


Lab the lesson of the kaibab answers

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Shannan Muskopf May 6, 2018 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

The carrying capacity of an ecosystem is the maximum number of organisms that an area can support on a sustained basis. The density of a population can cause such profound changes in the environment that the environment becomes unsuitable for the survival of the species concerned. For example, overgrazing of land may render the soil unable to support the grazing of animals that lived there. Goal: Graph data on kaibab deer population Arizona from 1905 to 1939 Determine factors responsible for the changing populations Determine the carrying capacity of Kaibab Plateau Background Before 1905, deer on the Kaibab Plateau were estimated at number around 4000. The average carrying capacity for the area was then estimated at about 30,000 deer. On November 16, 1906, President Theodore Roosevelt created the Grand Canyon National Game Preserve to protect the finest deer in America. Unfortunately, by this time the Kaibab forest area had already been overgrated by sheep, cattle and horses. Most of the tall grasses had been eliminated. The first step to protecting deer was to ban all hunting. In 1907, the Forest Service also tried to eradicate the deer's predators. Between 1907 and 1939, 816 pumas, 20 wolves, 7388 coyotes and more than 500 bobcats were killed. Signs that the deer population was out of control began to emerge as early as 1920 - the area had begun to deteriorate rapidly. The Forest Service reduced the number of permits for grazing livestock. In 1923, deer were reported to be on the brink of starvation and area conditions were described as deplorable. Kaibab Deer Of Inquiry recommended that all livestock not owned by local residents be removed immediately from the area and that the number of deer be cut in half as soon as possible. The hunt was reopened and in the autumn of 1924 675 deer were killed by hunters. But these deer represented only a tenth of the number of deer that had been born that spring. Over the next two winters, it is estimated that 60,000 deer starved to death. Today, the Arizona Game Commission carefully manages the Kaibab area with rules targeting specific local needs. Hunting permits are issued to keep the deer in balance with their range. Predators are protected to help keep getting in balance with food supplies. Tragic winter losses can be controlled by keeping the number of deer near the transport capacity in the area. 1. Graph deer population data. Place time on the X axis and number of deer on the Y-axis DATA TABLE Year Deer Population 1905 4,000 1910 9,000 1915 25,000 1920 65,000 1924 100,000 1925 1926 40,000 1927 37,000 1928 35,000 1929 30,000 1930 25,000 1931 20,000 1935 18,000 1939 10,000 1. What two methods did the Forest Service use in 1906 and 1907 to protect the Kaibab deer? 2. Were these methods successful? Use the data from your graph to support your response. 3. Why do you think the population of deer fell in 1925, even though the elimination of predators took place? 4. Why do you think that deer population size in 1900 was 4,000 when it is estimated that the plateau has a carrying capacity of 30,000? 5. Based on these experiences, suggest what you would have done in the following years to manage deer herds. 1915: 1926: 6. It is a criticism of many population searchers that the pattern of population growth and subsequent breakdowns of the deer population would have occurred even if the bounty had not been placed on predators. Do you agree or disagree with this statement. Explain your reasoning. 7. What future management plans would you propose for Kaibab deer herd? Crew?

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