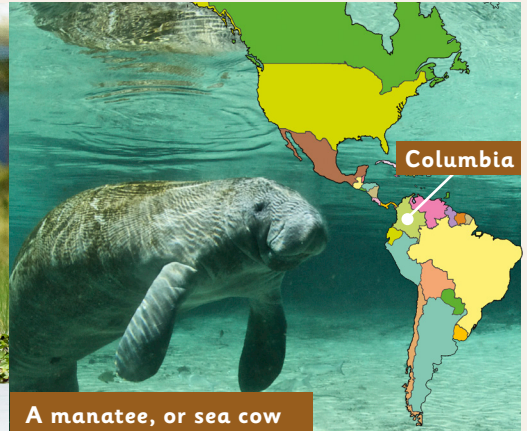


Read the story from page 10 of *First News*. Read the story, and then try the puzzle. To help you, we have underlined the answers to the crossword puzzle clues in the stories – but you will need to match the correct word with each clue!



ANIMAL NEWS

WILD HIPPO CULL



EXPERTS have said that hippos living in Colombia need to be culled as they are damaging local wildlife and the environment.

A few decades ago, a notorious criminal in Colombia bought four hippos for his private zoo.

After his death, the authorities gave most of the animals to zoos in the country, but the hippos were too difficult to move so they were left where they were. It was thought they would eventually die out.

Instead, they have flourished. There are now about 100 hippos living in the River Magdalena – one of the country’s main waterways. Hippos, of course, are native to Africa and are not found in South America.

Scientists fear that unless the population is reduced, the

hippos will cause huge problems. They may affect native animals, such as the manatee, which is already at risk of extinction. Experts have written a report that says about 30 animals should be killed every year, to control the numbers.

However, not everyone is for the cull. Many locals love the hippos. Others think it is wrong to kill an animal that is itself threatened.

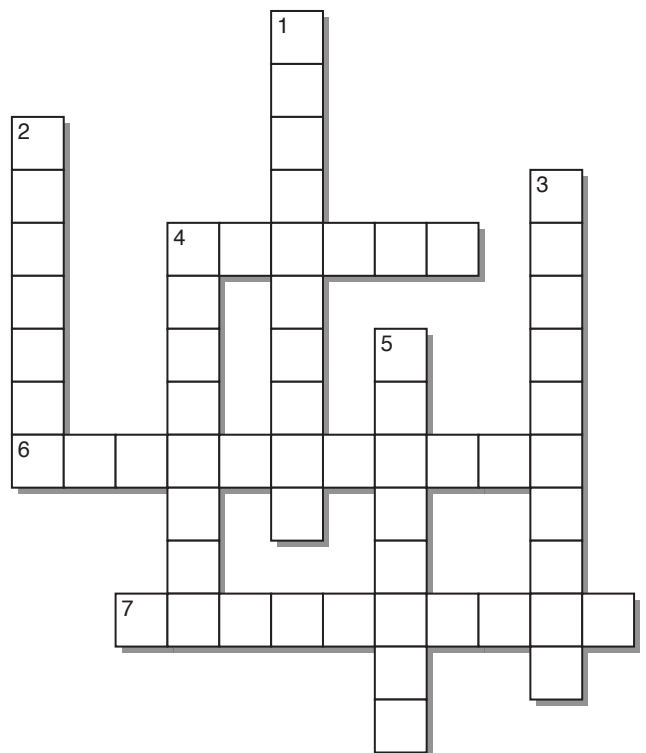
One of the scientists told the BBC: “It is obvious that we feel sorry for these animals, but as scientists we need to be honest.”

ACROSS

- 4) Cut the number of animals by killing some of them (verb 6)
- 6) Natural surroundings; where the hippos live (noun 11)
- 7) Done really well; increased in number (verb 10)

DOWN

- 1) The number (of hippos) (noun 10)
- 2) This sea cow is one of the wild animals being affected by the growing hippo population (noun 7)
- 3) In danger of dying out; at risk of extinction (verb 10)
- 4) Villain; a person who has committed a crime and broken the law (noun 8)
- 5) Destroying (verb 8)



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The answers to the clues are all words in the stories. Answer the clue and then underline the word.



ANIMAL NEWS

WILD HIPPO CULL



Hippos are native to Africa



A manatee, or sea cow

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