

Economics / Wabanaki Economic Systems

2007 MLR Standard & Indicator: C. Economics, C1 Economic Knowledge, Concepts, Themes, and Patterns and C2 Individual, Cultural, International, and Global Connections in Economics

LD 291 Concentrated Area of Study: Maine Native American Economic Systems

Concept	Broad Understanding	Guiding Questions	Notes & Relevant Information
Economic Change	Interactions between cultures change the ways in which economic systems work.	How did interactions with Europeans change the Wabanaki economic system?	<p>The Wabanaki desire for European goods forced specialization in the fur trade and eventual depletion of beaver. The demand by Indians for manufactured goods (glass beads, textiles, pots and utensils, tools and weapons) increased production in Europe. This relationship created a trans-Atlantic trading market.</p> <p>Once the beaver trade ends, Wabanaki enter into trade agreements for land (although both sides had radically different views of what such agreements meant). Over time, European control of land resources (river, timber, ocean) gave them an economic advantage and left little room for the Indians to lead their traditional lives.</p>

Economic Change (*Continued*)

		What aspects of the pre-contact Wabanaki economic system exist today?	Redistribution of hunted game, tribal/ communal ownership of land, communal benefits from industry.
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