**Stage 1 Outdoor Education**

**AT1 - About Natural Environments**

**Focus Area: Natural Systems & Human Impacts**

**Task Description**

In this task you will explore the different uses and management of a natural environment, by looking at any impacts of humans on the ecosystem, and practices necessary for the conservation and management of the area.

Using observations from you snorkeling practical, discuss and evaluate one of the environmental management practices in place at Pt Noarlunga that helps to maintain the aquatic habitat.

**Part 1: Introduction**

* Discuss the area in detail outlining the key structures of the environment (plants, animals, reef) and include a map or picture of the area
* Discuss your recent trip and what you saw that highlighted an environmental issue you observed.

**Part 2: Natural Cycle and Impacts**

* Discuss what ecosystem exists at Port Noarlunga, using a food web to explain your observations and the natural flow of energy.
* Select at least one environmental issue that you observed that has an impact on the food web and provide a more detailed description of what the issue is, causes and consequences of the issue to the environment.

**Part 3: Management strategies**

Outline what strategies are currently in use to tackle the issue/s you identified, including how it works and evidence that it is working (include photos from the trip that help show the issues and solutions).

**Part 4: Conclusion**

Based on your research, discuss your findings and draw conclusions. Summarise your ideas regarding current management strategies in the practice at Port Noarlunga and whether you believe they are effective or not.

**Submission Information:**

4 to 8 paragraphs if written (1000 words max), or 6-minute oral or multimodal format (narrated photo essay or story) - References are not included in the word count.

**Assessment**

Exploration, Understanding and Analysis (EUA2) **-** Understanding and analysis of environmental systems and/or issues to recognise actions required to enhance sustainability of natural environments.

|  | Exploration, Understanding, and Analysis |
| --- | --- |
| A | Perceptive understanding and critical analysis of environmental systems and/or issues to recognise actions required to enhance sustainability of natural environments. |
| B | Well-informed understanding and mostly critical analysis of environmental systems and/or issues to recognise actions required to enhance sustainability of natural environments. |
| C | Informed understanding and considered analysis of environmental systems and/or issues to recognise actions required to enhance sustainability of natural environments. |
| D | Basic understanding and analysis of some environmental systems and/or issues to recognise actions required to enhance sustainability of natural environments. |
| E | Limited understanding and superficial analysis of one or two environmental systems and/or issues to recognise actions required to enhance sustainability of natural environments. |

**Teacher Marking Guide**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **EUA 2 -** Understanding and analysis of environmental systems and/or issues to recognise actions required to enhance sustainability of natural environments. | **Key points** |
| Understanding Environmental Systems | Key features of ecosystems  Description of Port Noarlunga  How Food webs work |
| Analysis of Environmental Systems | Why energy systems are important  Connect Human impacts to food web or environment  Evaluation of Health of Port Noarlunga Ecosystem / food web |
| Environmental Issues | Identification of Causes  Reference to H.I.P.P.O principle  Consequences of impacts to environment / food web  Human v natural causes could be mentioned |
| Sustainable Practices | What management strategies are being used?  Are they effective?  Future of different ideas? |