

# Moose on the Move

By Jeff Ives

## 1 Helicopters bring Utah's moose to their new home in Colorado.

2 It's a bird! It's a plane! Wait...it's a moose! Wildlife workers recently  
3 moved 24 moose from Utah to their new home in Colorado. The moose  
4 traveled part of the way hanging from helicopters. The helicopters  
5 safely **transported**, or moved, the animals to trucks for a six-hour  
6 drive.

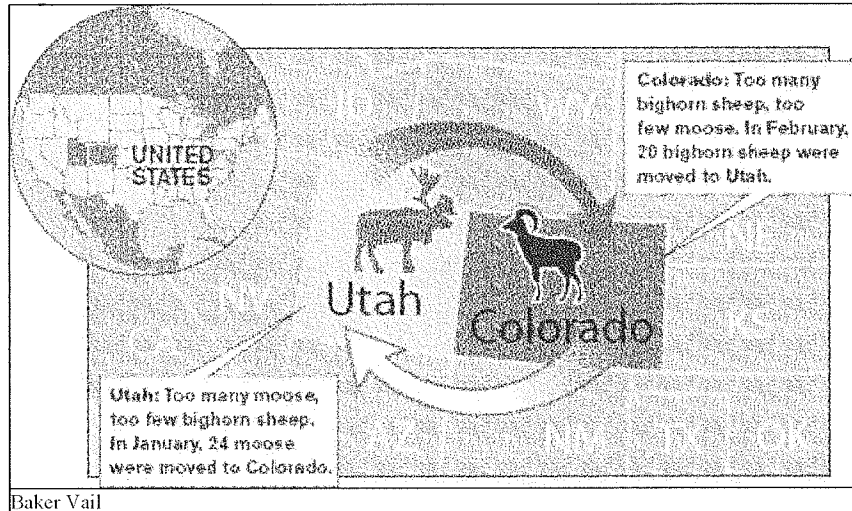
7 So far, more than 90 moose have been brought to Grand Mesa,  
8 Colorado, that way. The idea for the project began six years ago when  
9 a Colorado man thought of bringing moose to Grand Mesa for the first  
10 time. "There was a big meadow full of willows, and it looked like there  
11 should be a moose standing there," Roger Shenkel told *WR News*.  
12 Shenkel shared his idea with officials at the Colorado Division of  
13 Wildlife (DOW).

14 The DOW spent years studying Grand Mesa's habitat. A habitat is the  
15 place where an animal or a plant naturally lives. When officials decided  
16 that the area was suitable for moose, the DOW workers set out to find  
17 some of the animals to live there.

## 18 Fair Trade

19 Utah needed more bighorn sheep, because their numbers have  
20 dropped. In **exchange**, or trade, for the moose, Colorado sent about  
21 20 bighorn sheep to Utah in February. "Here in northern Utah, we  
22 have too many moose," Justin Dolling of the Utah DOW told *WR News*.  
23 "We made a trade."

24 **Animal Swap**



25 Animal **overpopulation** can be a big problem. That happens when too  
 26 many animals live in one area. Those animals can run out of food.  
 27 Wildlife officials help solve the problem by moving animals to areas  
 28 where they can find enough food. The map shows how moose and  
 29 bighorn sheep were swapped this year to keep both groups of animals  
 30 healthy.

**Think About It:**

Why was it important for officials to study Grand Mesa's habitat before moving the moose?

## “Moose on the Move” Multiple-Choice Questions

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Utah agreed to give Colorado moose because
- a. Utah had too many moose.
  - b. Utah wanted to exchange moose for sheep.
  - c. Utah wanted to help the wildlife population.
  - d. all of the above.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. According to the selection, overpopulation affects animals badly because
- a. they can run out of food.
  - b. animals don't like to be lonely.
  - c. people get angry when an animal population grows too big.
  - d. animals have a hard time staying warm.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. The Colorado Division of Wildlife studied the area where moose would live because
- a. they wanted to be certain that there were no moose there.
  - b. they wanted to make sure there were no hunters there.
  - c. they wanted to see if the habitat was right for moose.
  - d. they wanted to study before and after effects of introducing moose to the area.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. The author included the diagram
- a. to show where Colorado and Utah are.
  - b. to show the trade between Colorado and Utah.
  - c. to show the reader what sheep and moose look like.
  - d. to show the reader the relationship between the United States and Canada.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. The word that refers to the place where an animal lives is
- a. meadow.
  - b. area.
  - c. habitat.
  - d. project.

### Appendix 5b3