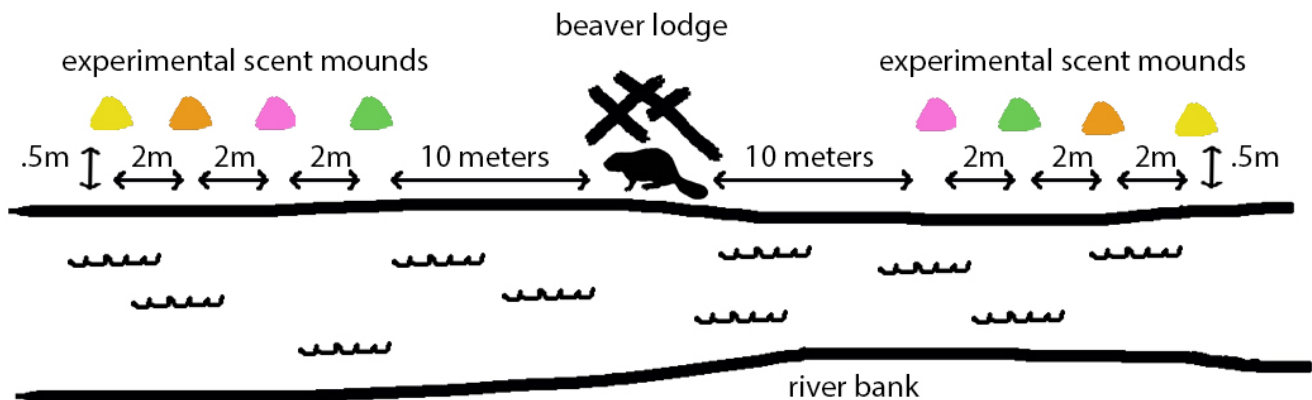


ENSAYOS EXPERIMENT: Territorial Response of Beavers to Experimental Scent Mounds Developed to Mimic the Olfactory Characteristics of Distinct Biotic Zones in Patagonia

Study will be conducted at eight sites on the Isla Grande of Tierra del Fuego, two for each distinct beaver biotic zone.

At each site, researchers will make two groups of four experimental scent mounds¹. Researchers will randomly assign four different scents to each group, created at the Institute of Art and Olfaction, each representing one biotic zone connected with beaver performance.



After one night, the overnight response by beaver families to experimental scent mounds will be ranked according to the following:

ESM Status	Description	Rank Index Value
Intact	No clear sign of beaver response	0
Prints/scratch marks	Beaver footprints or scratch marks on ESM	1
ESM removed	ESM material partially removed	2
ESM flattened	ESM flattened with material at least partially present	3
ESM obliterated	ESM completely removed and no material left in the original place	4
Scent marking over the ESM or close by	A new scent mound was build around it within 6 " radius	+1

¹ A scent mound is a mud pile made by beavers and sprayed with castoreum in order to mark territory with olfactory signals.

