

COMPARISON OF RANGING BEHAVIOR BETWEEN WILD BONOBOES AND CHIMPANZEES

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In this study, we compared the ranging patterns of wild bonobos at Wamba, DR. Congo and wild chimpanzees in the Kalinzu Forest, Uganda. We recorded their ranging patterns using GPS and 1-hour party size (Hashimoto, et al. 1998) for both groups using the same methodology. We found that both males and females of the two species used almost the whole home range, which is compatible with the "bisexually bonded model" (Wrangham, 1979; Boesch 1991). However, there were some marked differences in party size/composition and ranging pattern between bonobos and chimpanzees. Bonobos tended to forage in mixed parties, which were comprised of males and females, and therefore there was no clear sex difference in ranging pattern. On the other hand, chimpanzees tended to forage in smaller parties, and they showed marked sex differences. Male chimpanzees tended to travel in parties that comprised males and estrous females, if any. They ranged longer distances per day, and used the whole home range. Female chimpanzees tended to forage alone or in mother-infant parties when they were anestrous. Day range was shorter for females and each female tended to use a specific area within the home range intensively though those areas largely overlapped with those of other females. We will examine causes for such differences between bonobos and chimpanzees, with reference to social relations of both species.

Keywords: bonobo, chimpanzee, ranging, party size