

George Morales

Professor Killebrew

ENGL 21003 Spring 2021

March 7, 2021

Scientific Rhetorical Analysis

Introduction

Out in the world, many factors contribute to the depletion of wildlife. From machines to people and also predators, wildlife has been put at risk all around the world because of this. The scientific report, “The impact of free-ranging domestic cats on wildlife of the United States”, discusses the impact that free-range domestic cats have on a variety of species that live in the US. This piece not only discusses the problem of free-range cats but also speaks of the problems with current management policies and projects being done at the moment of the article being written.

Author

The scientific report “The impact of free-ranging domestic cats on wildlife of the United States” has 3 authors credited. The main author for the scientific report is Scott R. Loss, who wrote the paper and designed the study. The other two authors, Peter P. Marra and Tom Will, both helped design the study and contributed to the paper revisions. Both Scott R. Loss and Peter P. Marra are affiliated with the Migratory Bird Center at the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute for the National Zoological Park. Tom Will is associated with the Division of Migratory Birds for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at the Midwest Regional Office. The authors of this scientific report are in fact knowledgeable on this topic because they all have a background in

conservation and studying birds which provides a more solid background for their research and concerns.

Purpose

The scientific report's main purpose is to inform of the threat that free-range cats have on wildlife in the United States. The report talks about how free-range cats are not being treated as a threat to wildlife or even being considered as having ecological impacts. Their study shows that annually, billions of birds and mammals, and millions of reptiles and amphibians are being killed by free-roaming cats. The number stated is said to only be estimated and it is believed that the numbers are even higher than the ones estimated. The stance of the authors is that something has to be done about free-ranging cats because not only are populations at risk but threatened and endangered species are put at an even higher risk than they already are with these cats.

Audience

The intended audience for this scientific report can be pointed towards a variety of groups. One of the main intended audiences is people having an interest in conservation because the website from where this article is from is all about nature, and the report wants to inform of the threats that free-range cats pose on other animal populations. The scientific report wants to inform people who are interested in animal conservation or people who are just stumbling across the topic for the first time. The demographics of the audience are more specifically to politicians and researchers concerning the conservation of populations and protecting species.

Text

For this scientific, report the genre is a scientific research article. This is because the report contains data and reasoning for the case of how free-roaming cats are causing an

ecological impact. The report also contains references to provide reasoning for points made as well.

Setting

The setting surrounding the scientific report is, it was published on January 29, 2013. The place more focused on was the United States of America. When the article was written, programs such as the TNR, which stands for trap, neuter, and return, were being put into effect and the efficiency of this program was being questioned because of ecological impacts happening.