Population task

Buzz words: predator, prey, habitat, resources, competition, scarcity

Imagine a rabbit population living in an area of grassland. What factors will affect the size of the population?

For each statement say why the result would be either:

* factors that would increase the rabbit population
* factors that would decrease the rabbit population

Are there any statements that you thought could be put into either pile?

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| **buzzard moves** **into area** | **grassland is built** **on by developers** | **fox population** **moves away** |
| **sheep introduced to grassland** | **new bacterial disease affects foxes** | **large area of grassland** **is used to farm** **salad crops** |
| **grass cover scorched** **by high temperatures** | **increase in number of other small herbivores** | **deadly myxomatosis** **virus enters rabbit** **population** |
| **new female rabbits** **enter area** | **grassland ploughed** | **decrease in** **stoat numbers** |
| **increase in plant that** **is toxic to rabbits** | **overgrazing of** **grassland** **by rabbits** | **rabbit population** **develops resistance to** **myxomatosis virus** |