Predicting Treeline Teacher Key



Directions

- The attached topographic map shows the High Divide, which separates the Hoh River valley to the south from the Sol Duc River basin to the north.
- A general rule of thumb is the treeline in the Olympic Mountains ranges from 4,500 feet on north-facing slopes, 5,000 on east-facing slopes, and 5,250 feet on south-facing slopes.
- Glaciers generally begin around 6,500 on north facing slopes, but much higher on south-facing slopes.
- Using this information, draw the treeline and the alpine meadow areas on the topographic maps.
- Then, take a look at the actual satellite image and compare how close your predictions were to actual location of the meadows.
- Added challenge: Predict where the glaciers are located and then compare to the satellite image.



Drawing Treeline

- Draw the treeline using the insert shapes tool.
- Select the freeform shape, that allows you to draw the shape and then fill in the closed shape with a color.





Comparing the Drawing to the Satellite Image

- Students should not look at the satellite image that follows until they have drawn their treelines on the topographical map.
- Once the image is drawn, they should copy the layer and then paste it onto the satellite image to see how well they match up.



Example Key

- The first slide below is an example of the drawing that could be make by following the topographical lines.
- It is important that students match the lines with the elevations for the north and south facing slopes!
- The second slide shows the actual satellite image.
- The third slide overlays the drawing from the topographical map onto the satellite image to check for how accurate they were.





Drawing of Treeline Overlaid onto Satellite Image

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FREEING THE ELWHA