Oscaecilia osae. **Predation and Habitat.** Caecilians generally are difficult to find and their biology remains largely unknown. Most species are fossorial, and often live in moist soils adjacent to streams, lakes, and swamps (Zug. et al., 2001). The distribution of the genus *Oscaecilia* extends from southwestern Costa Rica to northern Colombia, western Ecuador, and east of the Andes in Guyana, Brazil, and Peru (Lahanas and Savage, 1992). *Oscaecilia osae*, the northernmost member of the genus, is endemic to Costa Rica and its distribution is restricted to Lowland Wet Forest in the Península de Osa, Provincia de Puntarenas, at elevations from near sea level to 40 m (Savage, 2002); outside of the peninsula, Hödl (2005) recorded this species at Estación Biológica La Gamba, but did not provide an elevation. The Esquinas Rainforest Lodge at La Gamba, however, lies at an elevation of 240 m.

In caecilians, the inner layer of skin contains numerous mucous glands, as well as poison glands that can be toxic to predators, including humans (Wake, 1986). Thus, although few predators are known to feed on caecilians, Taylor (1968) indicated that snakes and carnivorous birds undoubtedly are their most active predators.Neotropical coralsnakes (genus *Micrurus*) are the most commonly reported snakes to include caecilians in their diet (Gower et al. 2004). Eleven species of coralsnakes have been reported to feed on caecilians, including two species of *Oscaecilia* (Roze 1996; Campbell and Lamar, 2004; Huertas and Solórzano, 2014). Herein, we report an incident of a White-nosed Coati (*Nasua narica*) preying on an individual of *O. osae*.

On 29 July 2014, at 1050 h, one of us (RNE) observed a group of *N. narica* walking along the beach at Playa San Pedrillo, Corcovado National Park, Peninsula de Osa, patrolling the beach as these procyonids often do while searching for sea turtle eggs. One of the coatis suddenly started digging in sand near the forest edge, and exposed a caecilian (Fig. 1-A). The coati chewed on the caecilian (Fig. 1-B) before running away with it (Fig 1-C), and then stopped to stretch it, presumably to make sure it was dead. At that point the coati chewed along the body of the caecilian before ingesting it (Fig. 2); the chewing and feeding process lasted less than 1 min. Soon after, RNE examined the location where the coati dug up the caecilian. The hole was ca. 40 cm deep and in sand, suggesting that in

Fig. 1. (A) A White-nosed Coati (*Nasua narica*) sniffing and digging in sand near the forest edge in search of food; (B) the coati finds a caecilian (*Oscaecilia osae*) and begins to bite it; and (C, D) the coati runs away with the caecilian, and stops to stretch its body. © Raby Nuñez Escalante

addition to inhabiting soils in forest, *O. osae* also occupies sandy substrates.

About a week after this incident, RN observed another coati eating an *O. osae*, but this time the location was within the forest, ca. 150 m from the beach.

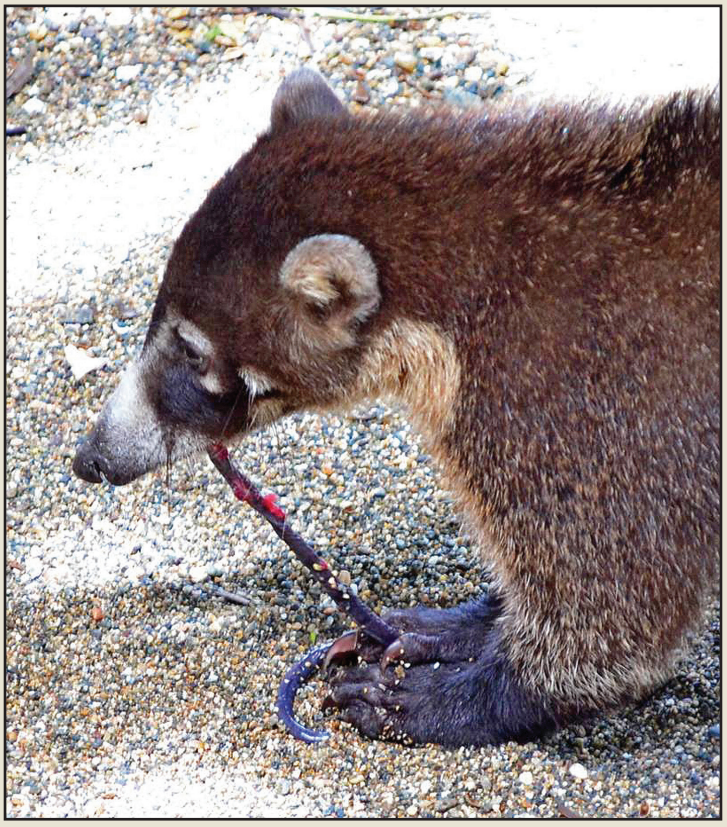

Fig. 2. Close up of a coati chewing on the caecilian's body before ingesting it. © Raby Nuñez Escalante

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