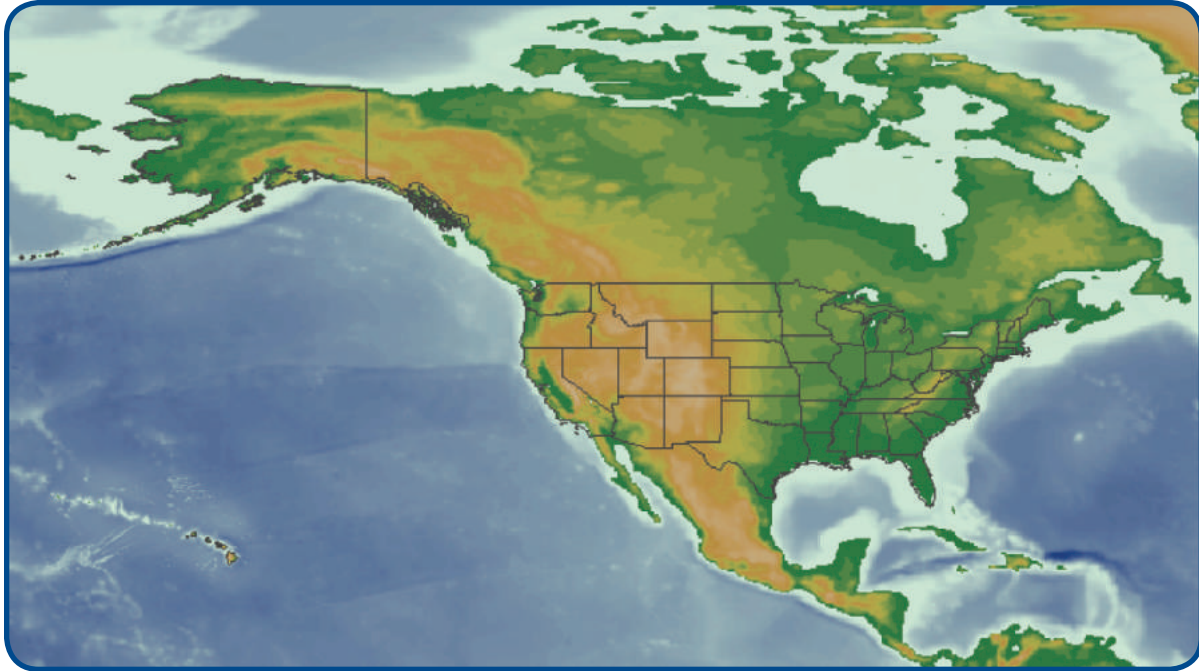


Some of the landforms from the IQWST ES1 may be relevant to your case study sites in this unit. In this unit, volcanoes and mountains have been very important. By gathering evidence about where these landforms are located around the world, you can make claims about the way that plates move in that region. For example, there is a string of islands known as the Aleutian Islands. These islands are located in Alaska and are easily visible on a map. Refer to the following map, find Alaska, and see if you can locate and circle the Aleutian Islands.



The Aleutians are not one of your assigned case study sites, but they could be. These islands form as a result of two plates moving toward each other. This is known as a *convergent boundary*. Because one plate (the Pacific Plate) is made up of oceanic rock, it subducts beneath the continental North American Plate. The North American Plate is the one on which Alaska and the United States sit. Use your understanding of plate tectonics to show where the plate boundary is located between these two plates on the map given previously. (You can use past activity sheets to help you.) Label which plate is oceanic and which is continental.

You can see a dark line just beneath the Aleutian Islands. Notice that it runs along the length of the islands and is parallel to the chain. This is an *oceanic trench*. The Aleutian Islands are a useful example of why case study sites can help us better understand the earth. This Alaskan site has all of the clear features of a convergent subduction zone between an oceanic and continental plate. When observed together, this set of features can provide evidence about the type of plate boundary. One of the case study sites that you are studying in class is very similar to the Aleutian Islands.

Which site do you think is most similar? Why is it similar?



In the middle of the Pacific Ocean, you will see another small chain of islands. This is Hawaii. What are some ways that Hawaii and the Aleutian Islands (which you have just learned about) are similar and different? Fill out the following table. You may need to use previously collected evidence and maps to help you.

Hawaiian Islands (Differences)	Hawaiian Islands and Aleutian Islands (Similarities)	Aleutian Islands (Differences)

Both of these sites are useful as case study sites because they have certain characteristics that can be seen in other locations on Earth. Therefore, by studying one site in depth and gathering evidence about what features and characteristics are present at that site, you can gain a better and deeper understanding of many sites on Earth.