D30



Lastly, we have the same jackknife test, using AUC on test data.  
Figure D31

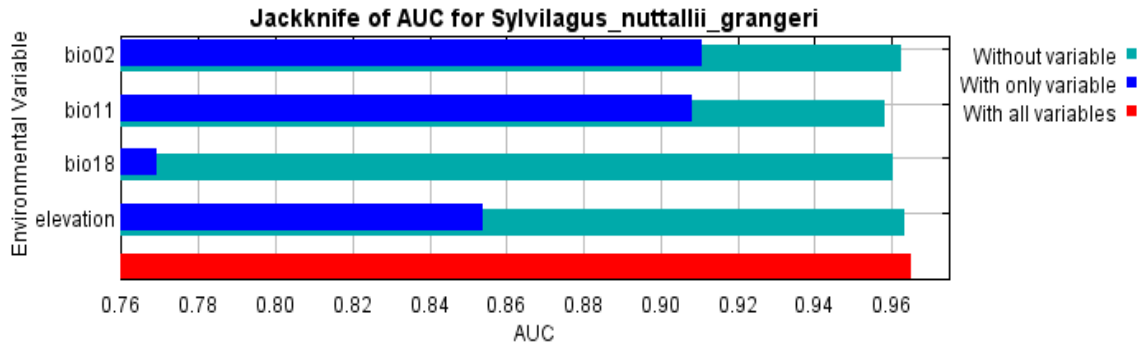


Figure D32

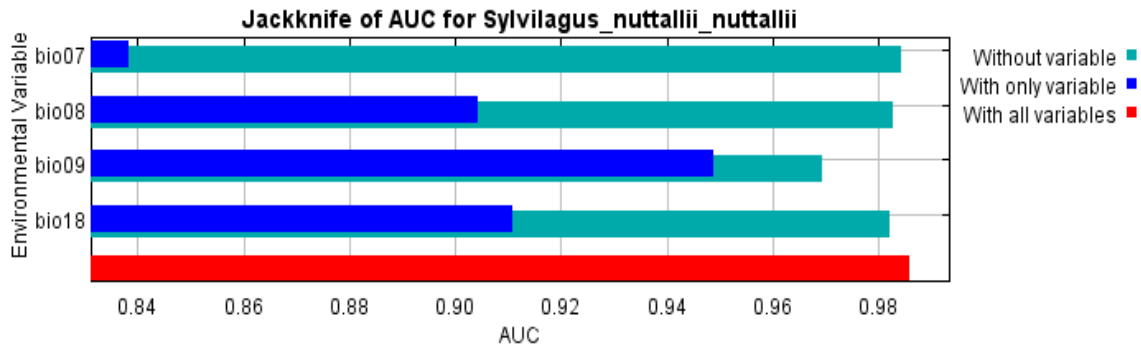
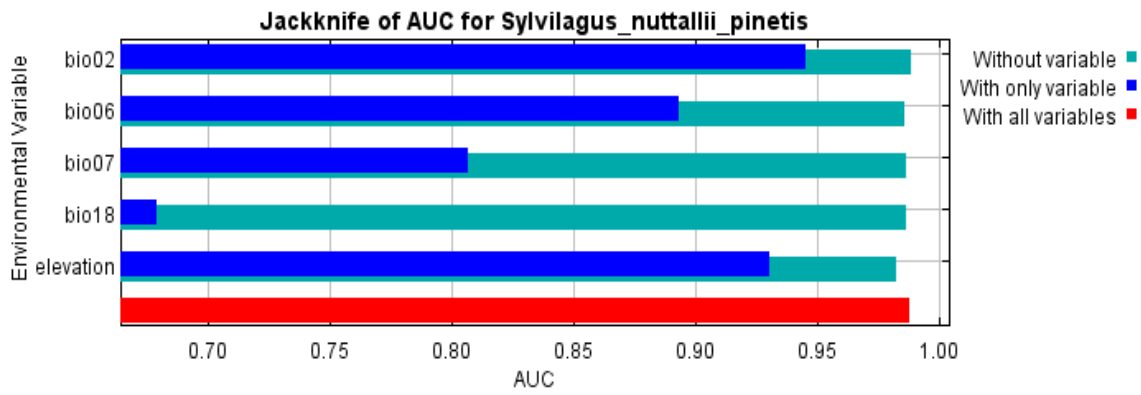


Figure D33



APPENDIX E  
Representative Concentration Pathway 8.5 model results

Model output results and figures for Representative Concentration Pathway 8.5 (RCP 8.5) from the IPCC 5th Assessment Report (AR5). RCP 8.5 projects a 3.7°C mean increase in temperature by 2100 (2.6 - 4.8 likely range).

Analysis of omission/commission

The following picture shows the test omission rate and predicted area as a function of the cumulative threshold, averaged over the replicate runs. The omission rate should be close to the predicted omission, because of the definition of the cumulative threshold.

Figure E1

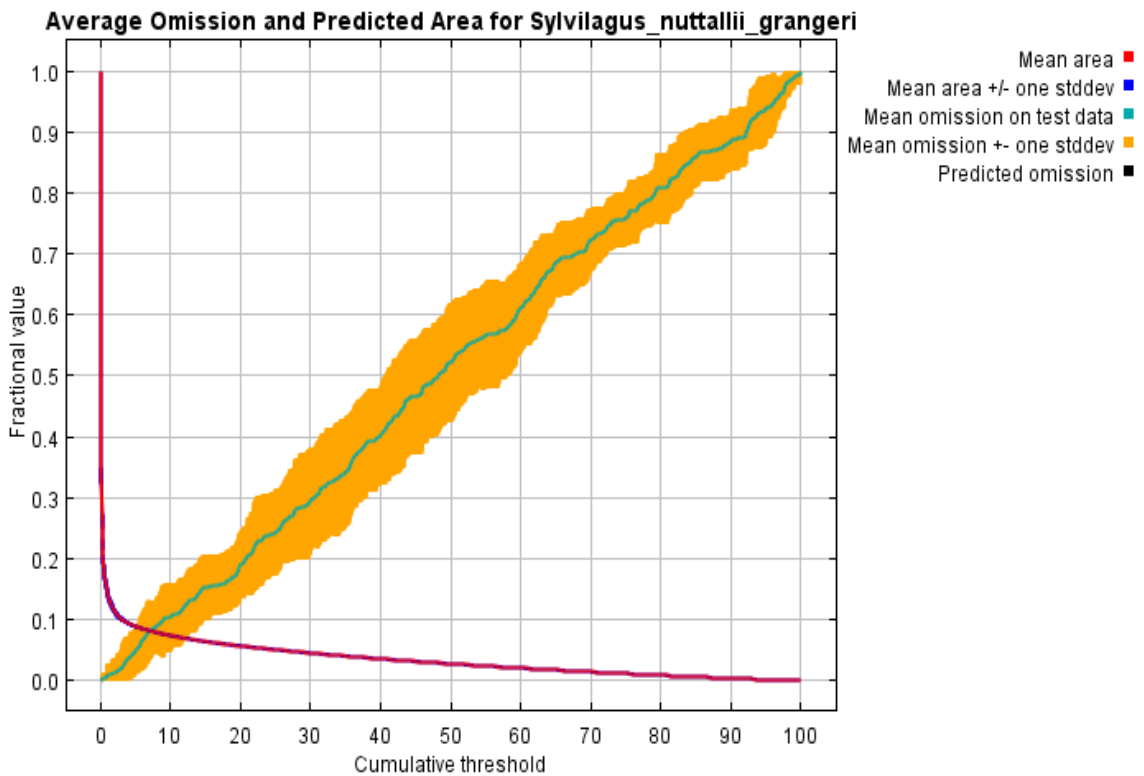


Figure E2

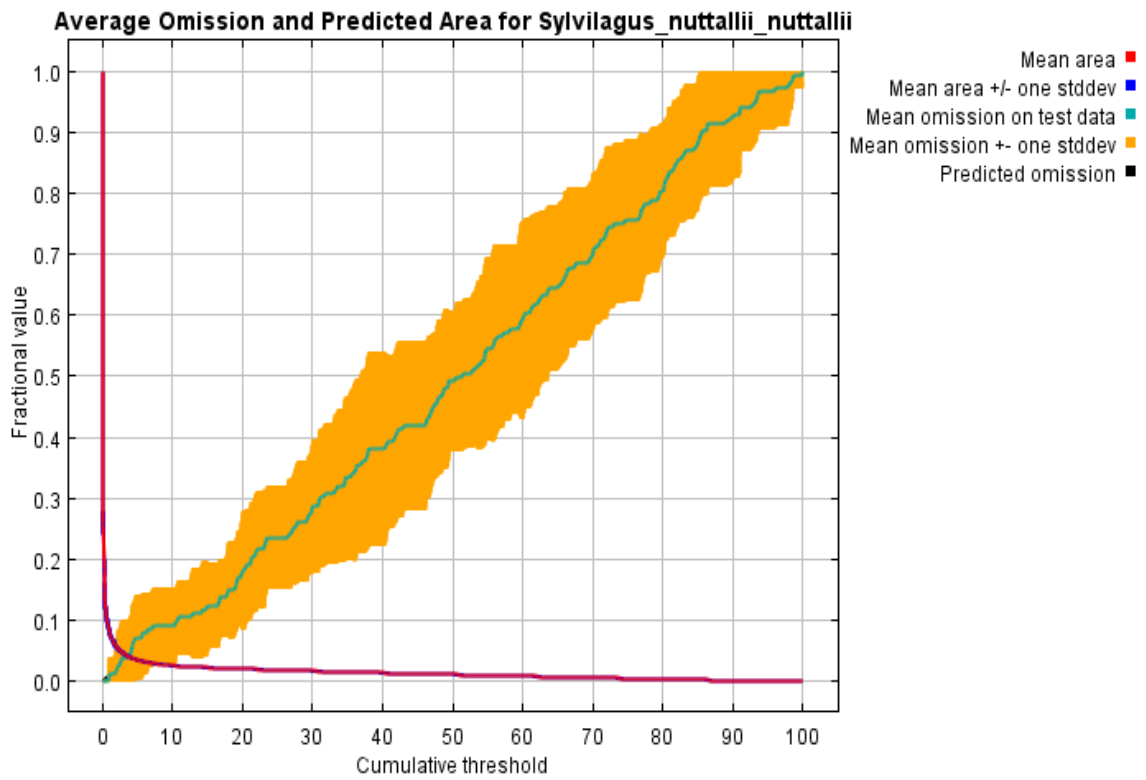
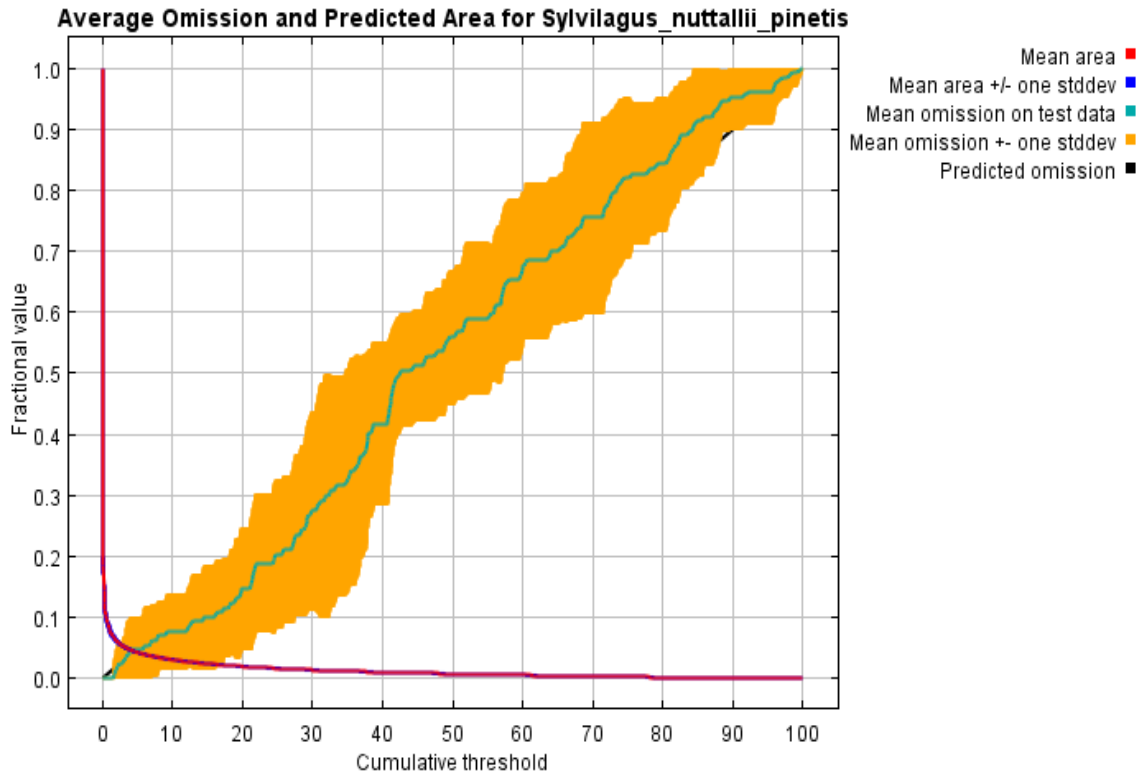


Figure E3



The next picture is the receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curve for the same data, again averaged over the replicate runs. Note that the specificity is defined using predicted area, rather than true commission (see the paper by Phillips, Anderson and Schapire cited for discussion of what this means). The average test AUC for the replicate runs is 0.965, 0.986, and 0.988 respectively and the standard deviation is 0.005.

Figure E4

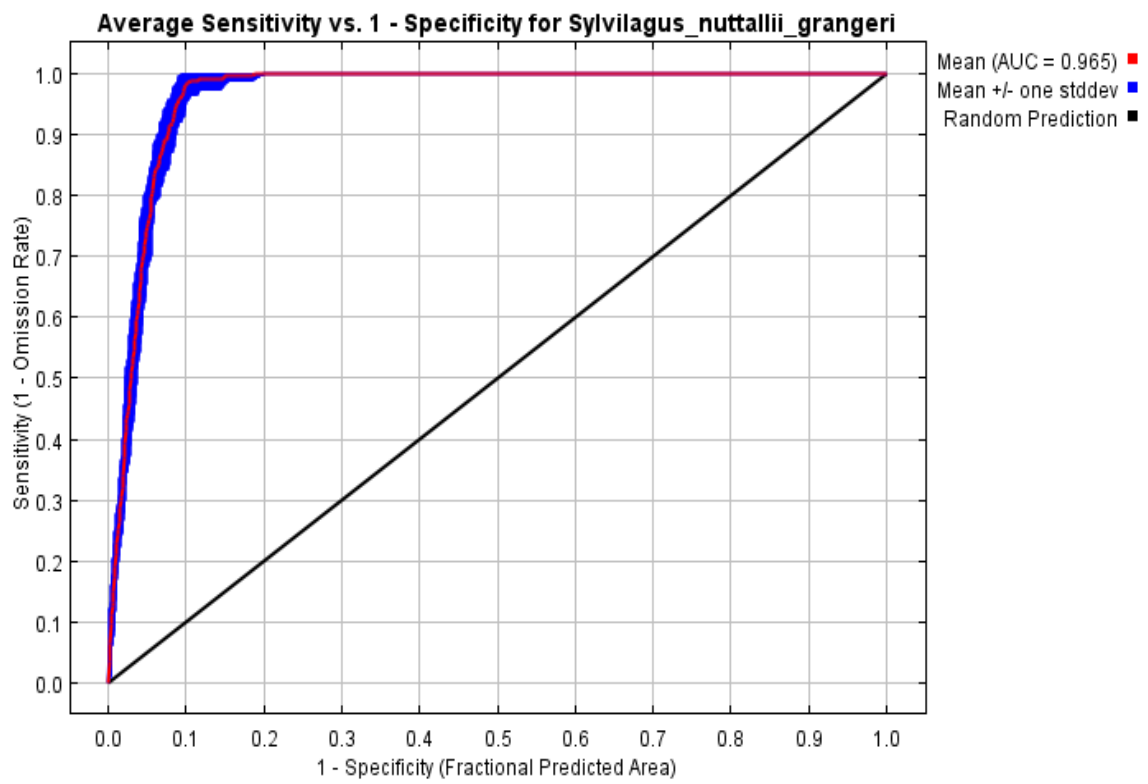




Figure E5

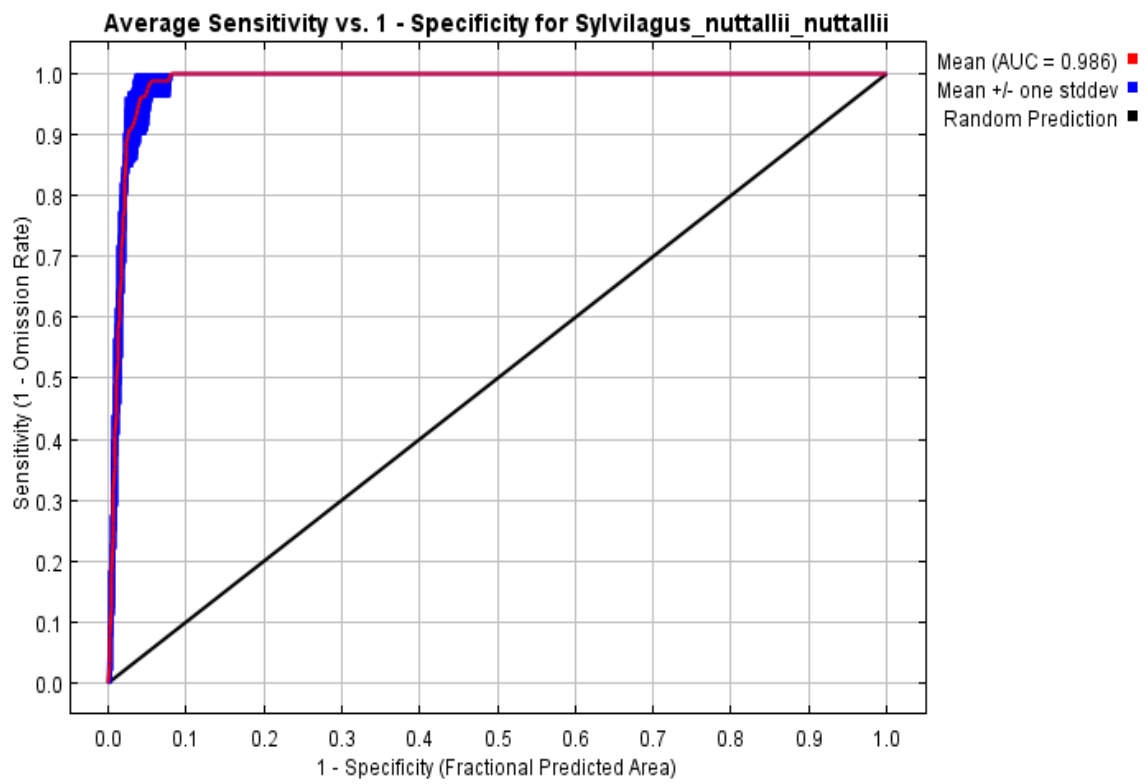
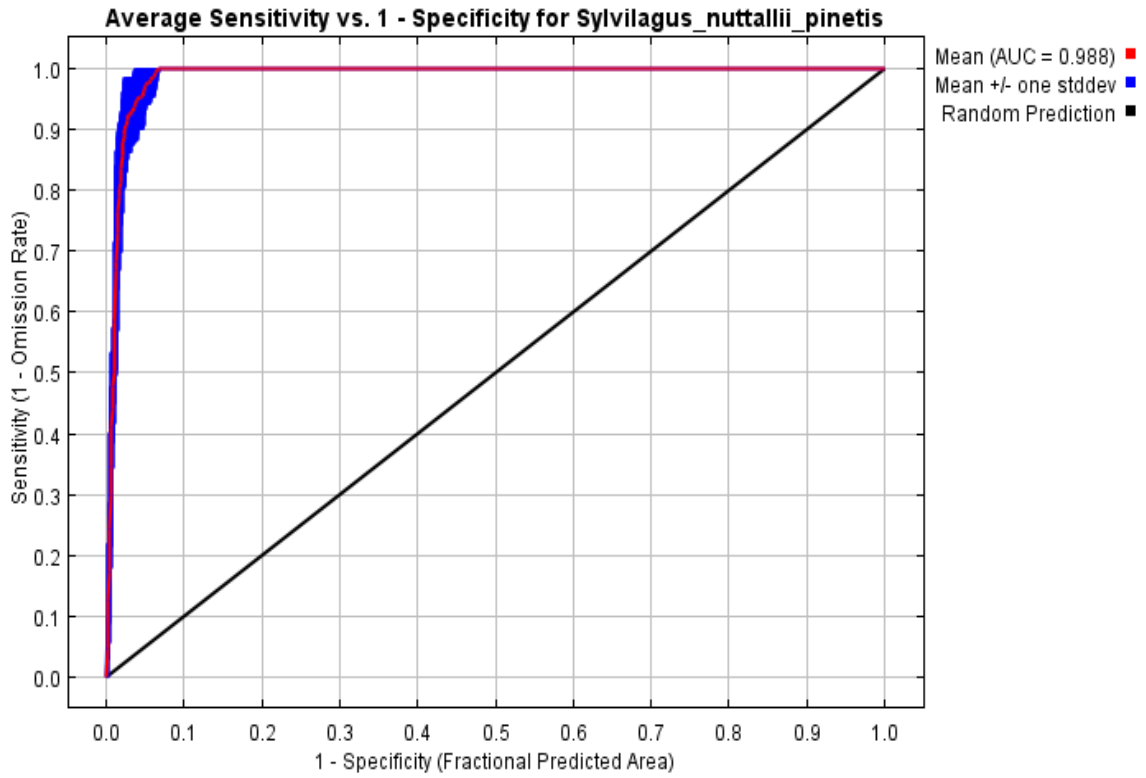


Figure E6



Pictures of the model

The following pictures show the point-wise mean and standard deviation of the 10 output grids. Other available summary grids are [min](#), [max](#) and [median](#).

*Sylvilagus\_nuttallii* grangeri:

Figure E7



Figure E8



*Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii*:  
Figure E9



Figure E10



*Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis*:  
Figure E11



Figure E12



The following pictures show the point-wise mean and standard deviation of the 10 models applied to the environmental layers in ASCII. Other available summary grids are [min](#), [max](#) and [median](#).

*Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri*

Figure E13



Figure E14



*Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii*:

Figure E15



Figure E16



*Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis*:  
Figure E17



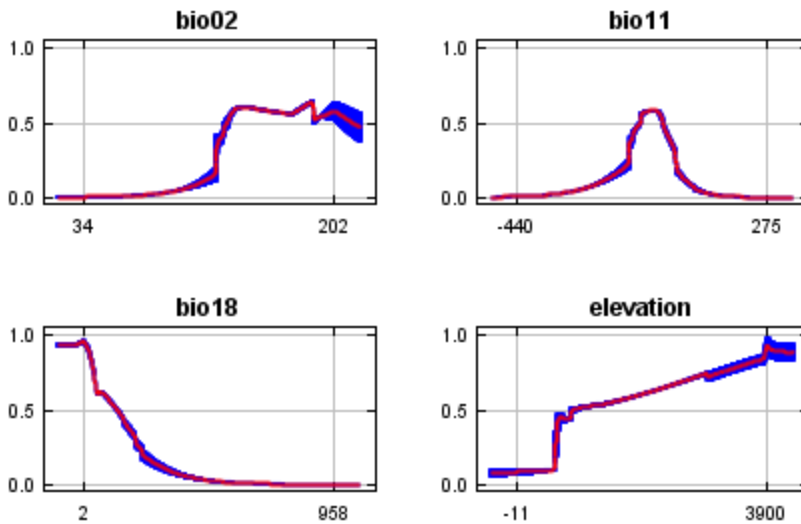
Figure E18



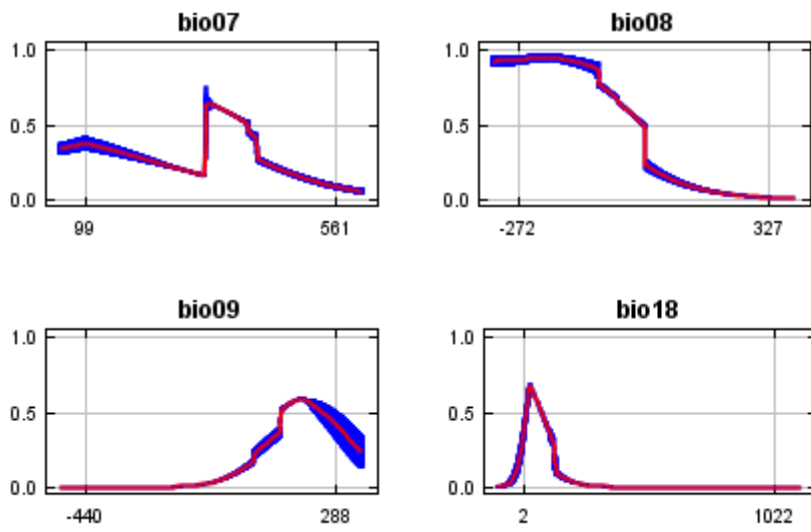
## Response curves

These curves show how each environmental variable affects the Maxent prediction. The curves show how the logistic prediction changes as each environmental variable is varied, keeping all other environmental variables at their average sample value. Click on a response curve to see a larger version. Note that the curves can be hard to interpret if you have strongly correlated variables, as the model may depend on the correlations in ways that are not evident in the curves. In other words, the curves show the marginal effect of changing exactly one variable, whereas the model may take advantage of sets of variables changing together. The curves show the mean response of the 10 replicate Maxent runs (red) and the mean  $\pm$  one standard deviation (blue, two shades for categorical variables).

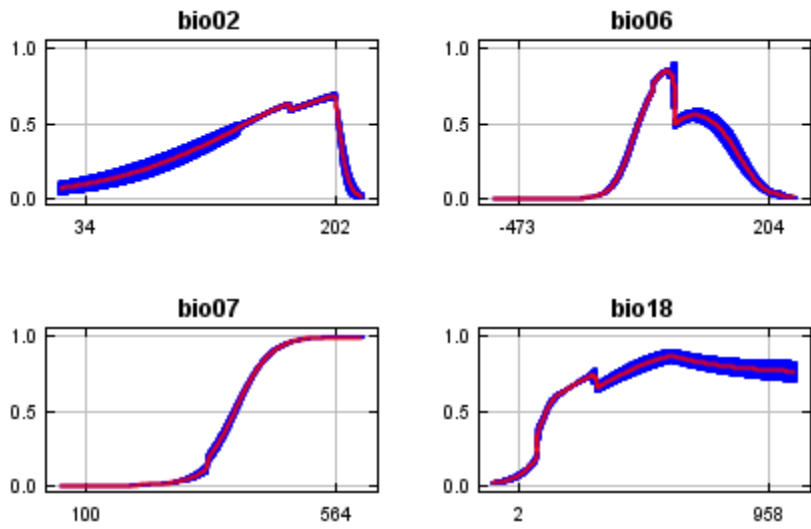
*Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri*  
Figure E19

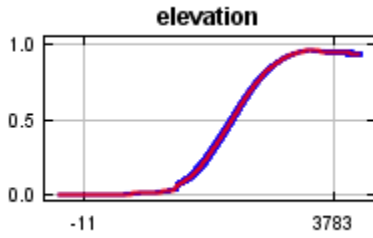


*Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii*  
Figure E20



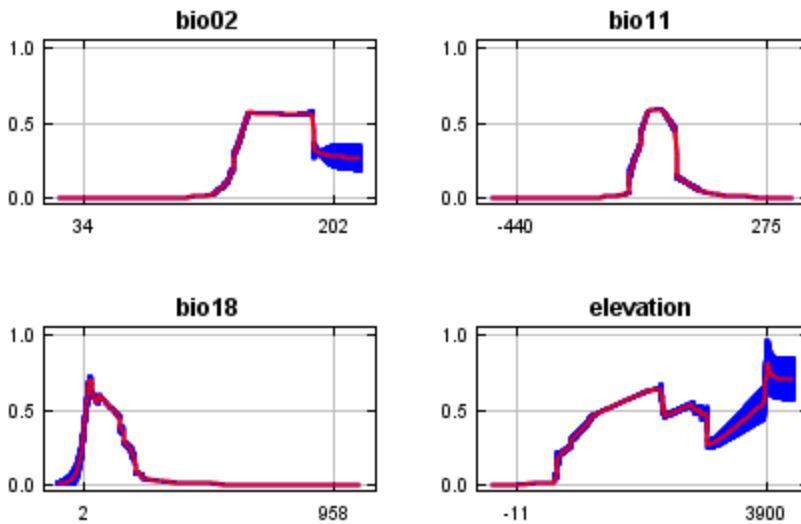
*Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis*  
Figure E21





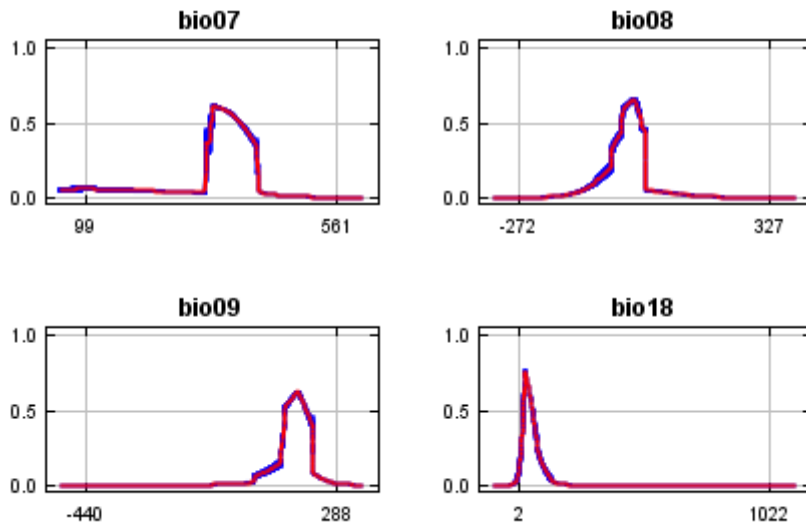
In contrast to the above marginal response curves, each of the following curves represents a different model, namely, a Maxent model created using only the corresponding variable. These plots reflect the dependence of predicted suitability both on the selected variable and on dependencies induced by correlations between the selected variable and other variables. They may be easier to interpret if there are strong correlations between variables.

*Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri*  
Figure E22

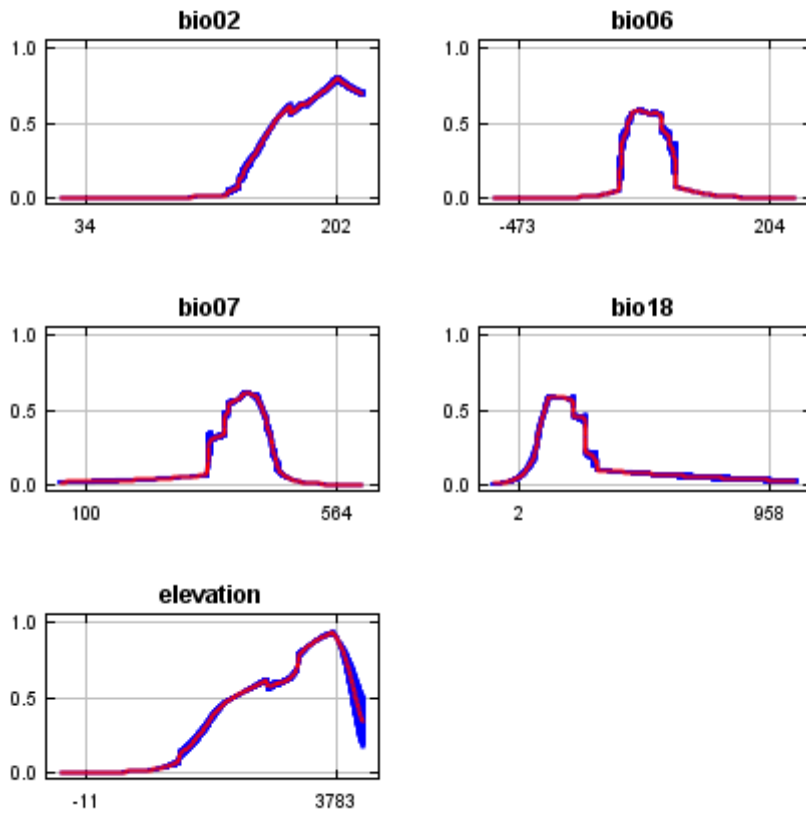




*Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii*  
Figure E23



*Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis*  
Figure E24



## Analysis of variable contributions

The following table gives estimates of relative contributions of the environmental variables to the Maxent model. To determine the first estimate, in each iteration of the training algorithm, the increase in regularized gain is added to the contribution of the corresponding variable, or subtracted from it if the change to the absolute value of lambda is negative. For the second estimate, for each environmental variable in turn, the values of that variable on training presence and background data are randomly permuted. The model is reevaluated on the permuted data, and the resulting drop in training AUC is shown in the table, normalized to percentages. As with the variable jackknife, variable contributions should be interpreted with caution when the predictor variables are correlated. Values shown are averages over replicate runs.

### *Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri*

Table E1

| Variable  | Percent contribution | Permutation importance |
|-----------|----------------------|------------------------|
| bio02     | 53.7                 | 43                     |
| bio11     | 20.5                 | 30.8                   |
| elevation | 15.1                 | 13.6                   |
| bio18     | 10.8                 | 12.6                   |

### *Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii*

Table E2

| Variable | Percent contribution | Permutation importance |
|----------|----------------------|------------------------|
| bio09    | 53.2                 | 71                     |
| bio08    | 25                   | 9.2                    |
| bio18    | 18.5                 | 18.2                   |
| bio07    | 3.3                  | 1.7                    |

### *Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis*

Table E3

| Variable  | Percent contribution | Permutation importance |
|-----------|----------------------|------------------------|
| bio02     | 45.9                 | 1                      |
| elevation | 40.1                 | 48.8                   |
| bio06     | 7.8                  | 40.4                   |
| bio07     | 3.4                  | 7.4                    |
| bio18     | 2.8                  | 2.5                    |

The following picture shows the results of the jackknife test of variable importance. The environmental variable with highest gain when used in isolation is bio02, which therefore appears to have the most useful information by itself. The environmental variable that decreases the gain the most when it is omitted is bio11, which therefore appears to have the most information that isn't present in the other variables. Values shown are averages over replicate runs.

Figure E25

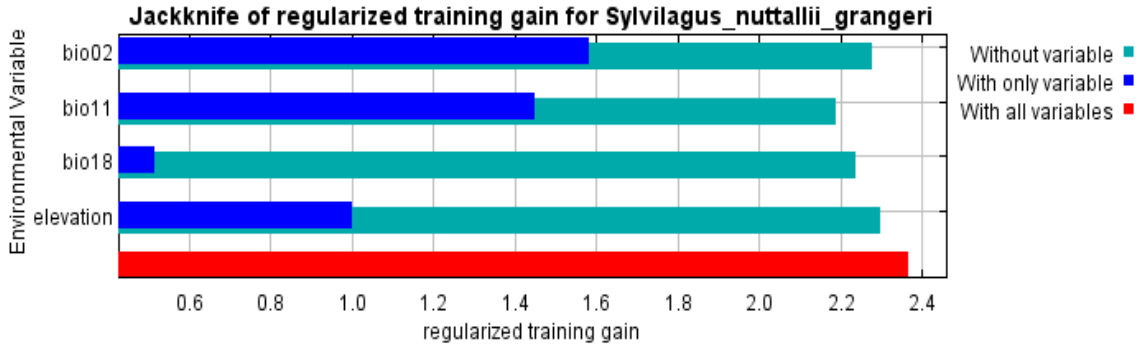


Figure E26

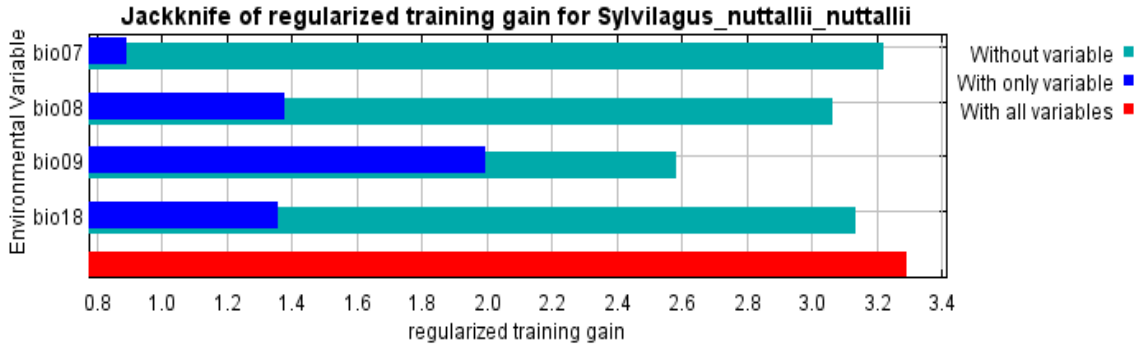
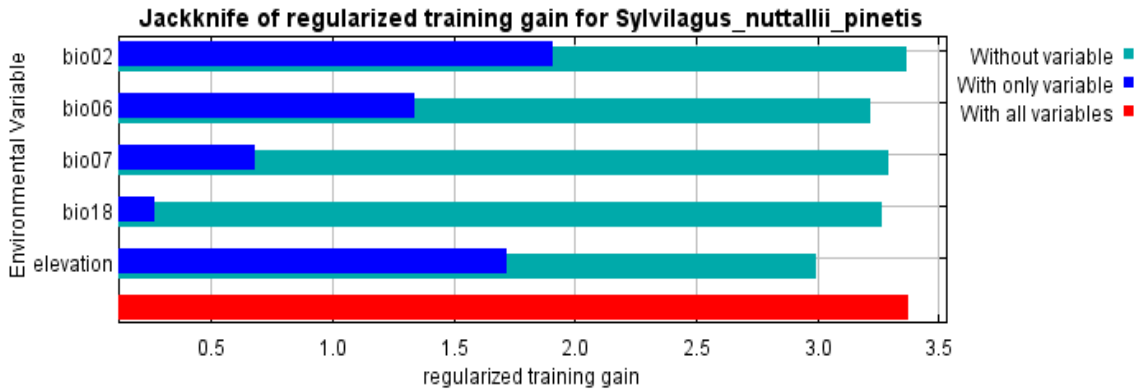


Figure E27



The next picture shows the same jackknife test, using test gain instead of training gain.

Note that conclusions about which variables are most important can change, now that we're looking at test data.

Figure E28

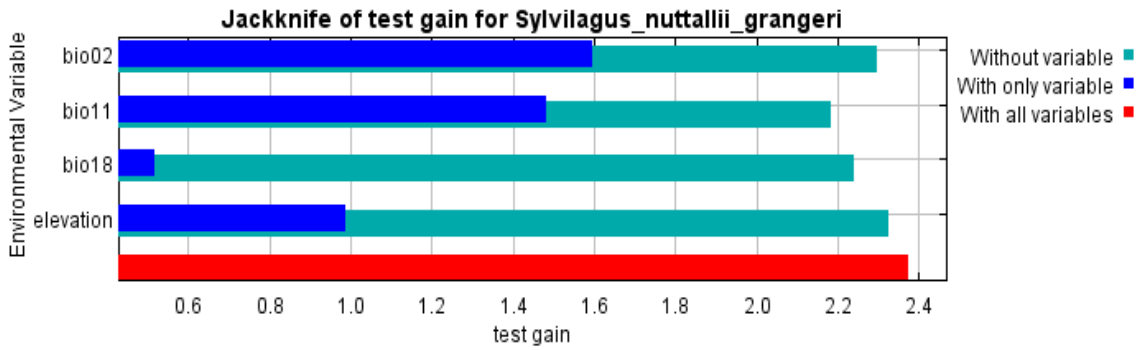


Figure E29

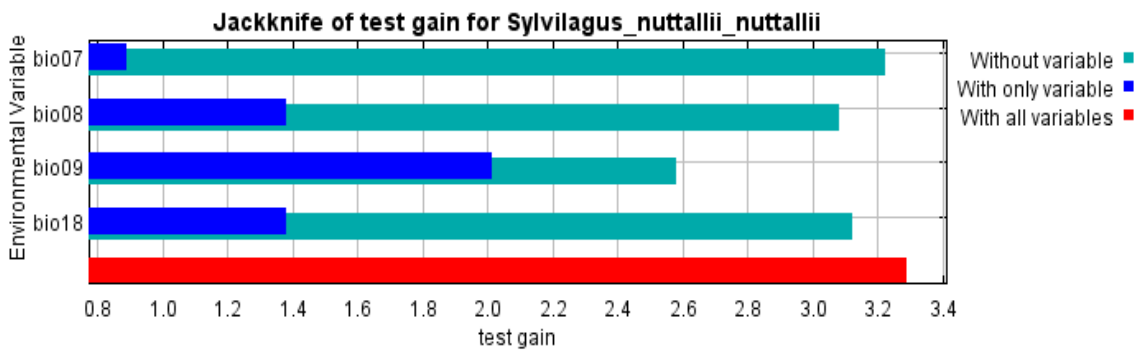
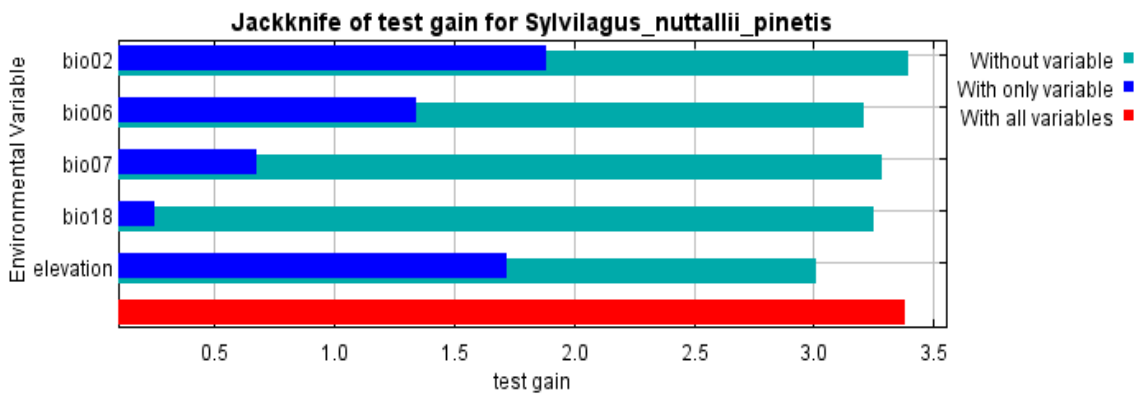


Figure E30



Lastly, we have the same jackknife test, using AUC on test data.

Figure E31

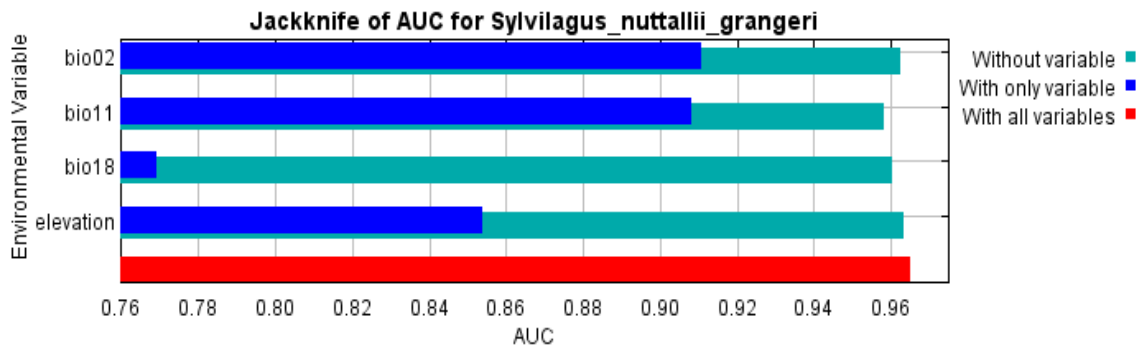


Figure E32

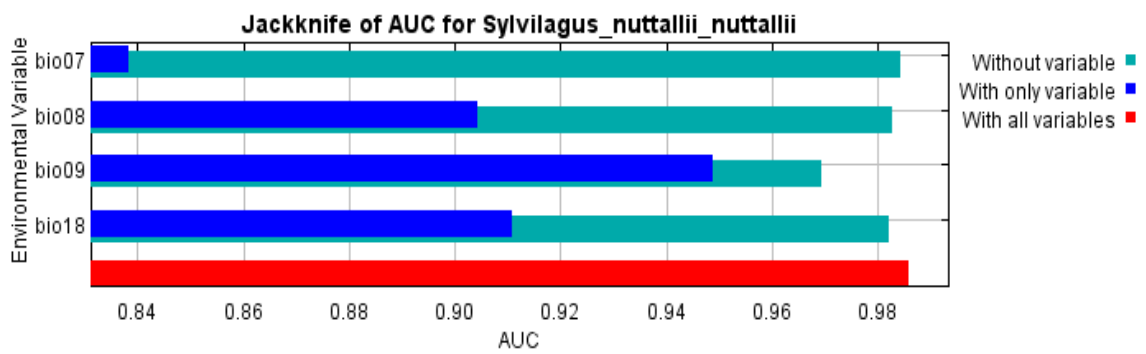
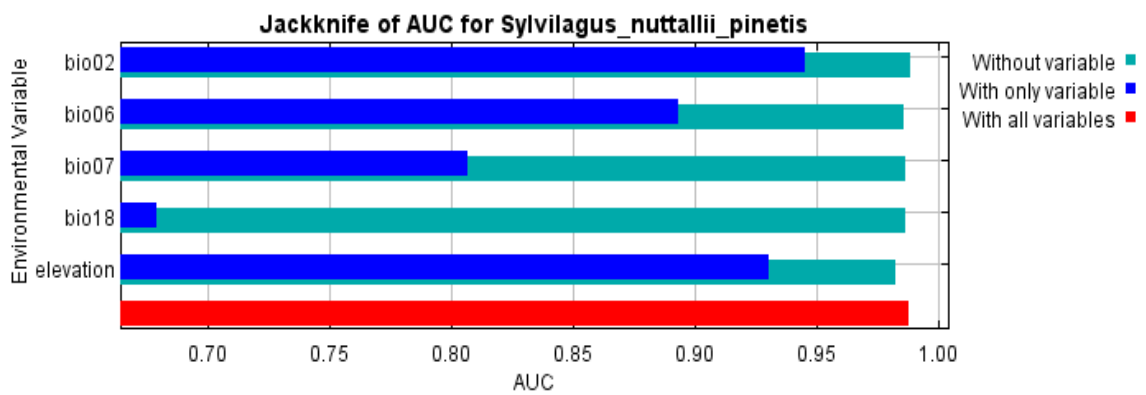


Figure E33



## APPENDIX F

Model output results and figures for the Last Interglacial Period (~120KYBP - ~140KYBP).

### Analysis of omission/commission

The following picture shows the test omission rate and predicted area as a function of the cumulative threshold, averaged over the replicate runs. The omission rate should be close to the predicted omission, because of the definition of the cumulative threshold.

Figure F1

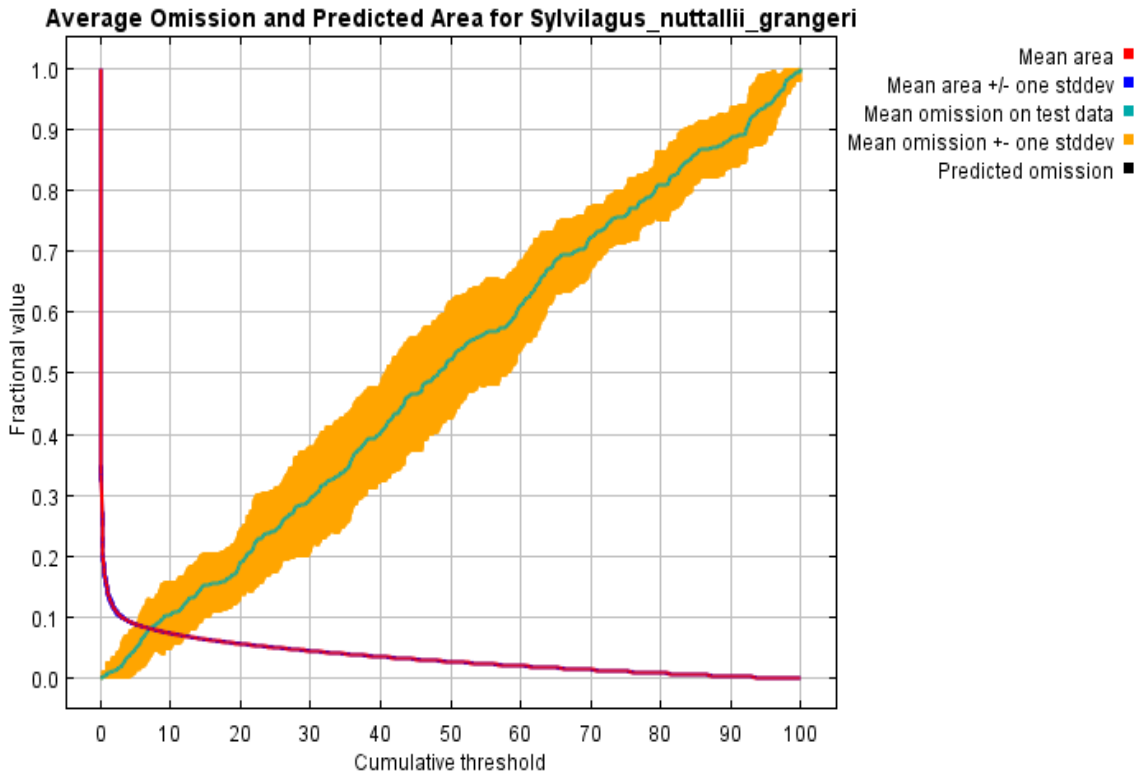


Figure F2

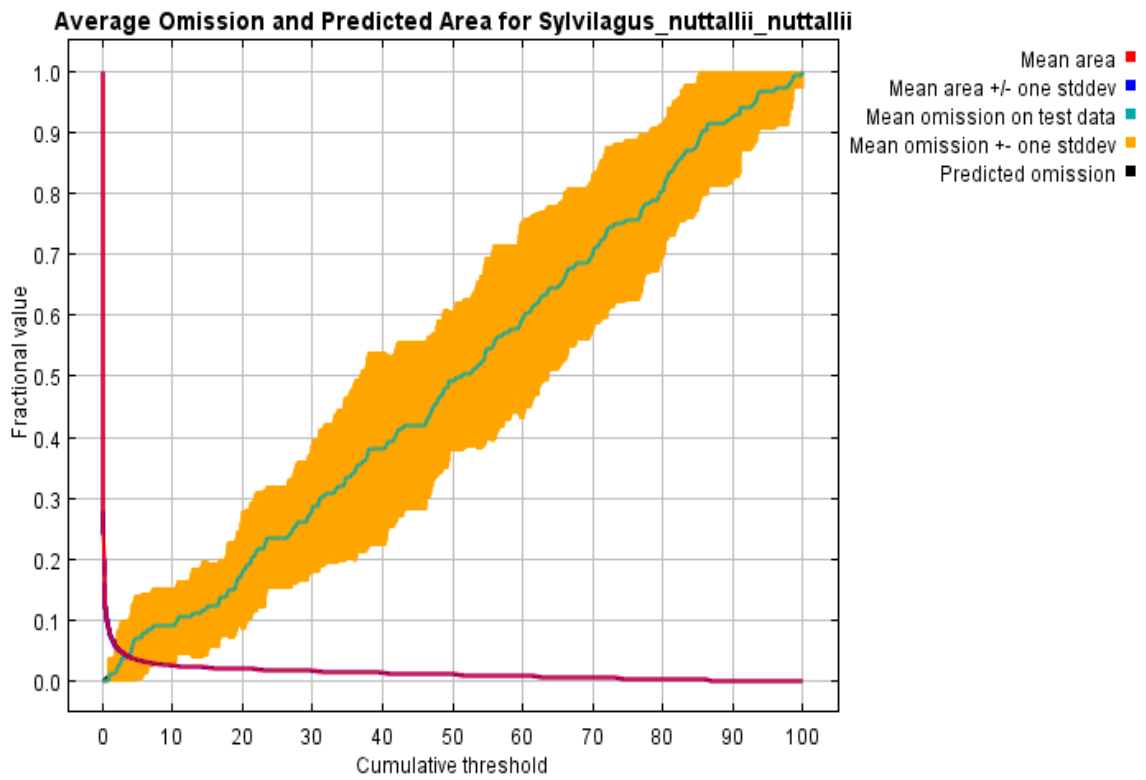
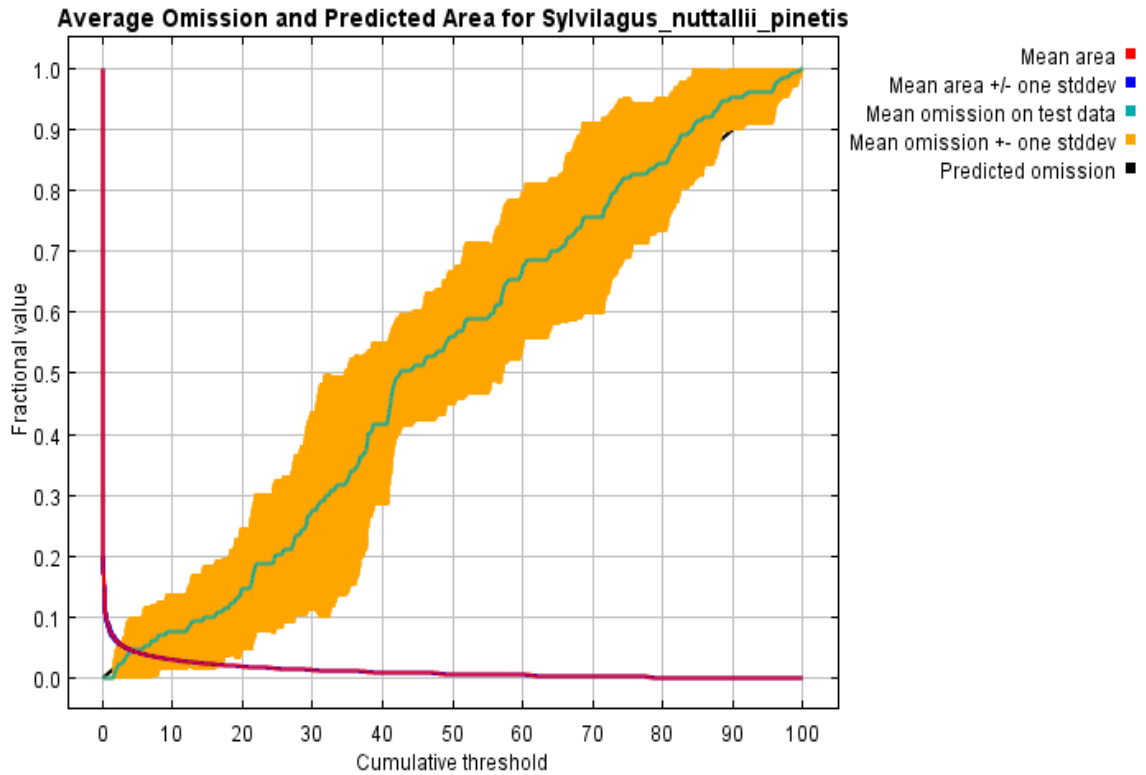


Figure F3



The next picture is the receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curve for the same data, again averaged over the replicate runs. Note that the specificity is defined using predicted area, rather than true commission (see the paper by Phillips, Anderson and Schapire cited for discussion of what this means). The average test AUC for the replicate runs is 0.965, 0.986, and 0.988 respectively and the standard deviation is 0.005.



Figure F4

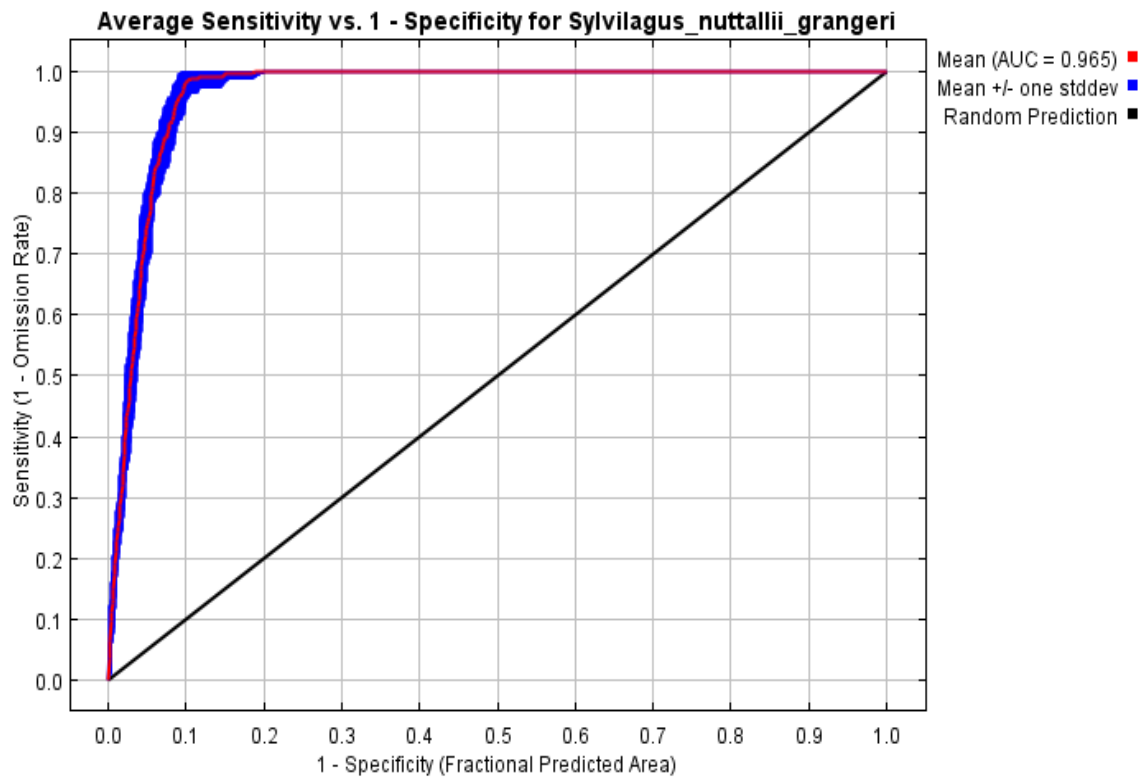


Figure F5

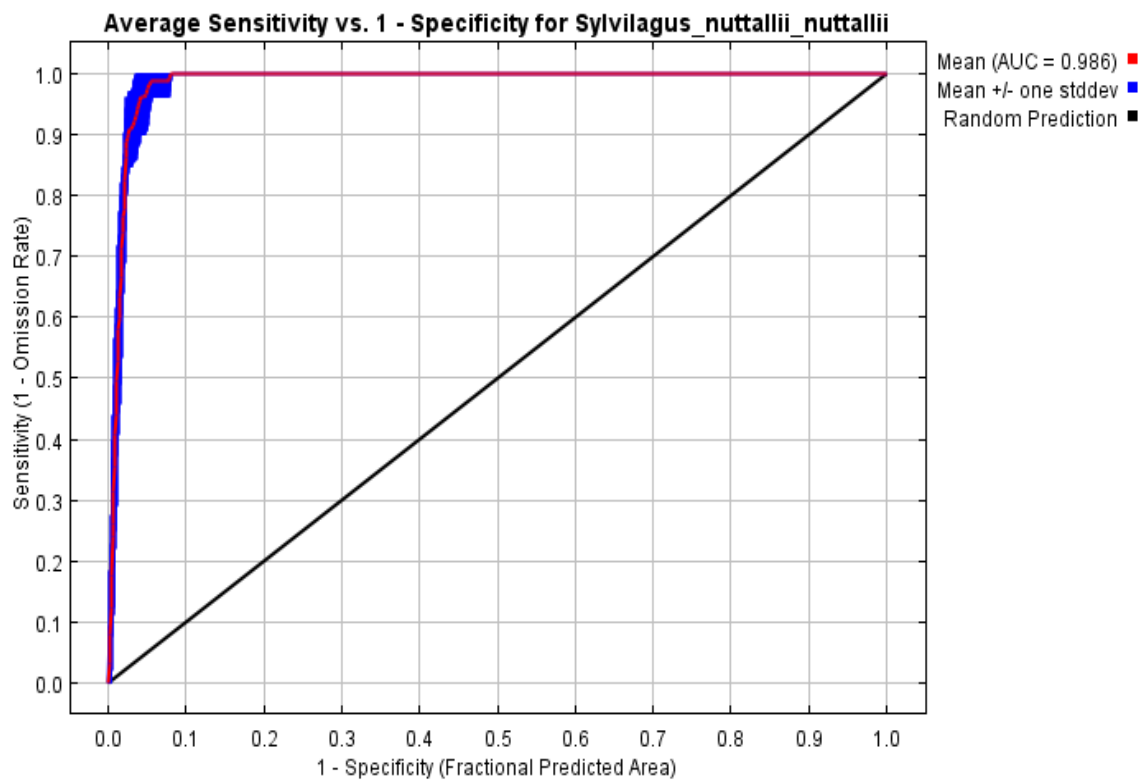
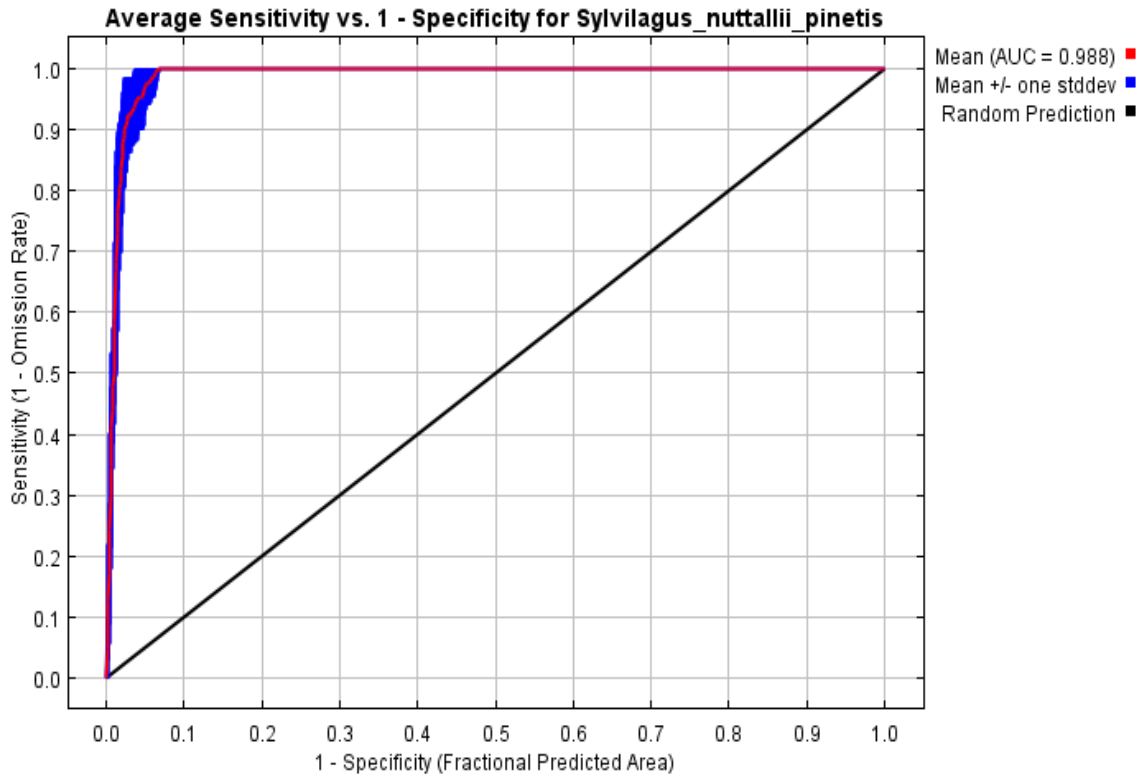


Figure F6



Pictures of the model

The following pictures show the point-wise mean and standard deviation of the 10 output grids. Other available summary grids are [min](#), [max](#) and [median](#).

*Sylvilagus\_nuttallii* grangeri:

Figure F7



Figure F8



*Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii*:  
Figure F9



Figure F10



*Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis*:  
Figure F11



Figure F12



The following pictures show the point-wise mean and standard deviation of the 10

models applied to the environmental layers in ASCII. Other available summary grids are [min](#), [max](#) and [median](#).

*Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri*

Figure F13



Figure F14



*Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii*:

Figure F15



Figure F16



*Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis*

Figure F17



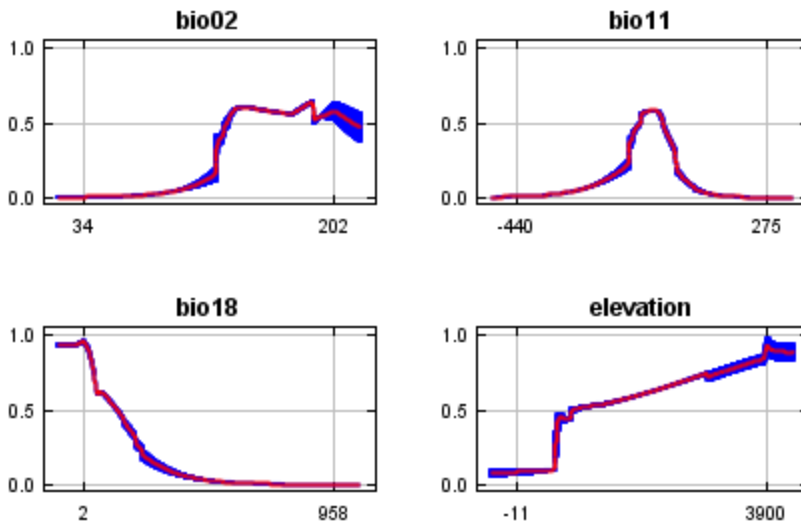
Figure F18



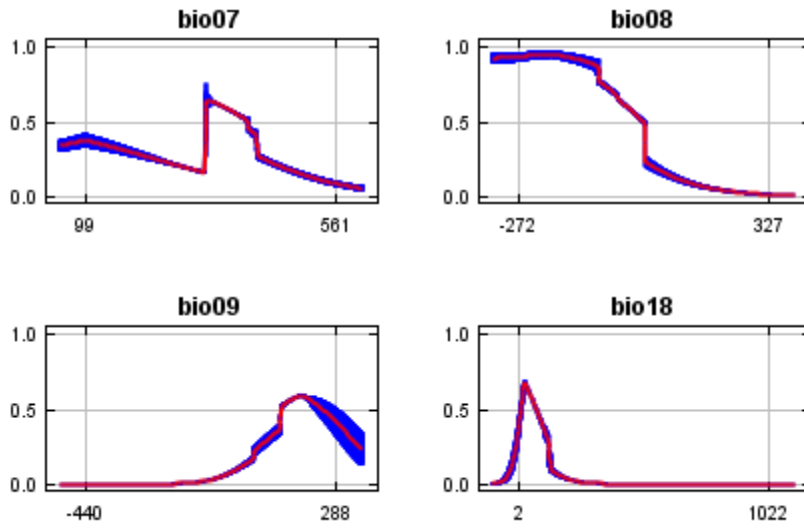
## Response curves

These curves show how each environmental variable affects the Maxent prediction. The curves show how the logistic prediction changes as each environmental variable is varied, keeping all other environmental variables at their average sample value. Click on a response curve to see a larger version. Note that the curves can be hard to interpret if you have strongly correlated variables, as the model may depend on the correlations in ways that are not evident in the curves. In other words, the curves show the marginal effect of changing exactly one variable, whereas the model may take advantage of sets of variables changing together. The curves show the mean response of the 10 replicate Maxent runs (red) and the mean  $\pm$  one standard deviation (blue, two shades for categorical variables).

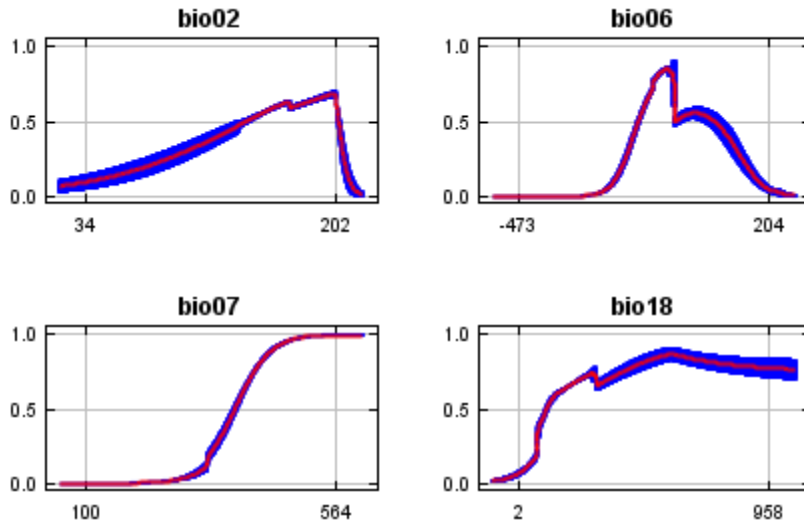
*Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri*  
Figure F19



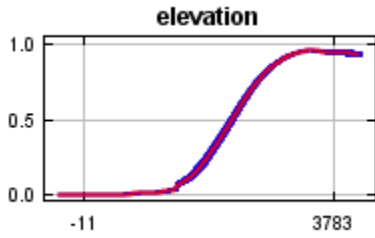
*Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii*  
Figure F20



*Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis*  
Figure F21

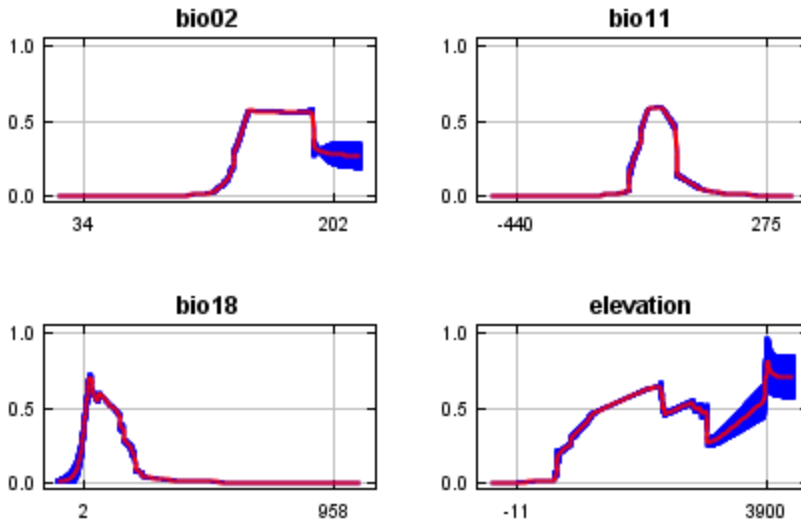




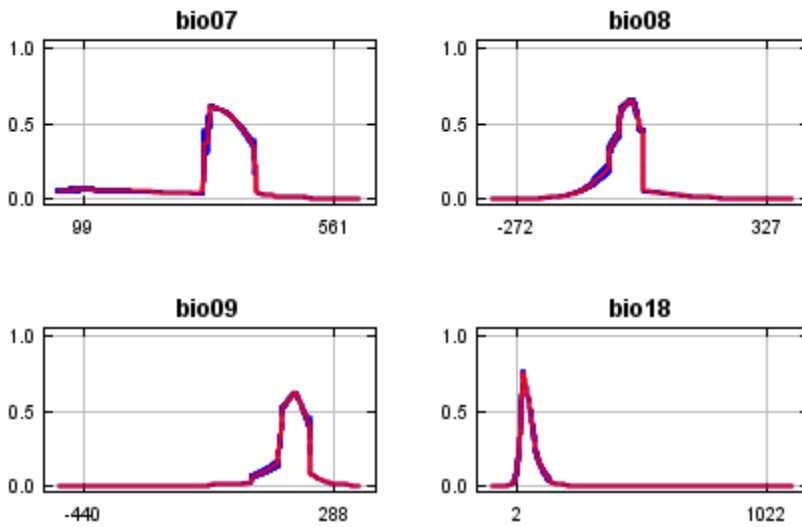


In contrast to the above marginal response curves, each of the following curves represents a different model, namely, a Maxent model created using only the corresponding variable. These plots reflect the dependence of predicted suitability both on the selected variable and on dependencies induced by correlations between the selected variable and other variables. They may be easier to interpret if there are strong correlations between variables.

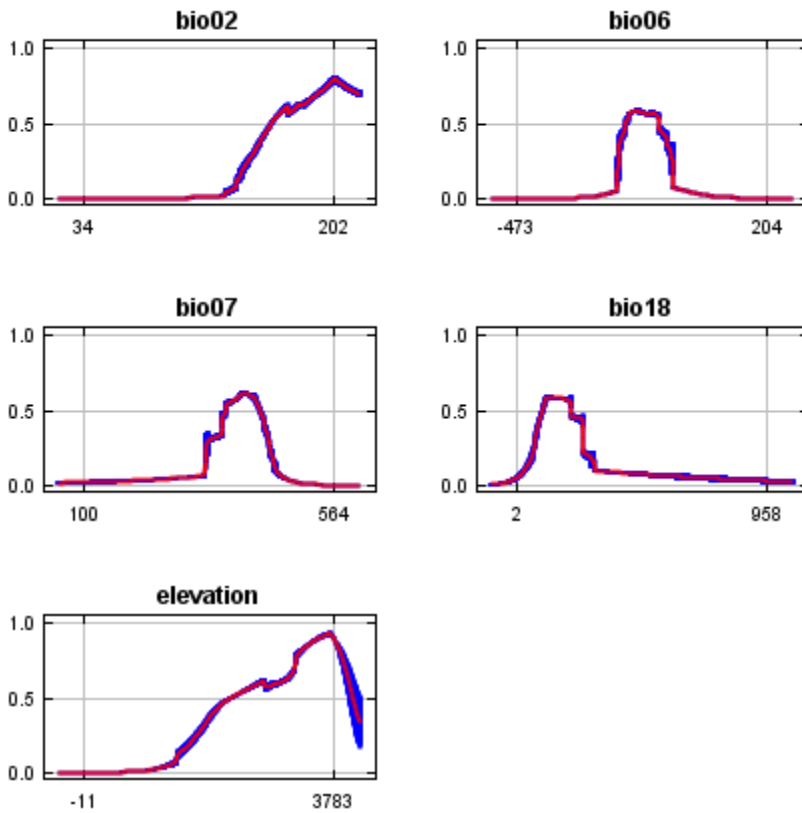
*Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri*  
Figure F22



*Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii*  
Figure F23



*Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis*  
Figure F24



### Analysis of variable contributions

The following table gives estimates of relative contributions of the environmental variables to the Maxent model. To determine the first estimate, in each iteration of the training algorithm, the increase in regularized gain is added to the contribution of the corresponding variable, or subtracted from it if the change to the absolute value of lambda is negative. For the second estimate, for each environmental variable in turn, the values of that variable on training presence and background data are randomly permuted. The model is reevaluated on the permuted data, and the resulting drop in training AUC is shown in the table, normalized to percentages. As with the variable jackknife, variable contributions should be interpreted with caution when the predictor variables are correlated. Values shown are averages over replicate runs.

#### *Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri*

Table F1

| Variable  | Percent contribution | Permutation importance |
|-----------|----------------------|------------------------|
| bio02     | 53.7                 | 43                     |
| bio11     | 20.5                 | 30.8                   |
| elevation | 15.1                 | 13.6                   |
| bio18     | 10.8                 | 12.6                   |

#### *Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii*

Table F2

| Variable | Percent contribution | Permutation importance |
|----------|----------------------|------------------------|
| bio09    | 53.2                 | 71                     |
| bio08    | 25                   | 9.2                    |
| bio18    | 18.5                 | 18.2                   |
| bio07    | 3.3                  | 1.7                    |

#### *Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis*

Table F3

| Variable  | Percent contribution | Permutation importance |
|-----------|----------------------|------------------------|
| bio02     | 45.9                 | 1                      |
| elevation | 40.1                 | 48.8                   |
| bio06     | 7.8                  | 40.4                   |
| bio07     | 3.4                  | 7.4                    |
| bio18     | 2.8                  | 2.5                    |

The following picture shows the results of the jackknife test of variable importance. The environmental variable with highest gain when used in isolation is bio02, which therefore

appears to have the most useful information by itself. The environmental variable that decreases the gain the most when it is omitted is bio11, which therefore appears to have the most information that isn't present in the other variables. Values shown are averages over replicate runs.

Figure F25

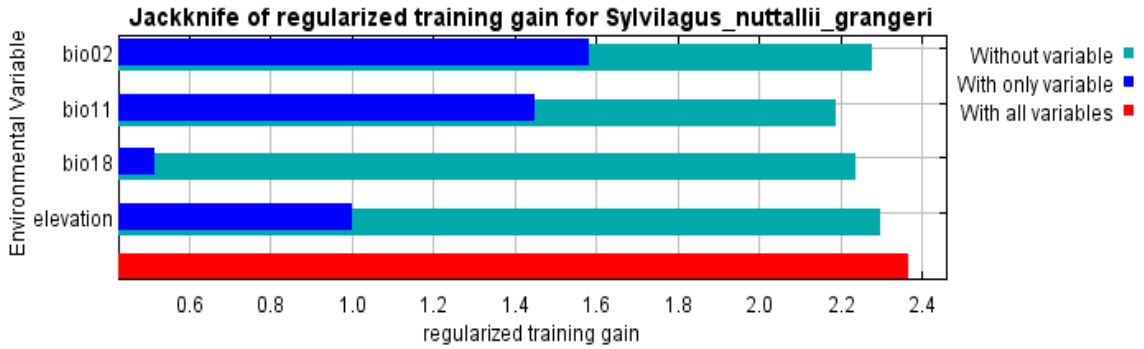


Figure F26

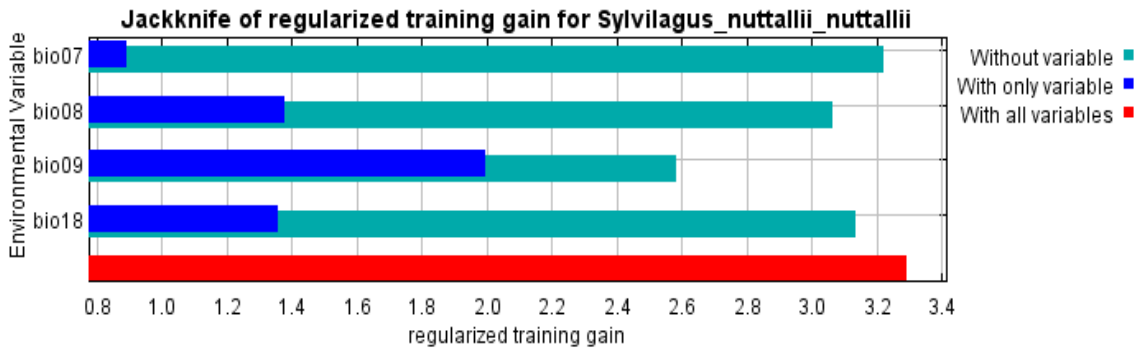
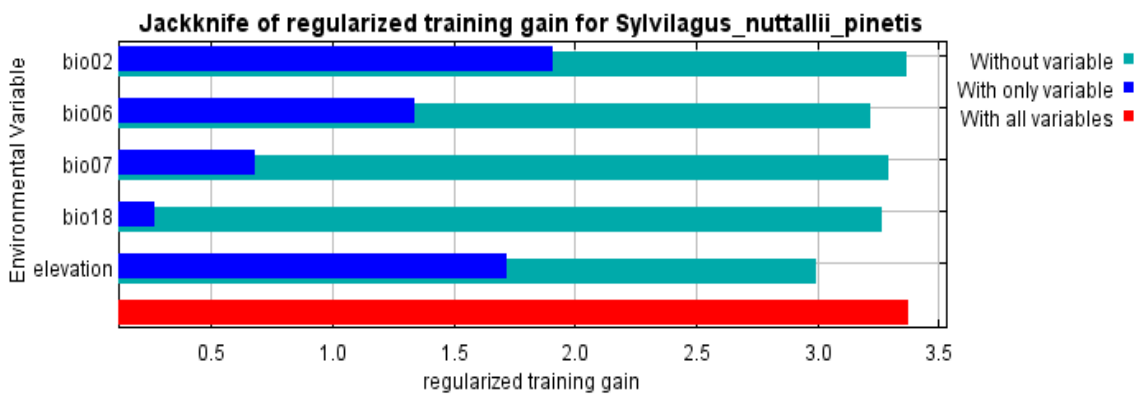


Figure F27



The next picture shows the same jackknife test, using test gain instead of training gain. Note that conclusions about which variables are most important can change, now that we're looking at test data.

Figure F28

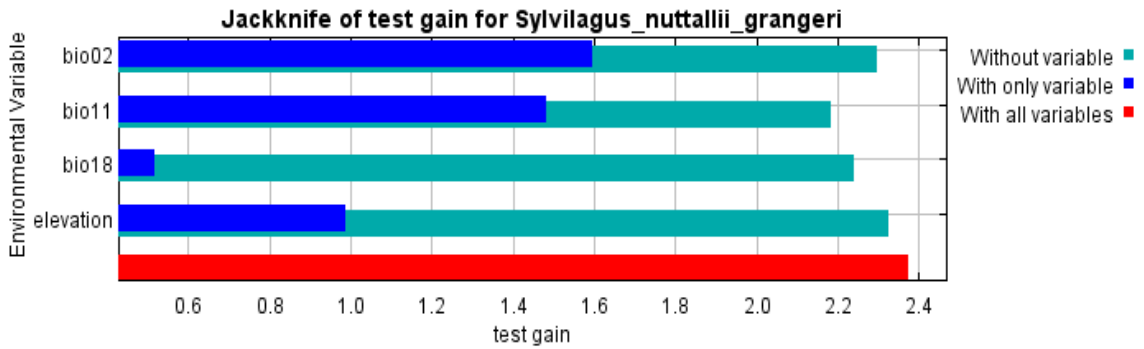


Figure F29

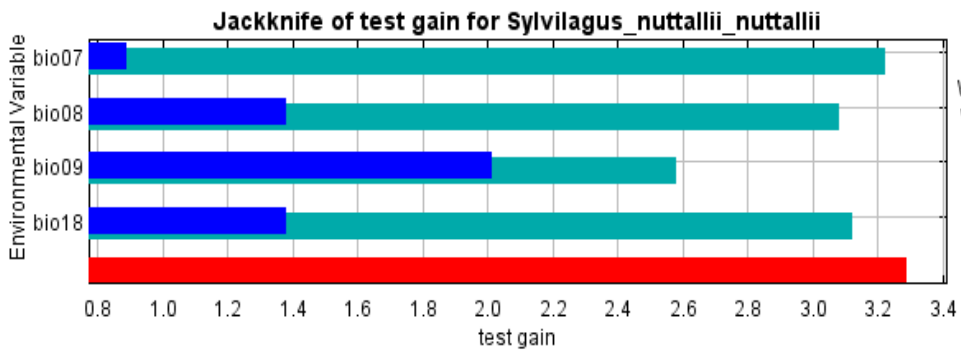
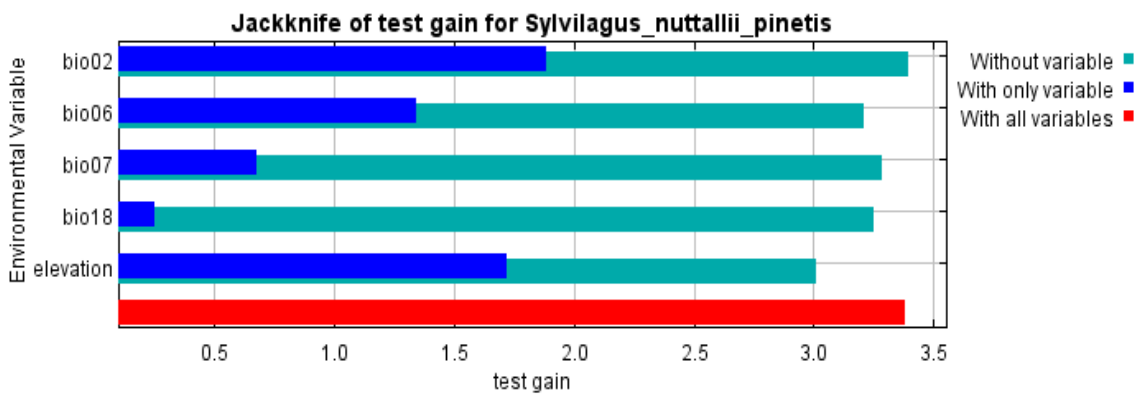


Figure F30



Lastly, we have the same jackknife test, using AUC on test data.  
Figure F31

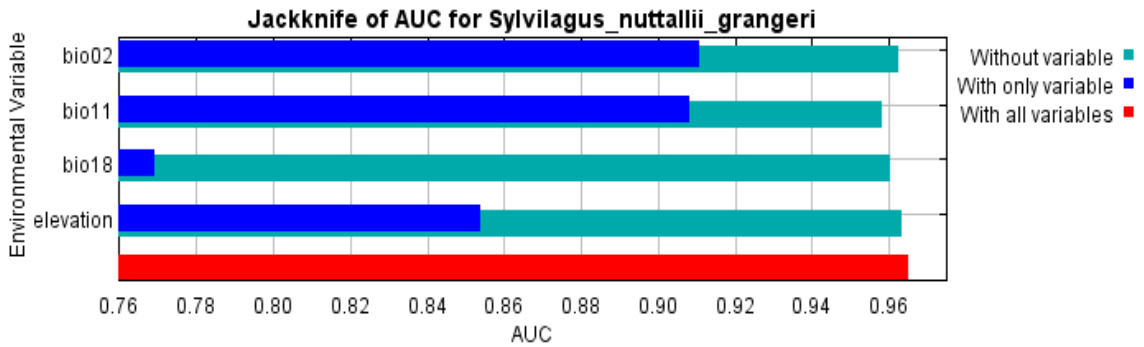


Figure F32

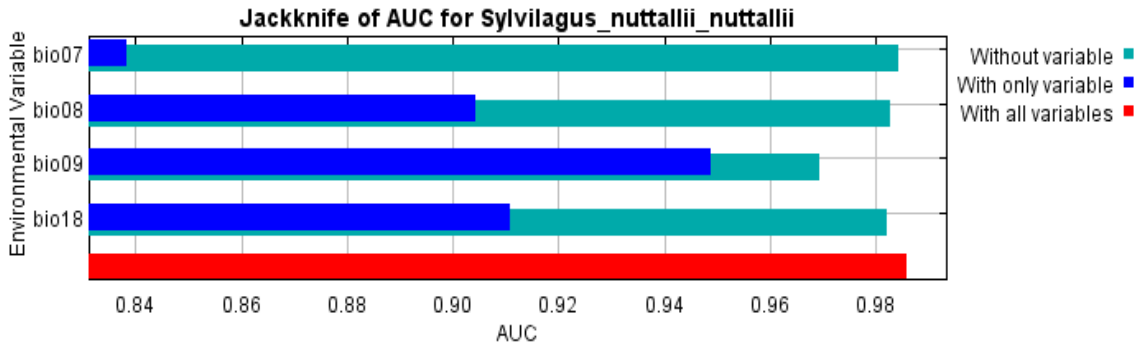
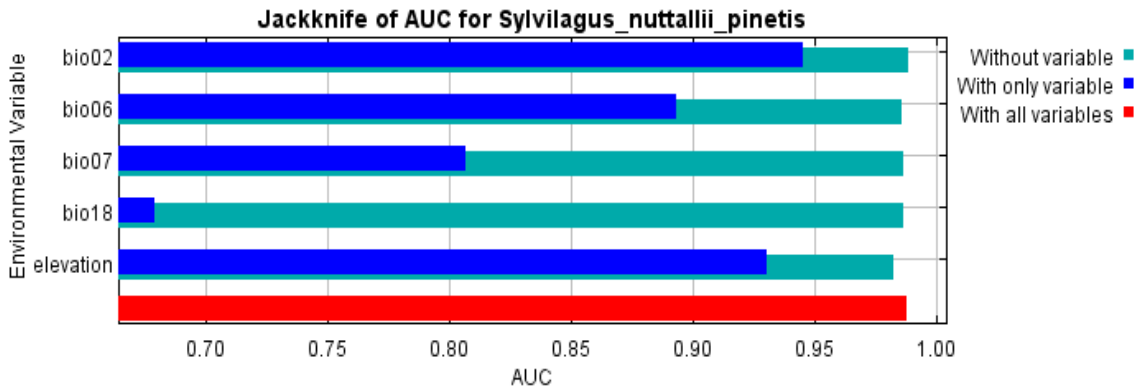


Figure F33



## APPENDIX G

Model output results and figures for the Last Glacial Maximum (~22KYBP).

### Analysis of omission/commission

The following picture shows the test omission rate and predicted area as a function of the cumulative threshold, averaged over the replicate runs. The omission rate should be close to the predicted omission, because of the definition of the cumulative threshold.

Figure G1

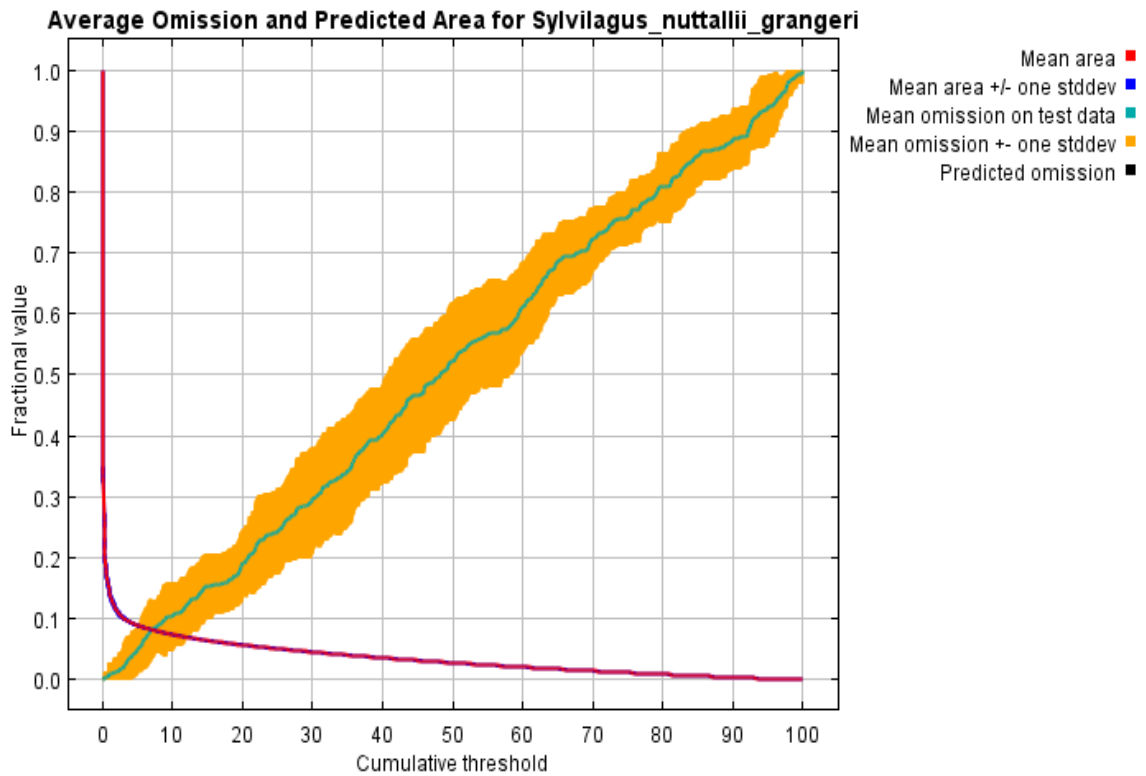


Figure G2

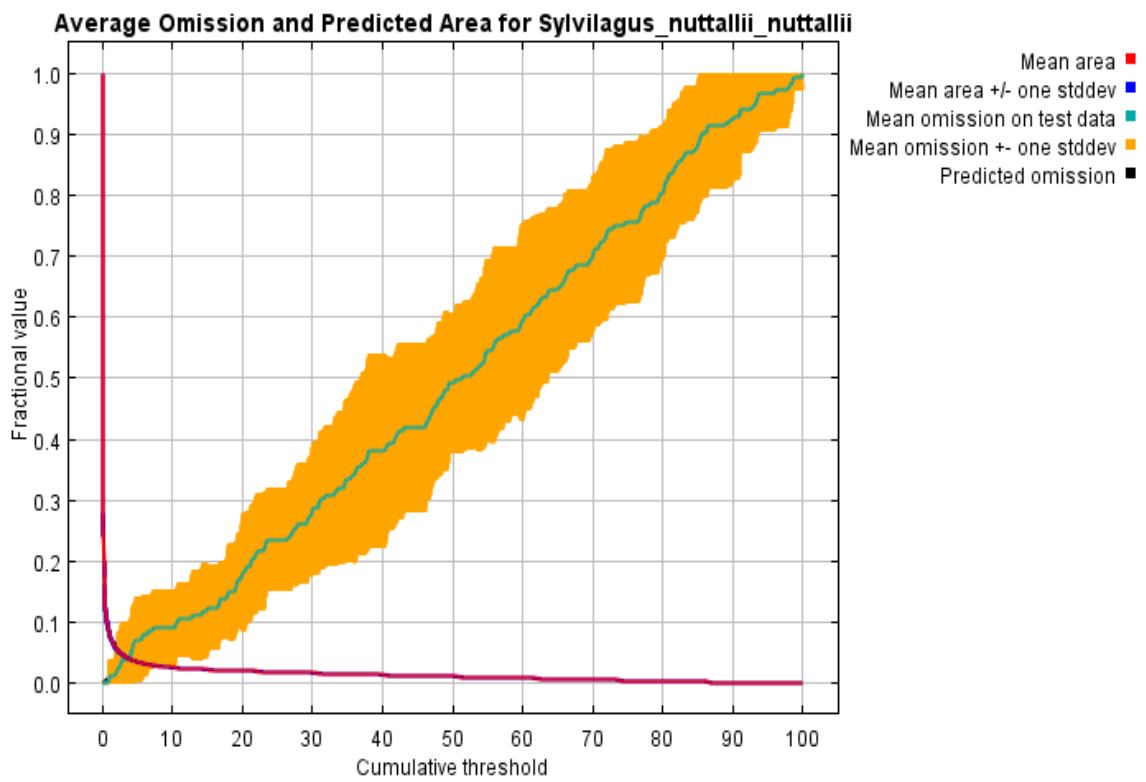
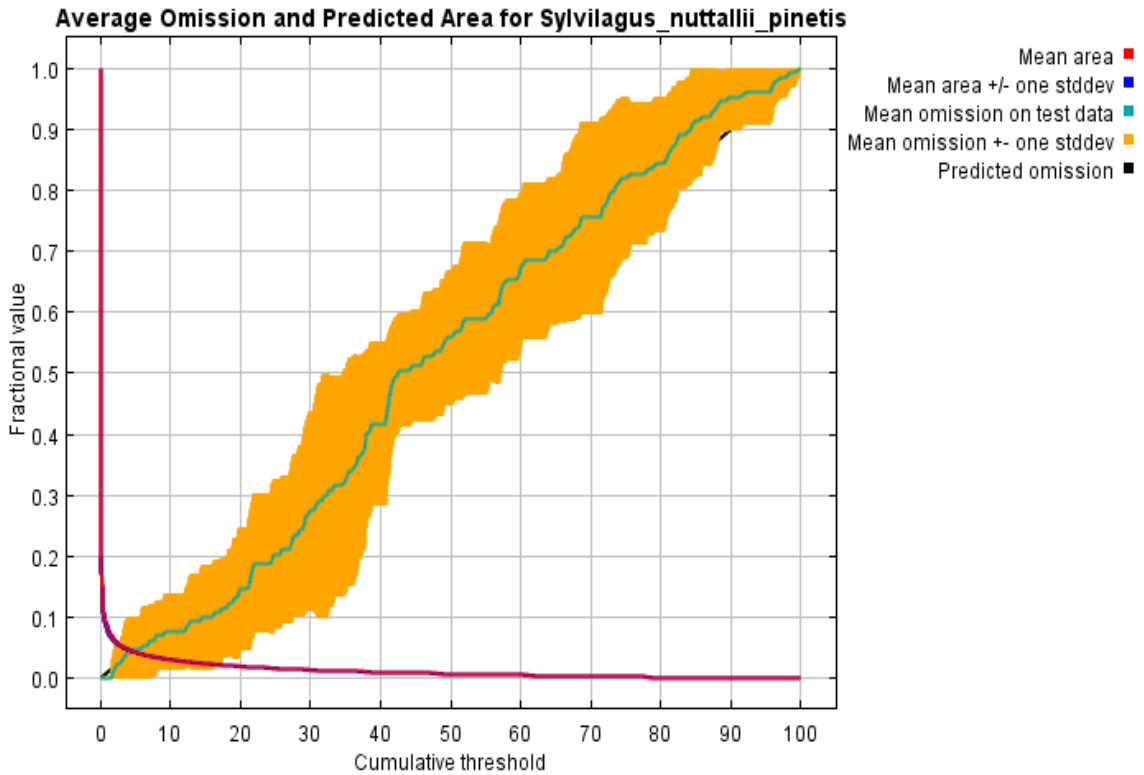




Figure G3



The next picture is the receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curve for the same data, again averaged over the replicate runs. Note that the specificity is defined using predicted area, rather than true commission (see the paper by Phillips, Anderson and Schapire cited for discussion of what this means). The average test AUC for the replicate runs is 0.965, 0.986, and 0.988 respectively and the standard deviation is 0.005.

Figure G4

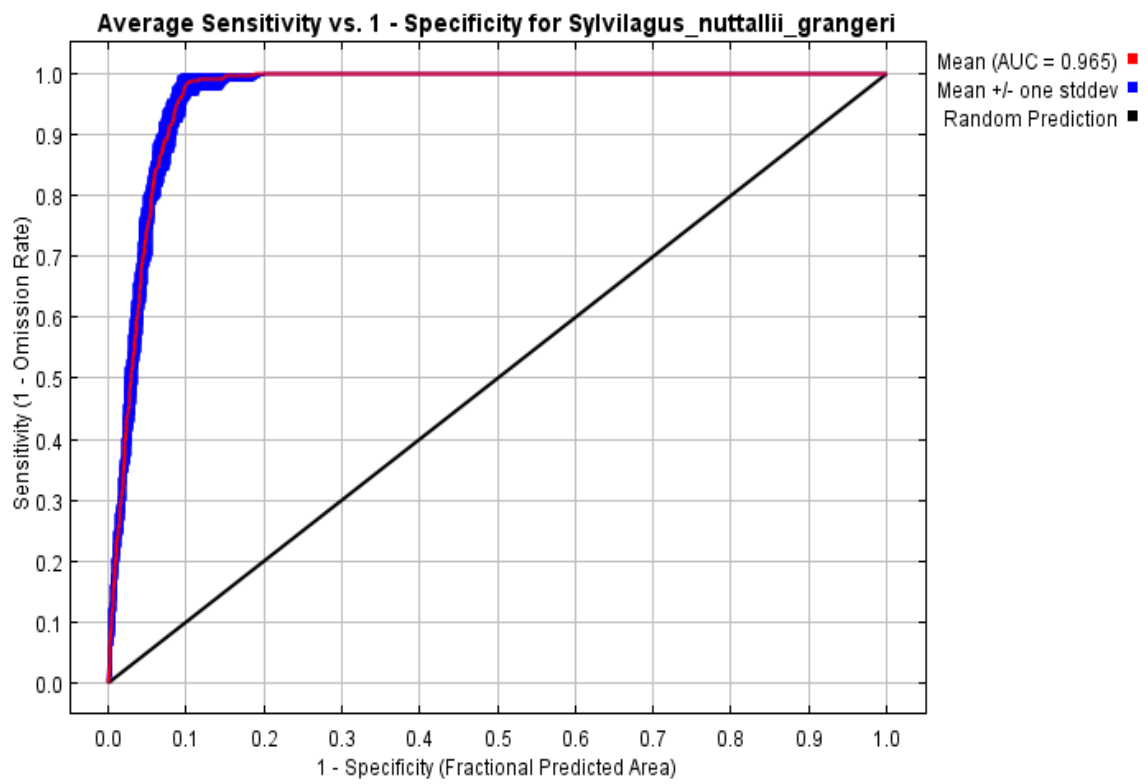


Figure G5

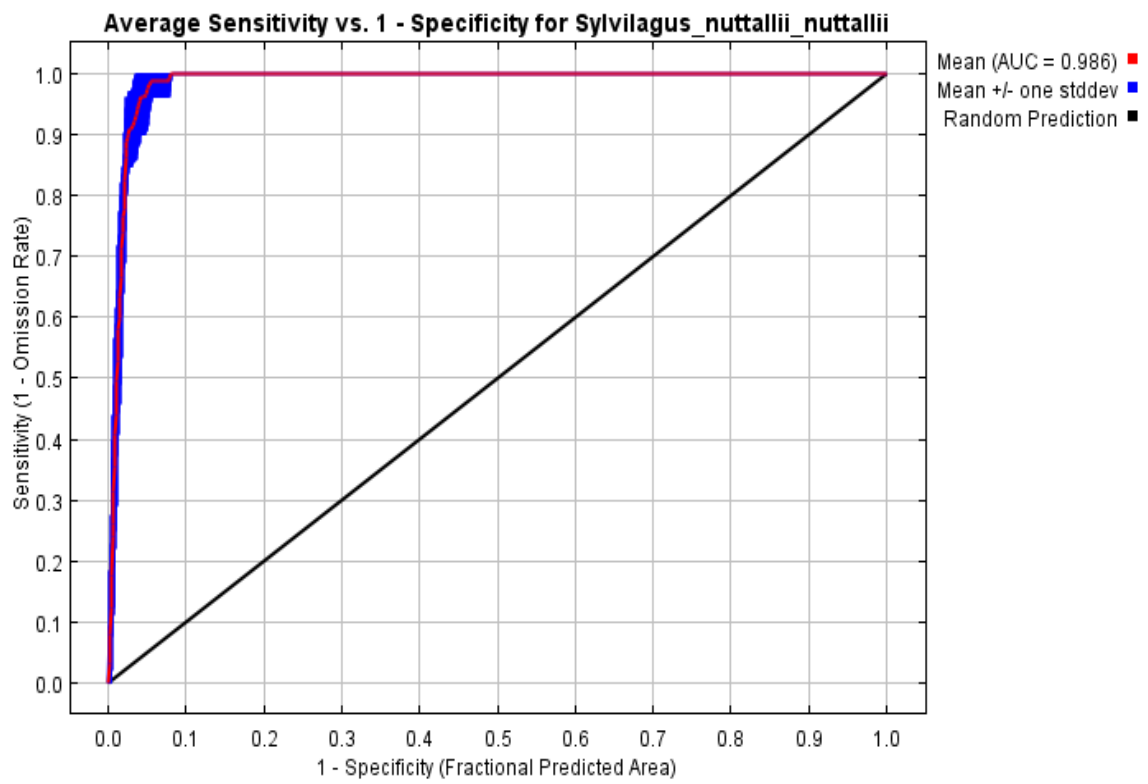
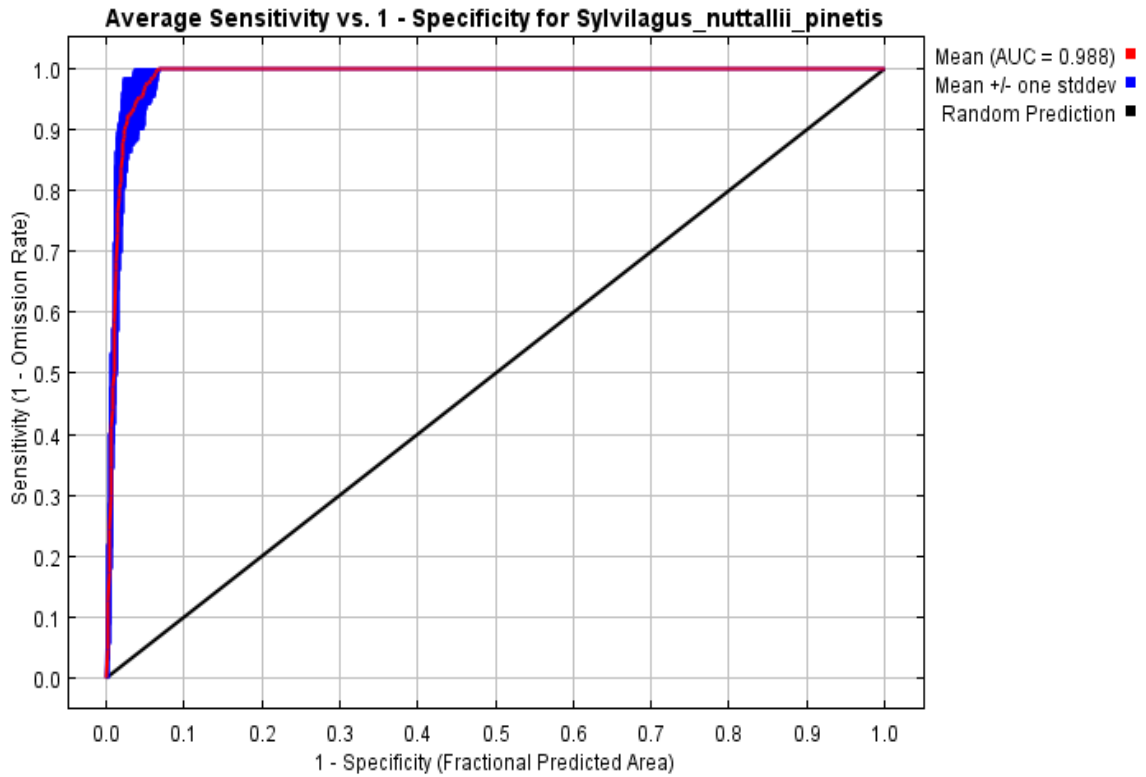


Figure G6



Pictures of the model

The following pictures show the point-wise mean and standard deviation of the 10 output grids. Other available summary grids are [min](#), [max](#) and [median](#).

*Sylvilagus\_nuttallii* grangeri:

Figure G7



Figure G8



*Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii*:  
Figure G9



Figure G10



*Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis*:  
Figure G11



Figure G12



The following pictures show the point-wise mean and standard deviation of the 10

models applied to the environmental layers in ASCII. Other available summary grids are [min](#), [max](#) and [median](#).

*Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri*

Figure G13



Figure G14



*Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii*:

Figure G15



Figure G16



*Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis*:  
Figure G17



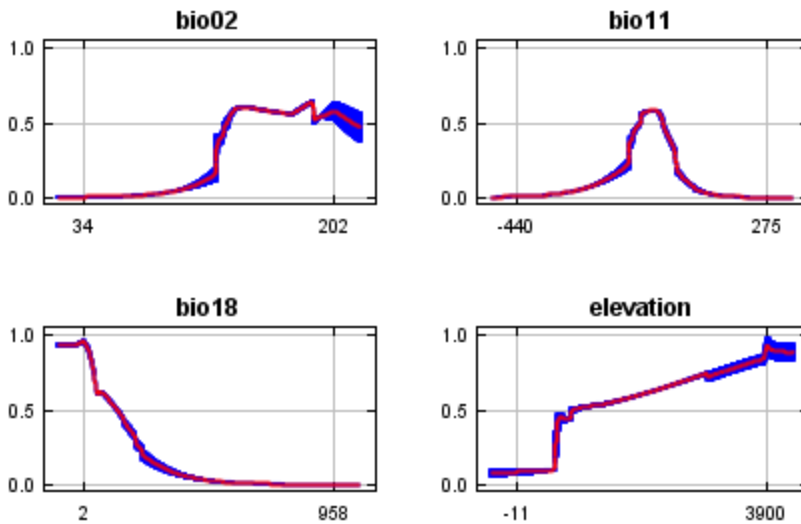
Figure G18



## Response curves

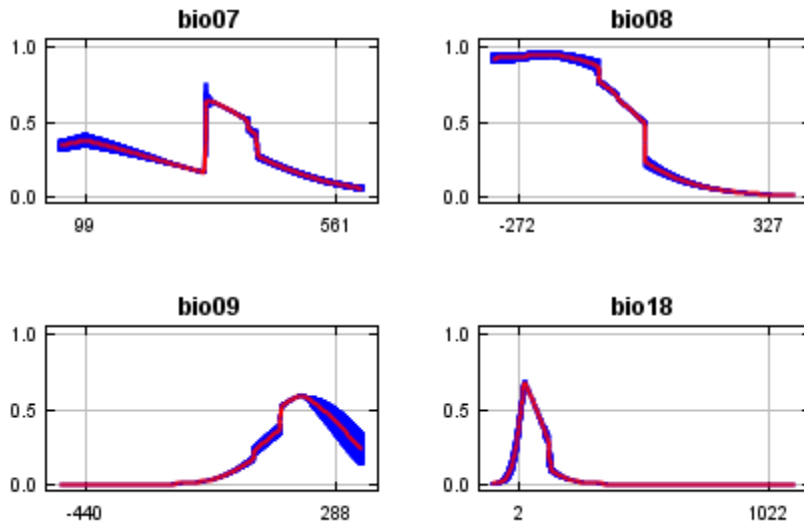
These curves show how each environmental variable affects the Maxent prediction. The curves show how the logistic prediction changes as each environmental variable is varied, keeping all other environmental variables at their average sample value. Click on a response curve to see a larger version. Note that the curves can be hard to interpret if you have strongly correlated variables, as the model may depend on the correlations in ways that are not evident in the curves. In other words, the curves show the marginal effect of changing exactly one variable, whereas the model may take advantage of sets of variables changing together. The curves show the mean response of the 10 replicate Maxent runs (red) and the mean  $\pm$  one standard deviation (blue, two shades for categorical variables).

*Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri*  
Figure G19

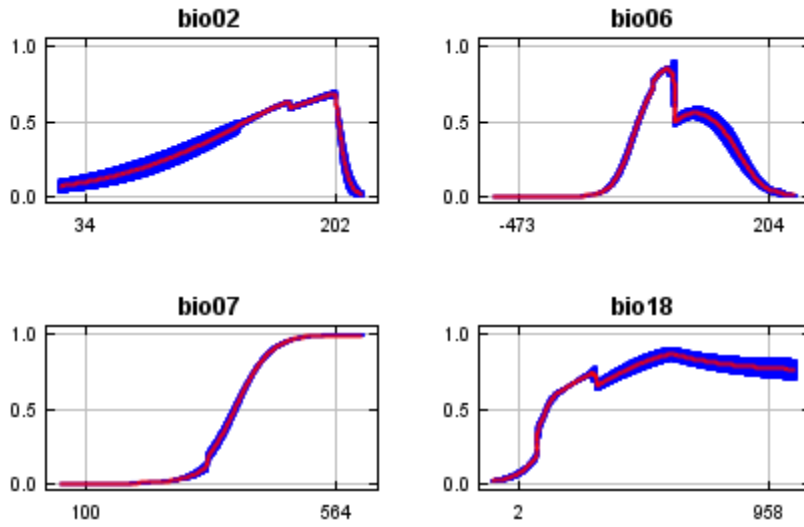


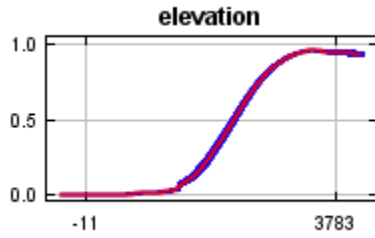


*Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii*  
Figure G20



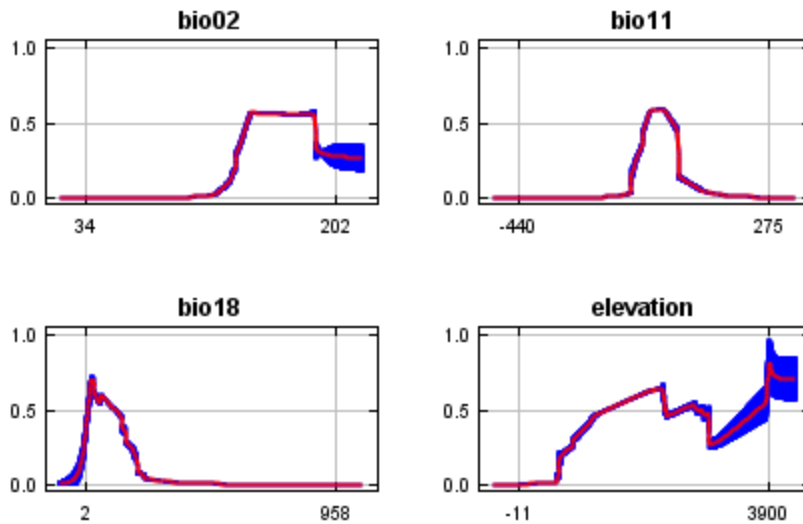
*Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis*  
Figure G21





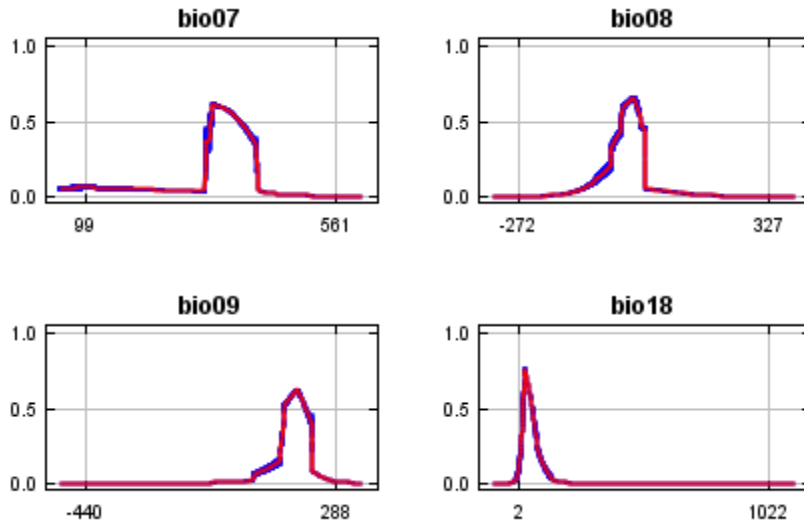
In contrast to the above marginal response curves, each of the following curves represents a different model, namely, a Maxent model created using only the corresponding variable. These plots reflect the dependence of predicted suitability both on the selected variable and on dependencies induced by correlations between the selected variable and other variables. They may be easier to interpret if there are strong correlations between variables.

*Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri*  
Figure G22

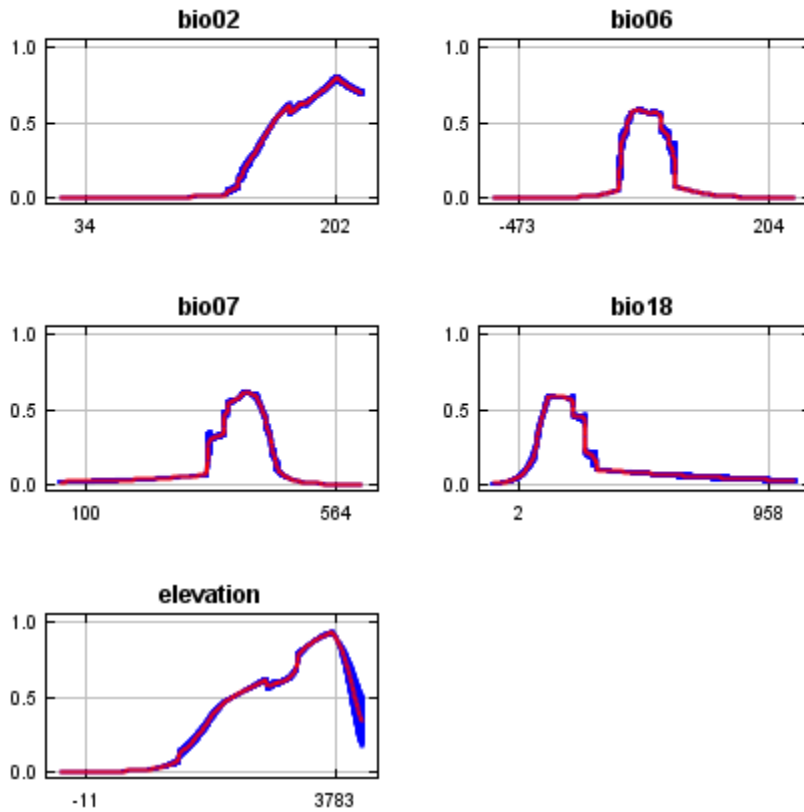


*Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii*  
Figure G23

*Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii*  
Figure G23



*Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis*  
Figure G24



The following table gives estimates of relative contributions of the environmental variables to the Maxent model. To determine the first estimate, in each iteration of the training algorithm, the increase in regularized gain is added to the contribution of the corresponding variable, or subtracted from it if the change to the absolute value of lambda is negative. For the second estimate, for each environmental variable in turn, the values of that variable on training presence and background data are randomly permuted. The model is reevaluated on the permuted data, and the resulting drop in training AUC is shown in the table, normalized to percentages. As with the variable jackknife, variable contributions should be interpreted with caution when the predictor variables are correlated. Values shown are averages over replicate runs.

*Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri*

Table G1

| Variable  | Percent contribution | Permutation importance |
|-----------|----------------------|------------------------|
| bio02     | 53.7                 | 43                     |
| bio11     | 20.5                 | 30.8                   |
| elevation | 15.1                 | 13.6                   |
| bio18     | 10.8                 | 12.6                   |

*Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii*

Table G2

| Variable | Percent contribution | Permutation importance |
|----------|----------------------|------------------------|
| bio09    | 53.2                 | 71                     |
| bio08    | 25                   | 9.2                    |
| bio18    | 18.5                 | 18.2                   |
| bio07    | 3.3                  | 1.7                    |

*Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis*

Table G3

| Variable  | Percent contribution | Permutation importance |
|-----------|----------------------|------------------------|
| bio02     | 45.9                 | 1                      |
| elevation | 40.1                 | 48.8                   |
| bio06     | 7.8                  | 40.4                   |
| bio07     | 3.4                  | 7.4                    |
| bio18     | 2.8                  | 2.5                    |

The following picture shows the results of the jackknife test of variable importance. The environmental variable with highest gain when used in isolation is bio02, which therefore appears to have the most useful information by itself. The environmental variable that

decreases the gain the most when it is omitted is bio11, which therefore appears to have the most information that isn't present in the other variables. Values shown are averages over replicate runs.

Figure G25

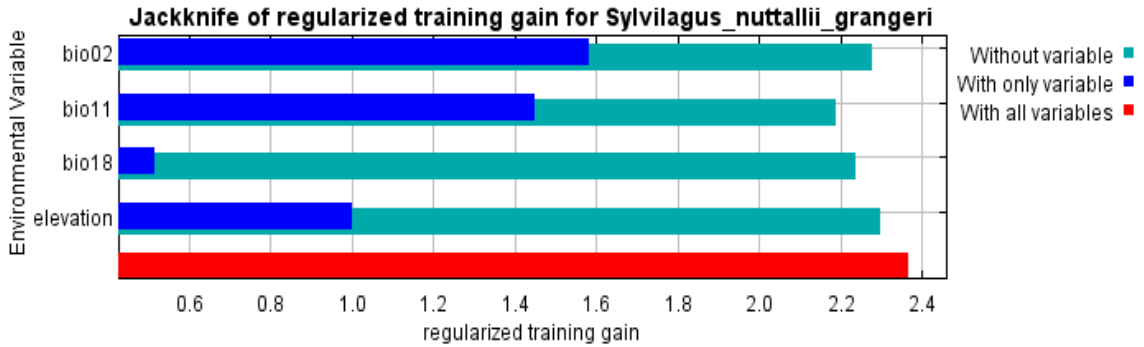


Figure G26

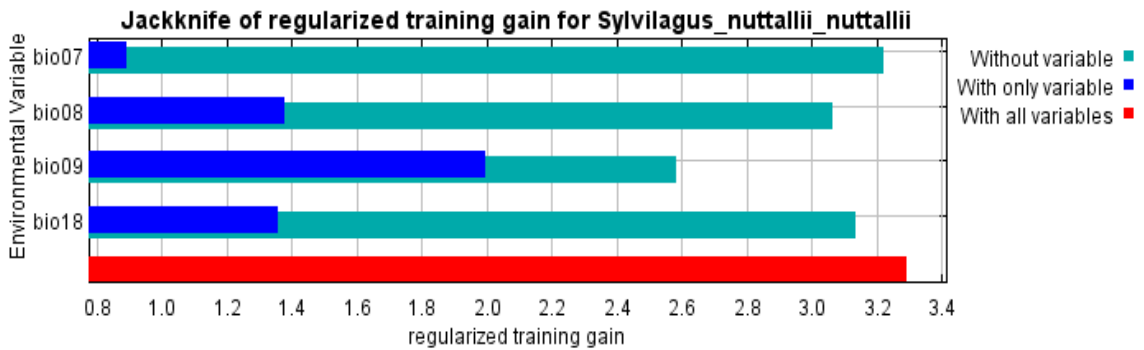
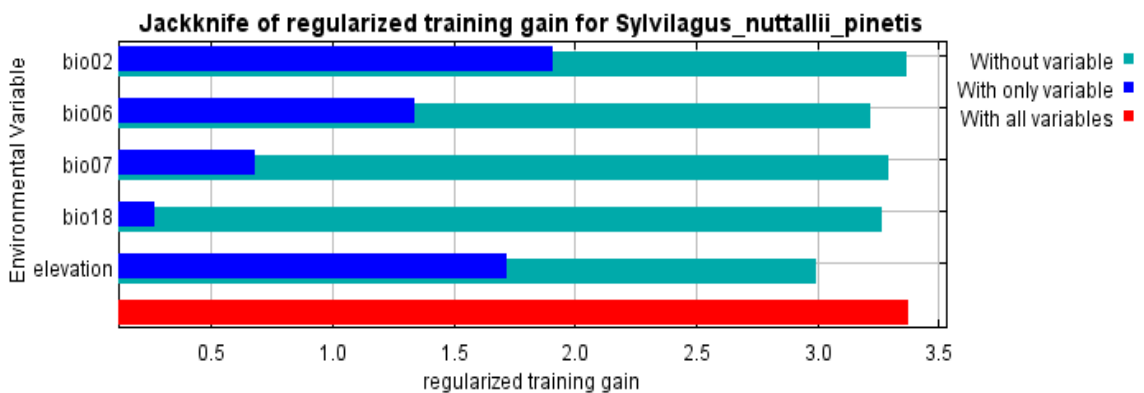


Figure G27



The next picture shows the same jackknife test, using test gain instead of training gain. Note that conclusions about which variables are most important can change, now that we're looking at test data.

Figure G28

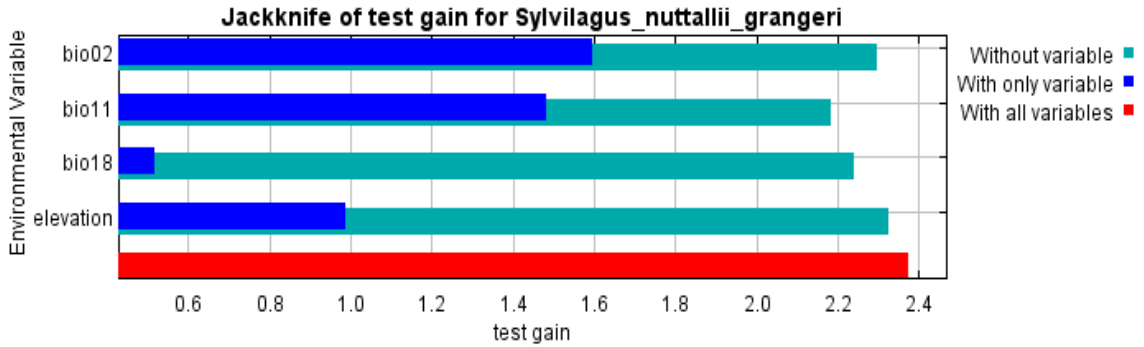


Figure G29

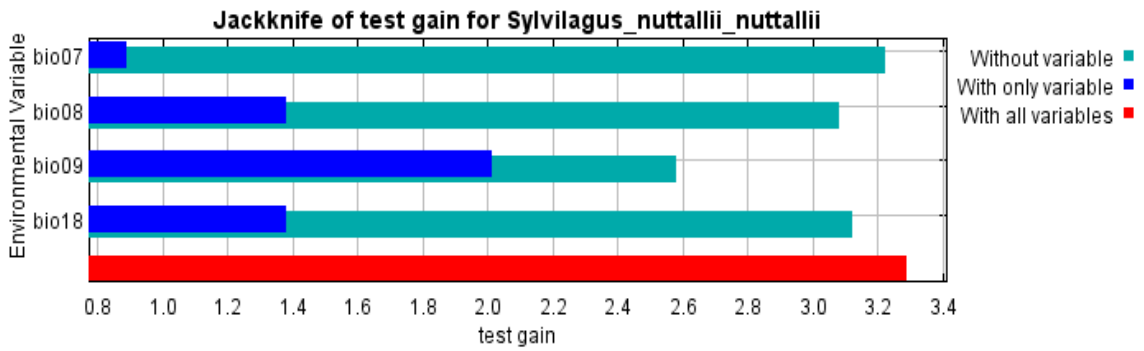
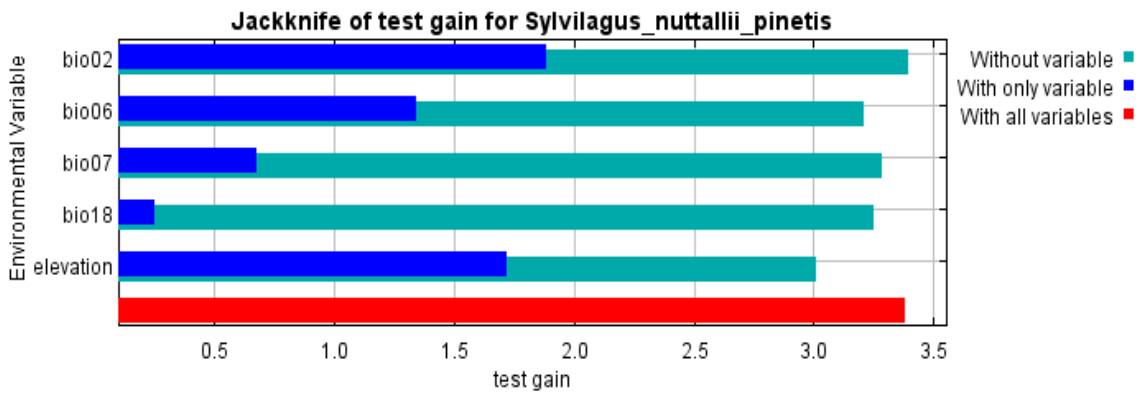


Figure G30



Lastly, we have the same jackknife test, using AUC on test data.

Figure G31

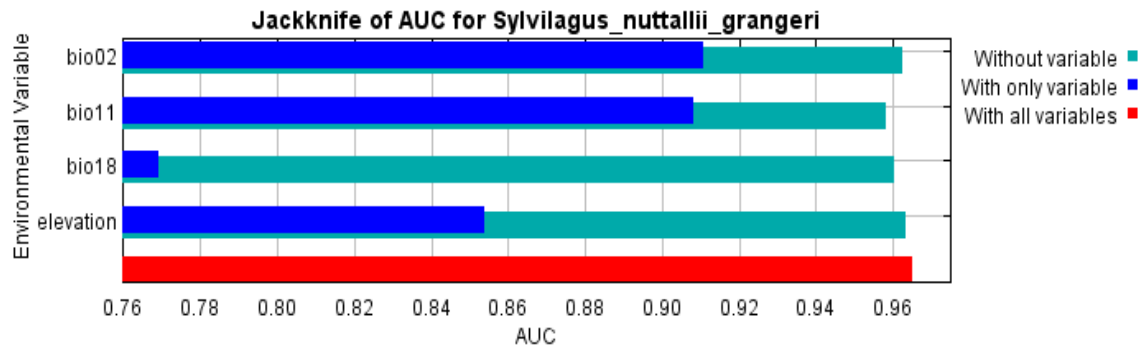


Figure G32

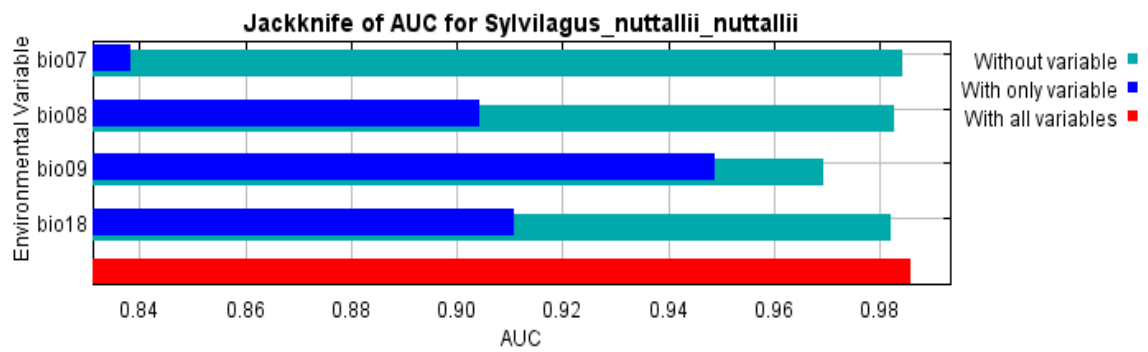
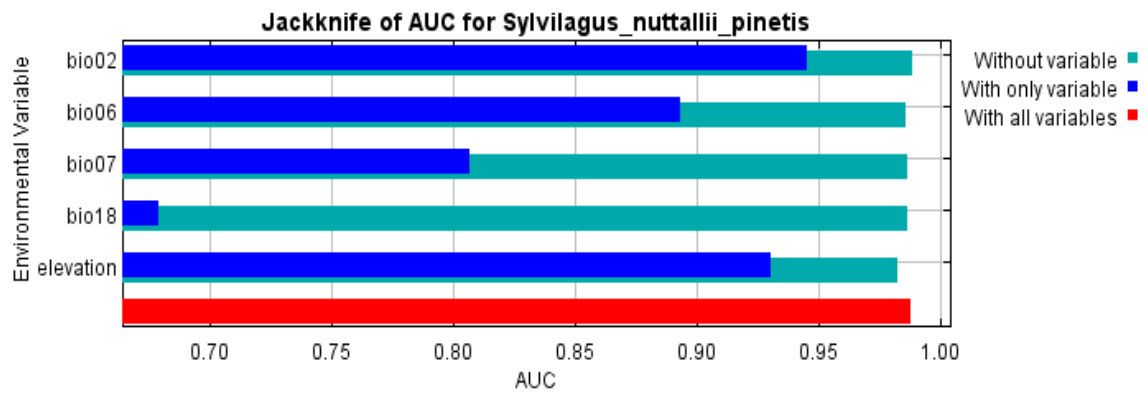


Figure G33



## APPENDIX H

Model output results and figures for the mid-Holocene period (~6KYBP).

### Analysis of omission/commission

The following picture shows the test omission rate and predicted area as a function of the cumulative threshold, averaged over the replicate runs. The omission rate should be close to the predicted omission, because of the definition of the cumulative threshold.

Figure H1

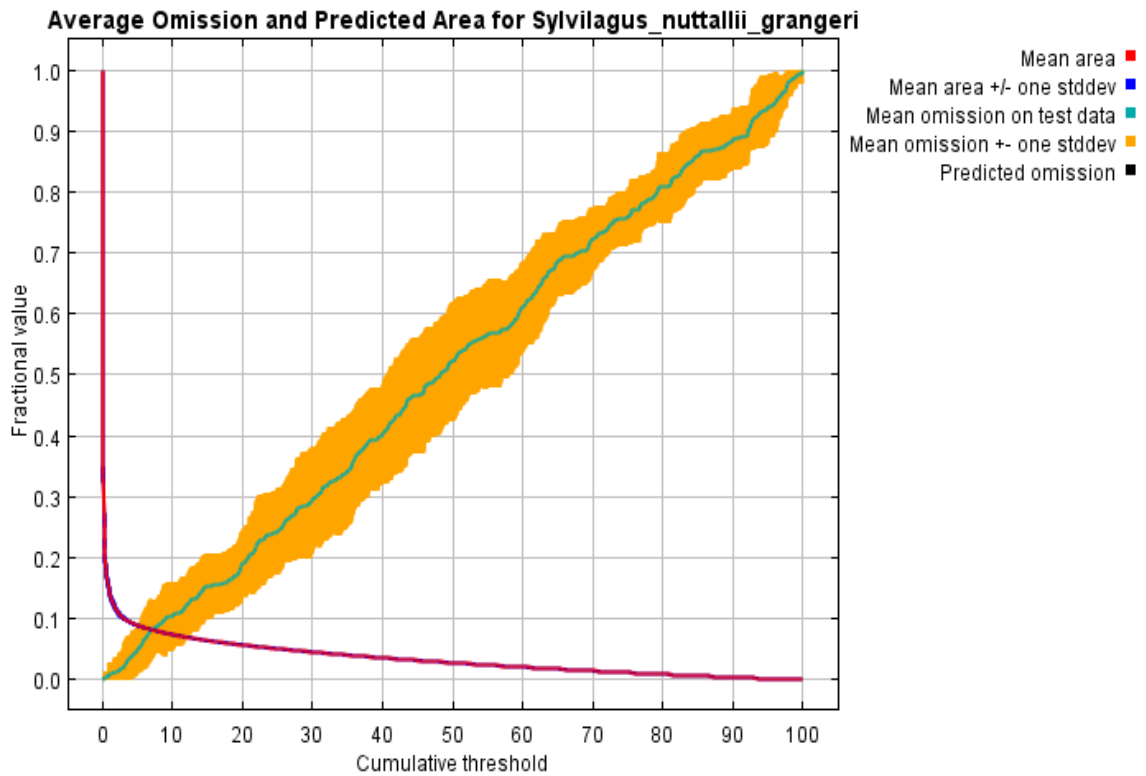




Figure H2

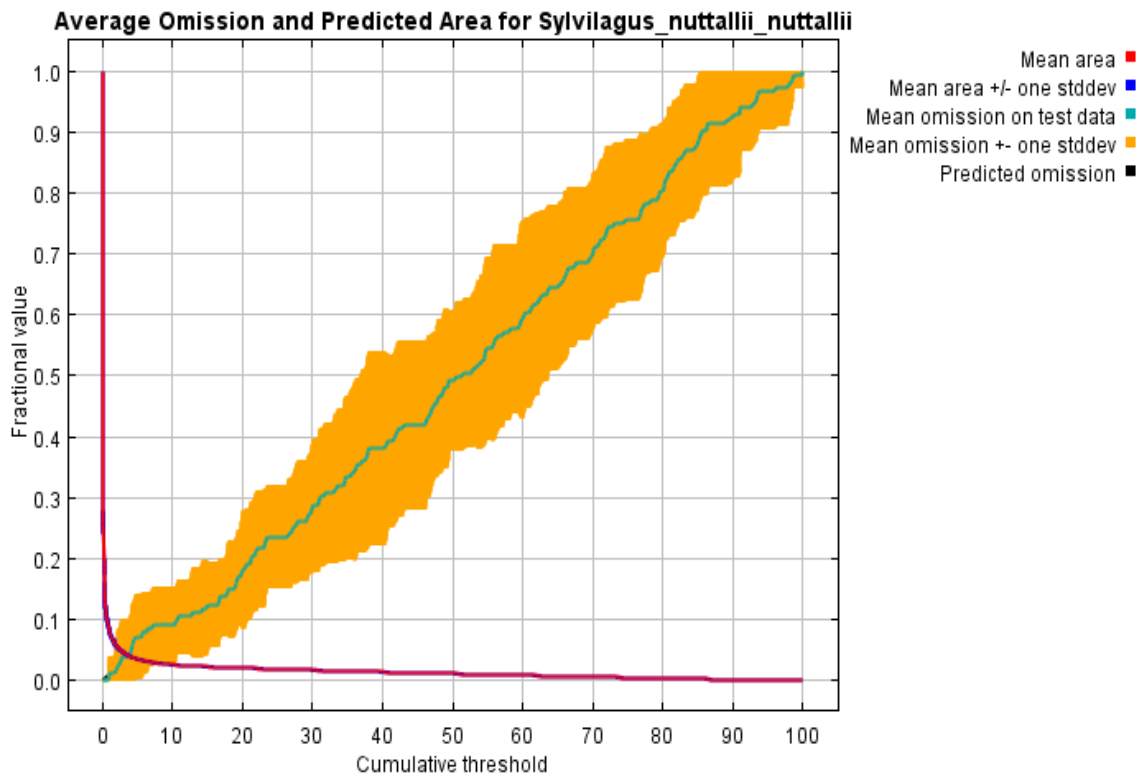
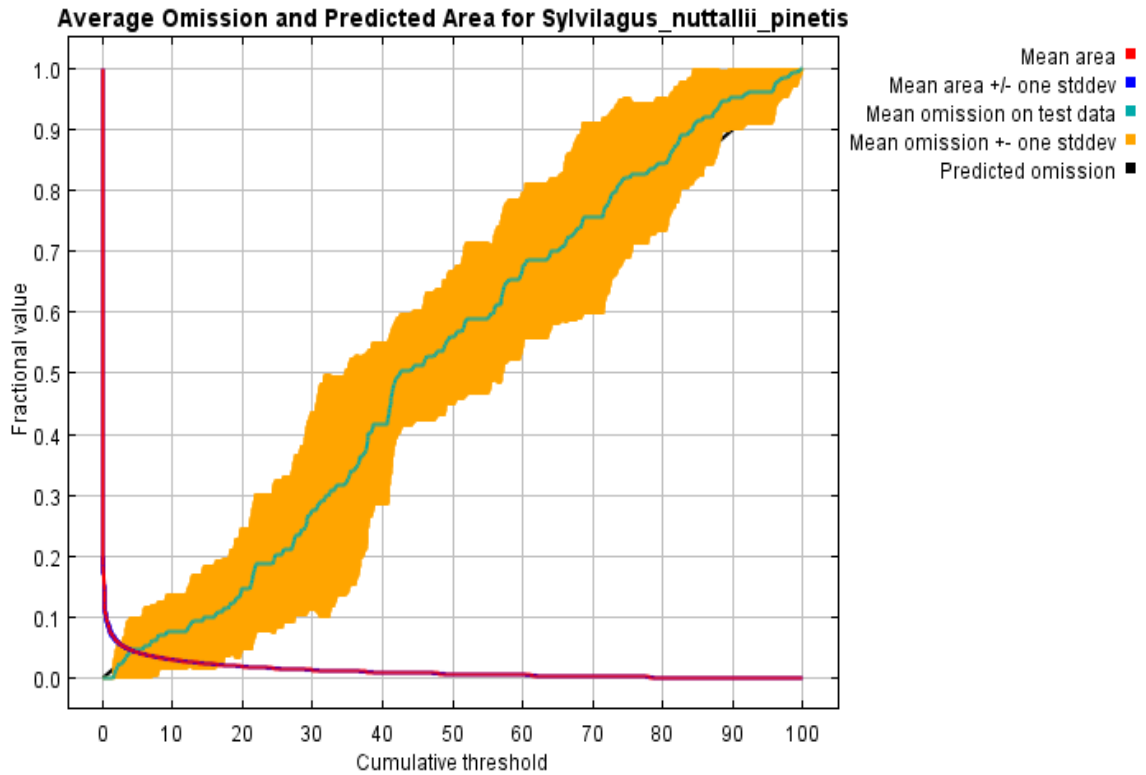


Figure H3



The next picture is the receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curve for the same data, again averaged over the replicate runs. Note that the specificity is defined using predicted area, rather than true commission (see the paper by Phillips, Anderson and Schapire cited for discussion of what this means). The average test AUC for the replicate runs is 0.965, 0.986, and 0.988 respectively and the standard deviation is 0.005.

Figure H4

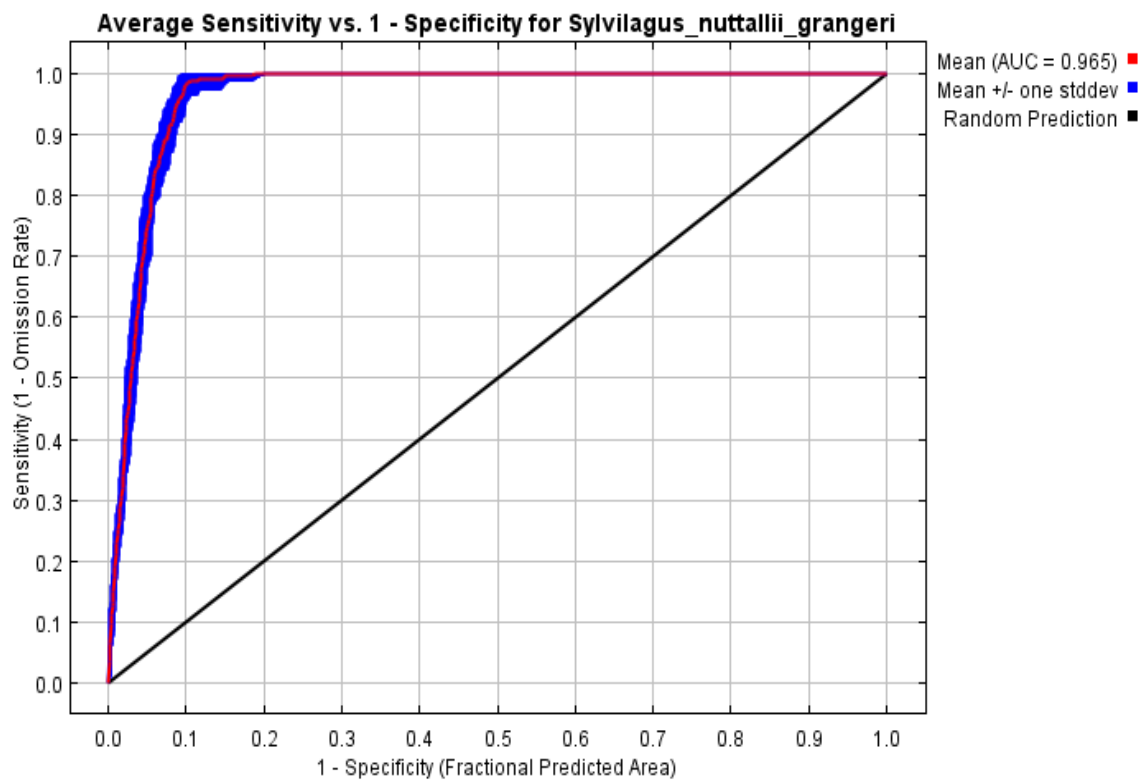


Figure H5

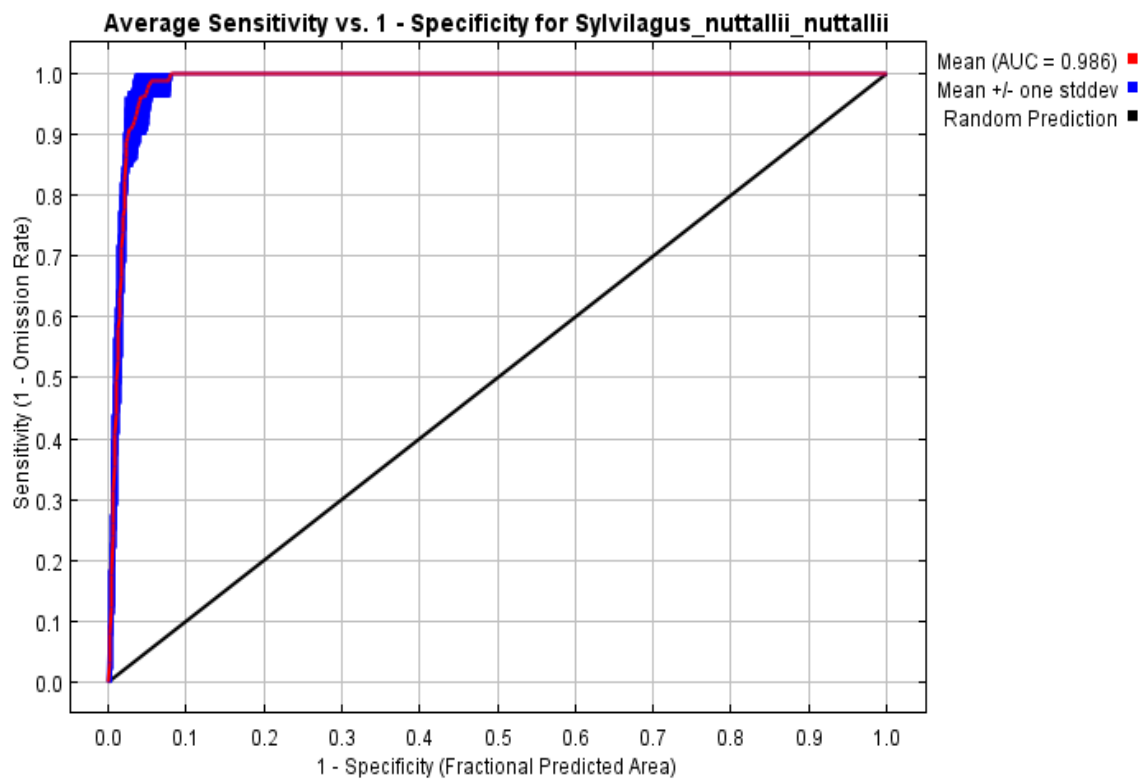
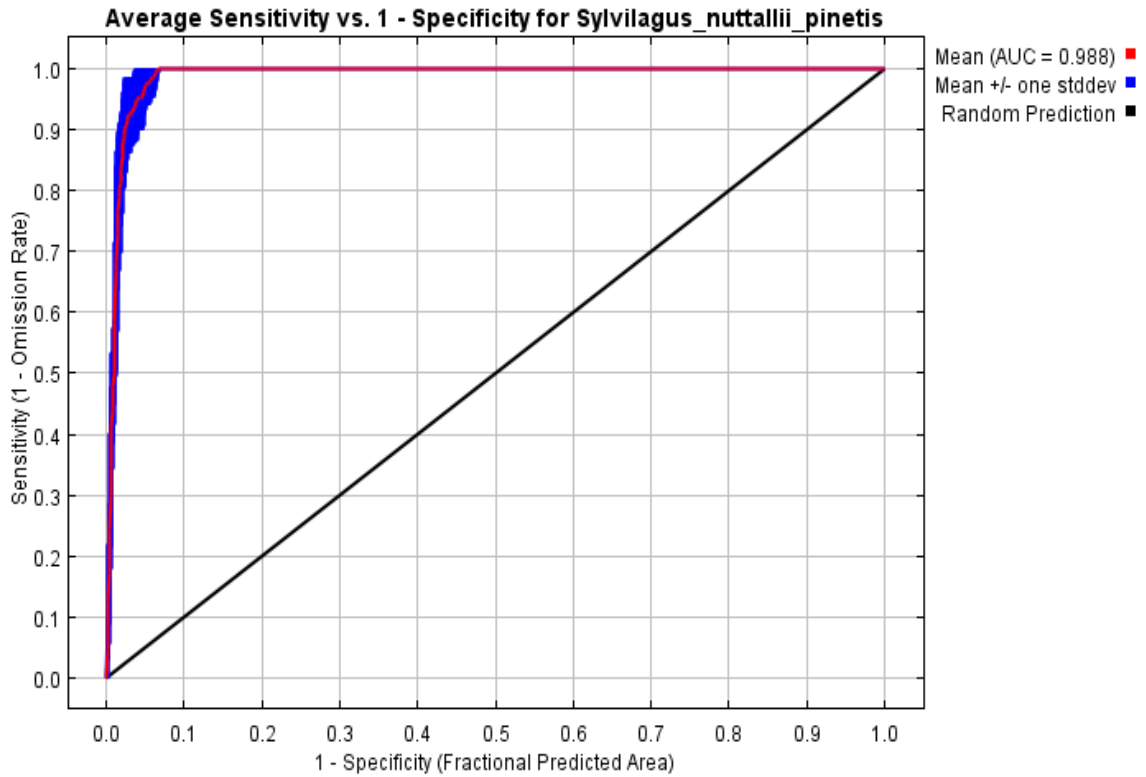


Figure H6



Pictures of the model

The following pictures show the point-wise mean and standard deviation of the 10 output grids. Other available summary grids are [min](#), [max](#) and [median](#).

*Sylvilagus\_nuttallii* grangeri:

Figure H7



Figure H8



Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii:  
Figure H9

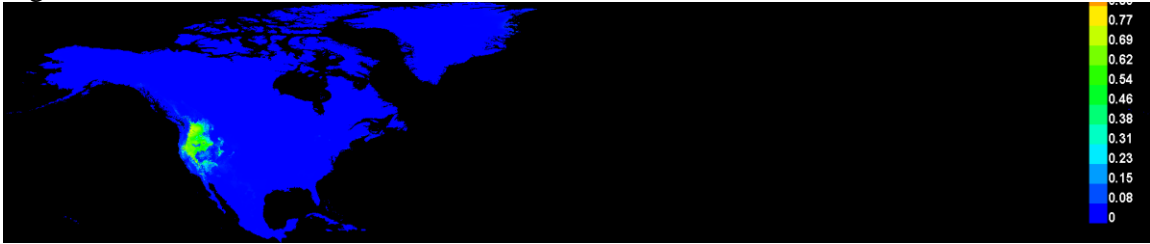


Figure H10



Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis:  
Figure H11



Figure H12



The following pictures show the point-wise mean and standard deviation of the 10 models applied to the environmental layers in ASCII. Other available summary grids are [min](#), [max](#) and [median](#).

*Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri*

Figure H13



Figure H14



*Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii*:

Figure H15



Figure H16



*Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis*:

Figure H17



Figure H18

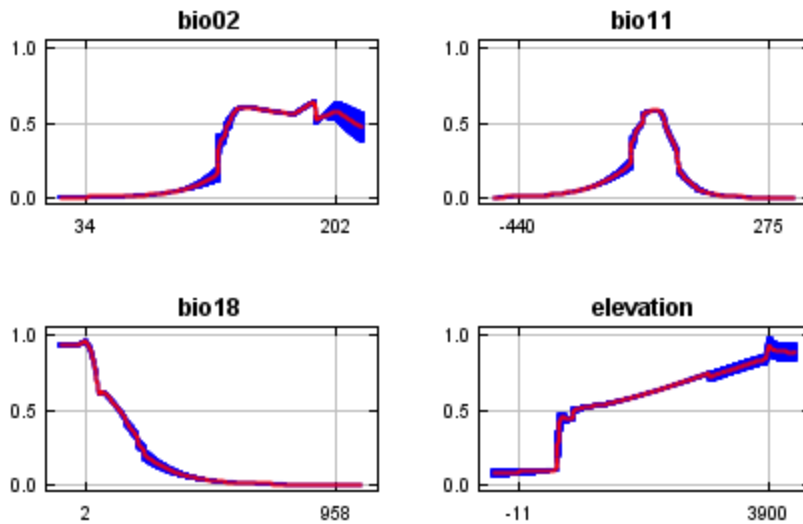




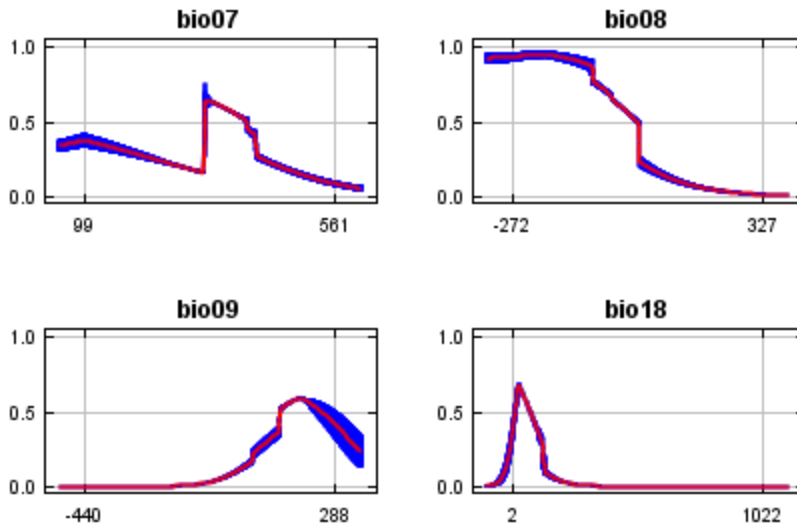
## Response curves

These curves show how each environmental variable affects the Maxent prediction. The curves show how the logistic prediction changes as each environmental variable is varied, keeping all other environmental variables at their average sample value. Click on a response curve to see a larger version. Note that the curves can be hard to interpret if you have strongly correlated variables, as the model may depend on the correlations in ways that are not evident in the curves. In other words, the curves show the marginal effect of changing exactly one variable, whereas the model may take advantage of sets of variables changing together. The curves show the mean response of the 10 replicate Maxent runs (red) and the mean  $\pm$  one standard deviation (blue, two shades for categorical variables).

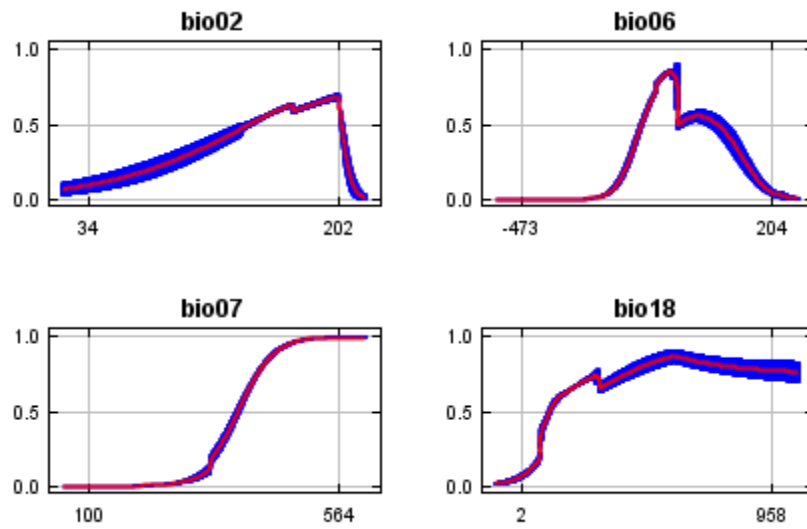
*Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri*  
Figure H19

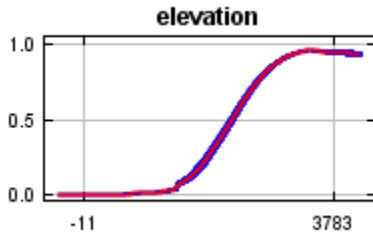


*Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii*  
Figure H20



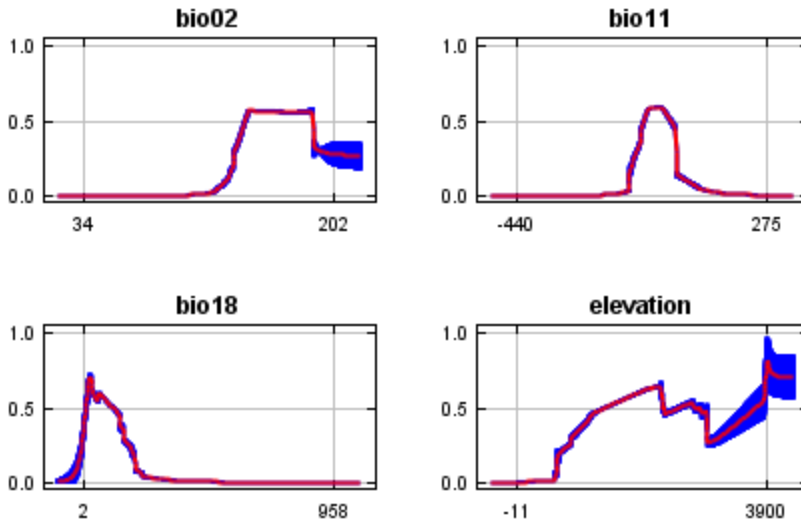
*Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis*  
Figure H21



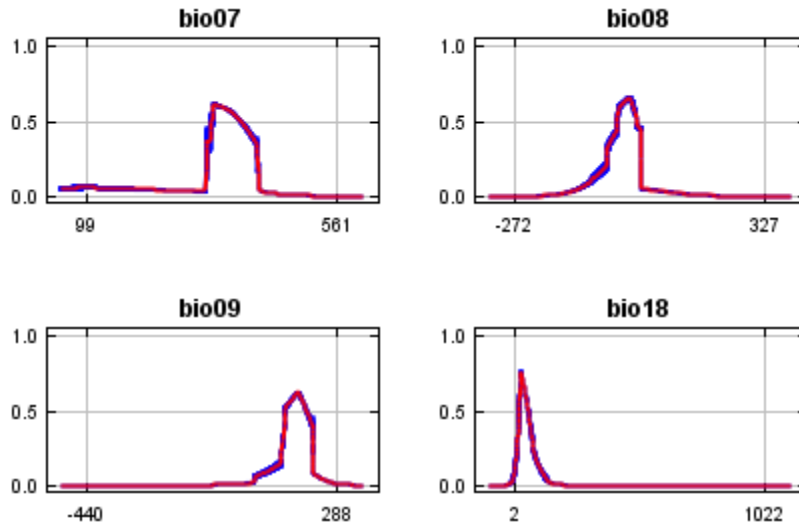


In contrast to the above marginal response curves, each of the following curves represents a different model, namely, a Maxent model created using only the corresponding variable. These plots reflect the dependence of predicted suitability both on the selected variable and on dependencies induced by correlations between the selected variable and other variables. They may be easier to interpret if there are strong correlations between variables.

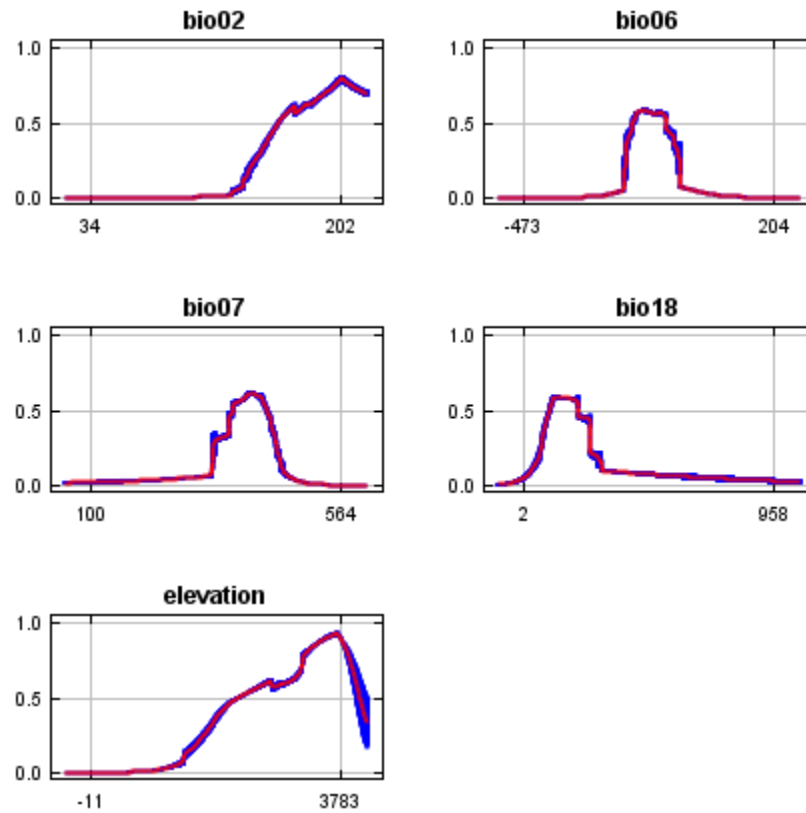
*Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri*  
Figure H22



*Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii*  
Figure H23



*Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis*  
Figure H24



## Analysis of variable contributions

The following table gives estimates of relative contributions of the environmental variables to the Maxent model. To determine the first estimate, in each iteration of the training algorithm, the increase in regularized gain is added to the contribution of the corresponding variable, or subtracted from it if the change to the absolute value of lambda is negative. For the second estimate, for each environmental variable in turn, the values of that variable on training presence and background data are randomly permuted. The model is reevaluated on the permuted data, and the resulting drop in training AUC is shown in the table, normalized to percentages. As with the variable jackknife, variable contributions should be interpreted with caution when the predictor variables are correlated. Values shown are averages over replicate runs.

### *Sylvilagus nuttallii grangeri*

Table H1

| Variable  | Percent contribution | Permutation importance |
|-----------|----------------------|------------------------|
| bio02     | 53.7                 | 43                     |
| bio11     | 20.5                 | 30.8                   |
| elevation | 15.1                 | 13.6                   |
| bio18     | 10.8                 | 12.6                   |

### *Sylvilagus nuttallii nuttallii*

Table H2

| Variable | Percent contribution | Permutation importance |
|----------|----------------------|------------------------|
| bio09    | 53.2                 | 71                     |
| bio08    | 25                   | 9.2                    |
| bio18    | 18.5                 | 18.2                   |
| bio07    | 3.3                  | 1.7                    |

### *Sylvilagus nuttallii pinetis*

Table H3

| Variable  | Percent contribution | Permutation importance |
|-----------|----------------------|------------------------|
| bio02     | 45.9                 | 1                      |
| elevation | 40.1                 | 48.8                   |
| bio06     | 7.8                  | 40.4                   |
| bio07     | 3.4                  | 7.4                    |
| bio18     | 2.8                  | 2.5                    |

The following picture shows the results of the jackknife test of variable importance. The environmental variable with highest gain when used in isolation is bio02, which therefore appears to have the most useful information by itself. The environmental variable that decreases the gain the most when it is omitted is bio11, which therefore appears to have the most information that isn't present in the other variables. Values shown are averages over replicate runs.

Figure H25

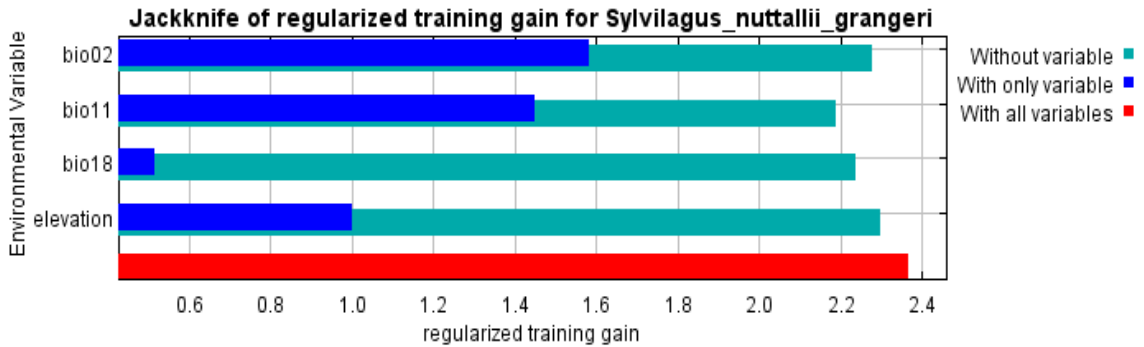


Figure H26

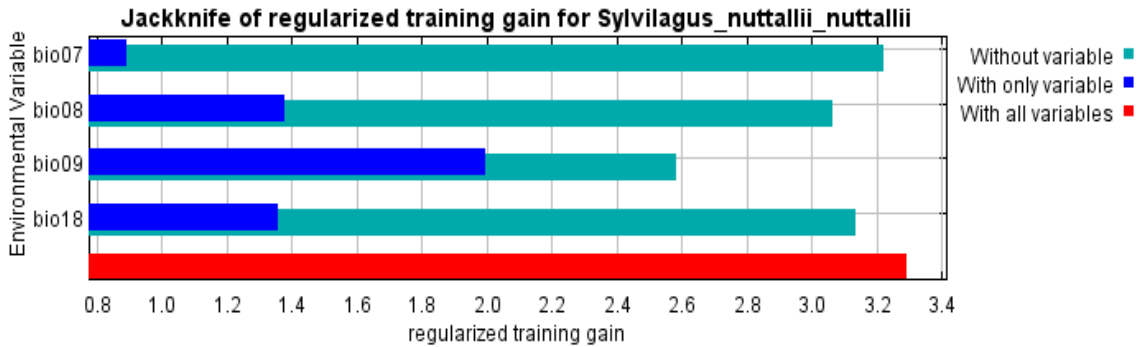
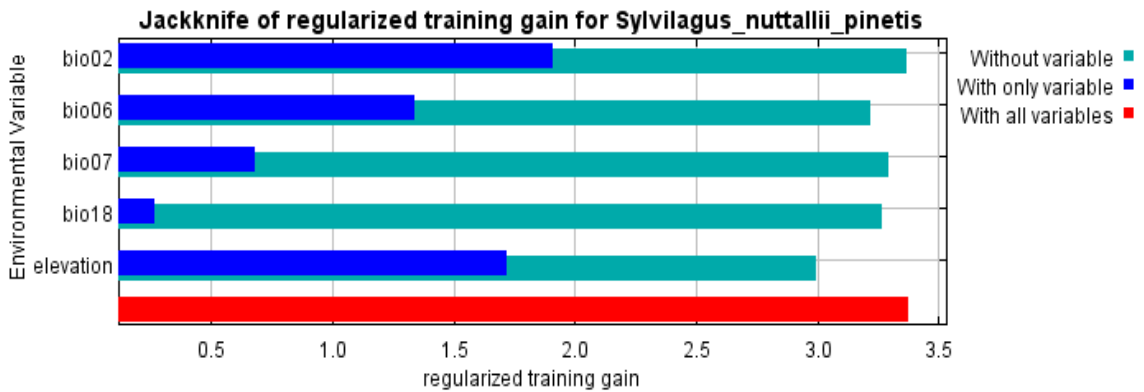


Figure H27



The next picture shows the same jackknife test, using test gain instead of training gain.

Note that conclusions about which variables are most important can change, now that we're looking at test data.

Figure H28

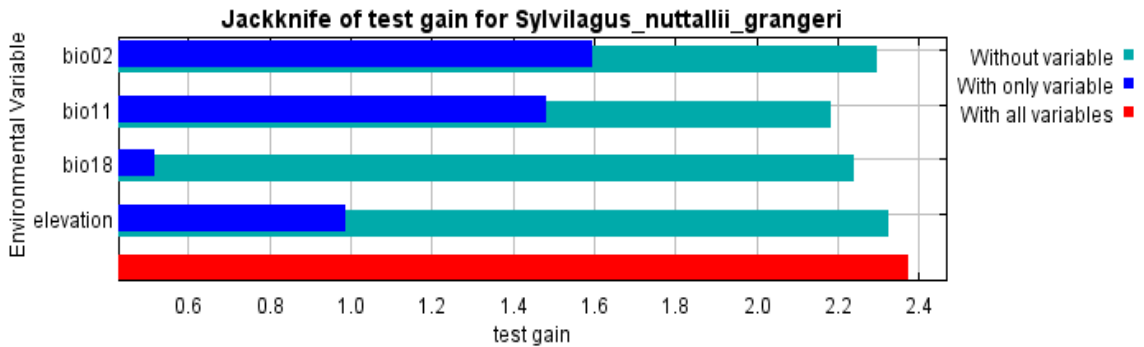


Figure H29

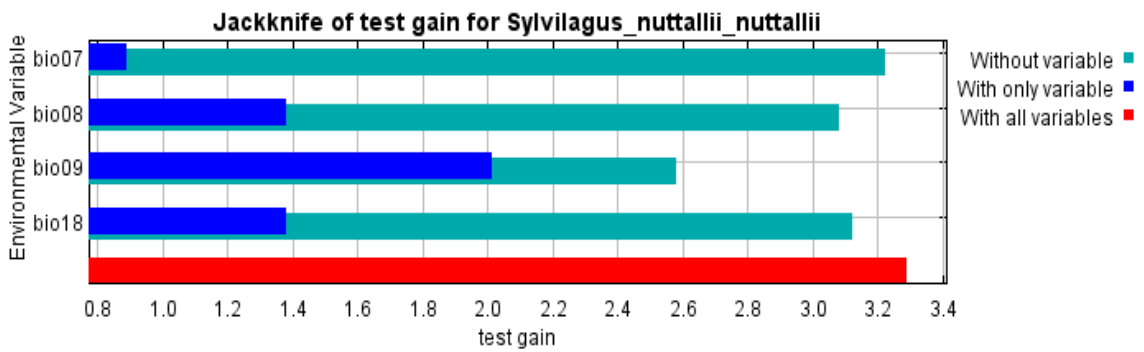
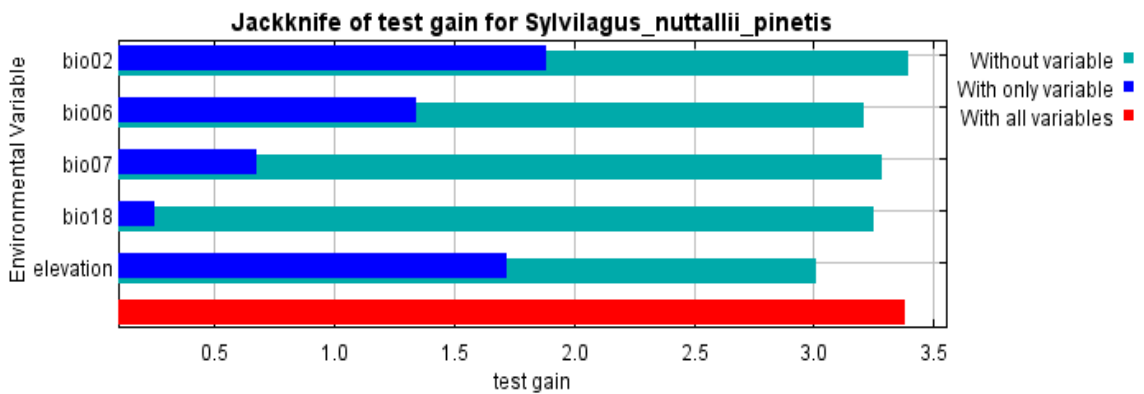


Figure H30



Lastly, we have the same jackknife test, using AUC on test data.

Figure H31

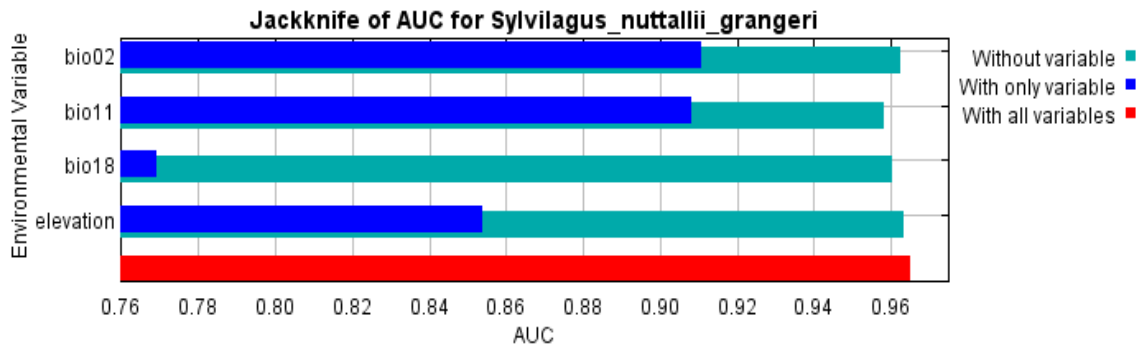


Figure H32

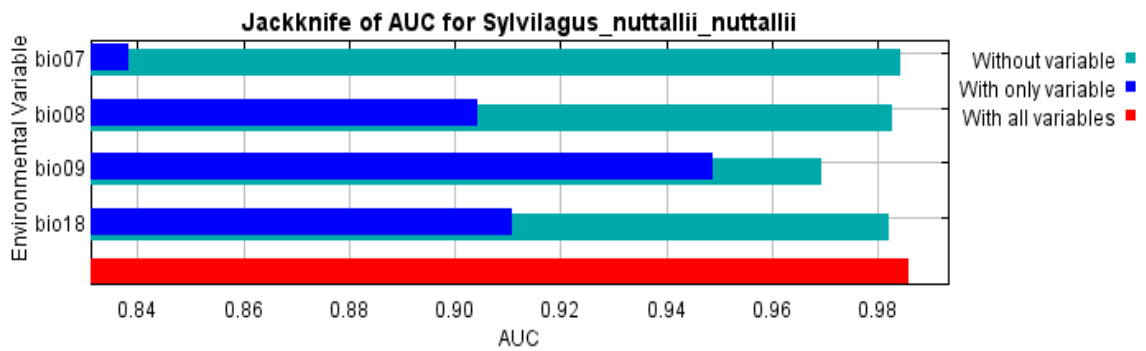
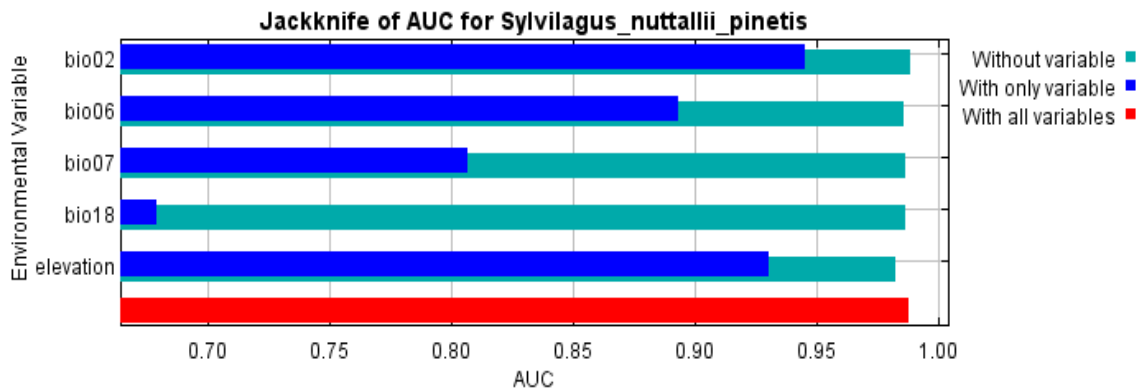


Figure H33





APPENDIX I  
Holotype and topotype cranial measurements

Cranial measurements used in Chapter 2. All measurements were recorded in millimeters. Figures show skull measurements and descriptions of skull elements.

Table II

| IOB               | W Bull               | L Bull | Superior | POP length              | GLS   | S.n.nuttalli            |
|-------------------|----------------------|--------|----------|-------------------------|-------|-------------------------|
| 11.15             | 7.99                 | 9.86   | 7.66     | 3.6                     | 38.34 | ANSP382                 |
| Zygomatic breadth | Zygomatic breadth at | AOP    | POP      | Superior Orbital Length | GLS   |                         |
| 34.42             | 31.18                | 2.42   | 10.04    | 17.33                   | 65.73 | S.n.grangeri AMNH7399   |
| 35.65             | 32.63                | absent | 10.52    | 20.41                   | 69.21 | S.n.pinetis AMNH7335 F  |
| 31.67             | 28.02                | 1.4    | broken   | broken                  | 60.12 | S.n.grangeri AMNH7403 F |
| 32.22             | 26.77                | 1.89   | 6.88     | 12.33                   | 57.63 | S.n.grangeri AMNH7400   |
| 34.48             | 31.22                | 1.26   | 7.63     | 13.31                   | 68.53 | S.n.pinetis AMNH125929  |
| 27.8              | 24.21                | 0.57   | 6.22     | 10.6                    | 47.51 | S.n.grangeri AMNH7401   |
| 32.54             | 29.13                | 2.12   | 7.27     | 13.83                   | 63.74 | S.n.nuttalli AMNH40889  |
| 31.58             | 27.68                | 1.58   | 6.88     | 13.23                   | 60.44 | S.n.nuttalli AMNH33605  |
| 33.12             | 28.91                | 1.22   | 8.3      | 15.27                   | 62.96 | S.n.grangeri AMNH9094/7 |
| 33.51             | 29.28                | 1.1    | 8.13     | 15.15                   | 64.46 | S.n.pinetis AMNH        |
| 31.53             | 29.59                | 1.22   | 6.51     | 12.65                   | 64.25 | S.n.grangeri MC01       |
| 31.19             | 27.55                | 6.08   | 1.75     | 11.64                   | 57.43 | S.n.grangeri MC02       |
| 32.16             | 28.37                | broken | 8.66     | 14.45                   | 55.95 | S.n.grangeri MC03       |
| 34.29             | 31.35                | 1.47   | 10.16    | 17.29                   | 64.06 | S.n.pinetis MC05        |
|                   | 27.07                | 1.41   | 5.29     | 13.39                   | 59.6  | S.n.nuttalli MC08       |

| BOB   | HtDnt2 | HtDnt1 | Diastema | Diastema         | Wxocc | Wros                  | HtRos                |
|-------|--------|--------|----------|------------------|-------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 15.8  |        | 14.91  | 8.72     | 10.88            | 12.03 | 6.8                   | 6.75                 |
| HtRos | IOB    | W Bull | L Bull   | W at exoccipital | BOB   | Dorsoventral depth of | Zygomatomatic length |
| 10.68 | 15.99  | 7.02   | 10.93    | 21.95            | 25.36 | 4.04                  | 29.33                |
| 11.08 | 14.41  | 7.34   | 10.97    | 23.72            | 24.51 | 4.52                  | 30.6                 |
| 9.85  | 11.16  | 7.7    | 11.18    | 19.02            | 22.98 | 3.71                  | 27.01                |
| 8.7   | 11.23  | 6.92   | 10.4     | 19.82            | 25.01 | 4.12                  | 24.52                |
| 12.11 | 13.59  | 6.97   | 10.7     | 20.59            | 26.4  | 4.57                  | 27.1                 |
| 7.97  | 9.35   | 5.58   | 9.89     | 16.24            | 21.28 | 21.32                 | 2.72                 |
| 10.87 | 12.88  | 7.61   | 10.95    | 19.13            | 25.01 | 4.78                  | 27.78                |
| 9.28  | 12.13  | 7.23   | 8.68     | 18.15            | 23.63 | 4.63                  | 26.39                |
| 10.68 | 12.43  | 7.8    | 11.18    | 21.5             | 27.41 | 4.76                  | 27.66                |
| 10.35 | 13.34  | 6.85   | 10.7     | 20.3             | 25.81 | 4.56                  | 28.2                 |
| 11.1  | 12.67  | 7.65   | 10.98    | 18.93            | 24.69 | 5.26                  | 28.43                |
| 9.91  | 11.27  | 5.96   | 9.13     | 17.91            | 24.65 | 3.85                  | 25.19                |
| 9.58  | 11.82  | 7.12   | 10       | 19.92            | 25.04 | 3.87                  | 25.02                |
| 11.43 | 15.06  | 7.38   | 10.74    | 20.8             | 25.26 | 4.29                  | 29.18                |
| 10.88 | 13.05  |        |          |                  |       |                       |                      |

|                |                              |                        |                            |                          |                   |                        |      |  |  | Width Nasal | Length Nasal |
|----------------|------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|------|--|--|-------------|--------------|
|                |                              |                        |                            |                          |                   |                        |      |  |  | 9.35        | 15.93        |
| upper diastema | alveolar length of maxillary | breadth of alisphenoid | W of choana at first upper | Length of palatal bridge | Width of incisive | Rostrocaudal length of | Wros |  |  |             |              |
| 18.75          | 12.36                        | 8.23                   | 5.98                       | 7.87                     | 6.42              | 16.18                  | 8.58 |  |  |             |              |
| 19.51          | 10.9                         | 7.81                   | 5.34                       | 8.91                     | 5.93              | 17.83                  | 8.62 |  |  |             |              |
| 16.15          | 10.59                        | 6.97                   | 4.65                       | 8.23                     | 5.52              | 15.08                  | 7.86 |  |  |             |              |
| 15.03          | 11.04                        | 7.47                   | 4.43                       | 7.61                     | 4.94              | 13.64                  | 8.23 |  |  |             |              |
| 18.04          | 12.49                        | 7.16                   | 4.93                       | 8.9                      | 5.41              | 15.87                  | 9.57 |  |  |             |              |
| 11.34          | 9.31                         | 5.83                   | 3.37                       | 6.45                     | 4.54              | 9.9                    | 7.47 |  |  |             |              |
| 17.81          | 11.73                        | 7.32                   | 4.11                       | 8.03                     | 5.14              | 16.04                  | 9.2  |  |  |             |              |
| 16.25          | 10.82                        | 6.94                   | 4.57                       | 8.75                     | 5.45              | 14.56                  | 8.17 |  |  |             |              |
| 16.65          | 11.7                         | 7.07                   | 4.16                       | 10.17                    | 5.53              | 11.94                  | 8.31 |  |  |             |              |
| 18.01          | 10.26                        | 7                      | 3.89                       | 7.96                     | 4.79              | 15.81                  | 8.55 |  |  |             |              |
| 17.09          | 12.33                        | 7.26                   | 5.71                       | 7.12                     | 6.34              | 15.99                  | 8.73 |  |  |             |              |
| 15.32          | 10.79                        | 6.87                   | 4.83                       | 7.04                     | 5.33              | 13.38                  | 7.76 |  |  |             |              |
| 13.86          | 10.7                         | 8.56                   | 4.83                       | 8.25                     | 5.84              | 13.75                  | 9.13 |  |  |             |              |
| 16.56          | 12.46                        | 8.03                   | 5.79                       | 8.31                     | 6.77              | 15.73                  | 9.86 |  |  |             |              |
| 16.38          | 11.83                        | 7.89                   | 5.09                       | 8.54                     | 6                 | 19.69                  | 8.92 |  |  |             |              |

| GLM to AH | Greatest length of | Breadth of mandible at | Breadth of mandible at | HtDn2 | HtDn1 | Dentary tooth row | lower diastema |
|-----------|--------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------|-------|-------------------|----------------|
| 49.86     | 48.41              | 30.82                  | 30.25                  | 20.78 | 30.62 | 12.25             | 13.48          |
| 52.05     | 45.55              | 27.45                  | 32.09                  | 20.29 | 31.65 | 11.64             | 16.23          |
| 44.63     | 40.86              | broken                 | 30.41                  | 16.41 | 27.59 | 11.22             | 12.86          |
| 42.44     | 40.48              | 26.91                  | 30.3                   | 16.77 | 27.17 | 10.74             | 12.33          |
|           |                    |                        |                        | 21.63 | 32.34 | 12.31             |                |
| 34.67     | 30.16              | 19.95                  | 24.74                  | 12.7  | 21.35 | 9.56              | 8.85           |
| 47.02     | 45.24              | 27.07                  | 30.03                  | 19.85 | 29.31 | 12.26             | 13.32          |
| 43.51     | 42.47              | 26.09                  | 29.28                  | 17.72 | 27.22 | 11.51             | 12.76          |
| 48.78     | 45.48              | 23.18                  | 30.25                  | 19.36 | 30.91 | 11.68             | 13.67          |
| 47.55     | 44.88              | 25.46                  | 31.8                   | 20    | 30.48 | 10.34             | 13.66          |
| 47.72     | 47.04              | 30.53                  | 29.19                  | 20.7  | 30.73 | 11.22             | 13.14          |
| 40.68     | 35.41              |                        |                        | 15.33 | 23.17 | 10.77             | 11.12          |
| 42.07     | 38.54              | 24.53                  | 30.54                  | 13.55 | 25.29 | 10.92             | 11.1           |
| 45.55     | 48.41              | 29.53                  | 29.82                  | 17.83 | 30.15 | 11.89             | 12.6           |

| #31   | #29   | Lacrimal spine breadth | Width Nasal | Length Nasal |
|-------|-------|------------------------|-------------|--------------|
| 26.26 | 19.39 | 24.39                  | 13.5        | 26.89        |
| 24.64 | 19.98 | 34.43                  | 15.03       | 31.29        |
| 22.39 | 18.08 | 20.31                  | 11.4        | 24.68        |
| 21.76 | 17.3  | 18.38                  | 10.74       | 23.5         |
| 25.41 | 19.71 | 23.4                   | 15.05       | 30.8         |
| 18.54 | 14.66 | 15.66                  | 9           | 17.08        |
| 23.65 | 19.06 | 22.28                  | 12.41       | 28.79        |
| 24.86 | 17.66 | 21.34                  | 12.68       | 24.85        |
| 23.86 | 18.62 | 21.67                  | 13.07       | 27.47        |
| 23.75 | 18.51 | 21.52                  | 12.94       | 27.03        |
| 21.36 | 19.43 | 26.63                  | 11.68       | 27.28        |
| 21.09 | 17.27 | 19.17                  | 11.83       | 24.63        |
| 20.23 | 18.58 | 21.84                  | 11.45       | 22.63        |
| 21.86 | 19.5  | 30.43                  | 13.37       | 28.31        |
| 21.33 | 18.03 | 23.03                  | 11.29       | 26.06        |

Figure 11

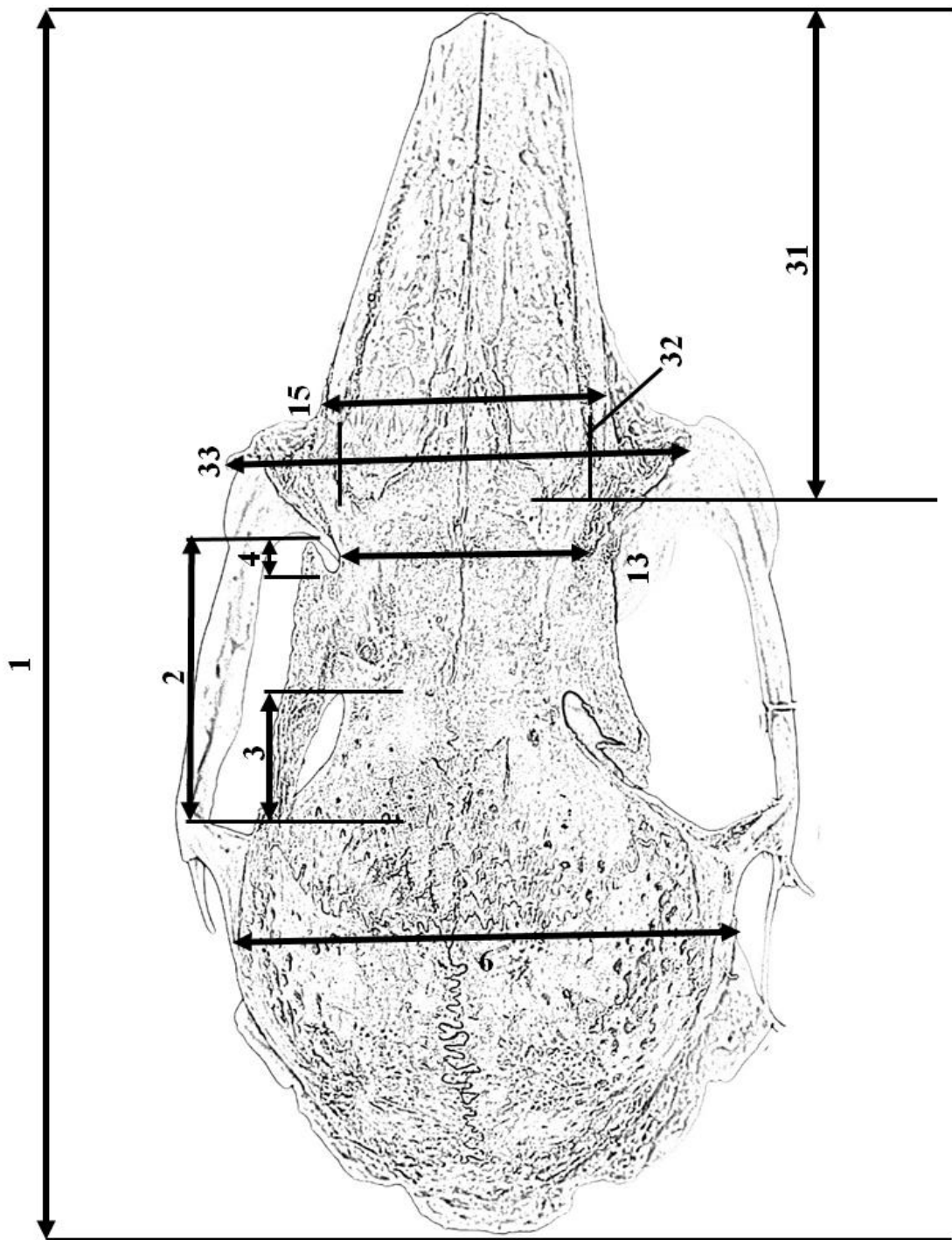


Figure I2

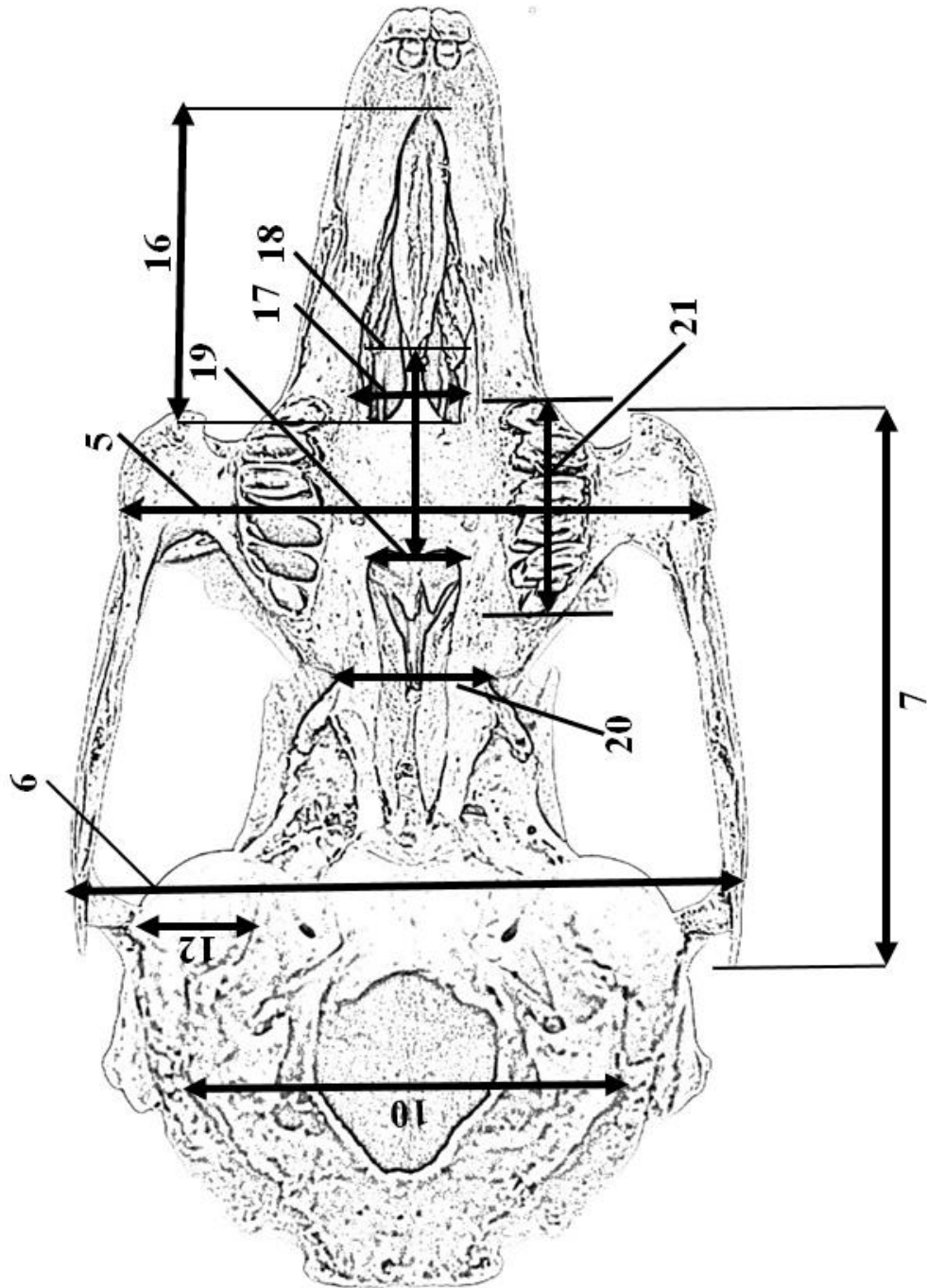


Figure I3

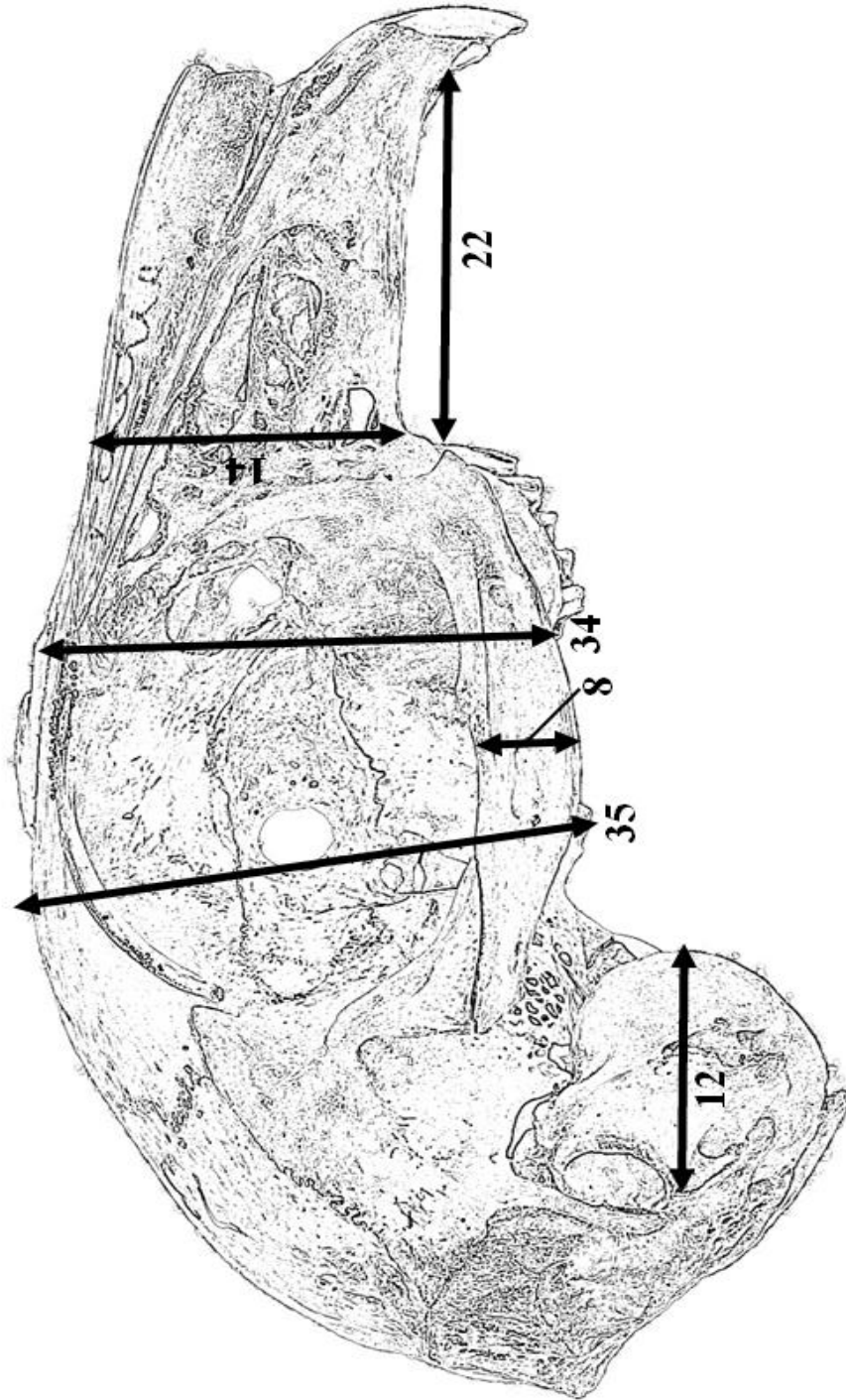
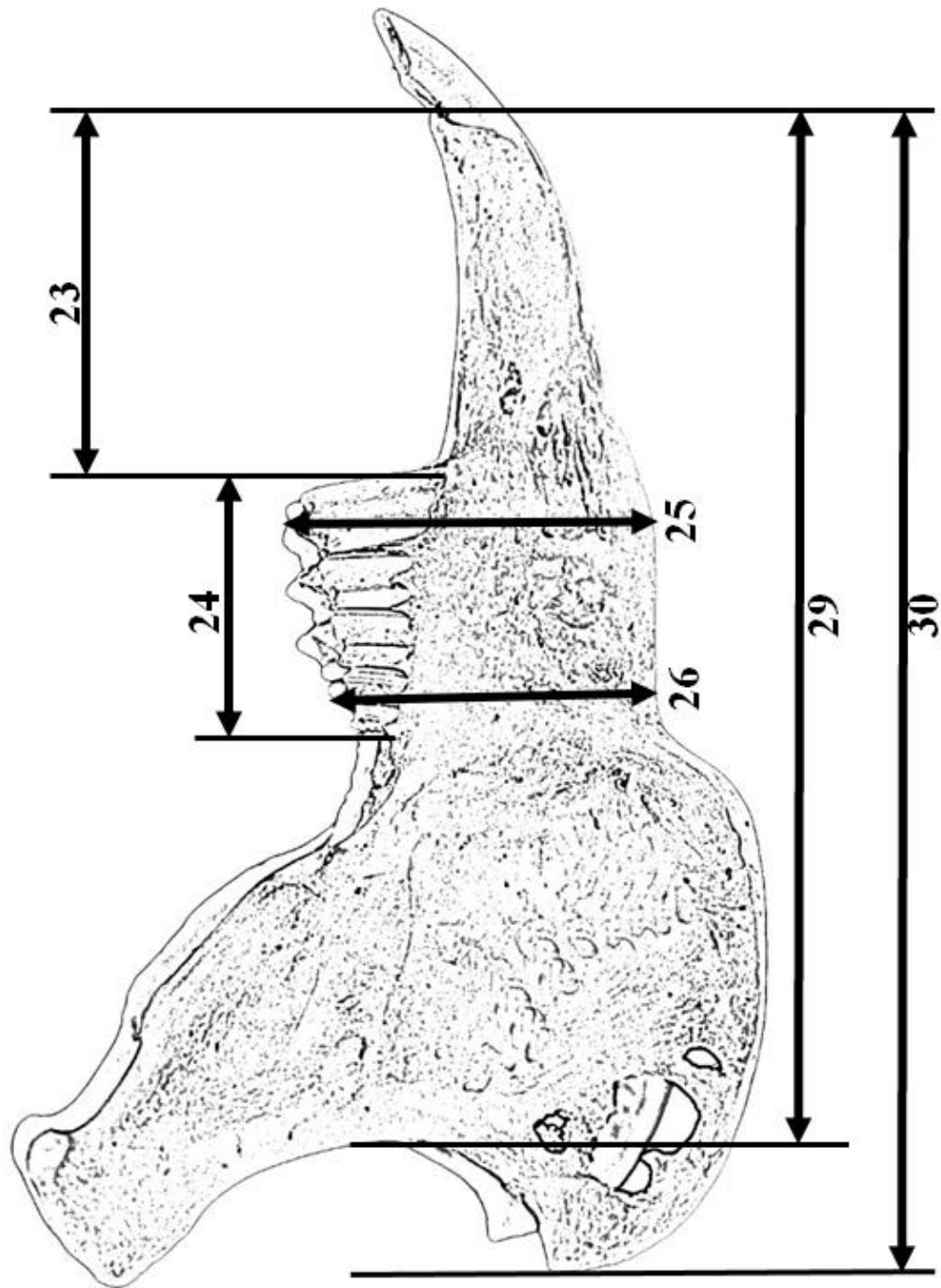




Figure I4



Measurements corresponding to Figures I1-I4.

Table I2

1. Greatest length of skull
2. Superior Orbital Length
3. Posterior orbital process
4. Anterior orbital process
5. Zygomatic breadth at spine
6. Zygomatic breadth
7. Zygomatic length
8. Dorsoventral depth of zygomatic arch
9. Breadth of braincase
10. Width at exoccipital bones
11. Length of auditory bulla
12. Width of auditory bulla
13. Interorbital breadth
14. Height of rostrum
15. Width of rostrum
16. Rostrocaudal length of incisive foramina
17. Width of incisive foramina
18. Length of palatal bridge
19. Width of choana at first upper molar
20. breadth of alisphenoid constriction
21. alveolar length of maxillary tooth row
22. upper diastema
23. lower diastema
24. Dentary tooth row length
25. Maximum height of dentary tooth row
26. Minimum height of dentary tooth row
27. Breadth of mandible at AH
28. Breadth of mandible at masseteric line
29. Greatest length of mandible (incisor to ptt)
30. Greatest length of mandible to AH
31. Length of Nasals
32. Width of Nasals
33. Lacrimal spine breadth
34. Skull height at brow
35. Maximum skull height