

**EFFECT OF HABITAT FRAGMENTATION ON MANTLED HOWLER MONKEY
(*Allouatta palliata*) BEHAVIOR AND DIET, IN THE OCCIDENTAL CENTRAL
PLATEAU OF COSTA RICA**

Maximillian A. Dorsey, Knox College

Advisor: Ronald Eduardo Sánchez Porras,

Forest fragmentation is an increasingly common occurrence that affects the animals that live within the fragment. I categorized and observed the frequency of nine different behaviors and the diet in a troop of howler monkeys living in live fences on a 4.2 ha farm in San Ramón, Costa Rica. Through comparison with previous studies both in small forest fragments and large continuous forests, small forest fragments appear to promote less social interaction within the troop and greater levels of inter-tree movement in lieu of intra-tree movement. I also found that howler monkeys in the smaller fragments tend to have a greater dietary diversity than troops in continuous forests.