**Supplementary Material**

Distance to international border shapes the distribution pattern of the growing Little Bustard *Tetrax tetrax* winter population in Northern Iran

MASOUD YOUSEFI, ANOOSHE KAFASH, SHIMA MALAKOUTIKHAHH, ABBAS ASHOORI, ALI KHANIl, YOUSEFI MEHDIZADE, FARHAD ATAEI, SAYYAD SHEYKHI, HAMID REZA REZAEI, JOAO PAULI SILVA

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Appendix S1. Relative contribution of each environmental variable in the Little Bustard distribution model

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| **Percent contribution** | | **Description** | | **Variable** | |
| 15.2 | | Altitude: Elevation above sea level | | **Topographic** | |
| 6.7 | | Slope steepness | |  | |
| 25.8 | | Agricultural land with two categories (irrigated and non-irrigated) and rangeland with three categories (range type 1 (rangelands with more than 50 percent canopy cover), range type 2 (rangelands with 25-50 percent canopy cover) and range type 3 (rangelands with 5-25 percent canopy cover)) | | **Land** **cover** | |
| 4.3 | | Annual precipitation | | **Climatic** | |
| 3.4 | | Minimum Temperature of Coldest Month | |  | |
| 44.6 | | Euclidian distance of each grid in the study area to Iran international border | | **Distance to border** | |

Response curves showing how the presence of the Little Bustard in Iran is affected by the most important determinant of Little Bustard distribution. Range type 1 (rangelands with more than 50 percent canopy cover), range type 2 (rangelands with 25-50 percent canopy cover) and range type 3 (rangelands with 5-25 percent canopy cover). Minimum temperature of coldest month (Scaling factor: 10).

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