#### TOPIC 1. SUSTAINED YIELD

The concept of sustained yield is fundamental to the management of wild ruminant populations. This is a goal to be reached. Some populations have been decimated to the point where sustained yeilds could only be reached after population recovery. Bison are an example of this; the total number of plains bison was but a tiny fraction of their numbers just a few years earlier at one time in their history. Protection allowed for both annual and long-term increases resulting in the build-up of bison herds to levels where sustained yields are now possible, with an annual surplus even.

Sustained yield becomes possible when the population is large enough to buffer short-term effects, but not so large that population crashes occur. Sustained yields are best met when populations have access to adequate supplies of forage and suitable cover throughout the year. The resulting health animals are less subject to diseases than undernourished ones, and well-fed animals that are comparatively free of diseases have good reproductive rates. Thus, sustained yield is first a function of adequate resources and second a function of appropriate harvest levels.

Two time frames are discussed in the next two UNITS; annual production (UNIT 1.1) and long-term production (UNIT 1.2).

# UNIT 1.1: ANNUAL PRODUCTION

Maintenance of a stable annual production rate is essential for sustained yields in wild ruminant populations. Considering number alone, the number of births and the number of deaths in a population are equal. This is desirable when the numbers are in balance with the range resources. If the number present is less than the range resources could support, annual production should be positive. If the number present is more than the range resources could support, annual production should be negative.

The balance between natality and mortality rates that result in a stable population may be determined with population prediction techniques described in PART VI, CHAPTER 19, TOPIC 4. Since management can do little in a direct way about natality rates, they are accepted as a biological given and mortality rates are left to be controlled. Mortality rates may be controlled directly by hunting only; all other causes of mortality are under indirect or no control. Car kills, for example, are accepted as facts by states with high deer population, but no state advocates a higher car kill in order to increase total mortality to bring a population down to levels in line with range resources. Indeed, the opposite is usually done. High winter mortality due to excessive numbers of deer concentrated on too small a forage base often results in attempts to feed the starving deer in order lto reduce mortality. If there are too many deer already, the problem is only compounded if the feeding program is successful. The alternative is to provide adequate harvests in order to prevent excessive winter concentraion areas, resulting in fewer but healthier deer. The reproductive rate is indirectly affected too, as it is higher for healthy animals with higher body weights living on good range compared to those on poor range.

The rapidity with which wild ruminant populations grow is indicated by the successful reintroduction of 21 mountain goats in the Crazy Mountains of Montana in 1941 and 1943 (Lentfer 1955). Ten years later, the population was at least 278, a 13-fold increase, and the annual increase was equal to about one-third of the population. This high growth rate occurred even though the females were not breeding until they were 2 1/2 years old. Such a net rate of annual production must lsoon result in more animals than the forage base could support.

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CODEN VO-NU BEPA ENPA ANIM KEY WORDS------ AUTHORS------ YEAR CAFGA 34--1 25 32 odhe breed season, produ, calif chatlin,je 1948 JWMAA 13--4 417 419 odhe ovca, competition, harvest halloran,af; kenn 1949 NAWTA 9---- 156 161 odhe productivity, central utah robinette,w1; ols 1944

CODEN VO-NU BEPA ENPA ANIM KEY WORDS------ AUTHORS------ YEARJFUSA 69-10 736 740 ceel game prod, harvst in czech reynolds, hg1971NAWTA 23--- 491 500 ceel elk & elk hunting in idaho mohler, 11; dalke/ 19581952

CODEN VO-NU BEPA ENPA ANIM KEY WORDS----- AUTHORS----- YEAR NCANA 101-3 631 642 alal harvestng program in canad ritcey, rw 1974 NCANA 101-3 689 704 ala1 controlled hunts in quebec bouchard, r; moisa 1974 CODEN VO-NU BEPA ENPA ANIM KEY WORDS----- AUTHORS----- YEAR JWMAA 35--1 71 75 rata hunt stags in newfoundland bergerud, at 1971 WMBAA 10--- 1 275 rata prelim invest, barren-gr c banfield, awf 1954 WMBBA 10--- 1 112 rata life history, ecol, utiliz banfield, awf 1954 CODEN VO-NU BEPA ENPA ANIM KEY WORDS----- AUTHORS----- YEAR anam CODEN VO-NU BEPA ENPA ANIM KEY WORDS----- AUTHORS---- YEAR bibi CODEN VO-NU BEPA ENPA ANIM KEY WORDS----- AUTHORS----- YEAR ovca CODEN VO-NU BEPA ENPA ANIM KEY WORDS----- AUTHORS---- YEAR ovda CODEN VO-NU BEPA ENPA ANIM KEY WORDS----- AUTHORS----- YEAR obmo CODEN VO-NU BEPA ENPA ANIM KEY WORDS----- AUTHORS----- YEAR 1955 JWMAA 19--4 417 429 oram 2-yr stud, crazy mts, mont lentfer, jw

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Chapter 2

# CHAPTER 22, WORK SHEET 1.1a

# Annual production in relation to variable mortality

Review the arithmetic and exponential population prediction methods described in PART VI, CHAPTER 19, TOPIC 4 and use them in the space below to illustrate the effects of different levels of hunting mortality, winter mortality, and other factors affecting production from one year to the next. In other words, the years ahead with which you wish to predict the number of animals in the population is one (YAPN = 1) in these examples.

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# UNIT 1.2: LONG-TERM PRODUCTION

Long-term production of wild ruminant populations is maintained by providing adequate range resources. Adequate range resources are provided by the control of animal numbers so plant vigor, primary production, and the floral composition of the range are maintained. Range composition is affected by both the pressure of herbivores foraging and natural succession. Too much foraging pressure results in fewere forage species. Light foraging pressure does not arrest natural succession. In forested areas of the Northeast and the Lake States, succession results in the closing of the forest cnopy, reducing forage available to deer. This results in a switch from abundant summer forage and very productive deer populations to a shortage of summer forage and less productive deer populations in Wisconsin (McCaffery and Creed 1969?).

It may seem a paradox to some, but long-term production of wild ruminants depends on the removal of the number of animals that are surplus in relation to forage resources and breeding potential. One reason it may be hard for some people to understand that apparent paradox is that protection from hunting has resulted in some dramatic success stories. Bison, for example, were nearly extinct. Protection from hunting resulted in the recovery of populations. Pronghorn have a similar history. Even white-tailed deer, a very abundant species now, has benefited by protection from hunting many decades ago.

The point to remember concerning the above success stories is that the populations were decimated by over-hunting, not regulated hunting. Bison were killed for their hides and their tongues, with no restrictions on the numbers killed. Being an animal of the plains, they could be seen from a distance and killed with relatively little effort. Remnant populations survived in the less accessible areas.

The basic concept of long-term production of wild ruminants includes several significant factors. They are adequate annual forage production that can be removed without reducing plant vigor, the metabolic energy in the forage, the metabolic requirements of the animals, and the reproductive and mortality rates of the animals. When these are all in balance, the productivity will be maintained on an energy base.

A WORKSHEET provides a format for some more practice in calculating of carrying capacity. These calculations were first made in PART VI, CHAPTER 20, after the first five PARTS included discussions and WORKSHEETS for calculating weights, ecological metabolism, forage quality and quantity, and population structures.

This is an opportune time to remind readers that all of these components are discussed in detail in earlier PARTS, and the systematic completion of WORKSHEETS in these PARTS will result in formatted data, using weighted means, that make calculations of carrying capacity very simple.

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CODEN VO-NU BEPA ENPA ANIM KEY WORDS----- AUTHORS----- YEAR AUMGA 54--2 76 odvi key deer: challeng fr past allen, rp 1952 81 CNSVA 17--2 2 4 odvi future for deer in nw york severinghaus, cw 1962 CNSVA 31... 18 odvi philosophy of deer managem severinghaus, cw;/ 1976 19 NFGJA 10--201 B214 odvi trend, distr of legal kill severinghaus, cw;/ 1963 PCGFA 17--- 9 13 odvi the sylamore deer study crawford, hs; leon 1963 TNWSD 1---- 358 364 odvi results of deer management severinghaus, cw 1958 TNWSD 30--- 143 148 odvi mgt implic, huntr attitudes haulsee, hv; bel1/ 1973 VIWIA 7---5 6 .... odvi the white-tailed deer woolley.dj 1946 odvi whitetail makes a comeback engle, jw VIWIA 10-12 18 1949 20 odvi problems of deer herd mgmt engle, jw, jr VIWIA 12--5 22 1951 24 VIWIA 16--9 5-7 22 odvi a report on the glades dee davey, sp 1955

odvi continued on the next page

CODEN VO-NU BEPA ENPA ANIM KEY WORDS----- AUTHORS----- YEAR VIWIA 19-12 8 9 odvi comp indian-killd w/ modrn mcginnes,bs; reev 1958 VIWIA 20--8 5 odvi virginia deer mgmt program davey, sp 7 1959 VJSCA 13--1 1 odvi alleghany county, va, herd giles, rh, jr; gwyn 1962 16 WSCBA 4---2 8 27 odvi the problem of managng dee swift.e 1939 WSCBA 22→-8 6 10 odvi the deer unit, survey, mgt keener, jm; thomps 1957 XENCA 39--- 1 34 odvi in the midwest; a symposiu usda forest servi 1970 XFWWA 112-- 1 odvi sel refs on mgt, 1910-1966 hosley,nw 46 1968

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WGFBA	10	1	184	ceel	lk of jackson hol; studie anders	on,cc 1958	
WLMOA	16	1	49	ceel	tat, ecol roosev elk, cal harper	,ja; harn,/ 1967	
WSCBA	94	6	10	cee1	lsconsin's elk herd reese,	sw 1944	

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rata continued on the next page

CODEN	vo-nu	BEPA	ENPA	ANIM	KEY WORDS		AUTHORS	YEAR
WMBAA	15	1	145	rata	coop studies	of barrn-grnd	kelsall,jp	1960
XIWFA	54	1	93	rata	alaska-yukon	caribou	murie,oj	1935

CODEN VO-NU BEPA ENPA ANIM KEY WORDS----- AUTHORS----- YEAR AMNAA 43--2 257 354 anam life hist, ecol, range use buechner, hk 1950 CAFGA 30--4 221 anam prong-hornd antel in calif mclean,dd 241 1944 JOMAA 25--1 43 46 1944 anam distri & status in montana beer,j JOMAA 38--3 423 423 anam note on the sonoran prnghn halloran, af 1957 NAWTA 1---- 652 anam prng-hrnd antel in the s w taylor, wp 1936 655 NAWTA 3---- 381 387 anam life hist & managmnt, oreg einarsen, as 1938 NMCBA 106-- 1 34 anam the 1945 status in canada rand, al 1947

CODEN VO-NU BEPA ENPA ANIM KEY WORDS----- AUTHORS----- YEAR AIWHA 15--3 112 115 bibi return of the bison 1973 lewis,m AMFOA 50-10 472 475 bibi buffalo, wild or tame? cahalane, vh 1944 ANKIA 60--5 130 134 bibi buffalo returned to plains halloran, af 1957 ECMOA 11--4 347 412 bibi history, range & home life soper,jd 1941 ORYXA 7---6 305 314 bibi canad; save fr extinc, mgt egerton, pjm 1964 PSDAA 41--- 41 43 bibi bison occidentalis, s dako galbreath,ec; ste 1962 TRVIA 108-2 286 304 bibi ecol and mangmnt, amer bis fuller, wa 1961 XFWLA 212-- 1 1942 8 bibi care of buffaloes anonymous

CODEN VO-NU BEPA ENPA ANIM KEY WORDS----- AUTHORS----- YEAR AMNAA 56--2 297 324 ovca ecology of the mountn shee mccann,1j 1956 ANKIA 59--1 2 10 ovca future of the bighorn shee buechner,hk 1956 AUMGA 49--6 332 337 ovca bighorns on the border halloran,af 1947 ovca continued on the next page

CODEN VO-NU BEPA ENPA ANIM KEY WORDS----- AUTHORS----- YEAR IGWBA 1---- 1 154 ovca statu, lif hist, mgt, idah smith,dr 1954 JOMAA 25--4 364 367 ovca hist, statu in s c new mex halloran.af 1944 NAWTA 1---- 641 643 ovca status of sierra bighorn s dixon, js 1936 ovca desert bighorn management halloran,af 1949 NAWTA 14--- 527 536 NPKMA 38--- 10 11 ovca unpredictabl nelson bighor wauer, rh 1964 WLMOA 4---- 1 174 ovca in us; past, presen, futur buechner, hk 1960

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CODEN VO-NU BEPA ENPA ANIM KEY WORDS----- AUTHORS----- YEAR IGWBA 2---- 1 142 oram life hist & mgmnt in idaho brandborg, sm 1955 NAWTA 34--- 409 418 oram the mountain goat in color hibbs,d; glover,/ 1969

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JOMAA	293	300	301	bibo	fur	th note on europ wisent munns,en	1948

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# CHAPTER 12 - WORKSHEET 1.2a

Calculation of energy balances and numbers for long-term production

This simplified WORKSHEET calls attention to the factors needed for calculations of energy balances and numbers for long-term production of wild ruminants.

Answer the following questions by reviewing the TOPICS and UNITS listed from other CHAPTERS, determining the appropriate numbers, and making the appropriate calculations.

Annual forage production? (See PART IV, CHAPTER 13, TOPICS 1 & 2)

Forage available? (See PART IV, CHAPTER 13, TOPICS 1 & 2)

Forage required? (See PART IV, CHAPTER 12, TOPIC 3)

Reproductive and mortality rates? (See PART VI, CHAPTER 19, TOPICS 1 & 2)

Factors affecting population growth? (See PART VI, CHAPTER 19, TOPIC 5)

Combination of natality and mortality required to stablize number? (See PART VI, CHAPTER 19, TOPIC 4)

Need further review of carrying capacity calculations? (See PART VI, CHAPTER 20, TOPIC 1)

The use of weighted mean procedures for calculating diet and population characteristics greatly simplifies the calculations here. Careful attention to and completion of the WORKSHEETS in PARTS I - VI will make the above calculations relatively easy.

# UNIT 1.3: SYMPATRIC USE OF RANGE

The sympatric use of range may be beneficial or detrimental to both animal and range, depending on the stocking levels. Differences in behavior (See PART II) and in food habits (See PART IV) result in different amounts of overlap in the use of space and forage resources. When overlap is great and competition is intense, the sympatric use of range results in deterioraation of the range, loss of condition of the animals competing for limited resources, and drops in productivity.

When ecologically appropriate levels of sympatric use are occurring, more efficient use is made of range resources. Differences in the timing of activities reduce competition for space. Differences in food habits reduce competition for forage. Since light grazing and browsing stimulate forage production, total range production is higher under diversified foraging than single-species foraging.

Sympatric use of the range may result in disease problems. This has been a concern of cattlemen in relation to elk and bison, for example. The literature on parasites and diseases is listed in PART III, CHAPTER 10, TOPIC 1.

The question of whether wild: wild or wild: domestic ruminants compete is not a simple one, nor may it be answered "yes or no." It is another example of a gradient-type question, and must be treated as such if the answers to the question are to be ecologically reasonable.

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HILGA	47	191	247	od	dosh, food relatns, califo longhurst,wm; co/	1979
JFUSA	486	410	415	od	doca, range relations, utah julander, o; robin	1 <b>9</b> 50
JRMGA	24	206	212	od	lvstck wint forag stud,cal dasmann,w	1949
JWMAA	421	101	107	od	forag relns,2 dee spec, tx krausman,pr	1978
UAECA	121	3	17	ođ	deer mgt, range lvstck prod stoddart, la; rasm	1945
. ·						
CODEN	VO-NU	BEPA	ENPA	ANIM	KEY WORDS AUTHORS	YEAR
AMNAA	313	697	743	odvi	rang veg rel to lvstck,tex buechner,hk	1944
JWMAA	323	558	565	odvi	odhe, habitat relns, monta martinka,cj	1968
CODEN	VO-NU	BEPA	ENPA	ANIM	KEY WORDS AUTHORS	YEAR
CGFPA	21	1	20	odhe	doca, sagebr, use wint ran anderson,ae	1969
JWMAA JWMAA	393 134				doca, range relns, prairie dusek,gl lvstck, eff on range, utah smith,ad	1975 1949

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79 odhe ceel, doca, rang ecol, rel mackie, rj

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WLMOA 20--- 1

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CODEN VO-NU BEPA ENPA ANIM KEY WORDS----- AUTHORS----- YEAR

CODEN VO-NU BEPA ENPA ANIM KEY WORDS----- AUTHORS----- YEAR JWMAA 40--1 151 162 obmo rata, summer rng relns,nwt wilkinson,pf; sh/ 1976

CODEN VO-NU BEPA ENPA ANIM KEY WORDS----- AUTHORS----- YEAR

oram

CODEN VO-NU BEPA ENPA ANIM KEY WORDS----- AUTHORS----- YEAR JRMGA 28--1 43 47 many diet overlap, s colorado hansen,rm; reid,1 1975 JRMGA 30--1 17 20 many food rels, red desrt, wyom olsen,fw; hansen, 1977 NAWTA 29--- 404 414 many range rels, summr rng,utah julander,o; jeffe 1964

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