

Death Avoidance Observation 6/25/2017

1:30 PM, 6/25/2017

In the field Agustín and I were following a sub-group of 5 monkeys (all male). The monkeys were heading into the forest, but stopped suddenly at the tree line and moved in the opposite direction. They ran into a different tree line and up into the trees while scanning the area.

The monkeys made no alarm calls during this time, which is atypical for animal encounters.

Agustín & I approached the initial tree line & upon reaching it smelled the distinct smell of carcass. We searched the immediate area but couldn't locate a carcass. We went on to look for additional monkeys in the area, moving around the grove of trees. Now on the other side the smell of carcass was stronger. We quickly located the carcass of a domestic dog in the bushes of the same grove, some 30 meters from the original smell point. These monkeys likely demonstrate death avoidance. They hang out in dumpster trucks, so it isn't just a bad smell.

Map:

