

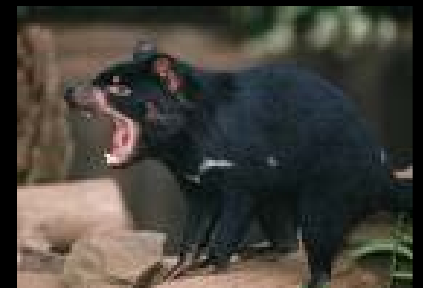


# Apex Predators in the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area

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# Background: The Dingo and Extinctions

- Introduced between 3-5000 ya
- Have been linked with mainland extirpations
- Resource competition, both interference and exploitation
- Human association likely a factor with success of dingoes



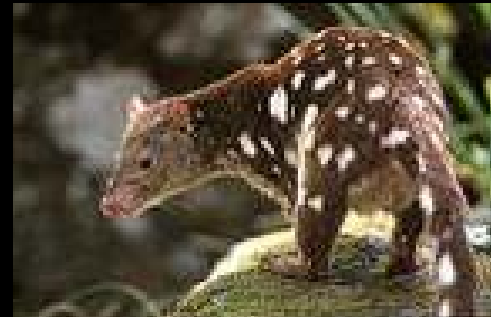
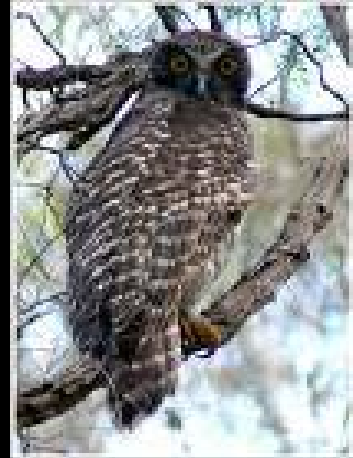
# Background : The New Wave

- The last 200 years have seen the arrival of the cat and fox
- Likely to compete with a different suite of species to the dingo
- May prey upon more vulnerable native species e.g.. Critical Weight Range ( 0.35 - 5.5 kg)

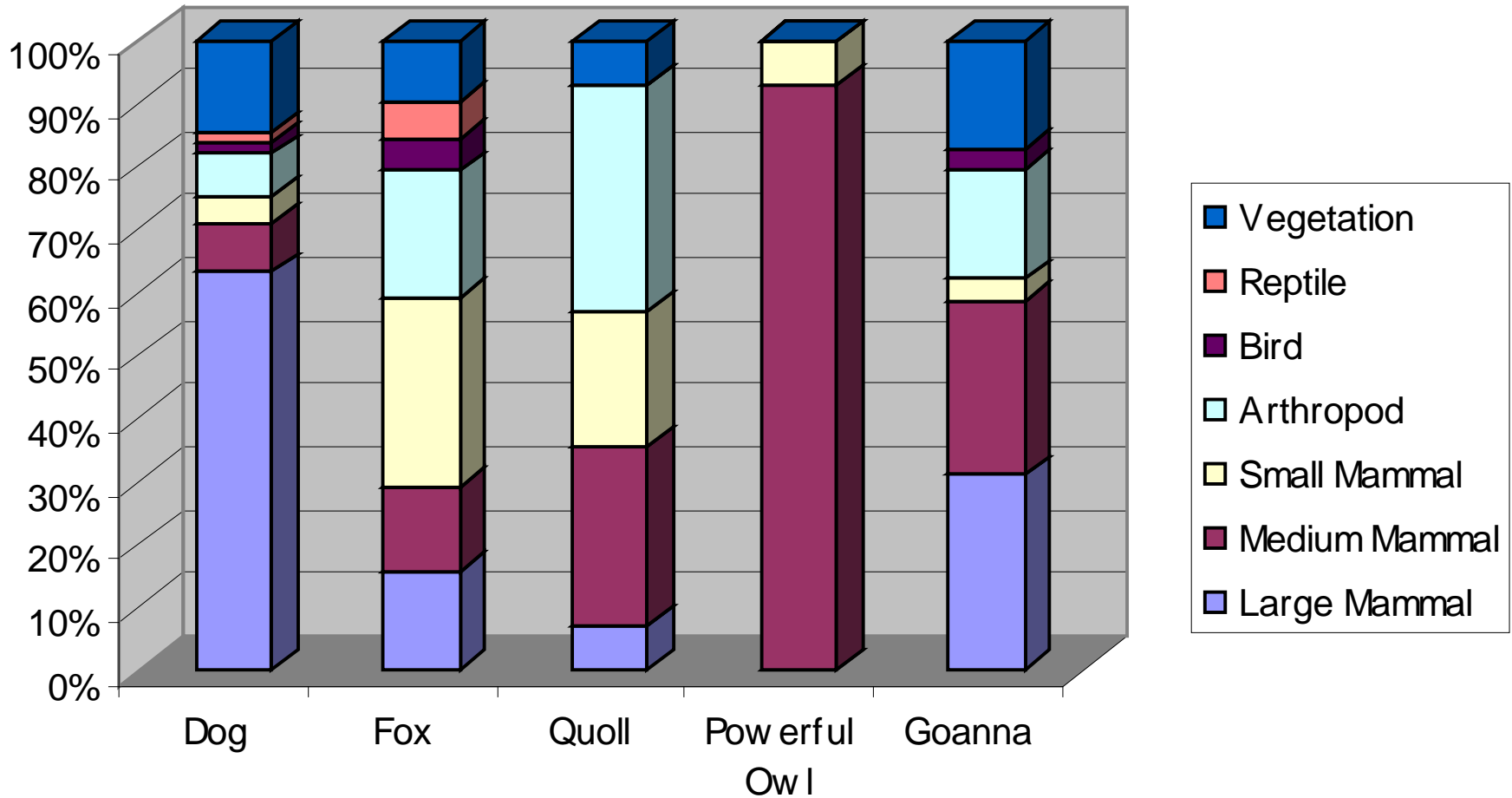


# Target Species and Methods

- Target species; the dingo (keystone predator), exotic pests, and native apex predators (particularly threatened species)
- A range of field based methods have measured activity, diet, distributions, movement patterns and prey dynamics.



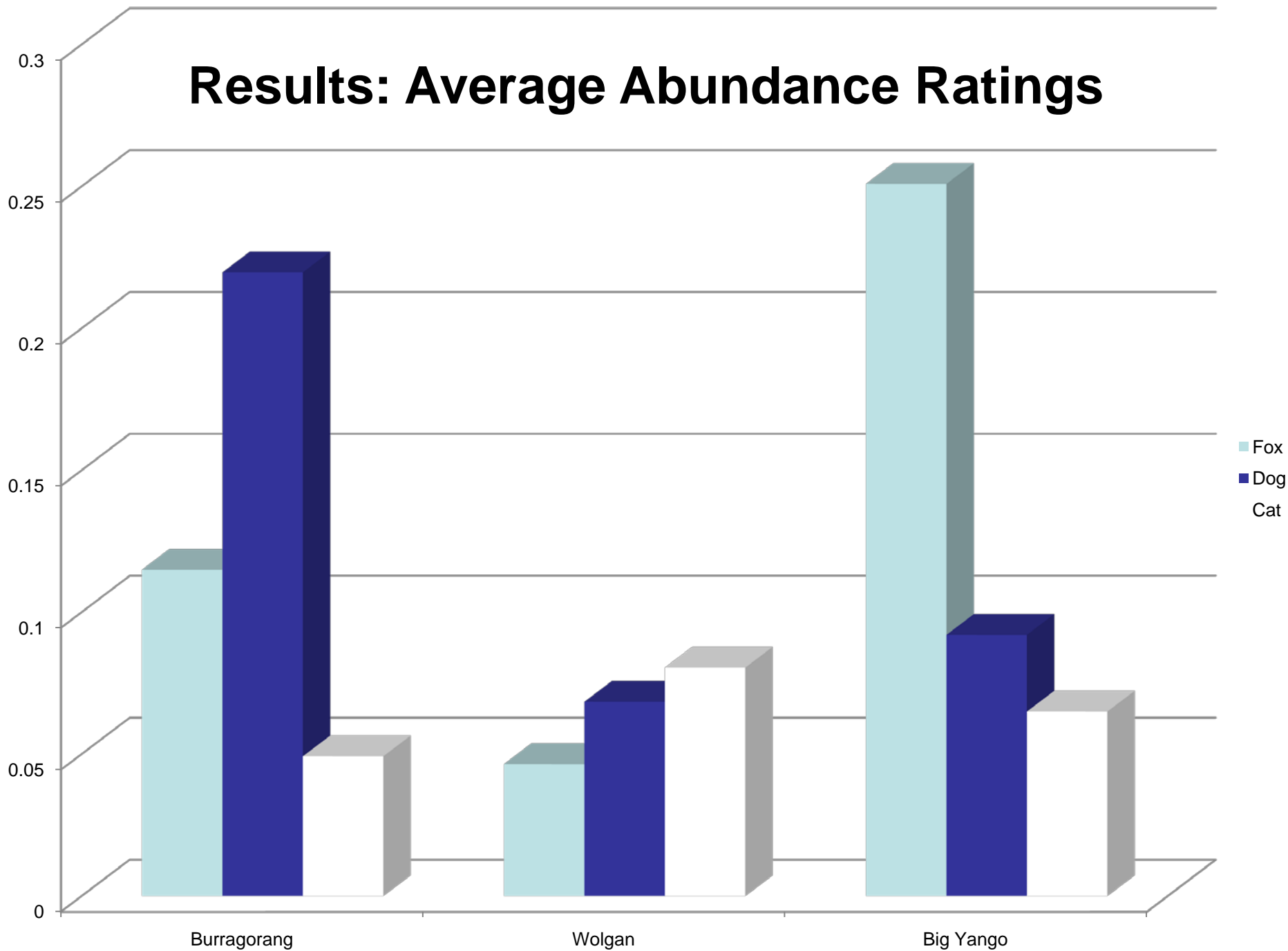
# Results: Diet Composition



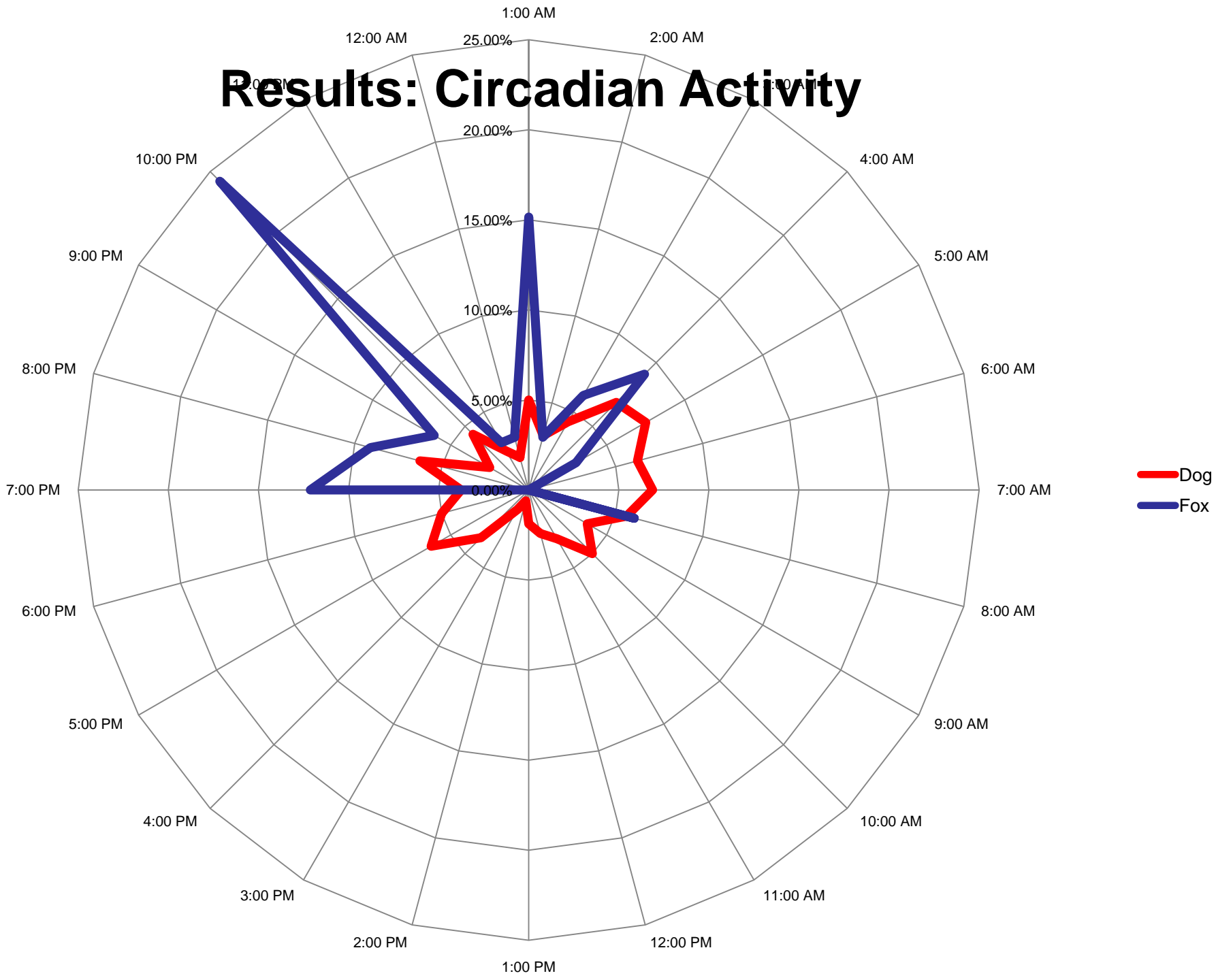
# Results: Diet Overlap

	Dog	Fox	Quoll	Powerful Owl	Goanna
Dog		0.54	0.33	0.13	0.81
Fox			0.86	0.36	0.71
Quoll				0.59	0.73
Powerful Owl					0.57

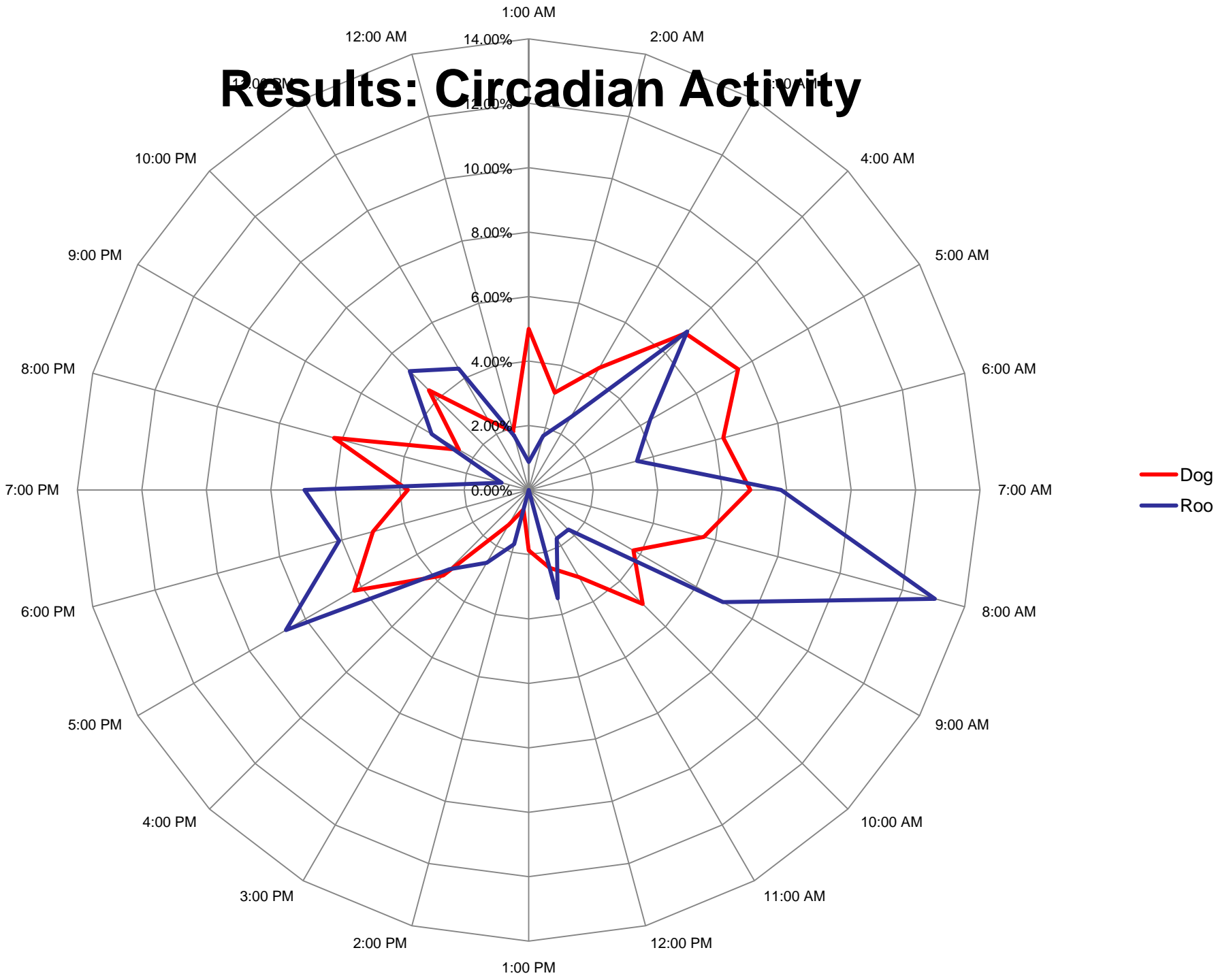
# Results: Average Abundance Ratings



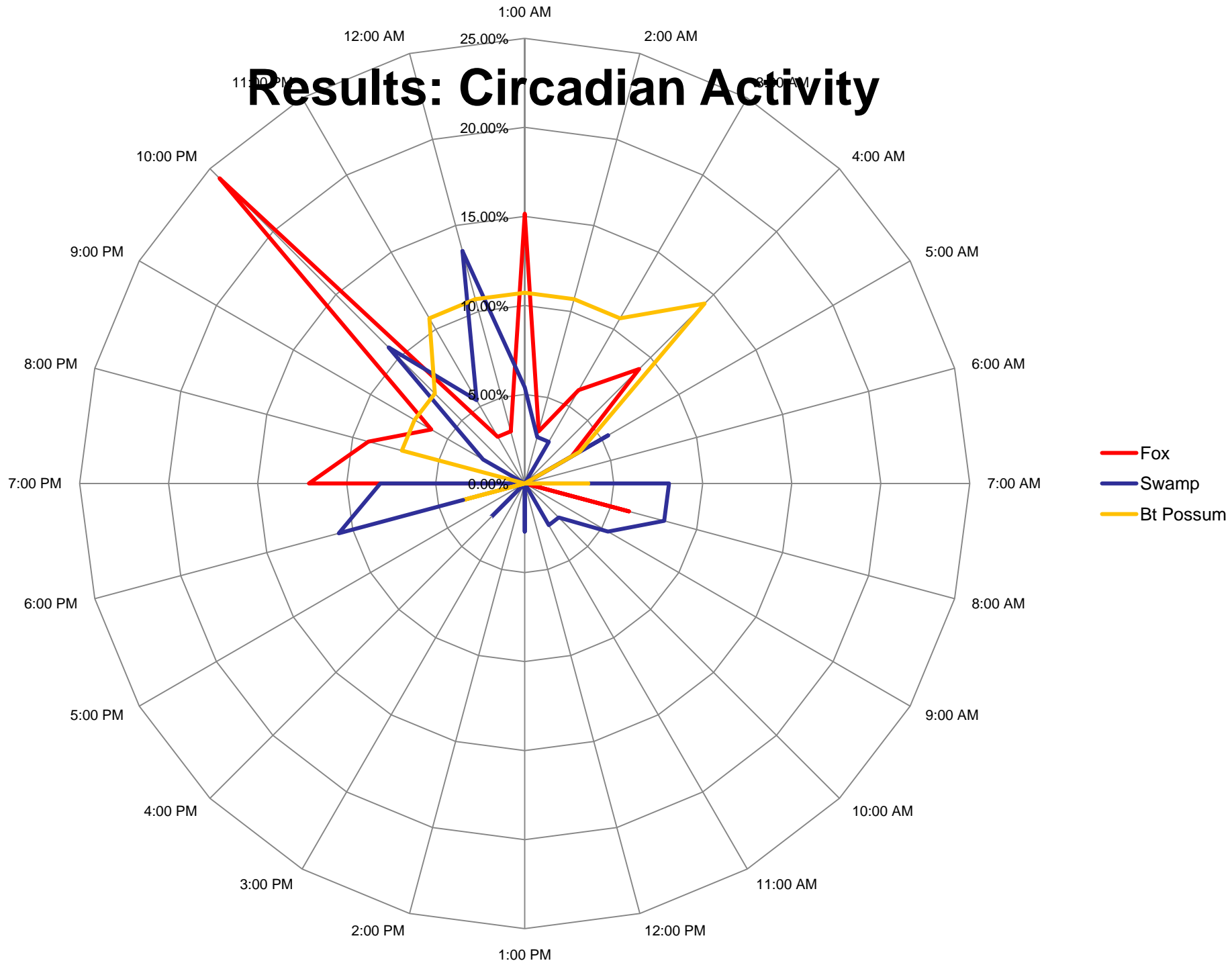
# Results: Circadian Activity



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# Study Outcomes

- Diet overlap between the fox and quoll is concerning, however powerful owls avoid overlap through specialisation
- Maintenance of wild dog populations may limit fox numbers
- Predators have different periods of activity, could be prey or competitor influenced



# Acknowledgements

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# Questions

