

Behavioral Ecology and Conservation Biology: People's Reshaping of the Link Prof. Daniel I. Rubenstein

Department of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, Princeton
University, USA

15/12/2020, **16:00**, at your nearest available Zoom machine

David Saltz's impact on conservation has been great. He has been a leading champion of using fundamental ecological, physiological and behavioral insights to identify causes that put species at risk and then actions that can bring them back from the edge. David often focuses on issues associated with movements or demography and assesses their impacts by using theory or data gathered from field work. While David has worked on many species and systems, ungulates, even equids, have been implicated. In this seminar I will examine the plight of the endangered Grevy's zebra, a species David has not studied, but which is a close relative of the Onager, and the Mt. zebra which David has worked on. As David would do, I'll first provide a basic understanding of the species' biology, also identifying the human threats that have drastically reduced Grevy's zebra numbers. Then I will turn to showing that there are 'silver linings' to these human actions, that if harnessed appropriately, can enable the species to make a comeback.

