

The Little Things that Run the Savanna: How ecological interactions create spatial patterning and why it matters for communities and ecosystems



Many natural ecological communities show striking spatial patterning at large and small scales, but the importance of such patterns for ecological processes has received relatively little attention. I will discuss research conducted in central Kenya in which I seek to understand how spatial patterning arises and when and why it exerts important influences on multiple aspects of this ecological system. As this research shows, the inconspicuous activities of termites in this system are a key driver of many aspects of savanna ecology



Dr. Daniel Doak

Department of Environmental Studies
University of Colorado, Boulder