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Antipredator behavior and cue recognition by multiple Everglades prey to a novel cichlid predator

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1	Antipredator behavior ar	nd cue recognition by multiple Everglades prey to a novel
2		cichlid predator
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18	Word Count: 9,221	
19	Running head: Prey cue us	e and response to a novel predator
20		

21 Summary:

22 Novel predator introductions are thought to have a high impact on native prey, especially 23 in freshwater systems. Prey may fail to recognize predators as a threat, or show 24 inappropriate or ineffective responses. The ability of prey to recognize and respond 25 appropriately to novel predators may depend on the prey's use of general or specific cues 26 to detect predation threats. We used laboratory experiments to examine the ability of 27 three native Everglades prey species (Eastern mosquitofish, flagfish and riverine grass 28 shrimp) to respond to the presence, as well as to the chemical and visual cues of a native 29 predator (warmouth) and a recently introduced nonnative predator (African jewelfish). 30 We used prey from populations that had not previously encountered jewelfish. Despite 31 this novelty, the native warmouth and nonnative jewelfish had overall similar predatory 32 effects, except on mosquitofish, which suffered higher warmouth predation. All three 33 prey species showed surprisingly consistent and strong responses to the nonnative 34 jewelfish, which were similar in magnitude to the responses exhibited to the native 35 warmouth. Fish prey responded largely to chemical cues, while shrimp showed no 36 response to either chemical or visual cues. Overall, responses by mosquitofish and 37 flagfish to chemical cues indicated low differentiation among cue types, with similar 38 responses to general and specific cues. The fact that antipredator behaviors were similar 39 toward native and nonnative predators suggests that the susceptibility to predation by a 40 novel fish predator is similar to that of native fishes, and prey may overcome predator 41 novelty, at least for confamiliar predators.

42 Introduction

43	The susceptibility of prey to predation risk is strongly influenced by the prey's
44	ability to detect and respond to predation threats (Hoare et al., 2007; Ramo-Jiliberto et al.,
45	2007; Smith et al., 2008a). If the predation threat is novel, the ability of prey to both
46	recognize and respond to predators may be limited (Gamradt & Kats, 1996). For instance,
47	a lack of evolutionary history between a nonnative predator and native prey may cause
48	prey to be naïve to a nonnative predator's threat (i.e., naïve prey hypothesis; Smith et al.,
49	2008b; Sih et al., 2010). Even if nonnative predators are similar to native predators (e.g.,
50	both are fish), differences in predator archetypes due to variation in morphological and
51	behavioral foraging adaptations can result in strong naiveté for the prey (Cox & Lima,
52	2006). This naiveté can contribute to the high consumptive effects of nonnative predators
53	introduced to isolated ecosystems such as islands and freshwater systems (Vermeij, 1991;
54	Cox & Lima, 2006; Nannini & Belk, 2006; Wohlfahrt et al., 2006; Salo et al., 2007; Sih
55	et al., 2010). Thus, in order to better understand the overall effects of nonnative
56	predators, we must gain a mechanistic understanding of how prey recognize and respond
57	to new threats and may overcome predator novelty.
58	Prey naïveté toward nonnative predators may arise from three sequential
59	mechanisms: (a) the failure of prey to detect or recognize novel predators as a threat, (b)
60	their inability to respond appropriately, and/or (c) their inability to effectively evade
61	novel predators despite their appropriate response (Banks & Dickman, 2007). For
62	instance, the lack of experience with predators among island-endemic species often

63	means that prey altogether lack behavioral responses to introduced predators (Wiles et al.,
64	2002; Blackburn et al., 2004). In other cases, prey recognized the predator as a threat, but
65	show the wrong responses (e.g., crypsis against scent-hunting cursorial predators; Banks
66	& Dickman, 2007). Thirdly, prey may recognize and respond with appropriate behaviors,
67	but these are not effective against novel predators. Prey may increase use of higher cover
68	habitats, but predation may still be high (Kinnear et al., 2002). Cox & Lima (2006)
69	suggest that a lack of novel predator recognition may be the most damaging form of prey
70	naiveté. A prey's failure to recognize a novel predator may inhibit its antipredator
71	responses, or weaken such defenses if recognition is delayed (Cox & Lima, 2006, but see
72	Rehage et al., 2009).
73	Predator recognition hinges on the sensory information used to assess risk, which
74	is often, visual, chemical or a combination of the two (Hartman & Abrahams, 2000;
75	Mathis & Vincent, 2000; Chivers et al., 2001; Wisenden et al., 2004; Smith et al., 2008b).
76	Cues used in predator detection may also vary from general to specific (Brown, 2003;
77	Webb et al., 2009). Specific cues can effectively label a predation threat by revealing the
78	predator's identity (i.e., a predator's particular odor or specific shape, Magurran &
79	Girling, 1986; Kats & Dill, 1998; Wisenden & Chivers, 2006), while general cues are
80	produced by a relatively broad range of information, and are not linked to a specific
81	predator (i.e., damage or diet cues, habitat cues, broad visual cue - large moving object,
82	Dill, 1974; Sih, 1986; Garcia et al., 1992; Gelowitz et al., 1993; Orrock et al., 2004).
83	Specific cues allow prey to moderate antipredator responses by minimizing the use of
84	costly antipredator behaviors against low-risk predators (Ramos-Jiliberto et al., 2007). At

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85	the same time prey that rely on specific cues may be at a disadvantage when faced with
86	novel, nonnative predators not previously encountered (Sih et al., 2010). Here, their
87	ability to overcome predator novelty will be strongly dependent on cue association and
88	rapid learning (e.g., Ferrari et al., 2007).
89	In our study, we compared the mechanisms of cue utilization, predator
90	recognition, and antipredator response among native taxa faced with either a sympatric
91	native predator or an allopatric nonnative predation threat. Our intent was to gain a better
92	understanding of the risk posed by novel, nonnative predators, and of the variation in the
93	susceptibility of native prey to these newly-arrived predators. In three laboratory
94	experiments, we compared predation rates, antipredator behaviors, and cue use by three

95 Everglades taxa in response to the threat of nonnative African jewelfish, *Hemichromis*

96 *letourneuxi*, and that of a common native centrarchid predator, the warmouth, *Lepomis*

97 gulosus. The small-body size, piscivorous diet and aggressive behavior of the jewelfish

98 make it a likely competitor to native centrarchids, which are the dominant

99 mesoconsumers in the system (Loftus & Kushlan, 1987; Heymans et al., 2002; Rehage &

100 Trexler, 2006; Schofield et al., 2007). With Everglades National Park (ENP) currently

101 home to fourteen nonnative fishes species, many of them predators (Loftus et al., 2000;

102 Trexler et al., 2000; Shafland et al., 2008), there is a need to better understand

103 interactions among native and nonnative taxa. To date, few studies have documented any

- 104 significant ecological effects from fish introductions in ENP, which has lead to
- 105 conflicting perspectives on the overall impact of nonnative aquatic taxa across the
- 106 Greater Everglades ecosystem (Shafland, 1996; Trexler et al., 2000).

107	We focused on the African jewelfish because, due to the recentness of the
108	invasion in ENP (since 2000, J. Kline, pers. comm.; Courtenay et al., 1974; Shafland et
109	al., 2008), we are able to track its spread; and its current patchy distribution creates
110	heterogeneity in prey naiveté throughout the landscape. Thus, we are able to examine
111	interactions among jewelfish and native Everglades prey that have not previously
112	encountered them in nature, and are thus 'naïve' to their threat. Further, the majority of
113	the nonnative taxa in the Everglades are cichlids, and thus there is an interest in learning
114	how novel of a threat newly-arrived confamiliar predators are. Ferrari et al. (2007)
115	showed that prey may be able to generalize their antipredator response to closely-related
116	predators in the absence of experience. At the same time, variation in predator hunting
117	behavior and habitat domain even among closely-related predators can create some level
118	of predator novelty (Rehage et al., 2009). Here, we focused on three common native prey
119	species: Eastern mosquitofish, Gambusia holbrooki, flagfish, Jordanella floridae, and
120	riverine grass shrimp, Palaemonetes paludosus. These three species are widely-
121	distributed in the Everglades, co-occur, and are among the most abundant prey of
122	freshwater marshes (Turner et al., 1999; Trexler et al., 2001; Rehage & Trexler, 2006).
123	They are also readily consumed by both nonnative jewelfish (Rehage et al., 2009;
124	Whitaker et al., 2011) and native warmouth (W.F. Loftus, unpubl. data), but little is
125	known about prey-specific vulnerability to piscine predators.
126	In the three experiments, we address four key questions: (1) Is the predation threat
127	posed by nonnative iewelfish similar to that posed by the native warmouth? (2) How do
/	posed of homaine jewonion similar to that posed by the harve warmouth: (2) now do

128 nonnative predators and native predators interact to affect prey mortality? (3) Do prey

129	exhibit the same antipredator responses to native and nonnative predators? (4) What
130	predator cues are prey using to detect these predators? In the first experiment, we
131	examined the antipredator behavior of each prey species to the presence of predators, as
132	well as predator behavior and predation rates. We expected weaker antipredator
133	responses by all three taxa to the novel jewelfish predator, and thus higher predation rates
134	by the nonnative predator. We also expected to see variation in the vulnerability of the
135	prey taxa to both predators, which we hypothesized would relate to their antipredator
136	behavior, habitat domain overlap with predators (Schmitz, 2007), and thus encounter
137	rates. For instance, since both predators tend to be found low in the water column, we
138	expected demersal prey (shrimp and flagfish) to experience higher predation by both the
139	predator types (Rehage et al. 2009; Whitaker et al. 2010). In experiments 2 and 3, we
140	assessed the prey's use of chemical and visual cues, both general and specific. We
141	expected that the antipredator response of prey would relate to the use of general or
142	specific predation cues in predator detection. We expected native prey to respond to the
143	cues of the native predator more strongly than those of the nonnative predator. Further,
144	we hypothesize that if prey are unable to smell or recognize African jewelfish visually as
145	a predator, they could still respond appropriately if they relied on general cues for
146	predator detection (i.e., conspecifics damage cues). From these experiments, we hoped to
147	gain new insights into the mechanisms underlying variation in the vulnerability of
148	Everglades aquatic taxa to recent invasions.

150 Methods

171

151 *Study organisms*

152 For all experiments, native and nonnative predators were collected from 153 freshwater marshes in ENP and southern Big Cypress National Preserve where jewelfish 154 and native centrarchids co-occur. The three prey species were collected exclusively in 155 northern Water Conservation Area 3A (WCA3A), where jewelfish have not yet invaded. 156 Additional warmouth were also collected at this site. We collected predators and prey 157 using unbaited minnow traps deployed overnight (2.5-cm openings, 3-mm mesh), in 158 addition to D-frame dip nets used for collecting prey (1-mm mesh). Prior to the 159 experiments, predators were kept separately at approximately equal densities in 795 L 160 outdoor tanks at Nova Southeastern University Oceanographic Center, Dania, FL. During 161 this holding period, predators were fed a combination of live prey (including 162 experimental prey), and earthworms obtained commercially. Prey species were kept 163 separately by species in and at similar densities in 795-L tanks prior to trials, and fed 164 commercial flakes ad libitum. 165 166 Experiment design_ 167 In each of the three experiments conducted in the study, we used a 3x4 factorial 168 design (3 species x 4 experimental treatments) to compare prey antipredator responses to 169 the presence, chemical, and visual cues of native and nonnative predators. When 170 predators were present, we also quantified predator behavior and predation rates.

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Comment [reviewer1]: Kate add a statement on holding periods for both predators and prey

8

Experiment 1 compared predations rates, and predator and prey behavior, while

172 experiments 2 and 3 examined prey behavior in response to chemical and visual cues 173 respectively. In all three experiments, data was collected on each prey species separately, 174 and on a randomly-assembled group of six similarly-size individuals from each prey 175 species (Rehage et al. 2009). For each experiment, we randomly selected a new group of 176 six prey, such that prey were only used once. Three key prey behaviors were repeatedly 177 assessed in the three experiments separately for each prey species: activity, grouping and use of habitat structure. Previous research shows that these are behaviors typically 178 179 affected by predation risk (ref.).

Comment [reviewer2]: Kate do you have some refs you can add here?

Comment [reviewer3]: kate, can you double check that the grid was 8 x 10 inches, which would be equivalent to 20 x 25 cm? Thanks,

180 All trials were conducted in 12 56.8-L aquaria (50 x 24.5 x 40 cm height) at a 181 water depth of 33 cm using dechlorinated tap water with a temperature of approximately 25.7 °C. Each tank was provided with structural complexity in the form of artificial 182 183 vegetation covering a bit more than a 1/3 of the tank area. The artificial vegetation 184 consisted of black plastic strips (4 x 22 cm) attached to a weighted plastic grid (20×25) 185 cm, which sat on the bottom and to one side of the tank. This amount of structure 186 corresponds to a plant stem density of approximately 484 stems/m², which falls within 187 the range found in Everglades marshes (18 to 677 stems/m²; Jordan et al., 1997). To 188 minimize observer effects in the first experiment, tanks were covered on all four sides 189 with a white vinyl covering, and observations were conducted through mirrors positioned 190 above tanks. For the later cue experiments, tanks were covered on three sides only, and 191 observations were conducted laterally from behind a blind.

192 Twelve hours prior to the start of each experiment, all feeding was suspended in193 order to standardize hunger levels, and six prey of each species were randomly selected

from stock tanks, and isolated into groups in 5.7-L containers separately by species. Fifteen minutes before trials, the prey group was randomly assigned to a treatment and replicate tank. Prey sizes, based on a random sample from the three experiments (n = 15 for each spp) averaged (\pm standard errors) 13.26 \pm 0.50 mm standard length (SL) for mosquitofish, 19.09 \pm 0.65 mm SE SL for flagfish, and 8.69 \pm 0.34 mm carapace length (CL) for grass shrimp.

200 Behavioral observations were conducted through a series of discrete spot-checks by a single observer positioned approximately one meter in front of each tank (Mathis & 201 202 Smith, 1993b). For experiment 1, 10 spot-check observations were conducted in rounds, 203 with the observer observing all tanks over a period of 15-20 minutes, then returning to the 204 first tank for another round, and repeating this for 10 rounds (approximately xx hours of 205 total observation). For the cue experiments, the 12 spot-check observations were done 206 consecutively with the observer performing all observations at one tank and then moving 207 to the next tank; 6 were conducted pre- and 6 post-cue addition. Here, observations were 208 conducted approximately every 2 minutes, except observations 6 and 7, which were 209 conducted immediately pre- and post-cue addition (within 1 min.). Total observation 210 periods for experiments 2 and 3 were approximately 12 minutes. For all observations, we 211 recorded three key prey behaviors of interest: activity, microhabitat use (use of habitat 212 structure and water column), and group size. At each spot check, we scored the activity 213 and microhabitat use of each individual in the group, and then averaged the score for the 214 group. Activity was scored as '0' if immobile, '1' = slow, '2' = medium, and '3' = high. We considered high activity to be a darting or active escape response at high speed from 215

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Comment [reviewer4]: Kate can you add range of hours of observations

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216	a predator. Medium activity was a continuous uninterrupted swimming pattern (longer
217	than 3 seconds), while slow swimming involved a cautious 'stop and go' swimming
218	behavior. We assessed two components of microhabitat use: the prey's vertical
219	distribution in the water column, and the use of structure. To determine vertical
220	distribution, we divided the water column into equal-sized horizontal layers (top = '2',
221	middle = '1' and bottom = '0'), recorded the location of each fish at each spot check and
222	averaged for the 6 fish in the group. Marks on each corner of tanks, which divided the 33
223	cm water column into three 11-cm zones, aided the observer in scoring use of the water
224	column (these were clearly visible from a top view in experiment 1). To quantify habitat
225	structure use, we counted the number of prey within the structure at each spot check.
226	Lastly, for the schooling or grouping behavior, we recorded the occurrence of a group at
227	each observation (group present= 1, group absent = 0). Prey were considered to be in a
228	social group if at least four of the six individuals were closer than 2 body lengths (Rehage
229	et al., 2009). All observations were conducted between 11AM and 2 PM.

Deleted: ion 231 Experiment 1: Predator-prey interactions 232 Here, we crossed the three prey species with four treatments in a replacement 233 series design (Sih et al., 1998): (NP) a no predator control, (WW) two warmouth, (JJ) two 234 jewelfish, and (WJ) one warmouth + one jewelfish. Trials were conducted in two time blocks (March 31-April 4, 2008; and April 10-14, 2008). For both blocks, a single 235 236 replicate was tested each day over the five-day period (4 treatments x 3 prey spp x 5 Deleted: To minimize the habituation of the predators to test conditions, e 237 replicates per block x 2 blocks = 120 experimental units). Each predator was used once

238 during each block, returned to stock tanks, randomized, and then used again in the second

block (9 predators x 2 predators spp x 5 replicates = 90 total predators). Prey species
were tested only once (120 experimental units x 6 individuals/group =720 total prey).

241 Previous studies have shown that prey are capable of responding to dietary cues 242 released by predators that have consumed conspecifics (Mathis & Smith, 1993a; Chivers 243 & Mirza, 2001). To eliminate the effects of these cues in the experiment, predators were 244 maintained on a diet consisting solely of commercial earthworms for five days prior to 245 the start of trials (Gelowitz et al., 1993; Mathis & Smith, 1993b). Previous studies have 246 shown that digestions rates for piscivorous and crustacean-consuming predators are less 247 than 48 hours when waters temperatures are approximately 22.7°C (Kitchell & Windell, 248 1968). Temperatures within the holding tank average across the three experiments. Following this five-day diet flushing period, predators (warmouth: 65.56 ± 1.66 SE mm 249 250 SL, n = 45, and jewelfish 56.67 ± 1.01 SE mm SL n = 45) were randomly selected and 251 isolated in 5.7-L containers the evening before trials. We were careful to conduct water 252 changes during this feeding period, and not transfer any of the water of the predator stock 253 tank or isolation container to experimental tanks.

In addition to the prey's behavior, we recorded predator activity and microhabitat use using the same scoring used for the prey. At the beginning of trials, prey groups were released into aquaria first, allowed 15 minutes to acclimate, and then predators were added. Observations started 10 minutes after predator release. At the conclusion of all behavioral observations on trial days, we assessed overnight prey mortality. To prevent prey depletion in tanks, an additional six prey individuals of the same species and size

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were added, for a total of 12 prey individuals per tank. Rehage et al. (2009) showed
overnight predation rates of 7 mosquitofish using a similar setup. Prey were added
following the observation period (2-3 PM), and mortality checks were done the following
morning (7-8 AM). If any of the original prey were consumed during the behavioral
observations (only 40 of 720 prey were consumed over the observation period), prey
were replaced before assessing overnight mortality, but not during the observation period
(Rehage et al., 2009).

Comment [reviewer5]: Kate, can you check that these times sound OK to you?

267

268 Experiment 2: Prey responses to chemical cues

269 The three native Everglades prey species were tested in four chemical cue 270 treatments: (NP) a no-cue control, (G) a general cue consisting of the odor of injured 271 conspecifics, (W) specific chemical cues from the native warmouth, and (J) specific 272 chemical cues from the nonnative jewelfish. Chemical cue trials were conducted over a 5-273 day period with 2 replicates per day (4 treatments x 3 prey species x 2 replicates per day 274 x 5 days = 240 experimental units). Trials were conducted between August 23 and 275 September 4, 2008. Each aquaria was provided with the same structural complexity 276 described earlier, sodium zeolite chips placed at the bottom of the tank to remove 277 ammonia, as well as aeration (vinyl tubing and an airstone) used for the cue release 278 (Mathis & Smith, 1993b; Chivers & Smith, 1998). This airstone apparatus was positioned 279 in the lower third of the water column at the opposite end of the tank from the habitat 280 structure. We injected 60 mL of chemical cue into the vinyl tubing with a syringe for 281 diffusion into the tank, and conducted observations 6 and 7 of the 12 observations within

a minute pre- and post-cue addition (Mathis & Smith, 1993b; Brown & Smith, 1997;
Chivers et al., 2001).

284 For the specific cues, six randomly selected predators of each species were used 285 to prepare predator odors. As in the first experiment, predators were maintained on a diet 286 consisting solely of commercial earthworms for five days prior to the stimulus collection 287 in order to remove dietary cues. On the fifth day of feeding, each predator was transferred 288 to 5.7-L clear plastic containers containing 1.2 L of new dechlorinated tap water. These 289 chambers contained a single air stone but had no filtration system. After 2.5 days, the 290 predators were removed and water samples were collected from each predator chamber, and frozen into separate 120-mL units at -20° C for later use (Gelowitz et al., 1993; 291 292 Brown & Godin, 1999; Kusch et al., 2004). Predator cues were not mixed and cue 293 preparation was done twice over the five days of trials.

294 The general chemical cue was obtained from conspecific skin extracts. Thirty 295 donors were randomly selected from each prey spp, and humanely sacrificed with a blow 296 to the head. For the fishes, we removed the skin and ground it up using a pestle and 297 mortar to release the alarm signaling club cells (Pfieffer, 1977; Wisenden, 2000). 298 Because grass shrimp do not possess these alarm cells, muscle tissue from beneath the 299 carapace and tail was used instead (Magurran et al., 1996). Fish skin and shrimp tissue 300 were diluted to 0.5g/500 mL with distilled water, and the suspension was filtered and separated into 18 120 mL-units and frozen at -20° C (Magurran et al., 1996). Following 301 Mathis & Smith, (1993b), we prepared the cue every xx days. For the control, 60 mL 302 303 aliquots of distilled water were frozen, and injected in a similar manner as chemical cues.

Comment [reviewer6]: but there is no block in this experiment right?

Deleted: We prepared the cue twice during each block to assure its freshness ()

305

Experiment 3: Prey responses to visual cues

306	Similar to the chemical cue experiment, treatments for the last experiment
307	included: (NP) a no cue control, (G) general visual cues from a predator model, (W)
308	specific visual cues from the native warmouth, and (J) specific visual cues from the
309	nonnative jewelfish. Trials were conducted over two five-day time blocks (October 29
310	November 1, 2008; and November 10- November 14, 2008). For both blocks, a single
311	replicate of each treatment by species combination was tested each day (4 treatments x 3
312	prey species x 5 replicates per block x 2 blocks = 120 experimental units). <u>Predators were</u>
313	used only once in each block, returned to stock tanks, randomized, and then used again in
314	the second block (a total of 30 jewelfish and 30 warmouth).

315 For the predator visual cues, we used three predators of each species in all trials. 316 Similar to the prey, the three warmouth and three jewelfish were isolated for a 12-hour 317 period in the 5.7-L containers prior to the experiment. In the day of trials, the prey group 318 and the predator were placed in adjacent glass tanks (broad side, covered by a removable 319 barrier), and allowed to acclimate for 15 minutes. We conducted trials in two adjacent 320 56.8-L aquaria (one containing the six focal individuals of a prey species and one 321 containing a single live predator or predator model). For the no predator control, the tanks 322 adjacent to the prey did not contain a visual stimulus, but we removed the barrier at the 323 beginning of each trial as done in predator treatments. Six spot check observations were 324 conducted pre and six post removal of the barrier (observations 6 and 7 were conducted 325 within a minute of barrier removal).

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326 For the general predator cue, we used a predator model that consisted of a wooden 327 dowel shaped in the form of a fish of similar size as the focal predators (60 mm SL, 328 Figure 1). The use of models as predator stimuli has been found to be an effective tool for 329 examining antipredator behavior (Rowland, 1999; Corkum, 2002). The model was 330 suspended in the bottom third of the water column (11 cm from tank bottom) with 331 monofilament line from a pulley system (Figure 1). During trials, we used a lever 332 attached to the pulley system to move the model at approximately 0.25m/s, along the 333 broad side of the tank, from one end of the tank to the other.

334

335 Statistical analyses

336 We used general linear models to examine variation in prey behavior, predator 337 behavior, and prey mortality. Across the three experiments, we consistently examined 338 variation in four prey behaviors (activity, vertical distribution, habitat use, and grouping) 339 with factorial MANOVAs and ANOVAs that tested for species, treatment, species x 340 treatment effects (and a time blocking factor when appropriate). These analyzes were 341 performed using prey group means that were averaged over trial duration (i.e., the mean 342 of all observations, Rehage et al., 2009). For the cue experiments, we calculated the 343 difference between post and pre-stimulus behaviors (average of 6 post-cue spot checks 344 minus average of 6 pre-cue spot checks), and performed analyses on these differences. 345 Since prey were only used once, behaviours are averaged to obtain group means, and the 346 measured behaviors are not mutually exclusive, we consider the behaviours measured to 347 be independent (Martin & Bateson, 2007).

348	For experiment 1, we also conducted ANOVAs to compare prey mortality
349	(factorial: prey species and predator treatment effects) and predator behavior (one-way:
350	predator treatment). The number of predators active, at the top of the water column, and
351	in structure were averaged for each trial and compared across treatments. To satisfy
352	normality assumptions, we examined residuals in all models, and transformed variables
353	(\sqrt{y} -transformations for counts and $\arcsin(\sqrt{y})$ -transformations for proportions) that
354	showed evidence of non-normality or heteroscedacity (Kery & Hatfield, 2003). LSD
355	pairwise comparisons were used in posthoc tests, and significance at the 0.05 level is
356	denoted with letters in bar graphs. All analyses were performed using SAS 9.1 (SAS
357	Institute Inc., Cary, NC, USA).

359 Results

360 Experiment 1: Prey responses to predator presence & predation rates

The three native prey species varied in activity and grouping behavior, but show similar microhabitat use. Overall, grass shrimp were less active and less likely to form groups than either mosquitofish or flagfish. Across predator treatments, the behavioral response of the three species was surprisingly similar (Table 1). For three of the four behaviors measured, we recorded consistent responses to the presence of predators, regardless of predator identity. All three prey species decreased activity, moved higher in the water column, and increased grouping in treatments in the presence of predators

368 (Figures 2 & 3). Thus, contrary to expectations, prey responses to the native vs. the369 nonnative predators were similar in strength and direction for all prey.

370 The only exception was a differential response to predator treatments in the 371 vertical distribution of prey (Figure 2). Mosquitofish moved higher in the water column 372 regardless of predator treatment, but the response was dependent on predator identity for 373 flagfish and grass shrimp, shrimp showed a stronger response when predators were 374 mixed, while flagfish showed equally high responses with mixed or warmouth predators, 375 but a lesser response when the predators were the jewelfish pair (Figure 2B). Little 376 variation in use of the habitat structure was seen across treatments for shrimp, but a slight 377 decrease was detected for the fish prey when predators were present (Figure 2C). 378 However, overall use of the structure was low; on average only one of the six individuals 379 was found in the structure across treatments.

The predator pairs varied in activity, but showed similar patterns of microhabitat use in our experimental tanks (Table 1, Figure 2). Warmouth pairs were the least active, while average activity levels were similar for the jewelfish pair and the mixed predator treatment. Across pair types, predators remained low in the water column and on average, one of the predators spent the trial duration in the more complex artificial vegetation.

Predation rates varied as a function of predator treatments, prey species, and the predator treatments by prey species interaction (Table 1). As may be expected, mortality was higher in predator treatments (zero in the absence of predators), but highest in the warmouth treatment; 38% of prey were consumed in warmouth treatment relative to 33%

consumed in mixed predator treatment, and 29% in the jewelfish treatment (Figure 4).
Consumption rates of flagfish and grass shrimp did not differ significantly among the
treatments, but mortality of mosquitofish was higher in the presence of the native
warmouth pair than in the other two predator treatments.

393

394 *Experiment 2: Prey responses to chemical cues*

395	Overall, prey responses to chemical cues <u>relatively</u> weak, showing more prey-
396	specific responses, and low differentiation among cue types (Table 2, Figure 5). For
397	instance, grass shrimp did not respond to any of the chemical cues presented.
398	Mosquitofish shifted activity and grouping behavior when chemical cues were present,
399	but few to no differences were detected among cue types. Mosquitofish became less
400	active with the scent of warmouth and jewelfish, and increased grouping indiscriminately
401	to both the general and the two specific chemical cues (Figure 5A&C). Flagfish became
402	less active in response to all cue types, including the scent of novel jewelfish (Figure
403	5A&B). They moved lower in the water column with the conspecific cue and the
404	jewelfish scent, but not the warmouth scent.
405	
406	Experiment 3: Prey responses to visual cues

- 407 Overall, prey behavior in response to visual cues only did not vary strongly
- 408 among prey, or more importantly among cue types, with two exceptions (Figure 5).

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experiment 1

Mosquitofish increased grouping in the presence of the fish model, and flagfish decrease
activity strongly when warmouth were present in the adjacent tank (Figure 5A&C). There
were some behavioral differences between pre and post cue delivery, but these
differences were generally consistent across treatments including in the control tank,
where no predator nor predator model was present. Activity was lower across all three
prey in the post-cue observations, and prey tended to move lower in the water column.

415

416 Discussion

417 Nonnative predator effects are expected to be higher than those of native 418 predators due to the lack of experience of the prey with the new predator, its foraging 419 tactics, and cues (Cox & Lima, 2006; Banks & Dickman, 2007; Sih et al., 2010). Our 420 experimental results with African jewelfish and Everglades prey, however, do not support 421 this notion. First and contrary to expectations, the nonnative jewelfish did not have a 422 greater predatory effect on the three focal prey species tested relative to the native 423 centrarchid predator. Second, our prey showed antipredator responses to nonnative 424 jewelfish that were generally similar in magnitude and direction as those exhibited 425 toward the native warmouth. Lastly, two of the three prey species tested appeared to be 426 able to detect and respond to olfactory cues from novel African jewelfish, despite having 427 not encountered these olfactory cues before. These results suggest that although prey may 428 be faced with new predators, if these predators are somewhat similar to existing predation 429 threats (i.e., other fish predators, or confamilial predators), prey may be able to exhibit

430 general antipredator behavior (e.g., reduced activity) that are known to increase survival431 (e.g., Skelly, 1994).

432 Because of the naiveté of prey, introduced predators may have greater 433 consumptive effects relative to non-consumptive effects when compared to native 434 predators (Sih et al., 2010). These greater consumptive effects may explain the boom and 435 bust cycles we often see associated with invasions (e.g., Bohn et al., 2008). In our trials, 436 however, jewelfish had similar or lower consumptive effects to those of a similar-sized 437 native centrarchid. Foraging rates were similar on the two demersal prey, grass shrimp 438 and flagfish, but varied for the top-dwelling mosquitofish. Jewelfish consumed less 439 mosquitofish, despite the fact that mosquitofish are a major component of jewelfish diets 440 (W. Loftus, unpub. data), and jewelfish consume them readily in the lab (Rehage et al., 441 2009). This is surprising given that both predators had similar microhabitat use in the 442 lower water column, and would typically be expected to forage more effectively on prey 443 that share the same habitat domain (Schmitz, 2007). 444 The shared prey and similarity in habitat use between the native warmouth and 445 the nonnative jewelfish supports the notion that native centrarchids, which are common 446 mesoconsumers throughout Everglades habitats (Chick et al., 2004; Rehage & Trexler, 447 2006) are likely to compete for resources with nonnative jewelfish (Schofield et al., 448 2007), as they do with other nonnative cichlids (Brooks & Jordan, 2010). However, we 449 did not see any evidence of interference that would lead to risk enhancement or risk 450 reduction when both predators were present (Sih et al., 1998; Schmitz, 2007). Predation

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451 rates in the mixed predator treatments were similar to those in single predator treatment,452 except for the lower predation rate on mosquitofish when predators were mixed.

453 Prey responded to the presence of predators with typical generalized antipredator 454 behavior (i.e., decreases in activity and increases in grouping, Sih et al., 2010), and these 455 responses were similar to the native and nonnative predators, and similar for the two fish 456 and shrimp prey. All prey became less active, moved higher in the water column, and 457 increased aggregation in the presence of predators. Due to their different morphologies 458 and habitat domains, we expected to see more variation in prey antipredator behavior. 459 Even congeneric species of similar morphology and ecology show markedly different 460 behavioral responses (Nannini & Belk, 2006). Antipredator responses typically relate to a 461 species' history of exposure to predation risk and should influence their vulnerability to 462 predators. Our results suggest that these species may experience similar predation risk in 463 the field, and may be equally vulnerable to novel predation threats. 464 Alternatively, it may be possible that the similarity in the behavioral responses 465 observed in our trials are due to constraints provided by the experimental setup, which 466 caused the prey to exhibit heightened and common generalized responses to a 'pulse' in 467 predation risk (Lima & Bednekoff, 1999; Reylea, 2003; Schmitz, 2007). The 468 effectiveness of antipredator behavior is dependent not only on the identity of the 469 predator and its foraging tactics, but also on the type of habitat where the predator is 470 encountered (Brown & Smith, 1997). It may be possible that in the constrained space of

471 lab aquaria, prey use generalized and stronger antipredator tactics to evade heightened

472 predation risks since predator avoidance is limited (Hickman et al., 2004). Shifts in

473	habitat use to predator-free environments will be limited under these lab conditions
474	(Crowl & Covich, 1994). However, we believe our experimental setup had elements of
475	reality. Most tank predation studies cage and restrict predator movements, which
476	generates limited behavioral responses, and restrict our ability to examine how predators
477	and prey interact in space (Lima, 2002; Sih, 2005). By employing a free-ranging predator
478	experimental design, we were able to observe predator-prey encounters at close
479	proximity, and quantify the behavioral response of prey given an encounter, but as in
480	other studies, sacrificed the ability of prey to exhibit other spatial responses.
481	Yet, all else being equal, we expected to see differential behavior toward the
482	native and the nonnative predator. We suggest three possible mechanisms for the
483	similarity in response across the three prey types. First, we suggest that an adaptive
484	evolutionary history with multiple predators may have allowed the prey to develop
485	nonplastic behavioral traits in response to any predator threats (i.e. multiple predator
486	hypothesis, Sih, 1986; Blumstein, 2006; Wolfahrt et al., 2006). In general, fixed
487	antipredator behavioral responses are expected to occur when predation risks are
488	continuously high (Wolfahrt et al., 2006). In the Everglades, recurrent seasonal dry-down
489	forces prey to live or move into deeper habitats where larger-bodied fishes are abundant
490	and predation regimes are expected to be relatively high (Loftus & Eklund, 1994; Rehage
491	& Trexler, 2006; Rehage & Loftus, 2007). This co-occurrence with predators may allow
492	prey to exhibit similar anti-predator responses to multiple threats, including those they
493	have not encountered before. Sih (1986) found that predator-experienced prey had a

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494 greater chance of survival with novel predators than predator naïve prey, due to their495 fixed behavioral responses.

496	Second, prey species could be exhibiting a neophobic response, whereby they are
497	responding to all things novel with aversion, hesitation, or caution (Greenberg, 2003).
498	These responses are expected to be adaptive in high predation risk environments, where
499	larger fish, although not recognized, are likely to be a predator and elicit a response
500	(Brown & Chivers, 2005). Thirdly, despite the fact that the prey used in our experiments
501	were 'naïve' to jewelfish, since they had not previously encountered them in nature,
502	jewelfish may not have represented a novel nor unfamiliar threat, such that prey
503	responded in similar magnitude as to a known predator.
504	Prey exhibited antipredator behavior in response to both general and specific cues,
505	but mostly when these cues were chemical. A number of studies have documented the
506	use of chemical cues in predator recognition (Mathis et al., 1993a ; Mathis & Vincent,
507	2000), including those produced by nonnative taxa (Pearl et al., 2003). Chemical cues
508	likely provide an early warning of predation threats, which may be refined with the
509	introduction of visual cues (Kats & Dill, 1998; Chivers et al., 2001). The low response to
510	the visual cues used in our experiment, may be due to the fact that the visual cues used
511	did not provide enough information for prey to correctly identify the predator threat
512	(Wisenden, 2004), or they did not reflect a high risk encounter to merit a response
513	(Corkum, 2002) _Y
514	Prey often show a greater reliance on chemical cues when visual cues are
515	diminished, such as in turbid waters, in heavily-vegetated habitats, or with cryptic

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Deleted: Despite being introduced at a short-distance, the visual cues may have been inadequate for fine-scale discrimination of the threat (Mathis & Vincent, 2000), or deemed meaningless in the absence of accompanying chemical information

516 predators (Hartman & Abrahams, 2000; Mathis & Vincent, 2000; Amo et al., 2004). 517 Because of the high density of emergent grasses (Gunderson & Loftus, 1993), the high 518 biomass of periphyton (Turner et al., 1999), and the presence of flocculent material atop 519 the benthos (Rehage & Trexler, 2006), the structural complexity of Everglades marsh 520 habitats is relatively high. Under these conditions, prey may be expected to rely more 521 intensely on chemical information as seen in our study (Mathis & Vincent, 2000). 522 Similarly, several of the common native predators use a sit and wait hunting strategy, for 523 which, it is more advantageous for prey to use chemical cues in predator recognition 524 (Amos et al., 2004); especially if prey are able to recognize not previously encountered 525 predators as a threat when they are closely related to known predators (i.e., confamiliar 526 predators; Ferrari et al., 2007). Both mosquitofish and flagfish showed a significant 527 decrease in activity and increase in vertical distribution to the isolated scents of jewelfish 528 and warmouth. Often, the strength of a prey species' antipredator response will depend 529 on dietary cues, and whether the predator has consumed conspecific or heterospecific 530 prey (Wohlfahrt et al., 2006), but we removed these cues from our experiment. Instead, 531 we suggest that the fish species may be relying on chemical kairomones for predator 532 recognition and response. Kairomones are prominent chemical cues that are similar 533 across freshwater fish families and are believed to be a partial metabolite of fish-534 associated bacteria (Dicke & Sabelis, 1988; Elert & Phonert, 2000). Previous work shows 535 that prey use these cues in predator recognition (Gelowitz et al., 1993; Kats & Dill, 536 1998). Kusch et al. (2004) showed that fathead minnow populations exhibited intense 537 behavioral responses to increasing concentrations of northern pike odor, *Esox lucius*, and

538	were able to recognize the size of the predators that generated the cues. The recognition
539	of predator kairomones by prey can occur very quickly under natural conditions
540	(Wisenden & Chivers, 2006). It may be possible that the prey's prior experience with
541	other cichlid predators may have allowed particularly the fish prey to respond to
542	nonnative jewelfish. Ferrari et al. (2007) showed that fathead minnows trained to
543	recognized the scent of a particular salmonid predator, also exhibited antipredator
544	responses to the scent of two other salmonid species, despite no experience with them.
545	While chemical cues appear to be a primary source of information in predator-
546	prey interactions in our trials, the antipredator responses observed during the cue
547	experiments were weaker than those observed in the first experiment where predators
548	were present. This suggests that prey may need multiple cues to identify a predation risk,
549	and determine the degree of risk-sensitive behavior to exhibit (i.e. threat sensitivity
550	hypothesis, Amo et al., 2004; Botham et al., 2008). For instance, the relatively weak
551	response of shrimp observed in the chemical cue trials may be due to the fact that they
552	require other cue types, such as tactile cues. Crowl and Covich (1994) found that
553	chemical cues elicit a partial response from freshwater shrimp, but when coupled with the
554	physical presence of the predator the intensity of the responses increases. Mosquitofish
555	similarly increase avoidance behavior when both the chemical and visual cues of
556	predatory fish are present (Smith & Belk, 2001).
557	

558 Conclusions

559 Introduced predators are a major concern for the Everglades, and have been 560 implicated in fish population declines elsewhere in freshwater systems (Cox & Lima, 561 2006). With the continued invasion of new species, the probability for synergistic effects 562 among fish predators that could drastically alter the way nonnative species interact with 563 natives and thus their impact (e.g., O'Dowd et al., 2003) becomes a concern. Our data 564 show that a newly- arrived predator may have similar predatory effects and elicit similar 565 antipredator behavior from native prey. Thus, the vulnerability of Everglades prey to new 566 predators does not seem to vary among taxa, and may be less than expected based on the 567 novelty of the interaction, perhaps because of the experience of Everglades prey with 568 cichlid predators. If predation rates and prey risk to nonnative cichlids are similar, we 569 would expect nonnative predators to function in a similar matter as native predators. 570 However, we do not know if the addition of nonnative cichlids to the system is increasing 571 overall predation regimes, with important consequences for the transfer of energy 572 throughout food webs and ecosystem components, or replacing them. Further work is 573 needed to distinguish between the two, and better assess the consequences of multiple 574 invasions in the long-term.

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780	Figure 1. Diagram of the model used for the visual cue experiment. The predator model	
704		Deleted: c
/81	consisted of a wooden dowel shaped like a fish (60 \underline{m} m SL), suspended in the water	Deleted: with monofilament
782	column at a depth of approximately of 11cm, and moved using a pulley system. The tank	Deleted. with monomanient
783	containing the model was positioned adjacent to the prey tank and separated with a	
784	removable barrier, similar to the other treatments.	
785 786	Figure 2. Mean predator and prey activity, vertical distribution, and structure use (± 1	
787	SE) for the first experiment across predator treatments (NP = no predators, $JJ= 2$	
788	jewelfish, $WW = 2$ warmouth, $WJ = 1$ jewelfish + 1 warmouth). Activity was scored 0-3	
789	(0 = not active), vertical distribution was scored as 0-2 (0 = bottom), and structure use	Delated
790	reflect counts of the number of prey individuals within the structure averaged over the	prey
791	observation period. Significant pairwise differences ($P \le 0.05$) are indicated with	
792	lettering above bars.	
793	Figure 3. The mean occurrence of prey groups for the first experiment (\pm 1 SE) across	
794	predator treatments (NP = no predators, $JJ=2$ jewelfish, $WW = 2$ warmouth, $WJ = 1$	
795	jewelfish + 1 warmouth). Prey grouping was scored as 0-1 ($0 = \text{group absent}$, $1 = \text{group}$	
796	present). Significant pairwise differences ($P \le 0.05$) are indicated by different uppercase	
797	letters.	
798	Figure 4. Mean predation rate (± 1 SE) on all prey across treatments (NP = no predators,	
799	JJ=2 jewelfish, $WW=2$ warmouth, $WJ=1$ jewelfish + 1 warmouth). Letters indicate	
800	significant pairwise differences at $P \le 0.05$.	

801	Figure 5. Mean predator and prey activity, vertical distribution, and habitat use (± 1 SE)
802	in the two cue experiments across predator treatments (NP = no predators, $JJ=2$
803	jewelfish, WW = 2 warmouth, WJ = 1 jewelfish + 1 warmouth). Activity was scored 0-3
804	(0 = not active), vertical distribution was scored as 0-2 $(0 = bottom)$, and the occurrence
805	of prey groups was scored as 0-1 ($0 = \text{group absent}$, $1 = \text{group present}$). Significant
806	pairwise differences ($P \le 0.05$) are indicated by different uppercase letters.
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Table 1. Results of ANOVAs and MANOVAs (F values, degrees of freedom, p values, and R^2) testing treatment, species, and blockeffects for the first predator-prey experiment (significant effects are in bold).

	Predator t	reatment	Prey sp	ecies	Predator treatment x prey species		Block		
	F (df)	р	F _(df)	р	F _(df)	р	F (df)	р	\mathbb{R}^2
Predator-Prey Experiment	157.4	<0.001	95.0.00	~0.001	33.0.00	0.005	03	0 581	0.8
Prey Mortality	137.4 (3,96)	<0.001	2.2 (2, 96)	NO.001	5.5 (6, 96)	0.005	0.5 (1,96)	0.501	0.0
Predator behavior									
Multivariate Analysis	4.1 (8, 138)	< 0.001					0.5 (4, 69)	0.733	
Activity	4.5 (2, 72)	0.015					0.5 (1, 72)	0.504	0.2
Vertical Distribution	1.2 (2, 72)	0.310					0.2 (1, 72)	0.684	0.1
Use of habitat structure	0.7 (2, 72)	0.490					0.3 (1, 72)	0.585	0.0
Predator-predator interactions	$7.0_{(2,72)}$	0.002					0.0 (1, 72)	0.878	0.3
Prey behavior									
Multivariate Analysis	$14.4_{(12, 246)}$	<0.001	$28.9_{(8,186)}$	<0.001	1.6 (24,	<0.044	0.5 (4, 93)	0.766	
Activity	20.8 (3, 96)	<0.001	50.5 _(2, 96)	<0.001	$1.8^{326)}_{(6, 96)}$	0.102	0.1 (1, 96)	0.759	0.7
Vertical Distribution	40.0 (3, 96)	< 0.001	17.1 (2, 96)	<0.001	2.2 (6, 96)	0.005	$1.1_{(1,96)}$	0.289	0.7
Use of habitat structure	5.6 (3, 96)	0.001	1.0 (2, 96)	0.372	0.2 (6, 96)	0.968	0.0 (1, 96)	0.958	0.2
Grouping	9.8 (3, 96)	<0.001	131.2 (2, 96)	<0.001	2.4 (6, 96)	0.034	0.2 (1, 96)	0.657	0.8

Table 2. Results of ANOVAs and MANOVAs (F values, degrees of freedom, p values, and R²) testing treatment, species, and block

effects for the two cue experiments (significant effects are in bold).

		Predator Treatment		Prev Species		Predator treatment x prev species		Block			
		F (df)	р	F (df)	р	F (df)	р	F (df)	р	R ²	
Chemical Cu	ue Experiment										
Prey behavio	Dr										
	Multivariate Analysis	2.0 (12, 278)	0.023	3.7 (8, 210)	<0.001	2.0 (24, 367)	0.006				
	Activity	5.9 (2, 108)	0.009	2.4 (3, 108)	0.095	2.5 (6, 108)	0.024			0.3	
	Vertical Distribution	2.0 (2, 108)	0.106	9.3 (3, 108)	0.002	1.5 (6, 108)	0.200			0.2	
	Use of habitat structure	1.4 (2, 108)	0.253	0.1 (3, 108)	0.893	1.6 (6, 108)	0.143			0.1	
	Grouping	4.0 (2, 108)	0.449	2.1 (3, 108)	0.022	1.4 (6, 108)	0.388			0.1	
Visual Cue E	Experiment										
Prey behavio	or										
	Multivariate Analysis	1.4 (15, 254)	0.170	5.6 (10, 184)	<0.001	1.0 (30, 370)	0.551	0.9 (5, 92)	0.460		
	Activity	1.2 (2, 96)	0.318	22.1 (3, 96)	<0.001	0.7 (6, 96)	0.600	3.0 (1, 96)	0.086	0.4	
	Vertical Distribution	0.9 (2, 96)	0.446	7.3 (3, 96)	0.001	0.5 (6, 96)	0.834	2.1 (1, 96)	0.148	0.2	
	Use of habitat structure	1.5 (2, 96)	0.231	2.6 (3, 96)	0.800	1.6 (6, 96)	0.150	0.0 (1, 96)	0.935	0.2	
	Grouping	0.2 (2, 96)	0.866	2.8 (3, 96)	0.069	1.2 (6, 96)	0.340	0.4 (1, 96)	0.538	0.2	