



Name: _____

Date: _____

Science Worksheet - 1

Read the passage and Answer the questions

Large fires are now blazing across seven western states, the National Inter agency Fire Center reports from its Boise, Idaho headquarters. Firefighters contained four large fires Tuesday, while three new ones were reported. All western states are reporting very high to extreme fire conditions, which could increase due to a warming trend over the next several days. More than 100 new smaller fires were reported Wednesday, most of which were contained by initial attack efforts. In this mid-summer national wild lands fire report, the federal agency responsible for firefighting says 1,547,312 acres have been burned so far this year. The area burned is below the 10 year average, and half the area burned at this time last year, a severe fire season. The fire situation could get much worse, warns Barry Hill, director of the Natural Resources and Environment division of the General Accounting Office. Testifying before the House Forest and Forest Health Subcommittee Tuesday, Hill said there are problems with the Forest Service and Interior Department's implementation of the National Fire Plan.

1. Where is the headquarters for the National Fire Center located?

2. What makes land more likely to catch fire?

3. What season of the year is most likely fire season throughout the country?

4. Are the conditions getting better or worse as time goes on? Explain.



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Science Worksheet - 2

write a story/legend that attempts to explain how the environment and/or organisms can affect humans.

Answer the following questions to help you write you legend -

1. Today, the threats to the environment and organisms in the ecosystems are much more numerous and complicated than in the legend we just read. Can you brainstorm a list of at least five of these threats?

2. Choose one of the threats from question 1 and write about how the environment and/or organisms in the ecosystem that are affected by the threat could possibly retaliate. Can you do a little research the species at risk in Indiana and incorporate this information (and possibly some images) into your story. Don't forget to reference this information in your story.

3. Imagine that you are part of this retaliation and that you are one of the organisms (plant, animal, bird, fish, or insect) or even part of the abiotic environment (wind, air, water, river, soil, etc.). Give your character a name, an identity, and a personality.

4. Express how you feel as this character, trying to survive this threat. Describe how you, your friends, and others in the ecosystem have been affected by the threat. Think of ways to create empathy for your cause. You want the reader to be on your character's side.