We thank the College of Computer, Mathematical and Natural Sciences for financial and logistical support.

**JUSTIN L. LEE** (e-mail: justinllee@verizon.net) and **BRETTON W. KENT**, College of Computer, Mathematical and Natural Sciences, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland 20740, USA (e-mail: bkent@umd.edu).

OEDIPINA TOMASI (El Cusuco Worm Salamander). PREDA-

**TION.** *Oedipina tomasi* (Plethodontidae), is an enigmatic, critically endangered worm salamander endemic to the protected cloud forest of Cusuco National Park (CNP), located in the departments of Cortes and Santa Barbara in northwest Honduras. *Oedipina tomasi* is a species of conservation concern due to the presence of *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis* (chytrid fungus) in the type locality (Kolby et al. 2010. Dis. Aquat. Org. 92:245–251) and encroaching deforestation (R. Barker and H. Hoskins, pers. comm.). Due to its fossorial tendencies, *O. tomasi* has proved difficult to study and as such, little is known about its natural history and ecology, including predators. Here we report a novel predation event on an adult *O. tomasi* by *Rhadinella montecristi* (Monte Cristi Graceful Brown Snake; Dipsadidae).

This observation was made at 1145 h on 17 June 2018 close to Cantiles Camp in CNP (15.51052°N, 088.23748°W; WGS 84; 1935 m elev.). On initial observation the individual *O. tomasi* was found, still alive, grasped by the back of the head by an adult *R. montecristi*. After approximately one minute of writhing, the salamander became unresponsive and limp. Approximately three and a half minutes after the initial encounter, the snake took the salamander out of view. A video recording documents this encounter and can be found at https://www.youtube.com/ watch?v=S3faj3pS5j0.

To the best of our knowledge, this is the first documented species interaction involving either *R. montecristi* or *O. tomasi*. Over 14 years of annual herpetological surveying completed by Operation Wallacea in CNP, we have obtained five confirmed records of *R. montecristi*, and 24 of *O. tomasi*. As the behavior and natural history for both species remains poorly known, we believe this observation provides valuable information on both the diet of *R. montecristi* and the predators of *O. tomasi* in CNP.

We thank Operation Wallacea and the Instituto de



FIG. 1. Still image extracted from a video of the predation event: *Rhadinella montecristi* grasping *Oedipina tomasi* behind the head as it becomes limp and unresponsive, from Cusuco National Park, Honduras.

Conservación Forestal for the continued logistical support for all our herpetological research in CNP.

GEORGE LONSDALE, Cusuco Forest Ecology Research Network, Cusuco National Park, Honduras (e-mail: georgelonsdale1@gmail.com); JOHN-DAVID CURLIS, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109, USA; CHRISTOPHER PHIPPS, Department of Human and Life Sciences, Canterbury Christ Church University, Canterbury, UK; TOM BROWN, Kanahau Utila Research and Conservation Facility, Island of Utila, Honduras; THOMAS MARTIN, Operation Wallacea, Wallace House, Old Bolingbroke, UK.

**PLETHODON LARSELLI** (Larch Mountain Salamander). **HABI-TAT USE**. *Plethodon larselli* is endemic to Oregon and Washington, USA, and is associated with sloped talus fields. This species is protected in Washington where it is a Sensitive Species. A primary threat to the species is the ongoing human-caused loss or degradation of the limited extent of talus slope habitat available within its range (Herrington and Larsen 1985. Biol. Conserv. 34:169–179). Here we report on a population of *P. larselli* that occupies a human-created talus slope and demonstrates an initial response to quickly reoccupy habitat following disturbance. Observations reported here indicate a broader tolerance of the species for disturbed and artificially created habitat than previously reported in the literature and suggest that artificial talus slope creation could provide a valid habitat restoration opportunity for this species.

The Yale Dam is an earthen-type hydroelectric dam that was constructed in 1953 on the Lewis River in Washington (45.96430°N, 122.33471°W; WGS 84; 128 m elev.). Basalt rock ranging in size from large boulders to sand comprises the dam face, creating habitat similar to nearby naturally occurring talus slopes in composition and structure. Plethodon larselli were detected on the dam face as early as 2008 (Crisafulli et al. 2008. Conservation Assessment for the Larch Mountain Salamander [Plethodon larselli]. Version 1.0. October 28, 2008. USDA Forest Service Region 6 and USDI Bureau of Land Management Interagency Special Status and Sensitive Species Program). During the winter of 2015 to 2016, the dam operator completed a project that disturbed areas of the talus on the dam face. The operator installed an access path and equipment pads on the dam face that were constructed by cutting and filling the new surfaces with basalt rocks from the dam face. Prior to construction, P. larselli were relocated from the area of disturbance to another location on the dam face. Following construction, disturbed sites were re-surveyed to detect re-occupation of the site by P. larselli. Surveys were completed only when environmental conditions were conducive to P. larselli activity following the environmental conditions prescribed in the species' survey protocol (Crisafulli 1999. In Olson [ed.], Survey Protocols for Amphibians under the Survey & Manage Provision of the Northwest Forest Plan, pp. 253-310. Interagency Publ. of the REO, Portland, Oregon, BLM Publ. BLM/OR/WA/PT-00/033+1792, U.S. GPO: 2000-589-124/04022 Region No. 10). We detected P. larselli within the disturbed areas within three months of the project's completion (3 and 5 individuals observed during two post-construction surveys). This observation demonstrates that the species can rapidly recolonize disturbed talus and suggests that created talus slope habitat proximal to occupied habitat could offer a habitat restoration opportunity for the species. Further research is needed to determine the extent and long-term success of this apparent rapid reoccupation by P. larselli.

WENDY H. WENTE, Mason, Bruce & Girard, Inc., 707 SW Washington St. Suite 1300, Portland, Oregon 97205, USA (e-mail: wwente@masonbruce.