Ecography

ECOG-00496
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Supplementary material

Appendix 1.

Table A1. To support the rationale for using 3% as the inflection point of the rank abundance curve to demarcate rarity, below is a summary of a sensitivity analysis where the analysis for detritivores was run using a rarity cutoff of 1%, 2%, 3%, 5% and 10%. As the rarity criterion increases, γ-diversity goes down for common assemblages and up for rare assemblages, but the pattern in partitioning does **not** change. This suggests that the 3% cutoff was (1) appropriate as it was the inflection point of the rank-abundance curve, and (2) robust in that its choice did not influence the outcome of the study.

			Diversity Component		
Rarity level	**HW/MS**	**Common/Rare**	**α**	**β**	**γ**
1%	HW	C	2.160	3.792	8.087
		R	1.035	4.078	4.220
	MS	C	2.177	2.693	5.914
		R	1.022	2.600	2.668
2%	HW	C	2.067	3.633	7.420
		R	1.076	5.280	5.669
	MS	C	2.115	2.659	5.667
		R	1.047	3.470	3.637
3% (used here)	**HW**	**C**	**2.011**	**3.551**	**7.057**
		R	**1.109**	**6.244**	**6.908**
	MS	**C**	**2.024**	**2.601**	**5.287**
		R	**1.085**	**4.166**	**4.548**
5%	HW	C	1.879	3.278	6.137
		R	1.219	6.517	7.926
	MS	C	1.884	2.506	4.753
		R	1.177	4.756	5.614
10%	HW	C	1.666	2.878	4.839
		R	1.414	6.813	9.600
	MS	C	1.664	2.311	3.908
		R	1.396	4.930	6.716