

CHAPTER 11 Project Recording Sheet
11 Whooping it Up

Whooping Cranes reach almost five feet tall when standing and weigh about 14–16 pounds. The adult birds are snow white with black-tipped eight-foot wingspans. Each family group produces one or two offspring. The migration route from Wood Buffalo National Park in northern Alberta province to the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge in Texas is approximately 2400 miles long and only about 140 miles wide. The population of Whooping Cranes was likely never very large. The original population even before the European settlement of North America is estimated to be only 500 to 1400.

	Year												
	1940	1945	1950	1955	1960	1965	1970	1975	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000
Cranes	15	17	33	28	36	44	57	49	79	82	142	129	202

1. Plot a graph of the wild population from 1940 to 2000.
2. Draw straight lines that best conform to the data. What are the slopes of the lines? Write an equation for each line.

3. What are your feelings about endangered species such as the Whooping Crane? Species of animals and plants have been disappearing from the Earth for millions of years. Should we try and protect all of them? Why or why not?
