 **INTERACTIVITY**

**Controlling Invasives**

What are ways to control invasives in an ecosystem?

## Part 1

1. After reading about the habitat, diet, and life cycle of the two frog populations, compare and contrast the two different frogs. Are there any differences that you might be able to use to control the American bullfrog population?

## Part 2

1. The handbook in the interactivity and the table below list possible control methods for the bullfrog in Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge. List the advantages and disadvantages for each method.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Method** | **Advantages** | **Disadvantages** |
| **Gigging** |  |  |
| **Netting/ Trapping** |  |  |
| **Pond Draining** |  |  |
| **Chemical Spray** |  |  |

## Part 3

1. Fill out the table below with the number of fyke nets needed to reduce the American Bullfrog population in each water body to a single bullfrog.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Water bodies** | **Size (m2)** | **Number of Fyke Nets** |
| **Stock Tank** | **1** |  |
| **Small Pond** | **25** |  |
| **Large Pond** | **1000** |  |

# ANALYZE AND CONCLUDE

1. **Construct an Explanation** American alligators, turtles, and belted kingfishers are natural predators of the American bullfrogs. Would you consider introducing any of these predators to the Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge to combat the American bullfrog population? Why or why not.
2. **Evaluate Solutions** It is very difficult to completely eliminate an invasive species. In this example, American bullfrogs from other locations might repopulate the pond and multiple tadpoles might avoid the nets. Describe a long term plan to control the American bullfrog population in the wildlife refuge.

# CONNECT TO THE UNIT PROBLEM

1. **Analyze** Think about the possible solutions you have brainstormed for controlling the invasive in the **Problem Launch**. What advantages and disadvantages does each method have? Organize your methods and describe advantages and disadvantages for each of your methods.