Short Note

Safety in coils: predation rates of ambush hunting rattlesnakes are extremely low

Dylan Maag*, Rulon Clark

Department of Biology, San Diego State University Biology Department, San Diego, CA 92182, USA *Correspondencing author; e-mail: dmaag3229@sdsu.edu

ORCID iD: Maag: 0000-0002-7255-7196

Supplementary material

Video S1. This movie shows an encounter between a rattlesnake in an ambush coil (probable *Crotalus scutulatus* × *viridis* hybrid from Southwestern New Mexico) and a Greater Roadrunner, *Geococcyx californianus*. The movie was recorded at 2 frames per second using a time-lapse video monitoring system. Across all 8300 hours of video footage, this was the only defensive behavior exhibited by a rattlesnake toward a potential predator. At times 8:59:14 and 9:01:09 the snake defensively strikes or lunges toward the roadrunner. The roadrunner harassed the snake for an additional ~3 min after the last strike before leaving without attacking the snake. The rattlesnake resumed hunting for 18 additional minutes after the end of the video before abandoning the site.