

## Sunset State Beach Habitat Restoration Alternative Assignment

*In General: All Missing Work is to be made up  
All work should be done to a personal best effort.*

Sunset State Beach Overnight is a habitat restoration overnight. Over the years we (Nature Academy) have done a lot of work with California Native Plant Society (CNPS) to remove European Dune Grass so that the Snowy Plover (small shore bird) would have better nesting habitat. That work is mostly done! Plovers are doing better!

European Dune Grass is a non-native invasive plant. Many plants and animals are non-native but not all are invasive. We will be removing 'Ice Plant' this year from around the campsite. 'Ice Plant' is also a non-native invasive plant.

For your assignment:

1. Define non-native
2. Define invasive
3. Explain in paragraph form why non-native invasive species are so damaging to the area they invade.
4. Find at least 3 other examples of non-native invasive species (plants or animals) in our area (Santa Cruz mountains/Northern California/Coastal regions) and explain why they are a problem and where they come from originally.
5. On 8.5x11 paper, make an 'Ice Plant' information flyer
  - a. Include a picture for easy identification
  - b. Title it with the Common Name (Ice Plant) as well as its proper scientific name
  - c. Describe where it can be found (generally)
  - d. Explain why it was brought here/ why people plant it/like it.
  - e. Explain why it is a problem and needs to be monitored or removed.

Hopefully you can make it down on Friday to get a first hand experience!  
Otherwise, see you Monday! (all of the above is due on Monday...)