

Ecology Unit Assessment

For our ecology unit assessment, we will be writing a letter to a government representative! You will start by finding an issue that may impact a Utah ecosystem. You can search the internet for an issue, or check out one of the websites listed below. You will then research the issue and decide how it may affect the ecosystem either positively or negatively. (Will it pollute or protect the water or air? How will it affect organisms relying on these sources? Will it cause any organisms to decline in number? If so, how will this affect the entire ecosystem?) Consider the cost, or profit compared to the benefit or harm to the ecosystem and decide for yourself if it will be worth while in the long run. Compose a letter to your government representative explaining the action they should take on this issue, including the evidence you have gathered, and why you feel passionately about it. Your letter should contain logic and persuasion. I will be mailing these letters out for you so remember to keep it in letter form. On a separate page list all the references you used.



- Utah.sierraclub.org
- Suwa.org
- Brorayurts.org
- Westernwatersheds.org
- Protectwildutah.org



Grading Rubric			
	Met (5 - 4)	Partially Met (3 - 2)	Not Met (1 - 0)
1. Content 5 points	- Chosen topic is well thought out - Letter expresses sincere concern - Reference is included	- Chosen topic is somewhat thought out - Letter expresses some concern - Reference is included	- Chosen topic is not well thought out - Letter seems insincere - Reference is not included
2. Writing 5 points	- One full page length - Proper spelling - Proper grammar - Proper punctuation - Written in letter format	- $\frac{3}{4}$ - 1 page length - Mostly proper spelling - Mostly proper grammar - Mostly proper punctuation - Written in letter format	- less than $\frac{3}{4}$ page length - Frequent incorrect spelling - Frequent incorrect grammar - Frequent incorrect punctuation - Not written in letter format
3. Connections 5 points	- Clear connections drawn to information we have covered in our Ecology unit	- Few connections drawn to information we have covered in our Ecology unit	- No connections drawn to information we have covered in our Ecology unit