

SMALL PREY, BIG INSIGHTS:

UNRAVELING THEIR
ROLE IN ARCHAEOLOGY

SPBI PROGRAM SCHEDULE AND SESSIONS



FIRST DAY

(AT THE
UNIVERSITAT
DE VALÈNCIA)

October 29th,
2025

09:00

Reception for
registration and
collection of the
program

09:30

Opening
ceremony

10:00

Opening lecture
Karen Lupo

Little beasts,
big pay-offs:
ethnographic
lessons from small-
game exploitation
by women foragers

11:00

COFFEE BREAK

BLOCK 1

ALL THE
SMALL THINGS:
MULTI-TAXA
SMALL PREY
ASSEMBLAGES

SESSION CHAIR:
Jonathan Haws

11:45

Real et al.

It All Started
with a Rabbit: It
All Started with a
Rabbit: New Paths
to Old Questions

12:00

Brugal et al.

Mixed origin of a
small vertebrate
assemblage:
example from the
Middle Pleistocene
cave site of Lunel-
Viel
(Hérault, France)

12:15

Bartolini-Lucenti
et al.

On the trails of
the small hunters:
new insights from
Quibas
(late Early Pleistocene;
Abanilla, Murcia)

12:30

Lizama Catalán
et al.

Under the shadow
of megafaunal
remains:
taphonomy as a
tool and theoretical
background to
understand the
relevance of small
faunas in the
subsistence of the
earliest inhabitants
of Tagua Tagua,
central Chile

12:45

Hallett et al.

Small prey from
the Middle and
Later Stone
Age deposits at
Contrebandiers
Cave, Atlantic
Coast, Morocco

13:00

Discussion

13:30

LUNCH



BLOCK 2

ZOOARCHAEO-
LOGICAL AND
TAPHONOMIC
ANALYSIS OF
SMALL PREY:
REPTILES

SESSION CHAIR:
Milena Carvalho

15:30

Moya Ruiz et al.

Freshwater turtles in the Iberian Mesolithic: Contributions and challenges for understanding small prey exploitation

15:45

**Lev &
Makarewicz**

Squamate reptiles as a dietary resource in the Terminal Pleistocene- Early Holocene southern Levant: insights from taphonomy and prey choice

16:00

Messiez-Poche et al.

Ghost in the shell: Tortoise

Exploitation in the Middle Palaeolithic site of Lez Auzières (Southeastern France)

16:15

Boneta

Turning turtle: on chelonian incidence during Palaeolithic in the Iberian Peninsula

16:45

Posters block

A- Pérez et al.

First taphonomic insights into lagomorph accumulations at the Aurignacian levels of Cova Foradada (Xàbia, Spain)

B- Navarro-Gil et al.

Taphonomic signatures in a small mammal assemblage from the Early Pleistocene site of Quibas (southern Iberian Peninsula)

C- García-Escárzaga et al.

Seasonal exploitation patterns of marine molluscs during the Aurignacian in Cova Foradada (Xàbia, Spain)

D- Villalobos et al.
Taphonomic

insights into small prey from Gran Dolina (Atapuerca, Spain): Sublevels TD10.3 and TD10.4

E-Mir-Lápido et al.

The leporids of El Salt - Archaeostratigraphic study on the origin of bone assemblages of the Xb Estratigraphic Unit

F- Llorente-Rodríguez et al.

Fish in the Magdalenian record of the Southeastern Iberian Peninsula: new evidence from Cueva de los Murciélagos (Albuñol, Granada, Spain)

G- Boneta et al.

Eating terrapins: insights from Gravettian level XVIA of the Cova de les Cendres (Alicante, Spain)

H- Boada & Huguet.

The Mustelid Clue: Tracing Hidden Predators in Leporidae record from level TE9d at Sima del Elefante site (Sierra de Atapuerca, Spain)



SECOND DAY

(AT THE
UNIVERSITAT
DE VALÈNCIA)

October 30th,
2025

09:00

Reception

BLOCK 3

LEPORIDS IN THE
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
RECORD

SESSION CHAIR:
Ruth Blasco

09:15

Martínez

Anthropogenic
exploitation of
leporids during the
early Gravettian
at Cova de les
Cendres (*Alicante,*
Spain)

09:30

Sanphasouk et
al.

**Following the
Lynx:** Taphonomic
Insights into

Leporid
Accumulations
from Unit 2 of Cova
del Coll Verdaguer
(*Iberian Peninsula*)

09:45

Stalika et al.

**Lynxes and
leporids in
the Middle
Paleolithic of Cova
Foradada D'Oliva
(Valencia, Spain):**
Archaeozoological
and Taphonomic
Analysis and
Implications for
Neanderthal
Subsistence

10:00

Rodríguez-
Hidalgo et al.

Taphonomic Origin
of Small Game
Remains Across
the Middle-to-
Upper Paleolithic
Sequence of Cova
Foradada (*Calafell,*
NE Iberia)

10:15

Lloveras et al.

Small prey remains
and industrial
activities in
medieval Barcelona

10:30

Discussion

10:45

COFFEE BREAK

BLOCK 4

MULTI-PROXY
APPROACHES TO
THE STUDY OF
FISH AND OTHER
SMALL PREY

SESSION CHAIR:
Laura Llorente

11:30

Alsgaard et al.

Harvesting the
white sea catfish
during the Middle
Stone Age at
Klasies River Main
Site and Blombos
Cave, South Africa

11:45

Blanco-Lapaz et
al.

Humans do not
live solely on large
game. Middle and
Upper Paleolithic
case studies to

fish exploitation in Southwestern and Central Europe

12:00

Marchán-Fernández

Reading shells, reconstructing lifeways: δ18O insights from limpet shells at Cueva de Ardines and El Cierro (*Asturias, Spain*) during the Late Glacial

12:15

León-Cristóbal et al.

Was Shellfish Gathering Influenced by Red Tides? A Mesolithic Case Study from Portugal

12:30

Seuru et al.

When Less is More: Insights from an Agent-Based Model grounded in Optimal Foraging Theory of rabbit exploitation during the Last Glacial Maximum in Iberia

12:45

Gofette et al.

Raptors as a resource: new insights into Middle and Upper Paleolithic bird use at Walou Cave (*Belgium*) by Neanderthals and Modern humans

13:00

Discussion

13:15

LUNCH

BLOCK 5

EXPERIMENTS AND NEOTAPHONOMY

SESSION CHAIR: Anna Rufà

15:15

Hernández-Pérez & Real

Effects of Cooking Techniques on the Nutritional Composition of Rabbit Meat: An

Experimental Approach

15:30

Marginedas et al.

Evaluating the taphonomic role of *Erinaceus europaeus* in the modification of rabbit bones

15:45

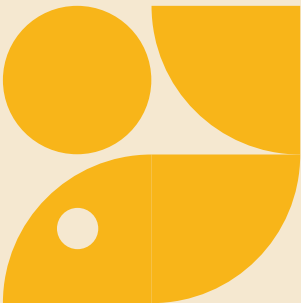
Nabais et al.

Raw vs Roasted: Reconstructing Early Human Butchery Practices of Terrapins and Tortoises

16:00

Marqueta et al.

The feast of the Eurasian eagle-owl (*Bubo bubo*): Neotaphonomic analysis of avian remains from Muntanya de la Oliva (*Tarragona, Spain*)



16:15

Wang et al.

Not only rabbits:
neotaphonomic
insights from
an eagle owl
(*Bubo bubo*)
nest in Riudecols
(*Tarragona, NE
Iberia*)

16:30

Alonso et al.

**Unraveling
Neanderthal Use
of Small Prey:**
Experimental
and Taphonomic
Insights from
Teixoneres Cave
(*Unit IIIb*)

16:45

Discussion

ROUND TABLE

17:15

Rodríguez-
Hidalgo et al

Lines in Question:
A Collaborative
Blind Test on
Bone Surface
Modifications
in Small Game
Taphonomy

17:35

Blind test

18:00

Discussion

20:30

CONGRESS
DINNER
(SUBJECT TO
RESERVATION)



THIRD DAY

(AT THE
MUSEU DE
PREHISTÒRIA)

October 31st,
2025

09:30

Reception

09:45

Opening
presentation

BLOCK 6 (PART 1)

**SMALL
PREY IN THE
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
RECORD: BIRDS,
CARNIVORES AND
MORE**

SESSION CHAIR:
Leopoldo Pérez

10:00

Gala et al.

**Feather, Meat and
Bone:** Small Clues
to Big Questions
in the Paleolithic
Record

10:15

**Rodríguez-
Hidalgo &
Saladié**

**One Swallow
Does Not Make
a Summer:**

Assessing the Role
of Small Game in
the Subsistence
Strategies of Pre-
Neanderthals at
Gran Dolina TD10
(*Atapuerca*)

10:30

Garcia-Fermet

Bird exploitation
by Neanderthals
in the French
Pyreneo-
Mediterranean area

10:45

COFFEE BREAK

**CONTINUE
BLOCK 6
(PART 2)**

**SMALL
PREY IN THE
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
RECORD: BIRDS,
CARNIVORES AND
MORE**

SESSION CHAIR:
Alfred Sanchis

11:30

De Lorenzi et al.

**The Late Glacial
in the Cansiglio
Plateau:** the
exploitation
of Alpine marmot
at Landro (*Venetian
Prealps, Belluno*)

11:45

Fosse et al.

**The alpine
marmot (*Marmota
marmota*):**

a taphonomic and
zooarchaeological
review from
Late Pleistocene
deposits in France
and Spain

12:00

**Amos &
Makarewicz**

What is a Bird?
Reading Prehistoric
Birdscapes in the
Southern Levant

12:15

Toškan

**A shrew and a
shrew make a
challenging clue:**
Accumulation of
small mammal
remains in an urn
from the Early
Iron Age cemetery

at Kongresni
trg (Ljubljana,
Slovenia)

12:30

Morin et al.

**Reframing modes
of hunting:**

Insights from
human behavioral
ecology and
ethnohistory

13:00

Discussion

13:15

**Closing of the
congress**

13:30

LUNCH

15:30

**Access to
the Museu de
Prehistòria de
València**



