**May Notes: Day 4 Overhunting and Invasive Species**

Name: Period: Date:

**Aim: What would happen if an ecosystem becomes unbalanced?**

**Objectives:**

* Identify the consequences of Invasive species to an ecosystem
* Describe ways in which humans can cause the ecosystem to be unbalanced

**Do Now: List 2 ways in an ecosystem can be unbalanced?**

**What does over hunting do to an ecosystem?**

* and are very and . If something to one of the in the chain, it the entire chain.
* In normal / relationships, a exist because of the of both the population and the
* When a population kills than it needs it is called
* can occur to any in the food chain (including plants).
*  the top predators in a food chain can upset the balance of a food chain.





* One of the niches (job) of predator is to the prey population.
* If the top predator is , the population of that it used to eat will .
* The increased prey will put a on the that the prey uses.

**Example of over hunting:** , ,

**What does overhunting do with the do to an ecosystem?**

* Another problem with over hunting is that a species is to extinction.
* refers to the elimination of an entire population of a

**What’s the problem with extinction?**

* When an organism becomes extinct, the species is gone .
* As ecosystem species to , that has less biodiversity.
* The less an ecosystem is, the less it becomes.

**What is biodiversity?**

* refers to the of that live is a given .
* When an ecosystem has a lot of species, if something happens to one population, another can take over the (job) of the lost (TO A POINT).

**What would happen if a new organism is introduced into an ecosystem?**

* Sometimes when a organism is into an existing , they can the food chain.
* If the new organism is better adapted for a niche, the original may be out competed. This new species is known an
* Also a new species can become a to a population that never have a predator before.

**The Zebra Mussel**

* The is a that was introduced to the ecosystem of the .
* Zebra mussels originally came from , but later reached , then the .
* They got here by to the bottom of .
* The problem with the is that it can quickly (spread) and the (original) shell fish. most of them.

**Guam’s Brown Tree Snake**

* is an in the Pacific Ocean.
* Until the mid 1900’s, the of Guam had no natural .
* from are thought to have been introduced to the island by in the gears of military airplanes.
* The Brown Tree snake is for more than half of the native population of the island.

**Northern Snakehead Fish**

* Originally from , the Northern was imported for use in .
* For some reason, they were in .
* These fish will eat in the water.
* They can also over land and invade stream or
* Introduce in , now all the way to

**Pythons in Florida**

* are at local pet stores for
* Pythons can get very (16 ft) very .
* Many Python let these snake into Florida because the owners cannot of them any more.
* Pythons are native to where their population is do to the presence of natural .
* With natural predators in the US, the snakes’ population explodes.
* With the of python in the swamp, animals are in .