MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Golden Hour Restoration Institute is to provide engaging, science-based instruction and project leadership in order to conserve and restore native species and habitats.

OUR VISION

- Golden Hour serves Californians by providing science-based education courses and field programs that introduce participants to and engage them with their local ecosystems.

- Golden Hour works to coordinate the human and financial resources necessary to restore California’s natural ecosystems.

- Golden Hour provides a nexus for local, regional and state-level organizations and governmental agencies, synergizing efforts to achieve shared restoration goals.

OUR CORE VALUES

- We believe natural and human communities can engage in a mutually beneficial relationship: All people, from all walks of life, can contribute hands-on to the restoration of wild ecosystems. Nature, in turn, improves our quality of life by providing invaluable ecosystem services, by teaching and inspiring us as individuals, and by fostering connectedness among us as a community. Thus, we believe that by contributing to the vitality of the natural world, we ourselves are invigorated.

- We believe that personal and organizational integrity and accountability are fundamental to catalyzing long-lasting change in the way that we-- as individuals, as an organization, and as a society-- relate to our environment.

- We believe that sound science should underlie our approach to ecosystem restoration, and that it is necessary to remain dynamic and flexible in response to changing conditions and gained knowledge and experience.
GOALS

Goal 1. Establish long term organizational capacity.

- The Board of Directors will complete and implement a strategic plan that communicates the mission, vision, and goals of the organization for the next 3-5 year period.

- The Board of Directors will develop and fund staff positions including an executive director to help carry out the mission of the organization.

- Golden Hour will develop reliable income streams (e.g. contracts, grants, etc.) to ensure the financial sustainability for the organization.

Goal 2. Develop and implement ecological restoration education programs.

- Golden Hour will develop hands-on, engaging educational programs for advanced high school students, college students and adult learners.

- Golden Hour will support ongoing conservation efforts by providing technical expertise and consultation.

Goal 3. Build relationships to enhance the restoration network

- Golden Hour will support ongoing local, regional, and statewide restoration efforts.

- Golden Hour will establish its niche as an organization that focuses primarily on stewardship and restoration.

- Golden Hour will partner with key organizations to establish new restoration and education projects.

Goal 4. Develop, implement, and engage in on-the-ground restoration projects.

- Golden Hour will partner with key organizations to support existing restoration efforts.

- Golden Hour will implement new projects that are responsive to restoration needs, further our mission and reflect our core values.

DEFINITIONS

What is Ecological Restoration?
The International Society for Ecological Restoration defines ecological restoration as "an intentional activity that initiates or accelerates the recovery of an ecosystem with respect to its health, integrity and sustainability. Frequently, the ecosystem that requires restoration has been degraded, damaged, transformed or entirely destroyed as the direct or indirect result of human activities". (SER, 2004)