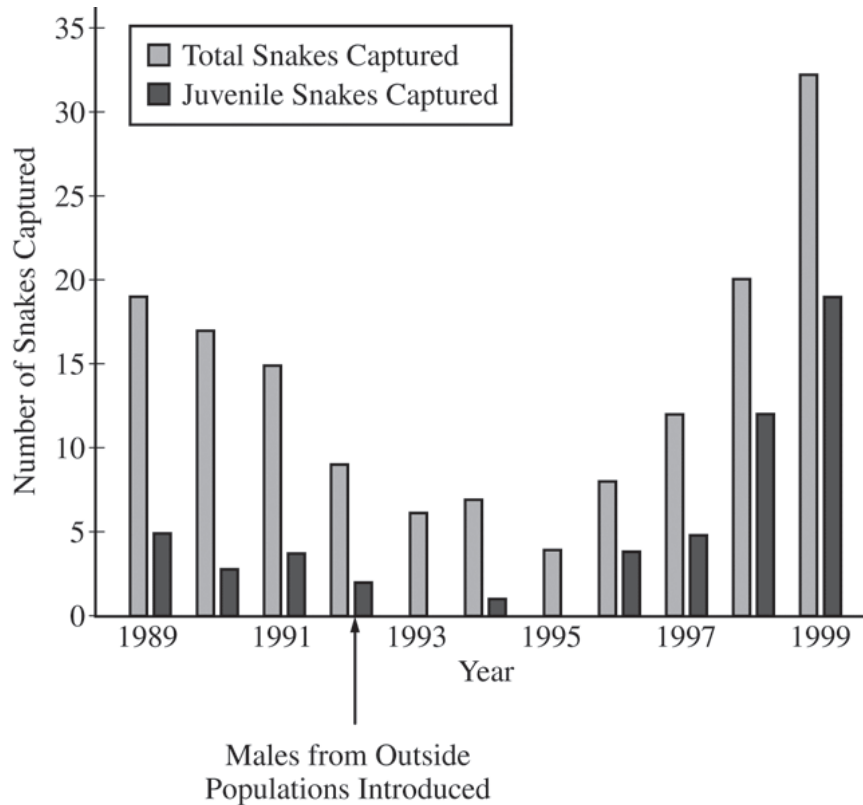


6. In an attempt to rescue a small isolated population of snakes from decline, a few male snakes from several larger populations of the same species were introduced into the population in 1992. The snakes reproduce sexually, and there are abundant resources in the environment.

The figure below shows the results of a study of the snake population both before and after the introduction of the outside males. In the study, the numbers of captured snakes indicate the overall population size.



- (a) **Describe** ONE characteristic of the original population that may have led to the population's decline in size between 1989 and 1993.
- (b) **Propose** ONE reason that the introduction of the outside males rescued the snake population from decline.
- (c) **Describe** how the data support the statement that there are abundant resources in the environment.