Varying Deer and Elk Population Over the Period of Two Years

Armijo, Marisa (School: West Las Vegas High School)

A weekly count of the number of big game animals observed at a particular location in game unit 2B in Northern New Mexico was carried out in the months from September through December of 2017 and 2018 and it included both individual elk and deer. A total number of 78 elk and 142 deer were seen over the entire time period in 2017 and 2018. This difference can probably be related to climatic variations between two years. A model using Netlogo was developed and used as a visual representation of how these animals migrate between neighboring Colorado and New Mexico, how some die of natural causes, as well as how hunters play a huge part in regulating fame animal populations.

Awards Won: