

EURASIAN  
OTTER  
WORKSHOP  
26-28 February 2021



# Camera Traps - The Unknown

Emiliano Manzo - Fondazione Ethoikos



EURASIAN  
OTTER  
WORKSHOP  
26-28 February 2021

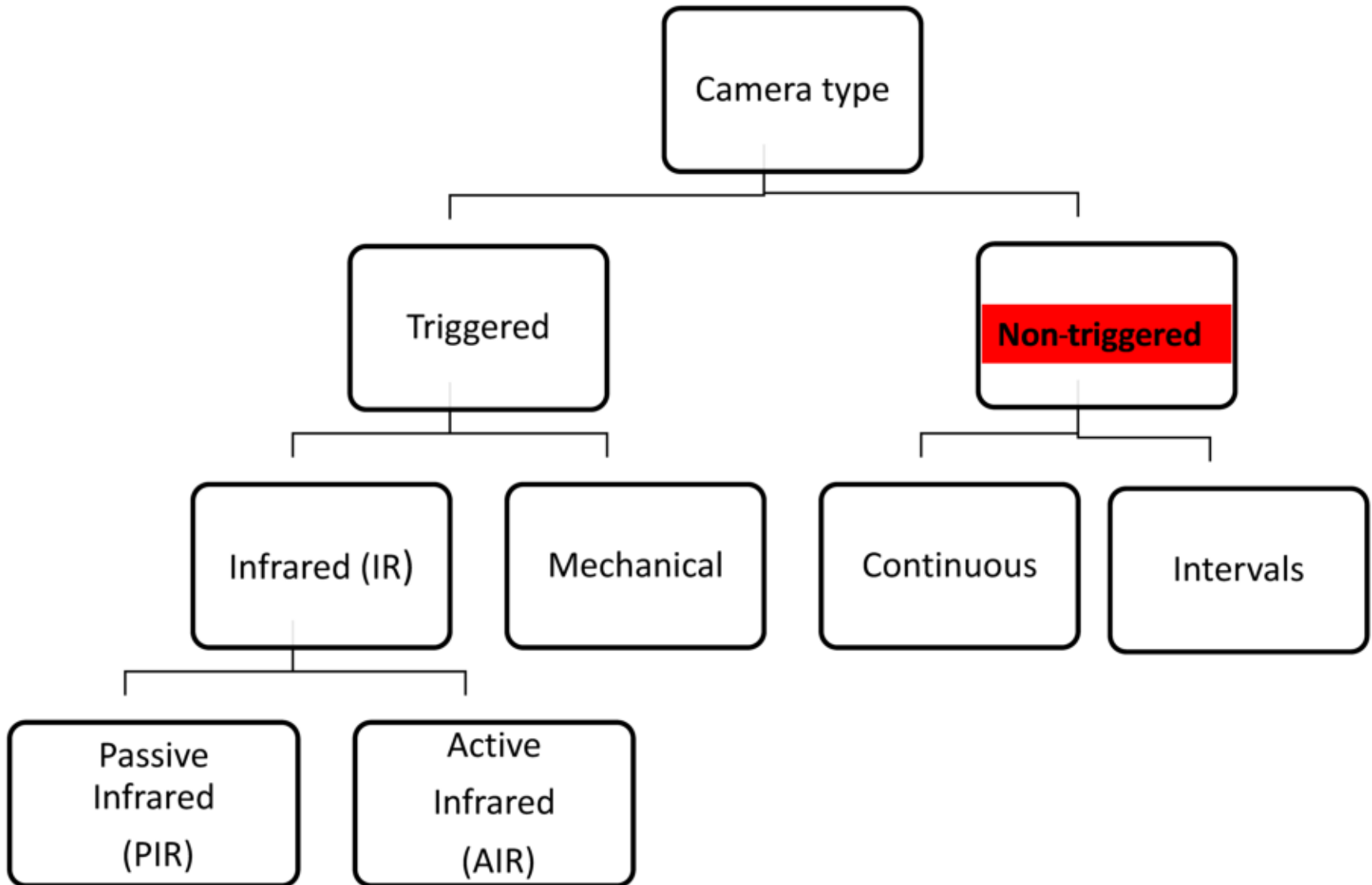


# Camera Traps - The Unknown

How to select an appropriate camera trap



# Camera traps type



# Camera traps type – Non Triggered Camera





# Camera traps type – Non Triggered Camera



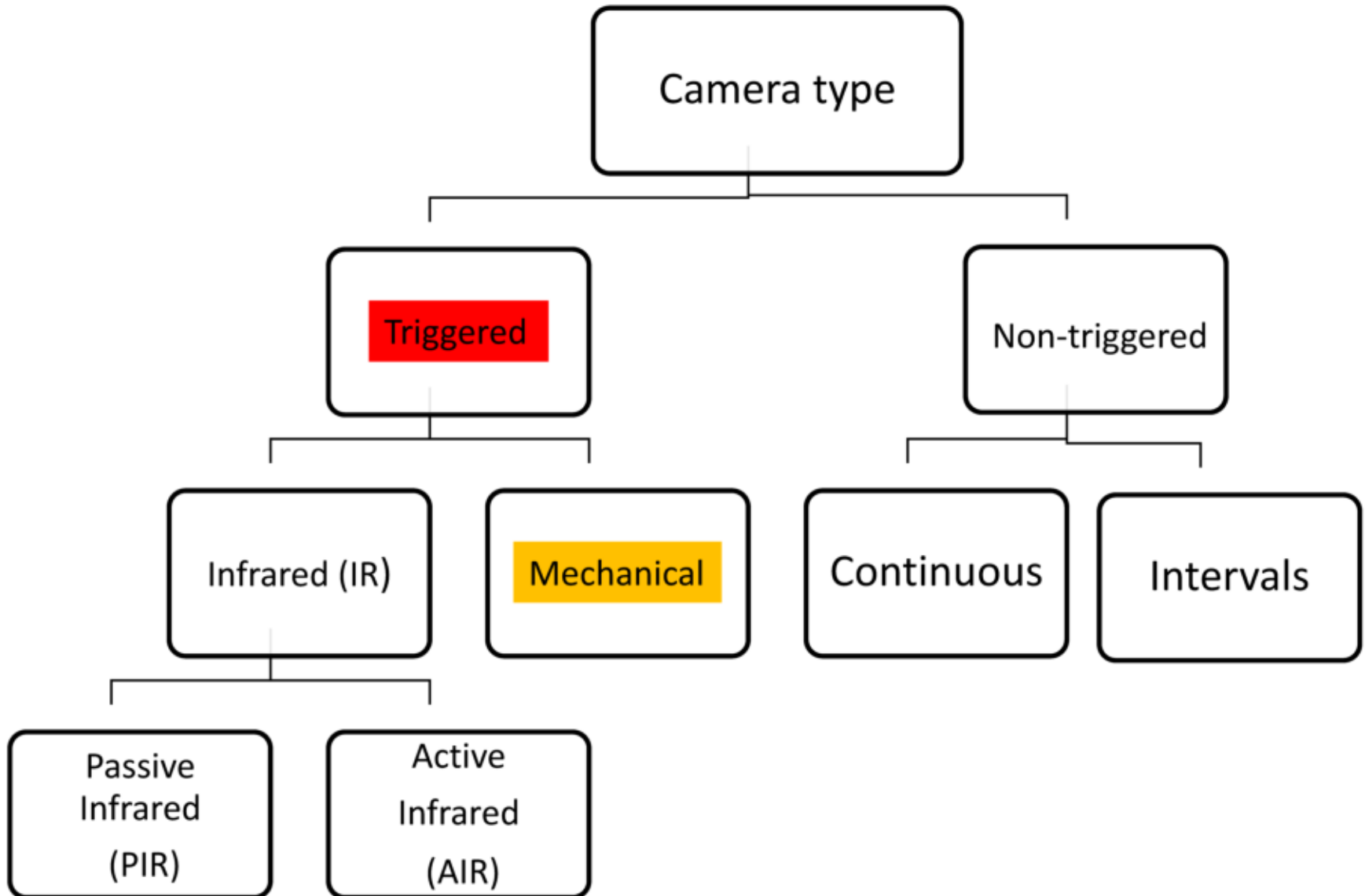


# Tipi di Fototrappole – Non Triggered Camera



<https://blog.nature.org/science/2017/04/03/where-have-steller-sea-lions-oceans-citizen-science-wildlife/>

# Camera traps type



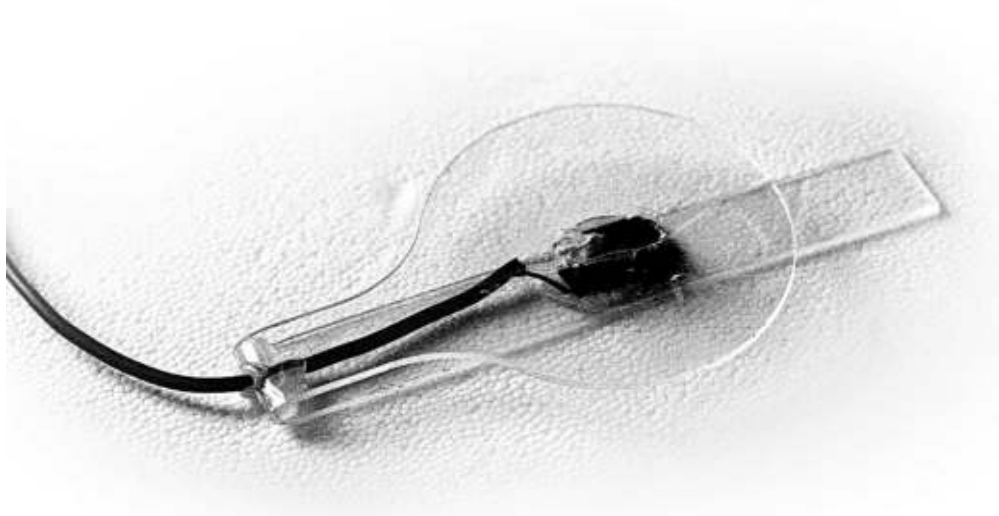


# Camera traps type – Triggered Mechanical





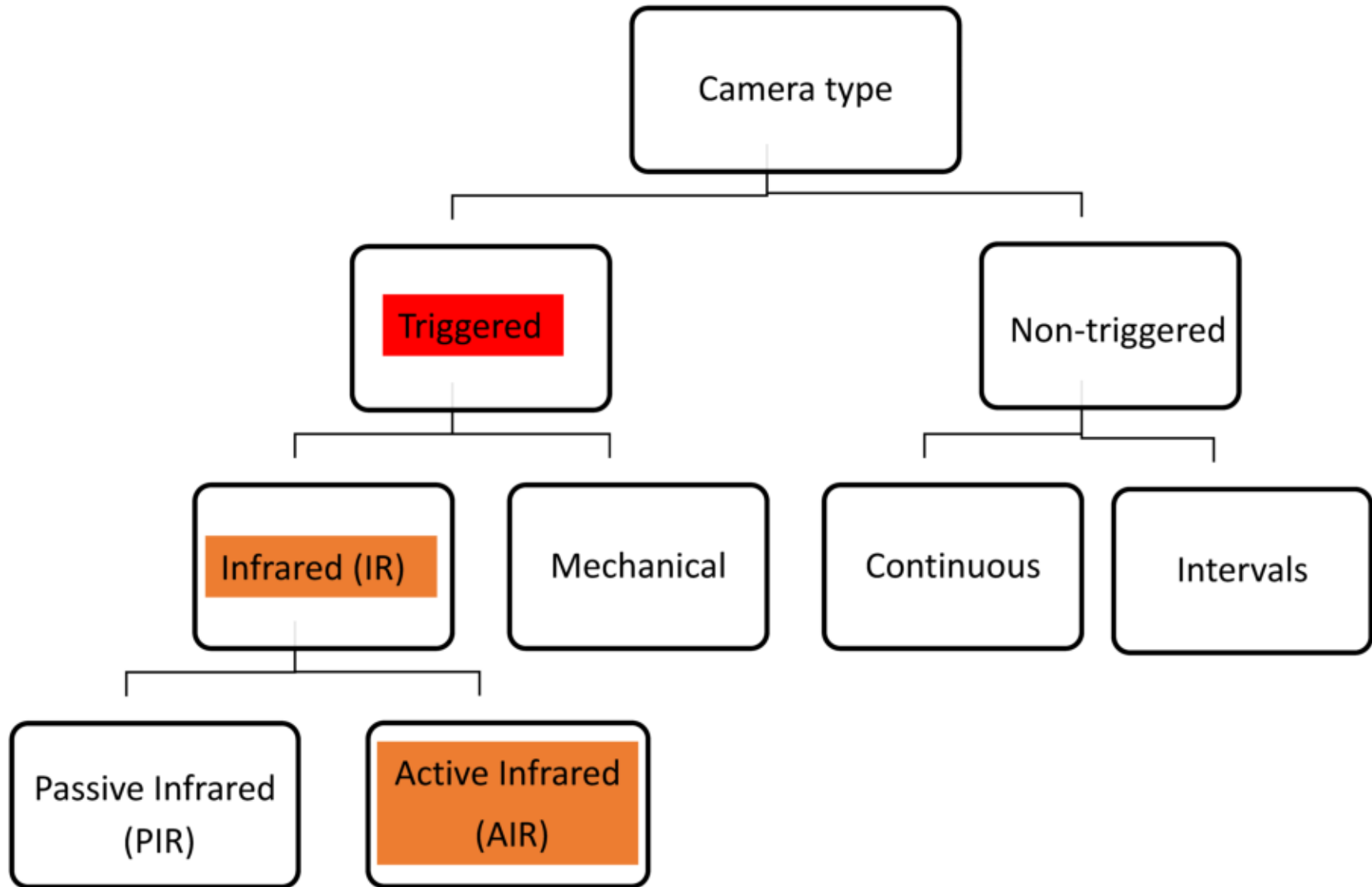
# Camera traps type – Triggered Mechanical



Pressure trigger used  
for otter in Italy

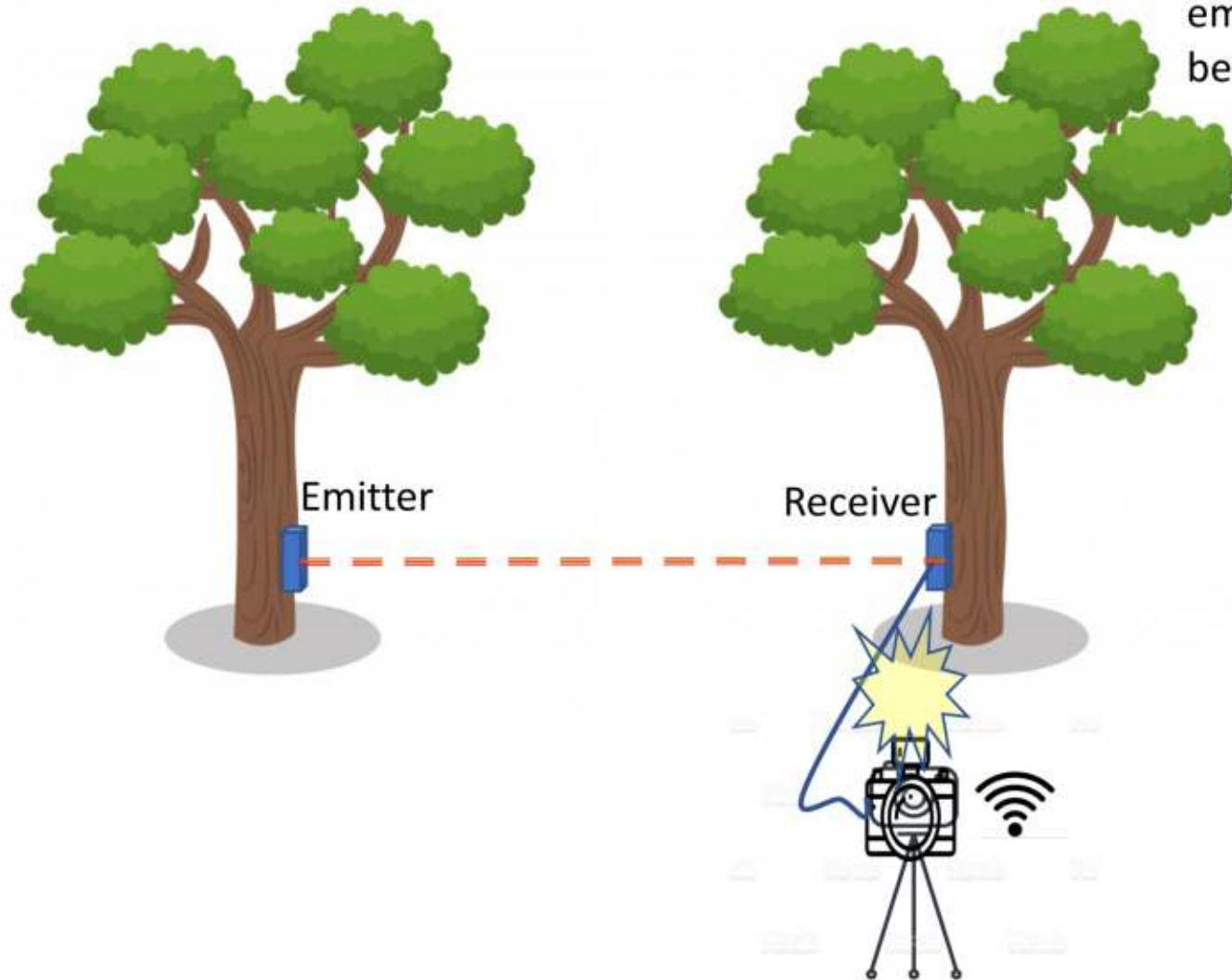
Laura Lerone, Giuseppe M. Carpaneto and Anna Loy (2015). *Why Camera Traps Fail to Detect a Semi-Aquatic Mammal: Activation Devices as Possible Cause. Wildlife Society Bulletin*

# Camera traps type





# Camera traps type – Active Infrared Sensor



Active infrared sensor emitted a single infrared beam.



## ADVANTAGES

- The height of the beam can be adjusted to the target animal
- Emitter and receiver are separate, better placed of the camera
- The beam can be up to 50 mt
- Changes in temperature hardly affect the detection

## DISADVANTAGES

- Equipment is expensive and not widely available
- It takes long time to line up the different component
- Low detection rate
- Snow, rain, vegetation do cause many false trigger

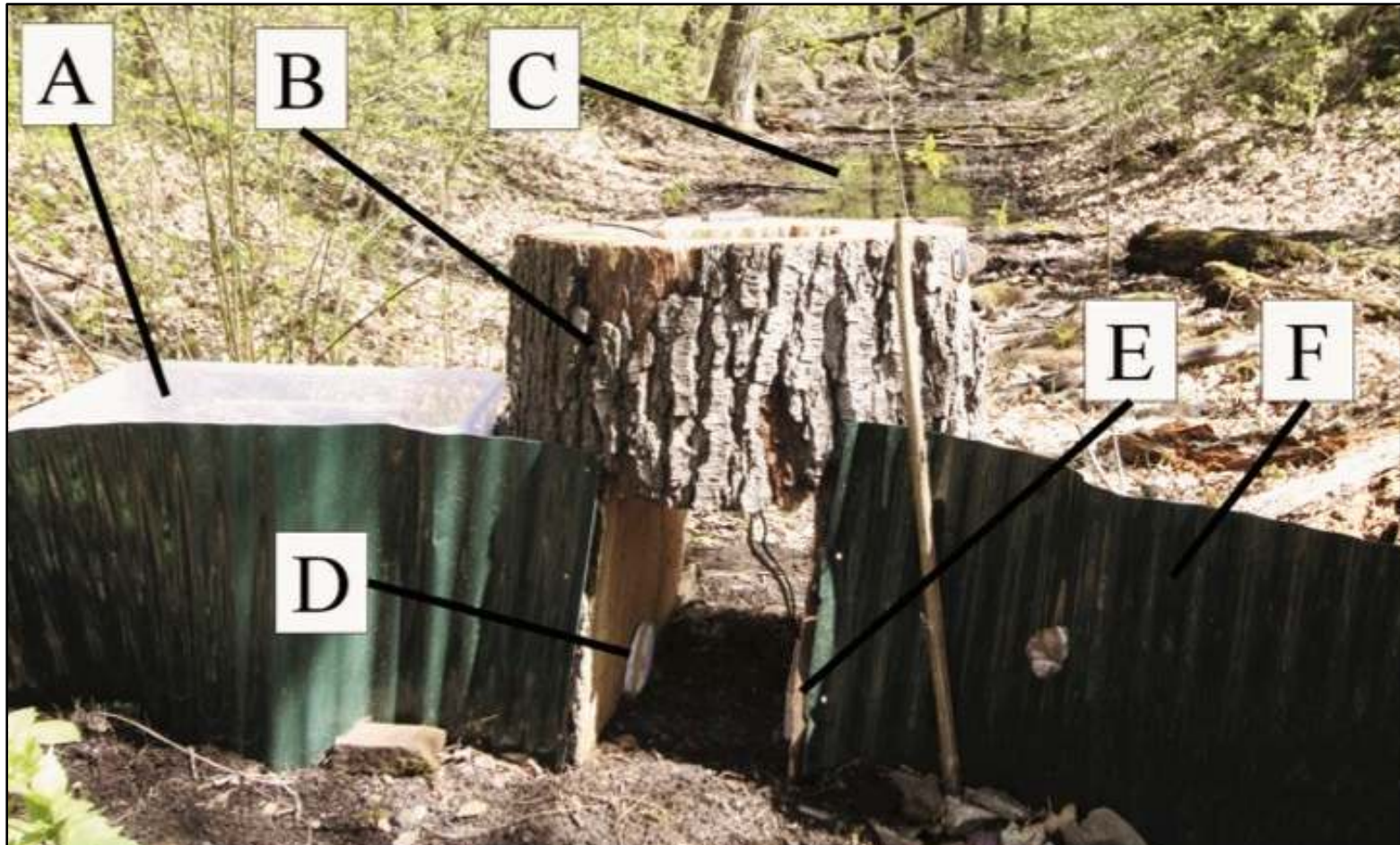


# Camera traps type – Active Infrared Sensor



Camera Trap with  
Active Infrared  
Sensor AIR

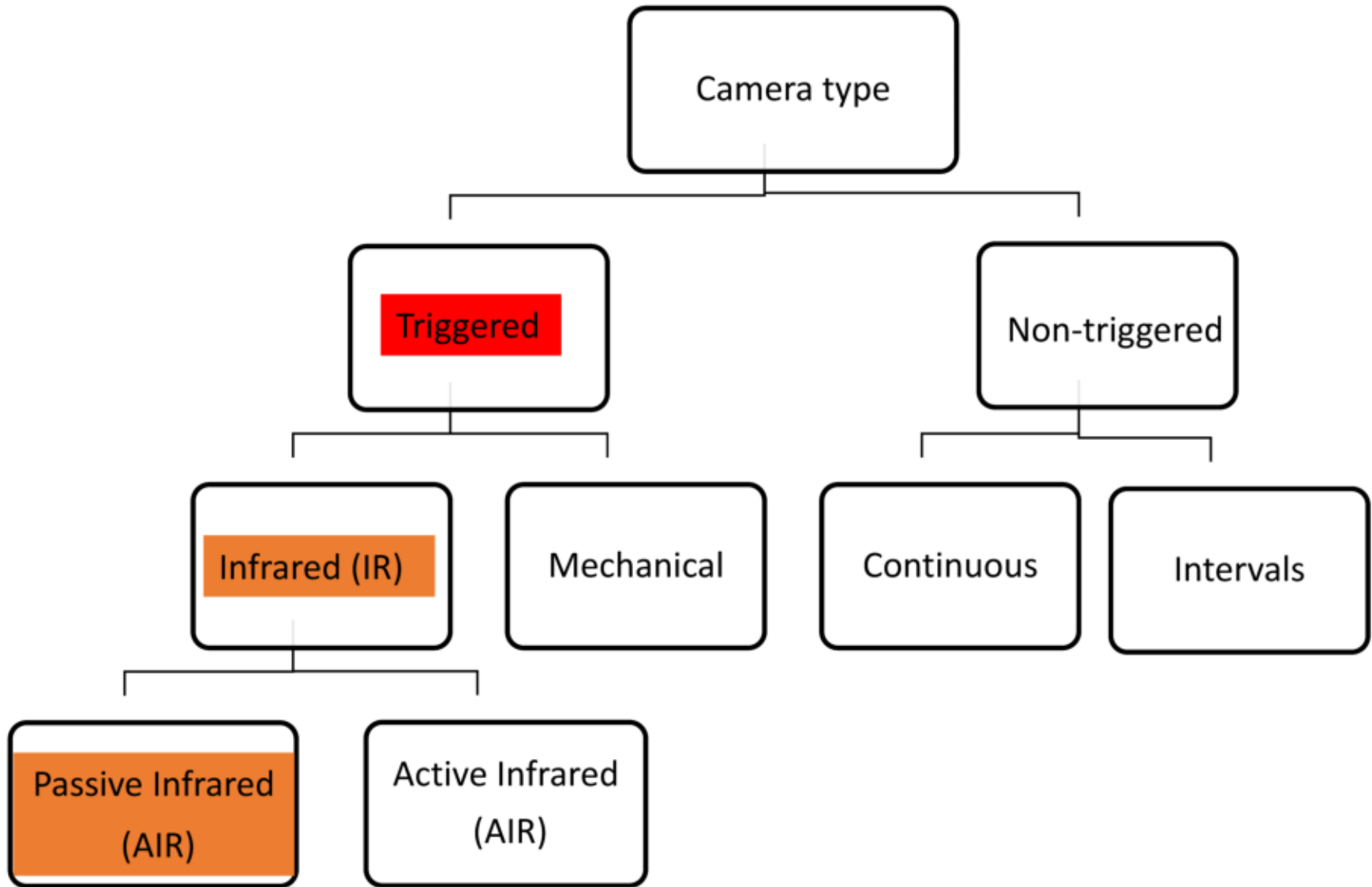
# Camera traps type – Active Infrared Sensor



Camera Trap with Active Infrared Sensor AIR



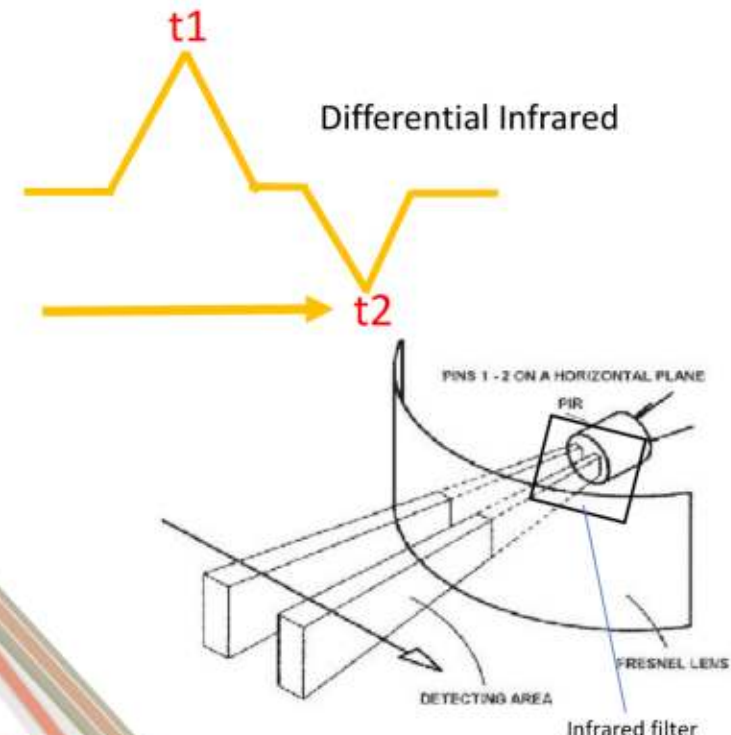
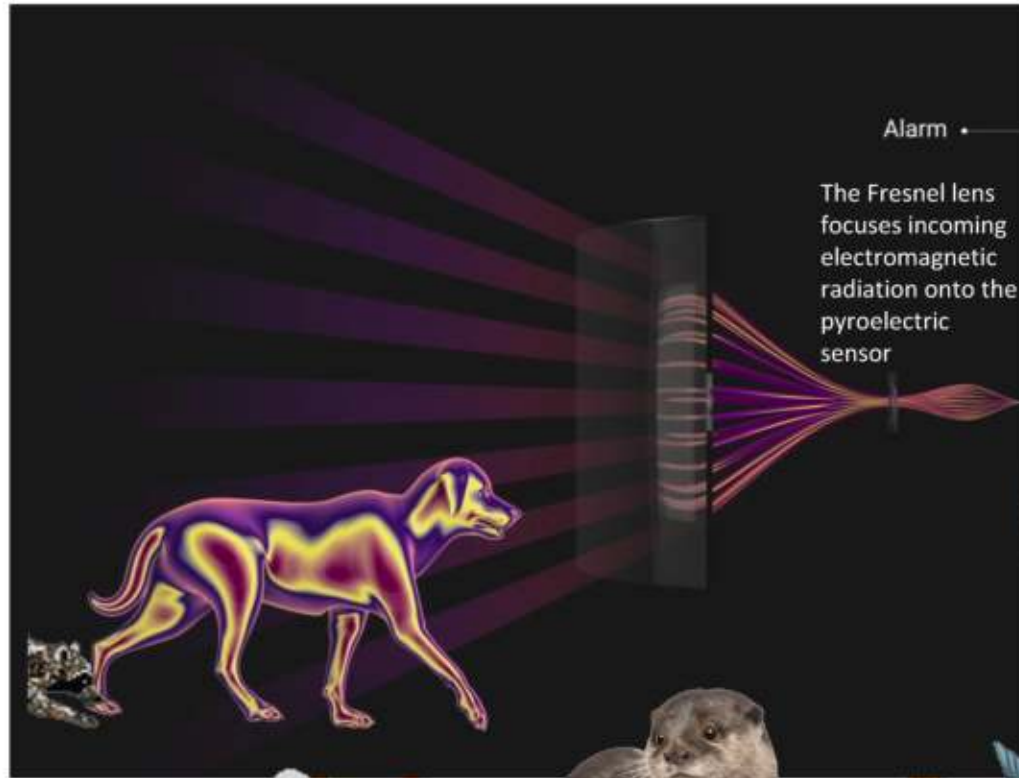
# Camera traps type



# How Camera Trap Work



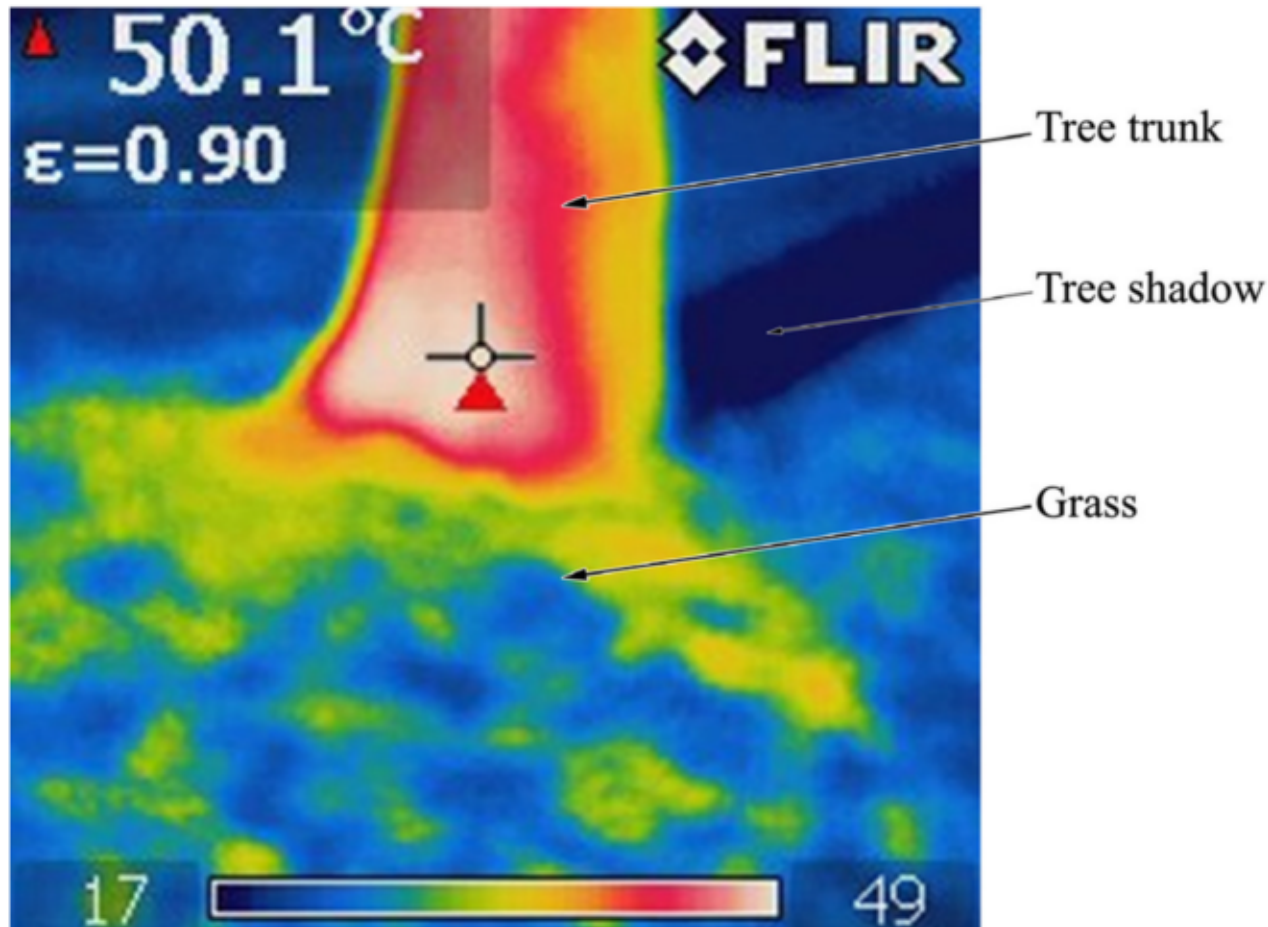
## How PIR Sensor Work



Pyroelectric sensor  
6-14  $\mu\text{m}$  wavelength



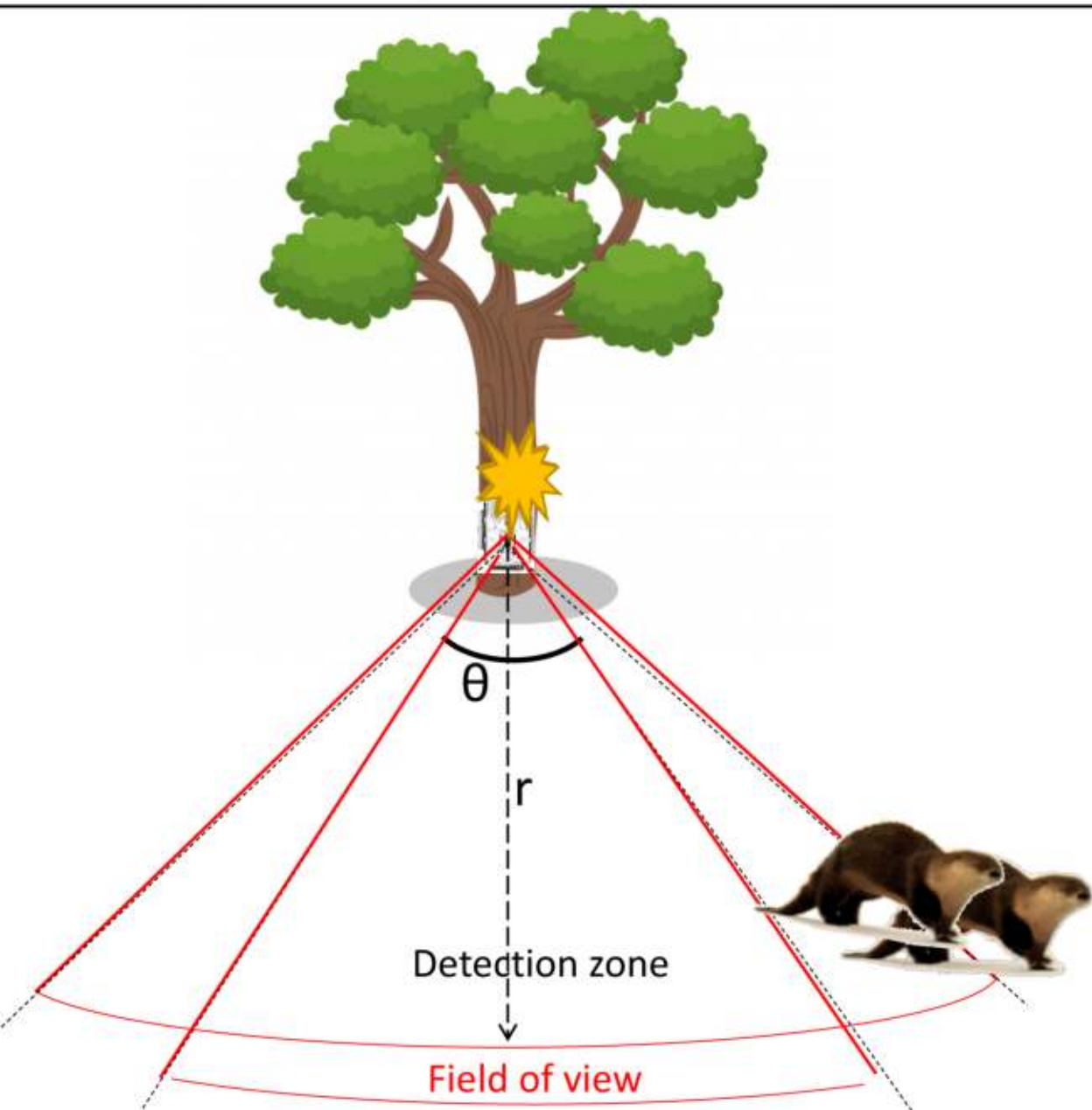
# How Camera Trap Work



Thermal heterogeneity can affect the efficacy of the PIR sensors

Thermogram of the base of a tree and surrounding grass

# How Camera Trap Work





# How Camera Trap Work

The animal is into the *detection zone and into the field of view*. 35.1° detection angle and 34.9 ° *field of view*



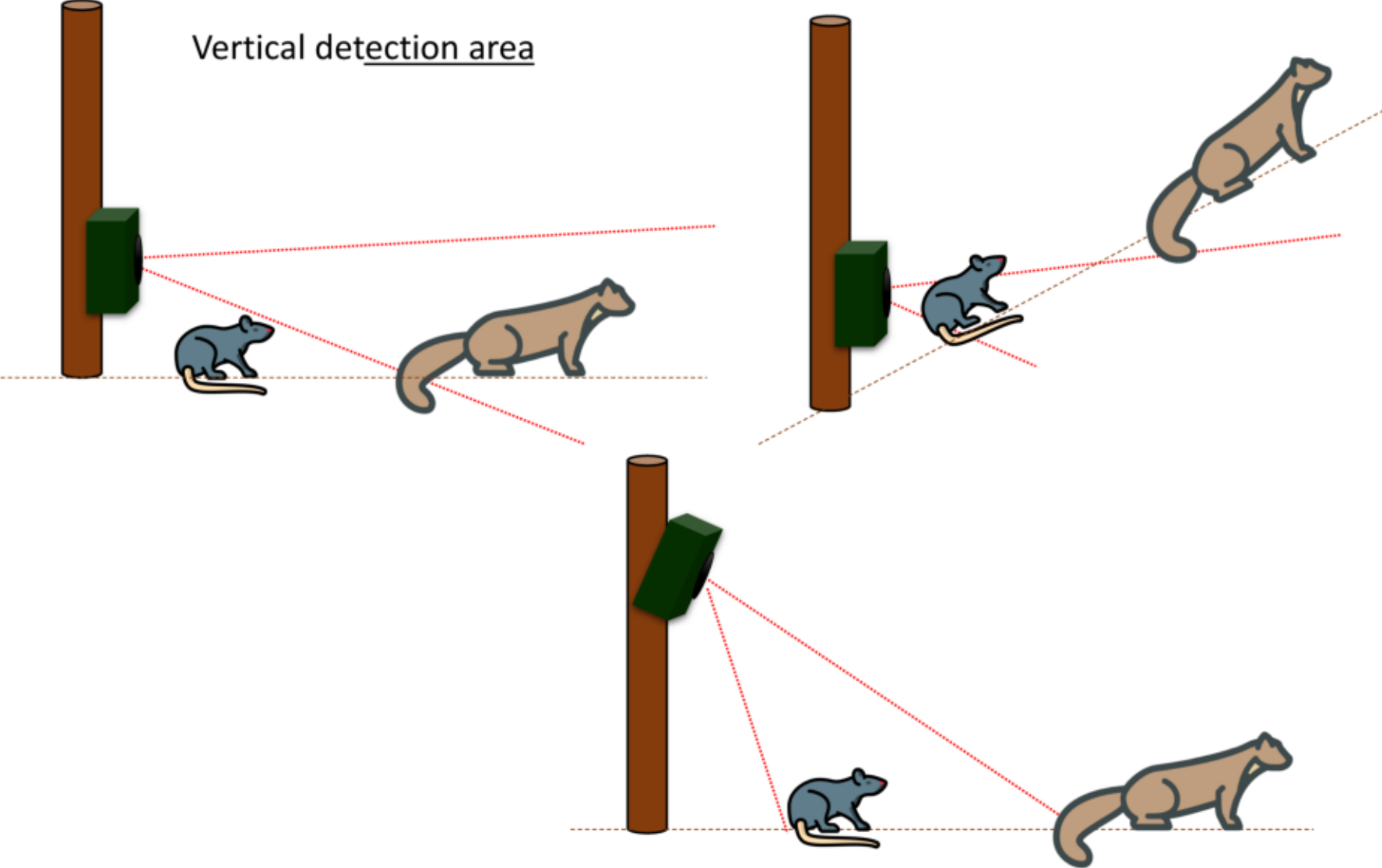
# How Camera Trap Work

Model	Detection width @ 9.1m	Detection angle	Field of view (FOV) width	FOV angle	Detection range	Detection zone area m <sup>2</sup>
Reconyx HC500	6.7	40°	6.7	40°	30.5	324.1
Bushnell Trophy Cam	14.3	75°	7.0	42°	15.8	164.3
Scoutguard SG550	7.3	44°	7.3	44°	15.2	89.1
Leaf River IR-5	6.4	37°	6.1	36°	17.7	100.9
Scoutguard SG580M	7.6	45°	7.3	44°	11.6	52.7
Scoutguard SG565	11.3	53°	7.6	45°	9.1	38.6
Moultrie I65	6.1	36°	5.8	35°	10.7	35.8
Moultrie I35	6.7	40°	6.7	40°	9.4	31.1
Recon Viper	2.4	15°	6.1	36°	11.0	15.8
Cuddeback Capture IR	2.1	14°	6.7	40°	11.0	14.7
Predator Traileye IR	7.6	45°	7.3	44°	14.9	87.5
Stealth Cam Unit	11.6	63°	7.0	42°	11.6	73.7
Wildgame Innovations X6C	9.8	56°	7.0	42°	16.2	127.5
Uway Nighttrakker NT50	11.0	62°	7.0	42°	13.7	101.7
Primos Truth Cam X	11.3	53°	7.0	42°	13.7	87.0
Spypoint IR-8	8.5	50°	6.4	37°	13.7	82.0
Primos Truth Cam 60	2.4	15°	7.6	45°	21.0	57.9



# How Camera Trap Work

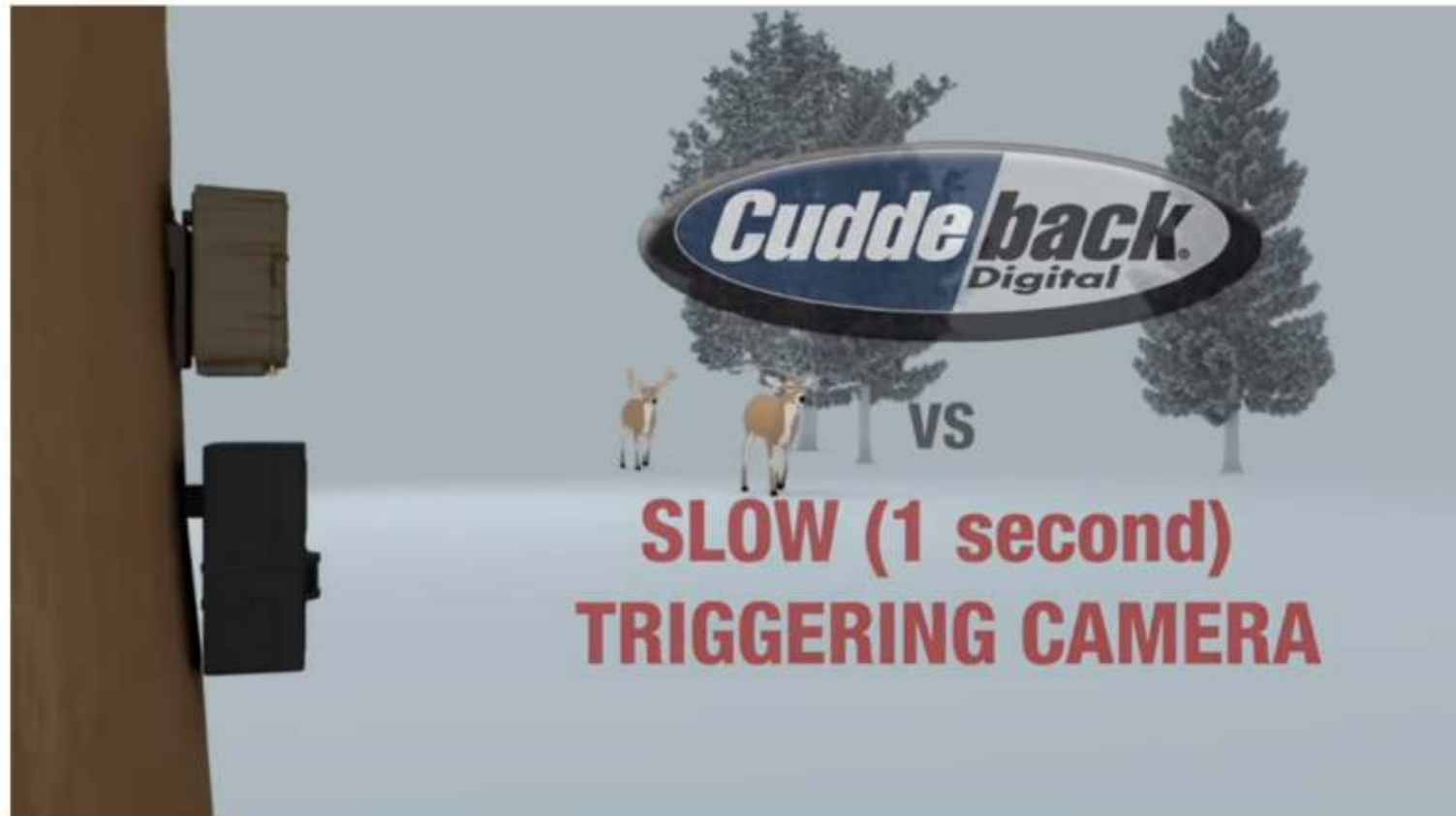
Vertical detection area



## Trigger speed o Trigger time

A speed shot is considered  $< 1$  s high probability of animal detection

One of the most important and critical camera function



# How Camera Trap Work – Trigger speed

Here you can see the *trigger speed problem*  
*Model with trigger speed at 1 s for video shot*





# How Camera Trap Work – Trigger speed

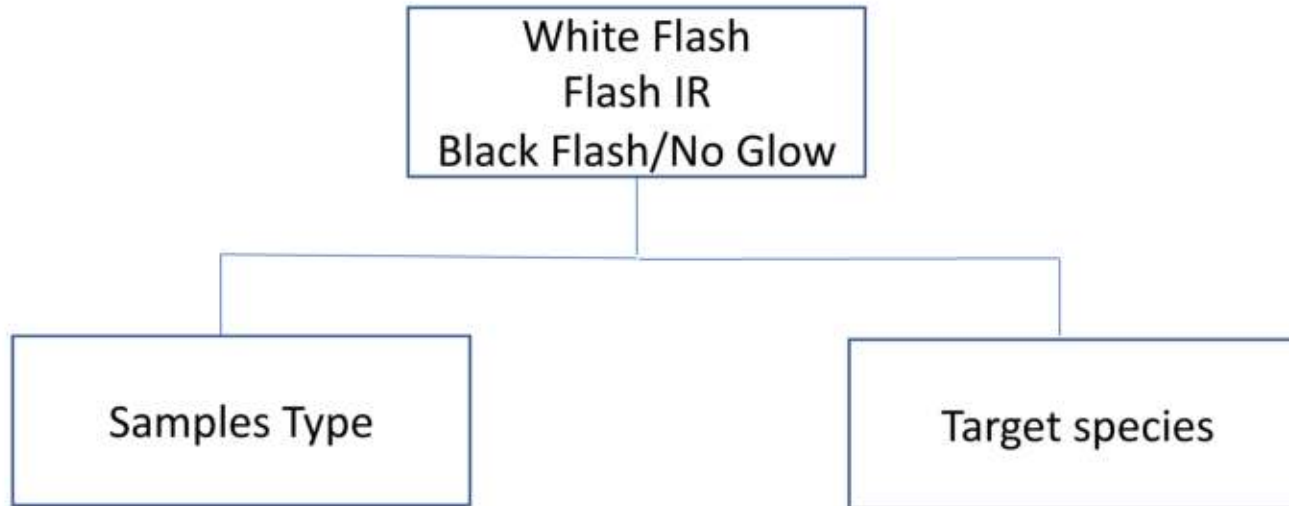
Camera Type	Picture		Video		Price
	Trigger	Recovery	Trigger	Recovery	
<b>RECONYX MR5</b>	0.22 s	1.9 s	0.29 s	6.8 s	499.95
<b>RECONYX MS8</b>	0.22 s	1.7 s	0.31 s	7.1 s	599.95
<b>BROWNING STRIKE FORCE PRO</b>	0.3 s	1.2 s	0.44 s	1.8 s	159.95
<b>BROWNING SPEC OPS EXTREME</b>	0.41 s	0.8 s	0.52 s	0.8 s	179.95
<b>BROWNING RECON FORCE EXTREME</b>	0.43 s	0.8 s	0.52 s	0.8 s	189.95
<b>SPYPOINT FORCE 11D</b>	0.05 s	0.50 s	0.58 s	0.7 s	149.95
<b>BROWNING DEFENDER 850</b>	0.48 s	0.8 s	0.6 s	0.7 s	229.95
<b>BUSHNELL AGGRESSOR TROPHY CAM NO GLOW</b>	0.15 s	0.69 s	0.72 s	1.8 s	199.95

# How Camera Trap Work

**Table 4.** The average detection times from first detection to first image of 21 camera trap models (data courtesy of TrailcamPro).

Model	Average Time
Reconyx HC500	0.197 s
Reconyx HC600	0.203 s
Leupold RCX-1	0.937 s
Leupold RCX-2	0.963 s
Spypoint IR-8	1.133 s
Bushnell Trophy Cam Black Flash	1.300 s
Bushnell Trophy Cam	1.344 s
Wildview Extreme 5	1.377 s
Scoutguard SG580M	1.449 s
Primos Truth Cam 35	1.557 s
Uway NightXplorer NX50	1.567 s
Moultrie M-80	1.581 s
Moultrie M-100	1.648 s
Stealth Cam Archer's Choice	1.760 s
Scoutguard SG565	1.858 s
Stealth Cam Unit	2.165 s
Bushnell Trophy Cam Black Flash XLT	2.438 s
Stealth Cam Sniper Pro	2.607 s
Moultrie D55 Incandescent	2.674 s
Moultrie D55 IR	2.681 s
Stealth Cam Rogue IR	4.206 s

# How Camera Trap Work - Flash



STROBE FLASH  
BRIGHT WHITE FLASH WHEN ACTIVATED AT NIGHT



INFRARED or RED GLOW FLASH  
VISIBLE RED GLOW WHEN ACTIVATED AT NIGHT



BLACK FLASH or NO GLOW  
NO RED GLOW WHEN ACTIVATED AT NIGHT





## White Flash



## Flash IR Low Glow



# How Camera Trap Work - Flash

## Flash IR No Glow





# How Camera Trap Work - Flash

## Flash IR No Glow



## Batteries



ALKALINE AA CELL  
ALKALINE D CELL

Lower cost.  
Easy to find all over the world.  
The voltage starts with 1.6 V but it decrease almost immediately.  
Battery life is affected by temperature.  
At 0°C battery life is reduced at half the time



LITHIUM AA CELL

Higher cost  
Longer life  
Hold the voltage 1.8 V very well



RECHARGEABLE  
LI-ION AA CELL

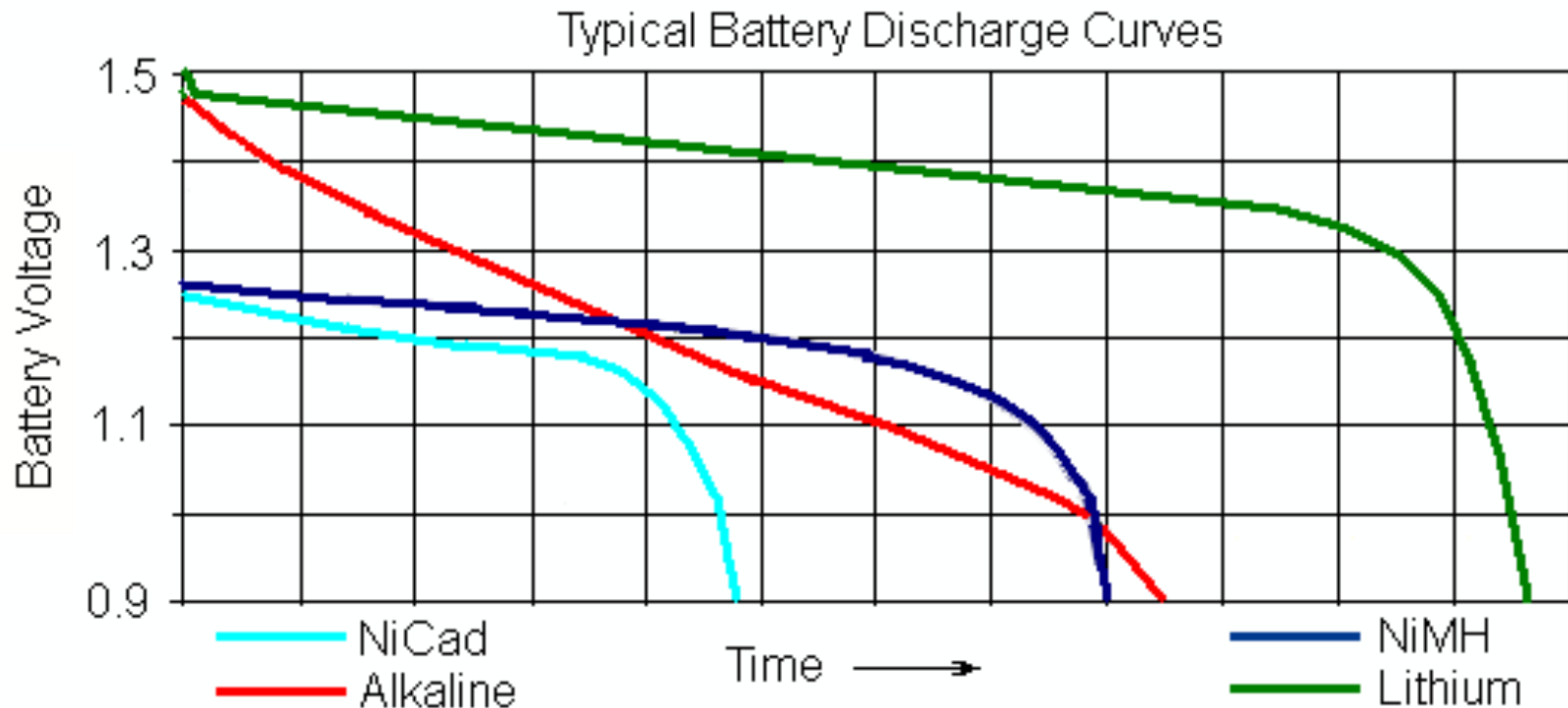
Higher Cost.  
Good life  
Very recently not easy to find  
Hold the voltage very well  
Ecological

# How Camera Trap Work - Batteries



RICARICARIBILI Ni-MI  
AA CELL

The most used rechargeable batteries.  
Low battery life





# How Camera Trap Work

Some early studies suggested that camera-trapping can be an optimal method in the case of otter



EURASIAN  
OTTER  
WORKSHOP  
26-28 February 2021



**Thank You**