



**Murie Science and Learning Center  
Professional Development  
Field Journal**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Course \_\_\_\_\_

**Background Information:**

You have selected to take this field course for professional development credit. This journal is designed to help you meet the requirements of the course and will be used in the grading process.

**Due Date:**

Your completed field journal is due upon the course's conclusion in the field. Please hand it in to the Alaska Geographic field guide before the final drive back to the Murie Science and Learning Center. A copy of your journal can be made for you if you wish. Please ask the guide when turning it in. Journals will not be returned.

**Instructions:**

You will find three assignments on the following pages. Assignment one must be completed prior to the course. To complete assignment two, plan a study group with the other teachers on the course seeking professional development credit. Assignment three may be completed at any time during the course. Thoughtfully answer all questions on the following pages with complete sentences and in paragraph form.

## **Assignment 1: Pre-course assignment**

1. Why did you decide to take this course? What are you hoping to gain from it?

2. What do you already know about fire in Alaska? What would you like to know about fire in Alaska?

## **Assignment 2: Teacher study group**

Get together with the other participants taking this course for credit. A good time might be before, during or after dinner on the second night. Discuss the following questions, and then complete questions 1 and 2.

### **Questions for Discussion**

Where do you teach? What grade level/s? What subjects? How long have you been a teacher?

Have you used environmental education content like this in your teachings before?

What part of this course have you found most useful so far? How can it be applied to your teachings?

Can this information be used in an outdoor setting at your school? What types of challenges do you have (or anticipate) when teaching outdoors?

What are your ideas for lesson plans? Can this be a unit? Do you have other ideas for how to share this information with students?

### **Please complete the following questions**

1. What activities from *PLT's Explore Your Environment K-8 Activity Guide* will you implement with your students next year? What standard (any subject) or performance expectation (science standards of Alaska) does it help you address? Please include at least one idea for a lesson plan.
2. What fire-related activities from this workshop were useful in learning about fire in Alaska? How will you implement fire education in your classroom or setting?



### **Assignment 3: Reflection**

1. Which part of this experience have you found to be most valuable to your profession as a teacher?
2. Please share any other thoughts on why you chose to take this course and the role it plays in your professional development.