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1	Incorporating intraspecific trait variation into functional diversity:				
2	Impacts of selective logging on birds in Borneo				
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23	SRP-JR, CH and WJEH analysed the data; SRP-JR led the writing of the manuscript. All authors				
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26 Abstract

27 1. As conservation increasingly recognises the importance of species' functional roles in 28 ecosystem processes, studies are shifting away from measuring species richness towards 29 measures that account for the functional differences between species in a community. 30 These functional diversity (FD) indices have received much recent attention and refinement, 31 but their greatest limitation remains their inability to incorporate information about 32 intraspecific trait variation (ITV). 33 2. We use an individual-based model to account for ITV when calculating the functional 34 diversity of two avian communities in Borneo; one in primary (unlogged) forest and one in 35 selectively logged forest. We deal with the scarcity of trait data for individual species by 36 developing a simulation approach, taking data from the literature where necessary. Using a 37 bootstrapping procedure, we produce a range of ecologically feasible FD values taking 38 account of ITV for five commonly-used FD indices, and we quantify the confidence that can 39 be placed in these values using a newly-developed bootstrapping method: *btFD*. 40 3. We found that incorporating ITV significantly altered the FD values of all indices used in our 41 models. The rank order of FD for the two communities, indicating whether diversity was 42 higher in primary or selectively logged forest, was largely unchanged by the inclusion of ITV. 43 However, by accounting for ITV, we were able to reveal previously unrecognized impacts of 44 selective logging on avian functional diversity through a narrower dispersion of individuals in 45 functional trait space in logged forest. 46 4. Our results highlight the importance of incorporating ITV into measures of functional 47 diversity, whilst our simulation approach addresses the frequently encountered difficulty of

working with sparse trait data and quantifies the confidence that should be placed in such

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findings.

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### 51 Introduction

52 Change in land-use is a major global driver of ecosystem degradation (Brooks et al. 2002; Edwards et 53 al. 2011; Barber et al. 2014) with a growing proportion of the world's natural habitats being altered 54 by anthropogenic activities (Morris 2010). The impacts of land-use change on biodiversity are often 55 examined using measures of diversity, such as species richness, that take no account of differences 56 in species' life-history traits and ecological niches. Yet changes in environmental conditions following 57 disturbance may well allow only a narrow spectrum of traits to persist (Hamer et al. 2003; Layman et 58 al. 2007; Cardinale et al. 2012; Fauset et al. 2012). Consequently, such established diversity 59 measures may underestimate the true extent of biodiversity loss following disturbance (Cardinale et 60 al. 2012; Mouillot et al. 2013; Edwards et al. 2014).

61 One solution to this problem is to use measures of functional diversity (FD), which seek to 62 quantify the range of functional (i.e. trait) differences among species in a community (Tilman et al. 63 1997; Petchey & Gaston 2002), thus bridging the gap between species diversity and composition. FD 64 can be measured using a variety of different indices (Petchey & Gaston 2006; Villéger et al. 2008). 65 However, a limitation of most FD studies to date is that they have largely ignored intraspecific trait 66 variation (ITV) despite widespread recognition that ITV is critical to a range of ecological and 67 evolutionary processes (Breckling et al. 2006; Albert et al. 2010a; Bolnick et al. 2011; Andersen et al. 68 2012; de Bello et al. 2013), and that by disregarding variation, this forces assumptions of rigid 69 functional space occupancy (Al Haj Khaled et al. 2005). Despite this problem, few studies have 70 addressed the issue of how to incorporate ITV into measures of FD, particularly for taxa other than 71 plants (Diaz & Cabido 2001; Albert et al. 2010a; Griffiths et al. 2016), which potentially restricts the 72 ability of FD indices to accurately represent real ecosystems (de Bello et al. 2011; Albert et al. 2012). 73 In this study, we explore the application of ITV and its consequences for the measurement of 74 FD in primary (unlogged) and logged tropical forest in Sabah, Borneo. We use community data from 75 a previous study (Edwards et al. 2013a) to calculate FD for bird communities in primary forest and in 76 forest that had been subjected to repeated rounds of selective logging, following Edwards et al.

77 (2013b). We incorporate ITV into well-established FD indices using a simulation approach based on 78 ecologically realistic trait values from the literature (Cianciaruso et al. 2009; Flynn et al. 2009; Santini 79 et al. 2016). This approach not only addresses the frequently occurring problem of sparse or low-80 resolution trait data in studies of conservation ecology but it also helps to elucidate the impact of 81 ITV on the functional consequences of selective logging in this system. In addition, we develop a 82 bootstrapping method to quantify the confidence that can be placed in the calculated differences in 83 FD between communities, and to assign a probability that such differences could have occurred by 84 chance.

85

### 86 Materials and Methods

87 Our study site was the Yayasan Sabah logging concession, a 1-million hectare lowland rainforest in 88 eastern Sabah, Malaysian Borneo. The concession includes the Danum Valley Conservation Area and 89 Palum Tambun Watershed Reserve, comprising 45,200 ha of unlogged (primary) lowland 90 Dipterocarp rainforest dominated by valuable timber species of the Dipterocarpaceae (Reynolds et 91 al. 2011). This primary forest is contiguous with the 238,000 ha Ulu Segama-Malua Forest Reserve, 92 which includes selectively logged forest that has undergone two rotations of timber extraction. 93 Sampled locations in logged forest were first logged between 1987 and 1991 using a modified 94 uniform system in which all commercial stems > 0.6 m diameter were removed, yielding an average 95 of 120 m<sup>3</sup> of timber per ha. They were then logged again between 2001 and 2007 employing the 96 same logging techniques but with the minimum tree diameter reduced to 0.4 m (0.25 m in some 97 cases), resulting in an additional 15–72 m<sup>3</sup> of timber extracted per ha (Fisher *et al.* 2011; Reynolds *et* 98 al. 2011). Compared to unlogged forests, logged forests have a greater cover of ground and 99 understory vegetation, a lower density of trees and a more open canopy, as well as incursions by skid trails, roads and logging dumps (Berry et al. 2010; Ansell et al. 2011; Edwards et al. 2016). 100 101 Published data on avian species identity and abundance in primary (unlogged) and logged 102 forest were obtained from the literature (Edwards et al. 2013a) as were data for 14 different

103 functional traits reflecting dietary composition, trophic position, foraging substrate and resource 104 requirements (see Table S1 for variables and data sources). Our aim was not to examine the effects 105 of logging on functional diversity (FD) per se, which have already been examined in detail in these 106 forests for both birds (Edwards et al. 2013b) and dung beetles (Edwards et al. 2014), but to 107 determine how incorporating intraspecific trait variation (ITV) affects different measures of FD and 108 the conclusions drawn from them. Hence we did not include all possible functional traits, but instead 109 focused mainly on those related to foraging and resource requirements (see Supporting 110 Information).

111 Five commonly used functional diversity indices were calculated for each community using 112 the 'FD' package [Laliberté et al. 2014] and the Xtree function [Schumacher, 2003] in R version 3.2.2 113 (R Development Core Team, 2016). These were: Functional Richness (FRic) and Functional Evenness 114 (FEve; see Mason et al. 2005 and Villéger et al. 2008 for further details of these two indices); 115 Functional Dispersion (FDis, Laliberté & Legendre 2010); Rao's Quadratic Entropy (RaoQ, Rao 1982); 116 and Petchey and Gaston's (2002) FD index (FD<sub>PG</sub>). At the species level, FRic measures the volume of 117 functional trait space occupied by a community and reflects the richness of functional roles 118 performed by species; FEve measures the evenness of species abundances and of distances among 119 species in functional space; FDis and RaoQ both measure the dispersion of species in trait space. FDis 120 weights species by their relative abundances and measures the mean distance of individual species 121 to the weighted functional space centroid (Laliberté & Legendre 2010) whereas RaoQ is calculated as 122 the mean distance between randomly-selected pairs of species in functional space (Botta-Dukát 123 2005). Finally, FD<sub>PG</sub> sums the total branch length of a hierarchical functional dendrogram connecting 124 all species in functional space, based on pairwise distances between species (Petchey & Gaston 125 2006). Two additional indices of individual-level trait diversity have recently been proposed (Fontana 126 et al. 2016). However, the high dimensionality of our data made the calculation of these two indices 127 computationally impossible, and so they were not considered further.

128 The five FD indices above were each calculated in three different ways, using recorded data 129 on species richness and abundance in each habitat (594 individuals of 58 species in primary forest, 130 739 individuals of 63 species in logged forest; Appendix S3 in Edwards et al. 2013a) in each case. 131 First, we followed established methods that used species-level data and weighted each species by its 132 abundance but took no account of ITV (e.g. Villéger et al. 2008; Petchey & Gaston 2002). In these 133 methods, and in each of our three approaches to calculating functional diversity, traits act as 134 coordinates in functional space, thus identifying a species' functional niche (Villéger et al., 2008). 135 Species were weighted by their relative abundance and correlated traits were down-weighted, but 136 no further *a priori* assumption was made regarding the functional importance of any given trait. We 137 calculated a distance matrix based on functional trait dissimilarity between the traits of all species in 138 each community using the Gower distance measure, before running a principal coordinates analysis 139 (PCoA) to calculate a new trait matrix of transformed coordinates. PCoA axes were then used to 140 calculate the functional measures using a multidimensional convex hull to position species in 141 functional trait space (Petchey & Gaston 2002; Villéger et al., 2008; Pavoine et al. 2009). 142 Second, we calculated 'individual-level baseline' indices by using the same methods and 143 equations as above but treating every individual as a separate data point and giving all individuals of 144 a species the same literature-based mean value for each trait (i.e. assuming identical individuals 145 within each species). This approach yielded FD statistics that did not take account of individual trait 146 variation but were more directly comparable with our individual-based models incorporating ITV 147 (see below; Figure S1).

Third, we calculated each of our five functional diversity statistics once again, this time incorporating ITV. In principle, we might have achieved this by using measured trait data from all individuals sampled in each habitat. However, in most cases, including ours, such data are not available for most traits but data are available on the average values and/or levels of variation among individuals of each species. Hence we used these data to simulate virtual communities

153 comprising individuals drawn at random from within the frequency distribution of trait values154 estimated for each species, following the steps below:

155	(i) We noted or estimated the mean and standard deviation (SD) of each trait for each
156	species. Data on trophic positions were taken from Table S3 of Edwards et al. (2013a). Data on
157	dietary composition and foraging substrates (from Wilman et al. 2014) were mean percentages of
158	resources obtained from different categories. Assuming that 95% of individuals were within $\pm$ 20% of
159	each species' mean, with symmetrical data bounded by 0% and 100%, the SD (calculated as [95%
160	range]/4; Hozo <i>et al</i> . 2005) was then 10% of the mean in most cases (smaller for means close to 0%
161	or 100%; see Supporting Information and Table S1 for further information). Data on body mass and
162	clutch size (see Table S1 for data sources) were overall ranges. Assuming the median was the mid-
163	point of each range, we then calculated SDs in each case using Equation 1 below (Formula 16 in
164	Hozo <i>et al</i> . 2005; this estimate makes no assumptions about the distribution of the underlying data).
165	
166	$S^2 = 1/12 (((a-2m+b)^2)/4 + (b-a)^2)$ Equation 1
167	S = standard deviation, m = median, a = minimum value, b = maximum value.
168	
169	(ii) We used recorded and estimated means and SDs for each species to generate a Gaussian
170	frequency distribution for each trait in each habitat (Figure 1) and assigned trait values to each
171	individual by drawing them at random from the frequency distribution for that species.
172	(iii) We used these 'virtual' individuals to calculate each of our five FD indices across all
173	individuals in each habitat.
174	(iv) We repeated steps (ii) and (iii) above 1000 times to generate habitat-specific means for
175	each FD index. We also calculated 95% confidence intervals (CIs) as the 2.5 <sup>th</sup> and 97.5 <sup>th</sup> percentiles of
176	the distribution of simulated values for each index, and used single-sample t-tests to compare the
177	distribution of simulated values with the individual-level baseline value in each case.

(v) We next calculated 95% CIs for the difference between natural and degraded forest for
each FD index. We did this by generating a distribution of simulated differences between habitats
for each iteration, and taking the 2.5<sup>th</sup> percentile and 97.5<sup>th</sup> percentile as the 95% CI. We also
calculated the proportion of iterations in which primary forest had higher FD than logged forest and
considered a proportion >0.95 or <0.05 to indicate a significant difference between habitats.</li>
(vi) We have provided R-code for this new bootstrapping procedure (steps ii – v above),
which we call *btFD*.

185

186 **Results** 

Using established methods of calculation that took no account of ITV, three FD indices (FEve, FDis and RaoQ) were higher in primary forest than in logged forest whereas FD<sub>PG</sub> was higher in logged forest (Table 1). Differences between habitats were, however, small and FRic was almost identical in primary and logged forest (Table 1). This overall pattern was not substantially altered by treating every individual as a separate data point and giving all individuals of a species the same mean value for each trait (individual-level baseline FD values; Table 1 and horizontal lines in Figure 2) although FRic was slightly higher in primary forest than in logged forest using this method.

194

195 Effects of incorporating ITV on FD values

196 Regardless of habitat, bootstrapping to account for ITV produced values that were significantly lower

197 than individual-level baselines for FRic, FDis, RaoQ and FD<sub>PG</sub> but higher than these baselines for FEve

198 (Figure 2; single sample t-tests = P<0.0001 in all cases). Hence accounting for ITV resulted in a lower

199 divergence but a more even distribution of individuals in functional trait space within each habitat.

200 When accounting for ITV, two indices (FDis and RaoQ) were significantly higher in primary forest,

201 with no significant difference between habitats for the other three indices (see 95% CIs of

202 differences between habitats and associated probability values in Table 2). Hence, accounting for ITV

revealed previously unrecognized impacts of selective logging on FD through a reduction in thedispersion of individuals in functional trait space in logged forest (Figure S2).

205

# 206 **Discussion**

207 Our study addresses the growing recognition of the importance of incorporating intraspecific trait 208 variation (ITV) into measures of Functional Diversity (FD) within and among communities 209 (Cianciaruso et al. 2009; Albert et al. 2010b; Griffiths et al. 2016). We develop a method for 210 incorporating ITV when trait data are unavailable at the individual level. Using this method, we 211 found that estimates of FD incorporating ITV produced quantitatively different results to those 212 based on species' mean trait values, which are used most commonly in studies of FD. The rank order 213 of FD for the two communities we examined, indicating whether diversity was higher in primary or 214 logged forest, was largely unchanged by the inclusion of ITV. However, by accounting for ITV, we 215 were able to reveal previously unrecognized impacts of selective logging on FD through a lower 216 dispersion of individuals in functional trait space in logged forest (Figure 2,S2). 217 We found that incorporation of ITV significantly altered all indices of FD compared to 218 individual-level baseline values (Table 1), highlighting the importance of accounting for within-219 species variation in functional traits (Fontana et al. 2016). Four indices (FRic, FDis, RaoQ and FD<sub>PG</sub>) 220 were significantly lower after accounting for ITV whereas FEve was significantly higher, probably 221 reflecting differences among indices in the weighting given to the overall range of trait values 222 present versus the distribution of traits within the overall range (Albert et al. 2010a; Fontana et al. 223 2016). For instance, FRic measures the volume of trait space occupied by individuals within each 224 habitat as a proportion of that across both habitats combined (Villéger *et al*. 2008). For any trait, the 225 maximum difference between any two individuals of different species cannot be smaller than that 226 between average individuals and will always tend to be larger (e.g. the difference between the 227 lightest bird of the lightest species and the heaviest bird of the heaviest species is greater than that 228 between the average weight of the lightest and heaviest species). However, this effect was greater

across both habitats combined than within either primary or logged forest, due to a greater range of
 species, and hence trait values, present across both habitats combined. Consequently, there were
 lower values for FRic (and for the other three distance-based measures: FDis, RaoQ and FD<sub>PG</sub>) in both
 habitats after accounting for ITV.

233 In contrast, FEve is related to how individuals are distributed within the overall volume of 234 functional trait space occupied. In this case, attributing the same (mean) trait values to all individuals 235 of a species resulted in a more clumped distribution of individuals in trait space and hence lower 236 values than those obtained after accounting for ITV. It should be stressed, however, that 237 incorporating ITV had little effect on the rank order of FD for the two communities we examined, 238 suggesting that ignoring ITV did not introduce any systematic biases into the comparison between 239 habitats. Further work is now needed to establish the degree to which intraspecific trait variation 240 influences assessments of ecosystem dynamics, redundancy and stability (Bolnick et al. 2011; 241 Donohue et al. 2016; Ricotta et al. 2016).

242 Human-induced habitat degradation can lead to systematic changes in some traits within a 243 species, through a combination of phenotypic plasticity and the selective disappearance of 244 individuals with particular phenotypes (Edwards et al. 2013a; Hamer et al. 2015). In this system for 245 example, Edwards et al. (2013a) and Hamer et al. (2015) found that understory bird species that 246 were present in both primary and logged forest had higher trophic positions in the latter, suggesting 247 a shift towards feeding on more predatory arthropods and/or less fruit. Edwards et al. (2013a) also 248 found a decline in specialist frugivorous and insectivorous birds following two rounds of logging. 249 Thus, although logged forests retained similar levels of functional diversity to primary forest when 250 disregarding intraspecific variation, the composition of species in logged forest was significantly 251 altered, with functionally unique, endemic or endangered birds often being replaced with more 252 generalist species of lower conservation concern (Edwards et al. 2011; Edwards et al. 2013b). That 253 said, in keeping with previous studies of FD (see Table 1 in Edwards et al. 2014), we do not consider 254 such effects, which would cloud the question of how within-habitat ITV affects measures of FD.

255 As the resolution of global trait databases increases (e.g. Wilman et al. 2014), the ease with 256 which studies of FD can simulate realistic ITV improves. However, these trait databases must be 257 based on large enough sample sizes to accurately account for the degree of ITV for any given species 258 (Griffiths et al. 2016). Our simulation approach, which bootstraps literature-based trait values to 259 produce a range of virtual communities, calculates the range of values that FD could take when 260 measured at the individual level. We can then use our new *btFD* bootstrapping procedure to 261 determine the probability that a given FD index is higher in a given community when accounting for 262 ITV. Hence our bootstrapping analysis should be useful for determining the confidence that can be 263 placed in conclusions based on simulation approaches. Whilst bootstrapping procedures are well 264 established, we believe that the adoption of these methods for investigating the impacts of ITV on 265 functional diversity has potential to provide continuing insight, particularly considering the sparsity 266 of reliable data on intraspecific variation of functional traits for most species.

267 In conclusion, we support a much greater emphasis on intraspecific trait variation in studies 268 of functional ecology, including relationships between functional diversity and ecosystem processes 269 and stability (Solé & Montoya 2001; Ricotta et al. 2016). Additionally, because ITV is a fundamental 270 component of evolutionary processes, increasing incorporation of ITV into eco-evolutionary models 271 should prove interesting. Regardless of whether empirical or simulation-based approaches to 272 quantifying intraspecific trait variation are taken, we support a shift towards studies of functional 273 diversity that consider information at the critical scale: that of the individual (Bolnick et al. 2003; 274 Clark et al. 2011).

275

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287					
288	Data Accessibility				
289	Community composition data: available from Edwards et al. (2013a) supplementary information				
290	(doi: 10.1111/cobi.12059)				
291	Functional trait data: Sources listed in supporting information.				
292	btFD R script: Uploaded as online supporting information.				
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435 **Table 1.** Functional diversity (FD) of birds in primary and logged forests in northern Borneo, calculated using three different methods for five FD indices.

436 Established methods use species-level data. Individual-level baselines treat every individual as a separate data point and give all individuals of a species the

437 same literature-based mean value for each trait. Mean Intraspecific Trait Variation (ITV) values and 95% Confidence Intervals (CIs) are from 1000

438 bootstrapped iterations of trait data, incorporating intraspecific trait variation. See text for further explanation of indices and methods.

439

Type of forest	FD Index	Established method	Individual-level baseline method	Mean ITV value	Lower 95% Cl	Upper 95% Cl
Primary	FRic	0.003	0.014	3.55x10 <sup>-6</sup>	2.41x10 <sup>-6</sup>	5.51x10 <sup>-6</sup>
(unlogged)	FEve	0.671	0.094	0.995	0.995	0.995
	FDis	0.178	0.178	0.168	0.165	0.170
	RaoQ	0.035	0.035	0.031	0.030	0.032
	FD <sub>PG</sub>	2343.5	2312.1	1472.5	1413.8	1531.4
Logged	FRic	0.003	0.003	3.27x10 <sup>-6</sup>	2.29x10⁻ <sup>6</sup>	4.93x10 <sup>-6</sup>
	FEve	0.653	0.083	0.995	0.995	0.995
	FDis	0.165	0.165	0.156	0.152	0.160
	RaoQ	0.030	0.030	0.026	0.025	0.027
	FD <sub>PG</sub>	2691.5	2682.7	1488.2	1410.4	1564.1

Table 2. Statistical comparison of Functional Diversity (FD) measures for birds in primary and logged
Bornean forests, based on trait data bootstrapped 1000 times. Mean differences in FD between
primary and logged forest were calculated for each index, together with 95% Confidence Intervals
(CIs). For each index, P (Primary > Logged) is the proportion of 1000 bootstrapped iterations of trait
data that gave a higher value in primary forest.

Index	Difference between Primary and Logged FD	Lower 95% Cl of Difference	Upper 95% CI of Difference	P (Primary > Logged)
FRic	2.77x10 <sup>-7</sup>	-1.83x10⁻ <sup>6</sup>	2.61x10 <sup>-6</sup>	0.594
FEve	-2.44x10 <sup>-4</sup>	-6.16x10 <sup>-4</sup>	2.16x10 <sup>-4</sup>	0.125
FDis	0.012	0.007	0.016	1.000
RaoQ	0.004	0.003	0.006	1.000
<b>FD</b> <sub>PG</sub>	-15.680	-111.100	85.700	0.368

448 Figure 1. Simulated variation in body mass for a representative selection of birds in primary forest in 449 northern Borneo. Vertical lines show mean body mass for each species (see Table S1 for data 450 sources). Kernel densities represent the range of generated body mass values in our individual-based 451 model, for six species of different abundance (data from Appendix S3 in Edwards et al. 2013a). Grey 452 dotted lines, Arachnothera longirostra (N=79); black dotted lines, Hypogramma hypogrammicum 453 (N=24); black solid lines, Stachyris erythroptera (N=21); grey dashed lines, Hypothymis azurea (N=5); 454 Black dashed lines, Orthotomus sericeus (N=3); grey solid lines, Rhipidura perlata (N=3). 455 456 Figure 2. Individual-based functional diversity (FD) of birds in primary and logged forest. Boxplots 457 show bootstrapped means, SDs, 95% confidence intervals and values beyond this range for primary 458 forest (white box) and logged forest (grey box), for (a) functional richness, (b) functional evenness, 459 (c) functional dispersion, (d) Rao's quadratic entropy and (e) Petchey and Gaston's FD<sub>PG</sub>. Each index 460 took account of intraspecific trait variation (ITV). Horizontal lines are individual-level baseline FD 461 values, calculated using identical individuals and mean trait values for primary forest (solid line) and 462 logged forest (dashed line). Y axes are broken in (a), (b) and (e) to account for large differences 463 between individual-level baselines and FD values when incorporating ITV.



Figure 1. Simulated variation in body mass for a representative selection of birds in primary forest in northern Borneo. Vertical lines show mean body mass for each species (see Table S1 for data sources). Kernel densities represent the range of generated body mass values in our individual-based model, for six species of different abundance (data from Appendix S3 in Edwards et al. 2013a). Grey dotted lines, *Arachnothera longirostra* (N=79); black dotted lines, *Hypogramma hypogrammicum* (N=24); black solid lines, *Stachyris erythroptera* (N=21); grey dashed lines, *Hypothymis azurea* (N=5); Black dashed lines, *Orthotomus sericeus* (N=3); grey solid lines, *Rhipidura perlata* (N=3).

54x44mm (600 x 600 DPI)



Figure 2. Individual-based functional diversity (FD) of birds in primary and logged forest. Boxplots show bootstrapped means, SDs, 95% confidence intervals and values beyond this range for primary forest (white box) and logged forest (grey box), for (a) functional richness, (b) functional evenness, (c) functional dispersion, (d) Rao's quadratic entropy and (e) Petchey and Gaston's FD<sub>PG</sub>. Each index took account of intraspecific trait variation (ITV). Horizontal lines are individual-level baseline FD values, calculated using identical individuals and mean trait values for primary forest (solid line) and logged forest (dashed line). Y axes are broken in (a), (b) and (e) to account for large differences between individual-level baselines and FD values when incorporating ITV.

173x209mm (144 x 144 DPI)