

## ECOLOGICAL CONCEPTS SLIPS

<b>ABIOTIC</b>	A non-living component of an ecosystem with which other living and non-living things can interact.
<b>BIOTIC</b>	A living component of an ecosystem with which other living and non-living things can interact.
<b>POPULATION</b>	A group of organisms of the same species living in the same place and interacting with each other
<b>COMMUNITY</b>	All interacting biotic components of an ecosystem
<b>PRODUCER</b>	Organisms that makes their own food using photosynthesis (plants, algae)
<b>CONSUMER</b>	Organisms that eat other organisms (can't make their own food)

<b>COMPETITION</b>	Occurs when two organisms need the same limited resource
<b>PREDATION</b>	One organism feeding on another
<b>LIMITING RESOURCE</b>	A factor that determines the size of a population of organisms
<b>CARRYING CAPACITY</b>	The maximum number of individuals in a population that can be supported by available resources
<b>BIOINDICATOR</b>	A species whose presence/absence can tell us about the overall health of an ecosystem
<b>NICHE</b>	The range of conditions a species needs to survive, and the role it plays in the ecosystem