

FLORIDA PANTHER POPULATION ANALYSIS

Part 1: Panther Population Over Time

First, use data from the table provided to graph the change in panther population since 1900. Then follow the instructions with the remaining graphs to analyze the data further and compare with the Yellowstone wolf population.

Year	1900	1965	1981	1985	1995	2000	2003	2008	2024
Pop (est)	500	20	19	30	25	50	80	118	200

FIG. 1 History of the Florida Panther Population

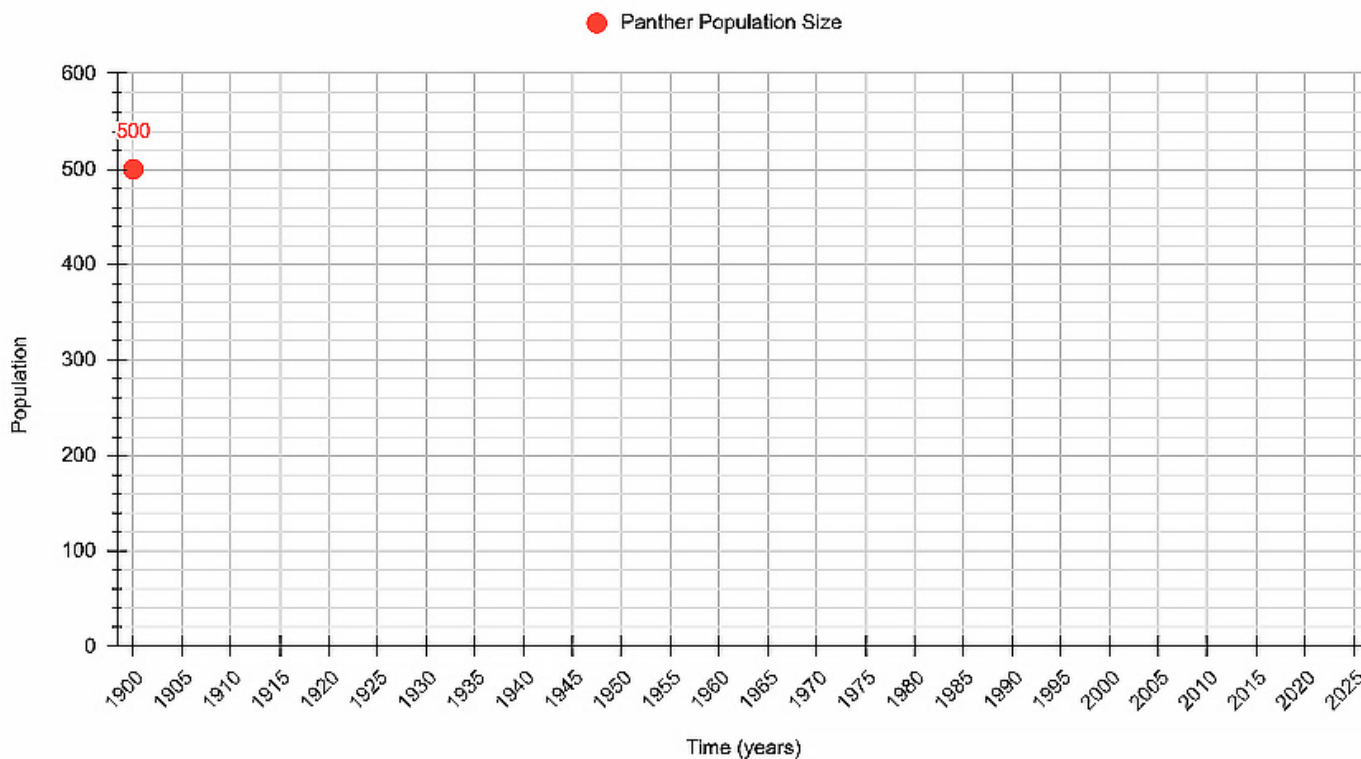
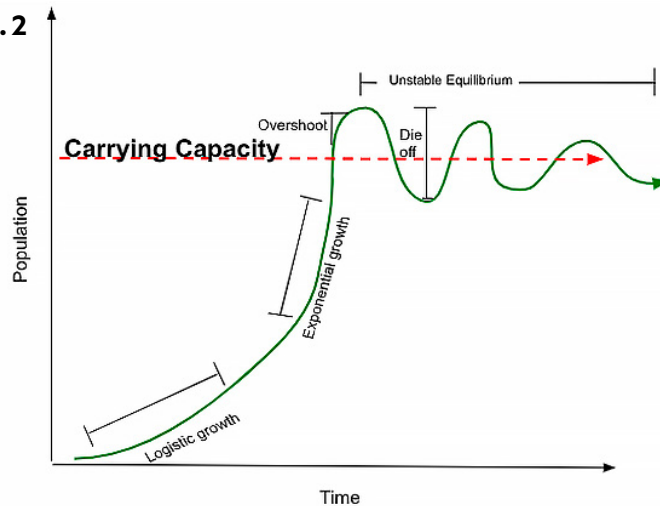


FIG. 2



Compare your panther population graph to this graphic, which shows the carrying capacity of a generic population. Then, answer the questions on the next page.

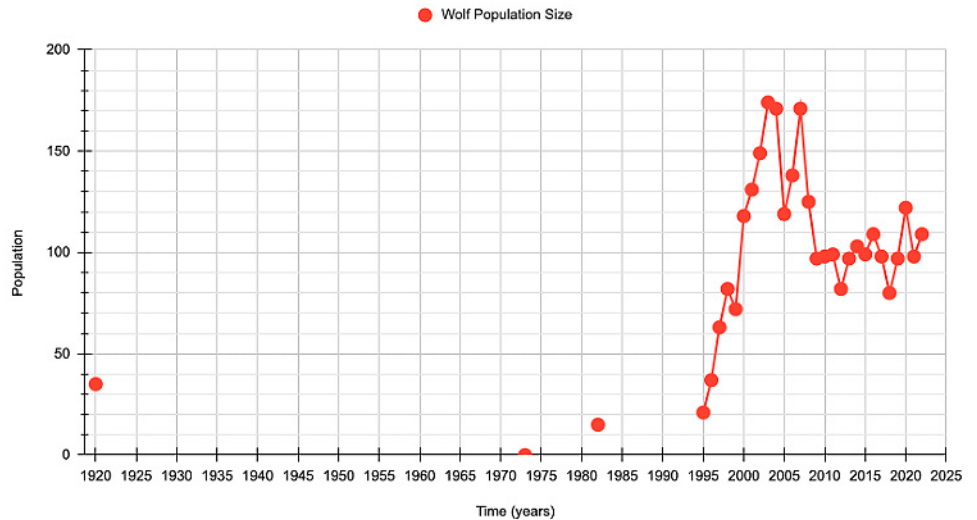


1. Which stage in the graph above do you think the Florida panther population is in at this time? Why?

2. Which significant events in the history of the Florida panther may have influenced its population stage?

Part 2: Compare Wolf and Panther Data

FIG. 3 History of the Wolf Population in Yellowstone National Park



Refer to the panther graph, carrying capacity graph, and the graph at right to help answer the questions:

1. Which stage do you think the gray wolf population in the Yellowstone National Park is currently experiencing (logistic growth, exponential growth, carrying capacity/equilibrium)?

2. **SUPPORT** or **REFUTE** the claim: *The gray wolf in Yellowstone National Park has successfully recovered.*

3. Compare the History of the Florida Panther Population and Carrying Capacity graphs. Do you think the Florida panther population will reach carrying capacity? Support your answer with evidence.

