

The heath hen was a wild bird that was once common from New England to Virginia. By 1900, habitat changes and hunting by humans had reduced the heath hen population size to about 100 birds. The species became extinct in 1932.

Which of the following would have been **most** effective in preventing the decline in the population size of wild heath hens?

- A. vaccinating baby heath hens against human diseases
- B. establishing protected natural areas where heath hens lived
- C. introducing new bird species to put selective pressure on heath hens
- D. attaching metal bands to the legs of heath hens to identify them as a protected species