

WHY WE MANAGE WILDLAND FIRES



Grade Level: 8-12

Alaska State Content Standards: GeoE5, GeoE6, GeoF3, GovG2, GovG3

Subject: Geography, Government

Skills: Research

Duration: 2 class periods

Group Size: 1-2

Setting: indoors

Vocabulary: Interagency Fire Management Plan, Alaska Wildland Fire Coordinating Group

OBJECTIVE

Students list the reasons why wildland fires are managed in Alaska.

TEACHING STRATEGY

Students research why wildland fires are managed in Alaska.

MATERIALS

- Internet and/or library access

TEACHER BACKGROUND

Refer to the Unit III background section.

PROCEDURE

1. Ask the students what would happen in Alaska if the wildland fires were not managed? Brainstorm and list their ideas.

2. Either individually or in pairs, have students research the history of wildfires in Alaska and why the state now manages these fires. Also have them research why the state organized the Alaska Wildland Fire Coordinating Group and the Alaska Interagency Wildland Fire Management Plan.

3. Students complete their assignment with a written report.

4. Share reports and discuss.

EVALUATION

Use step #3 in the Procedure section as an assessment.