

5 Using the land – Part 1 — Answers

Answers

Work through these after you have tried the questions yourself.

2.1 a shared, unowned resource is overused because each user takes as much as they can while everyone shares the cost – for example, overfishing a shared sea.

2.2 benefit: much higher crop yields (more food); cost: pollution from fertilizers, heavy water use (or loss of crop variety).

2.3 it can drain rivers and aquifers, or leave salt in the soil (salinization).

2.4 any three of: loss of habitat/biodiversity, soil erosion, flooding, release of carbon dioxide.

2.5 set rules or limits, or give ownership, so users are not free to take without limit.