



Wildfire and Wildlife for Educators



Dates

June 1 - 3, 2026



Difficulty

Level 3



Elevation Gain

Up to 1000 feet



Hiking Distance

Up to 3 miles per day

Course Description

Alaska Project Learning Tree and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game are teaming up to offer this unique educator course! We'll explore Denali's boreal forest and tundra, including the recent 2024 fire site, and the role that wildfire plays within these ecosystems. We will also investigate how fire provides critical habitat for wildlife and shapes the distribution of species across the landscape. Educators will walk away with several resources as part of this workshop: PLT's award winning "Explore Your Environment K-8 Activity Guide" and other Alaska fire education resources, as well as ADF&G's Alaska Wildlife Curriculum (AWC) Forests and Wildlife educator guide and student magazine, Alaska's Wild Wonders. Open to formal and non-formal K-12 educators, we'll look at how to adapt lessons to your grade level, and where to find age-appropriate lessons and resources to teach about wildfire and wildlife in Alaska.

Difficulty Level 3

You must be physically prepared to hike off-trail up to 3 miles each day, comfortably, with elevation gains up to 1000 feet in undulating terrain. Expect uneven footing, wet boggy tundra, dense undergrowth, and minor stream crossings. Good coordination is recommended.

Times and Location

Participants meet at the Murie Science and Learning Center, located at mile 1 of the Denali Park Road. Check-in starts at 6:00pm on Monday. The course begins at 6:30pm and will return to the park entrance area around 4pm on Wednesday.

Lodging and Meals

This course is based out of the Murie Science and Learning Center Field Camp, located 29 miles inside Denali National Park along the Teklanika River. The Field Camp includes rustic cabins and outhouses. Meals are simple and healthy.

Professional Development Credit

The University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) offers one professional development credit (level 500) for an additional \$79 fee. You must register for the credit directly with UAA. Please see our website for registration directions.

Questions? Email courses@akgeo.org or call 907-771-8485