

## Arizona Wildlife Podcast Comprehension Activity

### Episode 7: The North American Model of Wildlife Conservation

**Part A:** Define each of the terms below.

1. Angling – fishing, specifically with a rod, reel, and hook
2. Commerce– the trading, buying, and selling of goods and services
3. Excise Tax – a tax on specific goods or services
4. Public Trust – resources are available for public use and the government holds and manages those resources for the good of the people

**Part B:** In your own words, summarize the seven main principles or pillars of the North American Model for Wildlife Conservation. *Note: these summaries are similar to as they appeared in the podcast. Your students may have slightly different summaries.*

1. Wildlife is held in the public trust.
2. Commerce in wildlife is regulated.
3. Hunting and angling laws are created with public input and participation.
4. Hunting and angling are opportunities available to all individuals in good standing.
5. Hunters and anglers fund wildlife conservation.
6. Wildlife is an international resource.
7. Science is the basis for wildlife management and policy.

**Part C:** Answer each question below in complete sentences. The answers are not necessarily included in the content. They may require some critical thinking.

1. How is wildlife conservation in North American different than what you might find elsewhere?

In North America, all citizens in good standing have the opportunity to hunt. In many other countries or continents, the opportunity to hunt is allocated to individuals in particular status levels. These levels may be determined by wealth, nobility, or landownership.

2. In your opinion, what is the most important principle of the North American Model? Why? How would wildlife conservation be different if this principle did not exist?

Answers will vary.

3. Use the North American Model to explain why hunting is important, and not contrary, to wildlife conservation.

Hunters have been the cornerstone of wildlife conservation in North America. After recognizing that the wildlife resource was at dangerously low levels, the hunters stepped up to voluntarily create an excise tax on hunting related equipment. These taxes are still collected and are distributed to state wildlife agencies to fund wildlife management activities. In addition, each state requires a license to hunt, and charges a fee to acquire that license. This money is used for wildlife management and conservation. In addition, hunting is a scientifically viable method for population control to ensure that wildlife populations do not become too large, thus destroying the habitat for all species.