CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, SEMINARS, SPECIAL EVENTS

**To see the SCHEDULE for the WRANGLER MOUNTAIN CENTER PROGRAMS and WORKSHOPS for the summer, go to [https://www.wrangells.org/program-schedule](https://www.wrangells.org/program-schedule).

June 10 – 12
DENALI NATIONAL PARK - FIELD COURSE – BIRDS OF DENALI will be offered by Alaska Geographic through the Murie Science and Learning Center. Denali comes alive in June with birds arriving from all over the world to their summer home in the far north. These migrants join the hardy year-round residents to offer the Denali birder amazing opportunities to view and study a diverse avifauna in a spectacular landscape. With naturalist MARIA BERGER, we’ll venture out into the tundra and taiga to learn how to identify birds by sight and sound. We’ll also discuss avian behavior, habitat selection, food habits and migration ecology. Course will stay at a field camp located 29 miles inside Denali National Park along the Teklanika River. The Field Camp includes rustic tent cabins and a common dining yurt. All meals, accommodations, transportation, and instruction are included in the $390 course fee ($351 for Alaska Geographic members). Professional development credit is available through UAA. For more information or to register, go to [http://akgeo.org/field-courses/](http://akgeo.org/field-courses/), email courses@alaskageographic.org or call 907-683-6432.

June 22 to August 9
Applications open for the ALASKA WRANGLER MOUNTAINS FIELD STUDIES PROGRAM for students at least one year into their undergraduate education for the 7-week summer field course (earn 10 semester/16 quarter credits through Evergreen State College). Cost is $9,400 ([scholarships available](https://www.wrangells.org/fieldstudies)). Based in the historic town of McCarthy, in the heart of Wrangell-St. Elias National Park. Our [interdisciplinary curriculum](https://www.wrangells.org/fieldstudies) focuses on the forces shaping the rapidly-changing landscape of the Wrangell Mountains and beyond, including geology, ecology, climate change, policy, land management, outdoor leadership, and history. Backpack across glaciers into alpine meadows and forested valleys, no previous experience required. Field research-intensive, with close mentoring by world-class faculty. This course is a joint offering of [The Wrangell Mountains Center](https://www.wrangells.org/fieldstudies) and [The Evergreen State College](https://www.wrangells.org/fieldstudies). Get more information at [www.wrangells.org/fieldstudies](https://www.wrangells.org/fieldstudies). See a short video at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HSnbUANCw6Q](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HSnbUANCw6Q). For more information, go to sophie@wrangells.org.

June 21 – 23
DENALI NATIONAL PARK - FIELD COURSE – DENALI’S SMALL MAMMALS will be offered by Alaska Geographic through the Murie Science and Learning Center. What takes up more space in Denali than grizzly bears, yet is less likely to be seen? What forms a foundation of
the food chain and plays a vital role in Denali’s ecosystem? Denali’s resident small mammals! Join National Park Service wildlife biologist MELANIE FLAMME for an in-depth look into Denali’s 26-year study of voles, mice, shrews and other small mammals. We’ll look for signs of these elusive mammals and learn to identify the ones we are lucky enough to see. As citizen scientists, we’ll get hands-on experience with field research tools and collect data to add to the study. We’ll learn why these critters are so significant in Denali, including cutting-edge research on how small mammals influence their predators and what lessons we might learn about the effects of weather and climate in Denali. Course will stay at a field camp located 29 miles inside Denali National Park along the Teklanika River. The Field Camp includes rustic tent cabins and a common dining yurt. All meals, accommodations, transportation, and instruction are included in the $370 course fee ($333 for Alaska Geographic members). Professional development credit is available through UAA. For more information or to register, go to http://akgeo.org/field-courses/, email courses@alaskageographic.org or call 907-683-6432.

June 21 – 23
SEWARD - The SEWARD SEABIRD FESTIVAL, celebrating Alaska's seabirds, will be held at the Alaska SeaLife Center. For more information, go to http://www.alaskasealife.org/uploads/seabird_festival_final_draft.pdf.

June 24 & 25
ANCHORAGE - ALASKA WIND-DIESEL WORKSHOP will be held at Alaska Pacific University. This two-day workshop features multiple expert panels and networking opportunities for sharing information and learning more about wind systems in remote and islanded grid environments. Sessions will cover the technical aspects of operating and integrating wind power systems including load balancing, energy storage, diesels-off operations, frequency control & more. MORE DETAILS & REGISTRATION.

June 26- 29
ANCHORAGE - 2019 CONFERENCE: FINDING HOME in the "WILDERNESS": EXPLORATIONS IN BELONGING IN CIRCUMPOLAR FOOD SYSTEMS is the theme for the annual meeting of the Association for the Study of Food and Society and the Agriculture, Food, and Human Values Society. For more information, go to https://foodanthro.com/2018/10/10/asfs-afhvs-2019-cfp-finding-home-in-the-wilderness/.

July – August
DENALI NATIONAL PARK. SUMMER FIELD COURSES registration is opens. Courses include transportation, overnight accommodations and hearty meals. Professional development credit is also available. Many courses are already sold out, however the following field courses still have space:
July 26 – 28: Mushrooms of Denali
August 12 – 14: Bears of Denali
August 23 – 25: Denali’s Large Mammals
For more information or to register, please visit: https://www.akgeo.org/field-courses/ or call 907-683-6432.

July 23 – August 22
**HOMER - ALASKA COASTAL SUMMER INSTITUTE (ACSI)** is a unique, immersive field study opportunity for undergraduate and continuing education students! The program is built around four core experiences (each about a week in duration) hosted by local research agencies and community-organizations in the Kachemak Bay area: Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies, Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, Marine Mammal Stranding Network, NOAA/Kasitsna Bay Lab, and US Fish and Wildlife Service. These core experiences provide a fun, fascinating, and highly effective way to learn how scientific knowledge is being built and used in Kachemak Bay. You will also attain job-related skills in research design, data collection, analysis, and science communication. Grow your professional network and become familiar with a number of the research agencies working in Kachemak Bay, exploring different career options and build connections with organizations that offer seasonal internships, as well as research/graduate school positions! Each core experience determined by the partner agencies offers students insight into their most interesting and important research, community-based monitoring, and science communication work. The cost is approximately $3000, but some scholarship assistance may be available. For more information, go to [https://www.akcoastalstudies.org/education-programs/alaska-coastal-summer-institute.html](https://www.akcoastalstudies.org/education-programs/alaska-coastal-summer-institute.html).

**July 28 - August 2**

**SITKA - SITKA ARTS & SCIENCE FESTIVAL** a one-week festival exploring where the arts and science come together around understanding and human expression. Morning workshops feature **RICHARD NELSON** teaching exploring the world by listening, traditional fish skin sewing with elder AUDREY ARMSTRONG, the art of ecology with illustrator **KATHY HOCKER** and botanist **KITTY LABOUNTY** and photography at the intersection of art and science with **JOSE FRANCISCO SALGADO**. Afternoons include interdisciplinary seminars, a boat trip in Sitka Sound, hikes, Sheldon Jackson Museum, and trips to historic sites. The evening lecture and concert series feature faculty talks and music by various artists. Festival registration is $650+ tax, meals and accommodations are available on site. For more info visit **[www.sitkafestival.org](http://www.sitkafestival.org)** or call Kenley Jackson at 907-747-3085. Put on by Sitka Fine Arts Camp and the Sitka Sound Science Center.

**September 4 – 6** *(Please note: What’s Up does not include events outside Alaska, but this conference seems of particular import to Alaskans)*

**WASHINGTON DC - ARCTIC FUTURES 2050 CONFERENCE**, hosted by the Study of Environmental Arctic Change (SEARCH) are inviting Indigenous, policy makers, scientists and other various audiences to the conference. The conference will, therefore, explore the opportunities and challenges for deeper dialogue about the changing Arctic and consider: (1) What do we know, what do we need to know, and why does it matter? (2) What challenges confront policy makers in the rapidly changing Arctic? (3) What applied and basic research is needed to inform responses to Arctic change? (4) What tools can facilitate informing policy making with science and Indigenous knowledge? and (5) What partnerships are needed? **REGISTRATION** is now open and **EARLY BIRD** rates are available through [July10](http://www.searcharcticscience.org/arctic-2050/open-science-2019/). For more information, go to [www.searcharcticscience.org/arctic-2050/open-science-2019/](http://www.searcharcticscience.org/arctic-2050/open-science-2019/).

**September 17 – 19**

**JUNEAU - 2019 ALASKA SECTION OF ALASKA WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING** will be held in the Centennial Hall Convention
Center. This year’s theme is: WATER RESOURCES in a CHANGING LANDSCAPE. The annual conference is an opportunity for collaboration among physical, biological, and social scientists, engineers, and other professionals concerned with water resource research, planning, development, management, and education. See the list of proposed sessions and topics below include: Weather and water Extremes (including drought); Water rights; Habitat (fish); SE AK hydrography; Landslides; Geospatial data and modeling; Glacier dam outburst floods - workshop or session; Coastal hydrology/processes; Hazards; Applied, impacts, and social sciences; and Other Related Topics. The end of early registration and the deadline to submit abstracts for 15 minute talk or a poster session is August 17. Student Travel Grant: Travel grants up to $500 are available to offset costs for student presenters. Students applying for a 2019 travel grant must be traveling to the conference and be presenting a poster or talk. Please e-mail the conference chair at awra.alaska@gmail.com to be considered for a student travel grant. For more information, go to https://www.ak-awra.org/ameetings/2019am/.

WEBINARS & TELECONFERENCES

June 12 (WEBINAR) VIRTUAL ALASKA WEATHER SYMPOSIUM will be held at 11am on GEOSTATIONARY SATELLITE IMPROVEMENTS for BETTER VIEWING of ALASKA and SURROUNDING AREAS with TIM SCHMIT, Research Satellite Meteorologist, NOAA NESDIS STAR, University of Wisconsin. There have been many recent changes to better observe Alaska from the Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite (GOES) perspective. More information and registration go to http://accap.adobeconnect.com/vaws_june2019/event/registration.html.

June 21 (WEBINAR) JUNE 2019 NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE ALASKA CLIMATE OUTLOOK will be presented at Noon by RICK THOMAN, Alaska Center for Climate Assessment and Policy (ACCAP). The tools and techniques for making monthly and season scale climate forecasts are rapidly changing, with the potential to provide useful forecasts at the month and longer range. We will review recent climate conditions around Alaska, review some forecast tools and finish up the Climate Prediction Center's forecast for July and the remaining summer season. For more information and registration, go to http://accap.adobeconnect.com/june2019/event/registration.html.

GRANTS/AWARDS/SCHOLARSHIPS/FELLOWSHIPS/ CONTESTS/RFPs

July 1 Deadline for applications for the LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION CATALYST FUND, an initiative of the Network for Landscape Conservation, that intended to help accelerate the pace and effective practice of place-based, collaborative landscape conservation across the United States. The Fund specifically seeks to build critical capacity and forward momentum in landscape conservation partnerships by supporting the key building block activities and collaborative processes that move partnerships forward. For the 2019 grant cycle, the Catalyst Fund will consider proposals in two categories: The General Catalyst Fund application process is open to all eligible landscape conservation partnerships in the United States. The Indigenous
Community Catalyst Fund application process is open to all eligible landscape conservation partnerships that are Indigenous-led and primarily serving Indigenous communities. One- or two-year grants of $10,000 to $25,000 will be provided. **The pre-proposal deadline is April 26;** For more information, go to [Landscape Conservation Catalyst Fund](#).

**July 15**
Deadline for applications for the **BLM WILDLIFE PROGRAM GRANTS** that helps ensure self-sustaining populations and a natural abundance and diversity of wildlife on public lands for the enjoyment and use of present and future generations. The Program is responsible for maintaining, restoring, and conserving species and their habitats in cooperation with the Federal and State wildlife agencies, and other partner organizations. The BLM will work with partners and maintain close collaboration with States, Tribes, other Federal agencies, and other organizations in conserving and restoring wildlife habitats to support wildlife and wildlife uses under a shared conservation stewardship approach. The Wildlife Program leverages funds with other BLM programs to address vegetation restoration that not only improves wildlife habitat, but also increases forage for livestock, improves water quality, removes invasive weed species, and reduces the threat for catastrophic wildfires. For more information, go to [Click on the full announcement link above to access the Funding Opportunity Document](#). For additional information, contact Grants Management Officer Brandon Riley at (202) 912-7540 or email [briley@blm.gov](mailto:briley@blm.gov).

**July 26**
Deadline for applications for the **PEOPLEFORBIKES COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM** that offers funding for important and influential projects that leverage federal funding and build momentum for bicycling in communities across the United States. Grants of up to $10,000 are provided for bicycle infrastructure projects and targeted advocacy initiatives that make it easier and safer for people of all ages and abilities to ride. As part of PeopleForBikes’ efforts to get more children and youth on bikes, the fall 2019 grant cycle is dedicated to supporting bike park and pump track projects only. Eligible applicants include nonprofit organizations with a focus on bicycling, active transportation, or community development; city or county agencies or departments; and state or federal agencies working locally. Letters of interest for the fall 2019 grant cycle will be accepted starting June 17; **full applications will be due October 18.** For more information, go to [PeopleForBikes Community Grant Program](#).

**September 15**
Deadline for applications for **THE 2020 - 2023 COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM (CTP) PROJECTS**. There are two sets of criteria for this project nomination opportunity: 1) Urban and Rural, and 2) Remote. Communities not connected to the road system by road or ferry are considered Remote. All other communities are considered Urban and Rural. The total funding available for this CTP nomination opportunity is approximately $50 million and may be adjusted based on the project nominations received. Please note that your area planners are available to help prepare project nominations and develop project estimates. Please contact your area planner as early as possible with your project idea. Please direct any questions to your regional planner. For more information, including the application and the area planner map, go to [http://www.dot.state.ak.us/stwdplng/cip/stip/projects/2023_ctp_peb.shtml](http://www.dot.state.ak.us/stwdplng/cip/stip/projects/2023_ctp_peb.shtml) or call (907) 465-4070 or email [dot.stip@alaska.gov](mailto:dot.stip@alaska.gov).
### DEADLINES

**June 12**
ANCHORAGE – Comments due to the proposal to **APPLY HERBICIDE for INVASIVE ELODEA CONTROL on JEWEL LAKE**. The proposed product is SonarONE, EPA registration number 67690-45, with active ingredient Fluridone. Treatment is proposed to occur between May and October throughout the duration of the permit. Elodea is an invasive aquatic plant that has the potential to grow abundantly and compromise water quality, hinder boat and float plane traffic, reduce dissolved oxygen, and impact fisheries. Control of this invasive plant will help prevent spread to other locations. Physical or mechanical controls are inappropriate, as these methods break the plant into fragments which can then reproduce. For more information or to submit comments, contact Rebecca Colvin at 907-269-7802 or email rebecca.colvin@alaska.gov.

**June 13**
Deadline to comment on the **BERING SEA-WESTERN INTERIOR REGIONAL MANAGEMENT PLAN & EIS** on a draft plan for future public land management actions in the Bering Sea-Western Interior region of Alaska. The planning area consists of about 62.3 million acres of land, including almost 13.5 million acres of public lands managed by the BLM Anchorage Field Office. When complete, the revised plan will replace the 1981 Southwest Management Framework Plan and a small portion of the 1986 Central Yukon Resource Management Plan for BLM-managed public lands in the planning area. The draft plan outlines the goals, objectives, and actions being considered to guide the management of these public lands, including management of subsistence resources, mineral exploration and development, and recreation. The Draft Resource Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (RMP/EIS) and supporting information are available on the BLM at [www.blm.gov/alaska/BSWI](http://www.blm.gov/alaska/BSWI). Submit comment to the BLM ePlanning website at [www.blm.gov/alaska/BSWI](http://www.blm.gov/alaska/BSWI) (Once on ePlanning, click on the “comment” button next to the Draft RMP/EIS document) or email to BSWI_RMP_Comment@blm.gov.

**June 14**
ADMIRALTY ISLAND - Deadline for comments on the **HECLA GREENS CREEK MINING COMPANY’S PROPOSED for GEOTECHNICAL DRILLING, and for the INSTALLATION of INSTRUMENTS for LONG-TERM INVESTIGATIONS** at their mine site on Admiralty Island. Hecla Greens Creek Mining Company has proposed eight (8) geotechnical drilling sites at three (3) mine site locations. The proposed activities are for the installation of geophysical and/or hydrological instruments for long-term monitoring. Approximately 3-5 trees will be cut for the proposed Site 23 and its associated helipad. The land disturbance from Site 23 and the helipad will be .8 acres. Site 23 and the helipad are located in the Juneau Urban Inventoried Roadless Area 307. The other drill pad locations will be accessed via the road with a total disturbance of .3 acres. The total disturbance from these geotechnical activities will be approximately 1.1 acres. No roads will be constructed during this activity. Surface activities will commence the summer or fall of 2019. Hecla Greens Creek Mining Company’s Plan of Operations for this activity and other information, including maps for the drilling sites, are available for: [https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=55668](https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=55668). For more
June 14
Deadline for application for the BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT (BLM) for 5 ALASKA POSITIONS on RESOURCE ADVISORY COUNCILS (RACS). These citizen-based committees assist in the development of recommendations that address public land management issues. RACs are critical in assisting the BLM in continuing to be a good neighbor in communities served by the Bureau, providing advice and recommendations on issues including land use planning, fire management, off-highway vehicle use, recreation, oil and gas exploration, mining, and noxious weed management. Individuals may nominate themselves or others to serve on a RAC. Nominees, who must be residents of Alaska where the RAC has jurisdiction, will be reviewed based on their training, education, and knowledge of the RAC’s geographic area. Nominees should also demonstrate a commitment to consensus building and collaborative decision-making. Letters of reference must accompany all nominations from any represented interests or organizations, a completed RAC application, and any other information that speaks to the nominee’s qualifications. Position are open the following categories: Category One – Representatives of organizations associated with energy/mineral development; federal grazing permit holders; the timber industry; transportation or rights-of-way; off-highway vehicles users; and commercial and developed outdoor recreation. Category Two – Representatives of archeological and historic organizations; dispersed recreation users; wild horse and burros organizations; and nationally or regionally-recognized environmental organizations. Category Three – Representatives of state, county, or local elected office; Indian tribes located within or adjacent to the area for which the RAC is organized; academicians employed in natural resource management or natural sciences; employees of a state agency responsible for management of natural resources; and the public at large. For more information, please contact Jim Hart at (907) 271-3130 or jehart@blm.gov.

June 20
Deadline for nominations/applications for the NATIONAL PACIFIC RESEARCH BOARD (NPRB) ADVISORY & SCIENCE PANELS. The ARCTIC REGION SEAT is vacant on the ADVISORY PANEL and there are three (3) seats open on the SCIENCE PANEL. The Advisory Panel represents stakeholders, user groups, and other interested parties from regions within the Board’s purview: The Gulf of Alaska, the Bering Sea, and the Arctic, and one at-large seat. Appointments are for three-year terms, with a maximum of two consecutive terms. The seat currently vacant and advertised here represents the Arctic region. Advisory Panel members advise the Board on accomplishing its overall mission of fielding a high caliber, comprehensive research program that will: 1) improve our understanding of the Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands, and Arctic Ocean ecosystems and their fisheries, and 2) help to sustain and enhance marine resources. The Science Panel advises the Board on science planning and identification of research priorities; identification and evaluation of scientific information relevant to the Board’s mission; and review of proposals and technical evaluations received by the board. For full position descriptions for the panel, go to https://www.nprb.org/news/detail/immediate-release-nprb-seeks-nominations-for-advisory-science-panels-by-jun?utm_source=NPRB+Master+List&utm_campaign=51b7be27b8-
**June 24**

MAT-SU - Comments due on the proposal for GLENN HIGHWAY MILEPOST 66.5 TO 92 PAVEMENT PRESERVATION DOT&PF is soliciting comments and information on a project that would resurface approximately 26 miles of the Glenn Highway, from KINGS RIVER BRIDGE to CASCADE. The proposed work would include: • Rehabilitation of roadway structural sections; • Bridge maintenance, repair, and bridge deck overlays; • Replacement, repair, or installation of roadside hardware (e.g. lights, signs, guardrail, and bridge rail); • Drainage Improvements, including stabilization of eroded areas; • Intersection improvements; • Upgrading facilities to comply with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements; and • Relocation or adjustment of utilities. Construction for the proposed project is anticipated to begin in the summer of 2020. Submit comments to Brian Elliott, Regional Environmental Manager, at brian.elliott@alaska.gov.

**June 24**

Deadline for comments on the proposal to an ALASKA POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (APDES) INDIVIDUAL PERMIT to JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON (JBER) for discharge into KNIK ARM and SHIP CREEK. Mixing zone proposed in Essential Fish Habitat: No. Permit documents are available at http://dec.alaska.gov/water/wastewater/public-notices#AKS053651. Submit comments to William Ashton at William.Ashton@alaska.gov.

**EVENTS & MEETINGS in ANCHORAGE, EAGLE RIVER & GIRDWOOD**

**Now to September 14**

The ALASKA PUBLIC LANDS INFORMATION CENTER (APLIC) in the old federal building (guests have to go through security upon entrance) at 605 W 4th Avenue will feature discussion on the following topics at 2pm:

**Mondays** - “No One Eats Like We Do” with discussions on subsistence uses of plants, fish and mammals in Alaska,

**Tuesdays** - “Stories from the Forest” centered around Alaska’s national forests and to celebrate Smoky Bear’s 75th anniversary,

**Wednesdays** - “Women of the Wilderness” will showcase the achievements women have made to science, culture, and history in Alaska,

**Thursdays** - “Alaska Zoo days” where staff from the Alaska Zoo will come to the center with an animal companion to give programs and presentations,

**Fridays** - “Coffee with a Scientist” where a local scientist comes into the theater and gives a presentation on their area of study or expertise while free coffee and cookies are provided to those in attendance,

**Saturdays** –“Bird TLC Days” where folks from the Bird Treatment and Learning Center bring a rehabilitated bird to the center and discuss how they rehabilitate and release the treated birds.

**Sundays** - “Rangers Choice” when the topic of choice is up to the ranger to decide. The programs are open and free of charge to all. APLIC is open from 9am-5pm daily. For more information, call 907-644-3661 or contact Mary Kate Repetski, at mary_repetski@nps.gov, James Fess, at james_fess@partner.nps.gov, or go to www.alaskacenters.gov.
June & July (Every Saturday & Monday)
POTTER MARSH BIRD WALKS will be from 8 to 10am on Saturdays and from 7 to 9pm on Mondays. Meet your guide at the boardwalk entrance kiosk at Potter Marsh. Join us for a guided leisurely walk on the Potter Marsh boardwalk and nearby trails to identify and learn about the area’s wildlife. This family-friendly event is free and is for the beginning birder as well as those that know their way around a bird’s wing. Binoculars are available for loan (no charge) and spotting scopes and guidebooks will also be available. Walks will take place rain-or-shine, so dress accordingly. Kids are encouraged to attend and wheelchair accessible. Sponsored by Audubon Alaska and the Alaska Department of Fish & Game. Free. For more information, contact Joe Meehan at (907) 267-2281.

June 7
THE AK FLYWAY- GRAND OPENING AND FIRST FRIDAY EVENT will be held from 6 to 8pm at the BLM Campbell Creek Science Center, 5600 Science Center Drive. This is a festive evening to rejoice in the return of summer and Alaska's migratory birds. Featuring the installation of our NEW BIRD MIGRATION EXHIBIT: THE AK FLYWAY. The event includes a guided bird walk, scavenger hunts for the kids, and information about birding apps like eBird. It is free and open to the public. For more information, please call 267-1241.

**June 8
The POTTER MARSH-A-THON BIRDING SMACKDOWN will be held from 7:30am to Noon followed by a potluck picnic. Fabulous Prizes will be awarded for most species seen. Teams may consist of 2-6 people. The team must remain within voice or sight contact and must fit into one vehicle. Species may only be counted if they are seen/heard by the entire team (Exceptions: 6-person teams may count birds seen by 5 members, and 5-person teams may count birds seen by 4 members. Birds heard may be counted even if hearing-impaired members do not hear them.) Check-In is at 7:30 am in the parking lot at the north end of the marsh. Teams will be given a check list and a Potter Marsh map on which to log the location of each species seen. At the end of the contest, we’ll re-cap sightings to allow all participants to re-locate desired species. Entry fee is $20.00 per team. Exact Change is required. The Official Smackdown ends precisely at Noon. Teams will be penalized one species per minute late. Birds may be counted only if seen from designated roads and trails in the Potter Marsh area. No stopping or walking will be allowed on the West side of the New Seward Highway. Birds seen in non-designated areas may be counted if the observers are standing within a designated area. SPECIAL SAFETY RULES: No stopping is allowed on the New Seward Highway except in designated turnouts on the East side of the highway and pulling into the designated turn-outs is only allowed for vehicles traveling NORTH. Parking in a manner that blocks other teams from using a pull-out will result in a penalty of 15 species. Everybody is welcome, so assemble your team, whip up a dish to share, and meet us at 7:30 for a hilarious birding field trip with Fabulous Prizes! Birding will be limited to the Potter Marsh area.

**June 8
Explore the quiet wonders of the CAMPBELL CREEK ESTUARY NATURAL AREA! Bring your family and friends to this free event to learn more about this special place. There will be volunteers set up with binoculars and spotting scopes to look for wildlife. Other kid-friendly activities like nature bingo cards to play as you explore the park, and fun and educational tables
throughout with activities related to the plants and animals that call this area home will also be available. Click here for more information.

**June 8**
Help CONSTRUCT A NEW ONE-MILE SECTION of the MIDDLE FORK of CAMPBELL CREEK TRAIL from 10am to 5pm. Meet at the Prospect Heights Trailhead. This new section will replace and realign an old, unsustainable stretch. Chugach State Park has been working for over a decade to complete the Middle Fork Trail and this is the last section to be completed. This is an extremely rewarding and engaging way for volunteers to leave a lasting positive impact on this beloved trail in Chugach State Park. Bring: Lunch, rain gear, work gloves, long work pants and leather boots. To register, go to https://www.eventbrite.com/e/middle-fork-trail-work-day-tickets-61450428887.

**June 9**
Celebrate the NEW NATURE VIEWING PLATFORM at WESTCHESTER LAGOON at 10am. The platform is located across the little island by the boat ramp at the North Parking Lot. Wildlife Biologist/ Naturalist, JOHN WENGER, has donated the platform to the people of Alaska and “all those who help save our natural world”. At noon and during high tide, there will be a nature walk on the Coastal Trail so bring your field guides and binoculars.

**June 10**
The CHUGACH STATE PARK CITIZEN ADVISORY BOARD will meet at 6pm in the Atwood Building, 550 West 7th Ave. Suite 102. Agenda items will include a presentation by the Mountaineering Club of Alaska. The agenda is subject to change. The Chugach State Park Advisory Board consists of up to fifteen members appointed by the Director of the Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation. Members are selected to ensure representation of a variety of park user groups and interests. For more information, contact Kurt Hensel, Superintendent, at 907-345-6014 or email kurt.hensel@alaska.gov.

**June 12**
SOLARIZE ROGERS PARK WORKSHOP #5 hosted by The Alaska Center will be held from 6 to 7:30pm at the BP Energy Center, 900 E. Benson Blvd. Public welcome.

**June 12**
BEAR AWARE FOR FAMILIES with ELLEN GROVER, ADFG will be presented at 7pm at the BLM Campbell Creek Science Center, 5600 Science Center Drive. Summer in Alaska is full of fun, kid-friendly outdoor activities. It’s also the time of year when we share the trails, woods, and creeks with bears. Does your family know how to behave in bear country? During this program, we’ll help you get more comfortable about your family’s summer outdoor adventures. You'll learn more about bears and ways to be safe in bear country. You'll also get a chance to learn about bear spray and practice using it.

**June 13**
Public hearing will be held on the TOWN SQUARE MASTER PLAN DRAFT at 7pm before the Parks and Recreation Commission, at the Spenard Recreation Center, 2020 W. 48th Avenue. The master plan provides a 20-year vision that seeks to address issues, prioritize improvements,
and identify strategies to ensure that Town Square Park is a safe and thriving public space for all. Following approval of the master plan, the Parks and Recreation Department will begin prioritizing implementation items and investments in Town Square Park. For more information and to view the Town Square Park Master Plan, go to http://www.muni.org/Departments/parks/Pages/TownsquareParkMasterPlan.aspx or download a copy here.

June 15
Help IMPROVE DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT to the POPULAR WINNER CREEK TRAIL from 10am to 3pm. Meet at the Winner Creek Gorge Trailhead (Lower Winner Creek Trail), 601 Crow Creek Road. The primary focus will be on cleaning out, maintaining and improving a number of drainage ditches. There is also potential to install new drainage features, harden wet spots with gravel, and do some nearby brushing work. To register, go to https://www.eventbrite.com/e/winner-creek-trail-work-day-tickets-61502207759.

June 19
ALASKA WILDLIFE ALLIANCE presents THE COOK INLET BELUGA WHALE PHOTO-ID PROJECT—HIGHLIGHTS from a LONG-TERM STUDY with Dr. TAMARA MCGUIRE, Wildlife Biologist at Aqua Wildlife Research from 7 to 8pm at the BP Energy Center. Free donuts will be provided courtesy of Dipper Donuts and families are welcome! Visit our website for more information.

**June 20
Learn about DRAGONFLIES from JOHN HUDSON at 7pm at the BLM Campbell Creek Science Center, 5600 Science Center Drive. Dragonflies have been around for about 325 million years. The adults are quick aerial acrobats in our summer skies. They spot their prey with 60,000 eyes and then catch it in midflight with their spiny legs. Dragonfly larvae lurk beneath the surface of ponds and lakes and shoot out their jaw to catch their prey. Learn more about the biology, ecology, and natural history of these ancient creatures from John Hudson, co-author of Dragons in the Ponds. Pick up your own copy of Dragons in the Ponds at this talk.

**June 26
SPENARD CORRIDOR PLAN OPEN HOUSE will be held from 4 to 7pm at the Church of Love, 3502 Spenard Road. The Spenard Corridor Plan is Anchorage's first transit-oriented development plan that combines both land use planning and transportation planning. The Plan will serve as a tool to integrate the needs of the Spenard community and serve as the primary guide for future development and public improvements along the Spenard Road corridor planning area. The planning team welcomes your comments and feedback on the public review draft. The deadline for comments is July, 19. To see the plan, go to Draft Spenard Corridor Plan.

MEETINGS & EVENTS OUT OF ANCHORAGE

June 7
FAIRBANKS: NORTHERN ALASKA ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER will hold its DONOR APPRECIATION PICNIC from 5:30 to 8:30pm at 830 College Road. We invite our donors and supporters to join us for a backyard picnic to catch up on our work, celebrate our community, and share a meal. Main course provided. Side dish and pie potluck. Lawn games if the weather is nice.

June 8
PALMER - FUN on the FLATS - REFLECTIONS LAKE DISCOVERY DAY will be held from 11am to 3pm at Reflections Lake, Mile 30 Glenn Highway at the Knik River Access exit. Get outdoors and explore the Palmer Hay Flats State Game Refuge; Family-friendly events including nature walks, booths, activities and art; Learn to identify birds on the refuge; Live educational bird presentation; Bear spray demonstrations; Trap release demonstrations; Learn to cast a fly rod; Help stock lake with fish; Food truck on-site.

June 8 & 22
CELEBRATE NATIONAL TRAILS by improving trails at the following locations:
  
  June 8 – MOOSE PASS – The project is constructing a NEW SECTION of the IDITAROD NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL BEGINNING at ROCKY CREEK where and working SOUTH TOWARD VICTOR CREEK from 8:30am to 4:30 pm. Meet at the Kenai Lake Work Center, 33599 Ranger Station Spur. The work will be strenuous and the terrain steep. Volunteers should be aware of their own abilities. The trail crew will have the trail corridor cleared of downed logs and partnering youth crews will be working on constructing trail tread the week leading up to the event. Volunteers will work alongside two youth crews and Forest Service employees. Register at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/rocky-creek-iditarod-national-historic-trail-volunteer-event-tickets-61445530235.

  June 22 – PALMER - Join us to REHABILITATE SOME of the MAT-SU'S FINEST TRAILS from 9am to 4pm. Meet at the Lazy Mountain Trailhead, 2851 N Mountain Trail Circle. Participants will use hand tools to help stop switchback cutting and rogue social trails by transplanting vegetation and placing obstructions such as tree trunks and limbs to direct traffic on the trail. No previous experience needed. There will be some physical labor involved so the ability to hike and use various hand tools is important. Bring: Lunch, snacks, water, bug dope, rain gear, backpack, and gloves. To register, go to https://www.eventbrite.com/e/lazy-moose-trail-day-mat-su-borough-tickets-61894688680.

**June 8
DENALI - DENALI CITIZENS COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING will be held from 6 to 9pm at Tonglen Lake Lodge, Denali. Get together with old friends where we can all discuss the pressing issues of the day. The annual Board Member Election will also be held at the meeting. Don't miss it. Non-members are welcome.

June 8
COOPER LANDING - Join DEFENDERS OF WILDLIFE on the Kenai Peninsula when we partner with the U.S. Forest Service for a STEWARDSHIP DAY AT THE RUSSIAN RIVER. We will help prepare the Russian River from 10am to 4pm at the Russian River Campground for its busiest time of year, when salmon return to spawn and attract bears fisherfolk and tourists. We will be volunteering to help the Forest Service put up seasonal fencing and informational
signs on the Chugach National Forest that will keep humans and bears safe and protect salmon habitat. Volunteers will get a Defenders T-shirt, pizza, and **FREE CAMPING** at the Russian River Campground. Please RSVP to register and get more information to nwhittington-evans@defenders.org or call 907-272-0306. Campsites will fill up fast!! Also, go to the following link to see a short video and learn more about last year’s Stewardship Day and what it was like for volunteers at https://medium.com/wild-without-end/stewardship-for-the-russian-river-7af993206d4d.

June 12, 19, & 26
FAIRBANKS – The **DISCOVER ALASKA LECTURE SERIES** will be held at 7pm in the Murie Building auditorium, UAF presenting the following:

**June 12 - UNMANNED AERIAL SYSTEMS: THEIR CAPABILITIES, POTENTIAL, and CURRENT RESEARCH USES** with PETER WEBLEY, associate director of research, UAF Alaska Center for Unmanned Aircraft Systems Integration.

**June 19 - READING NATURE’S STORY: INTERPRETING TRACKS and SIGNS of ALASKA’S WILDLIFE** with MIKE TARAS, wildlife education and outreach specialist, Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

**June 26 - RESPONSES, RISKS and RESILIENCE of ARCTIC MARINE MAMMALS in a CHANGING CLIMATE** with DONNA HAUSER, research assistant professor, UAF International Arctic Research Center.

**June 13 (TELECONFERENCE AVAILABLE)**
FAIRBANKS - Public hearing will be held for **WILDLIFE TEMPORARY SPECIAL ACTION REQUEST for CARIBOU in UNITS 20E, 25C, and a PORTION of 20F** from 5 to 8pm in Pike's Waterfront Lodge, Fireweed Room (2nd Floor. The Temporary Special Action request WSA19-06, submitted by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Eastern Interior Field Office, requests that the Board change the harvest limit for caribou in Units 20E, 20F, and 25C to *up to two* caribou, change the winter season to October 21–March 31, and provide delegated authority to the Federal manager to set sex restrictions in all three units. The proponent also requests additional delegated authority to modify harvest limits and season dates in Unit 20F. The Federal manager currently has this authority in Units 20E and 25C. At this meeting, the public will have an opportunity to provide testimony to representatives of the Federal Subsistence Management Program. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend this meeting in person or by calling Teleconference: Toll Free: (888) 566-1030, Passcode: 3344290.

June 15
PALMER - **WILD PLANTS and OUTDOOR COOKING (ALASKANS AFIELD)** will be held from 10am to 2pm at the Spring Creek Farm, 6402 Lossing Road. Join us for an interpretive hike where you'll learn the common names and properties of wild plants. Help harvest some of nature's edible delights to add to recipes we'll cook up in our backcountry kitchen. We'll set up different camp stoves and discuss how to plan and prepare lightweight, delicious meals for your next outdoor adventure. [Register at Alaskans Afield](#).

**June 20**
HAINES - BLM Alaska will hold an Open House to provide INFORMATION ON HAINES AREA PLANNING EFFORT from 6:30 to 8:30pm at the Chilkat Center for the Arts for the Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the HAINES AMENDMENT to the RING of FIRE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN. The amendment would affect recreation on approximately 326,000 acres of BLM-managed public lands in the Haines Area. There will be a 30-minute presentation on the preferred alternative at 7 p.m. BLM staff will be on hand to answer questions. In addition, participants can submit written comments during the Open House. The Supplemental Draft EIS are available at https://www.blm.gov/press-release/blm-alaska-seeks-public-input-haines-area-planning-effort-2019. Comments are due by August 1. Submit comments to blm_ak_afo_rof_amend@blm.gov. For more information, contact Maureen Clark at 907-267-1420 or email m1clark@blm.gov.

**June 28 – 30**

FAIRBANKS - NATIONAL PARK SERVICE OFFERS LEARN-TO-CAMP PROGRAM for FAMILIES. Learn to camp with national park rangers from the Fairbanks Alaska Public Lands Information Center this summer! Family C.A.M.P. (Camping Adventures with My Parents) is a weekend learn-to-camp program for families that takes place in Denali National Park and Preserve. Park rangers will facilitate this fun, educational weekend designed to provide participants with the basic skills and knowledge to tent camp safely and responsibly in Alaska. Families will get plenty of hands-on experience working together on campsite set-up, cooking, wildlife safety preparedness, and more while immersed in the wonders of a wild and spectacular national park. Participants (approximately 20 people) will camp with park rangers in a group campsite at the Savage River Campground, located at approximately Mile 13 on the Denali Park Road. The Fairbanks Alaska Public Lands Information Center will provide camping gear for participant use during the weekend and Alaska Geographic will provide meals and snacks from Friday dinner through Sunday lunch. Families are responsible for driving themselves to and from Denali, paying the $15.00 per person (age 16 years and older) park entrance fee, and attending a required orientation session in Fairbanks on Tuesday, June 25 from 6 to 8pm. For more information or to apply, e-mail the National Park Service education staff at faplic_education@nps.gov by Wednesday, June 19. Space is limited, so apply today to participate in this low cost, high value outdoor learning weekend!

**June 29**

FAIRBANKS - WEED SMACKDOWN EVENT will be held by THE FAIRBANKS SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT from 11am to 1pm at the South Davis Fairbanks Dog Park. Come out to make the Fairbanks Dog Park a more beautiful and safer place for your pups to play! Learn about different kinds of invasive plant species and how to remove them. Pull a bag of weeds, earn a free hot dog & a chance to win prizes!

ITEMS of INTEREST

Episode 1 of the new AKCC podcast - CARBON PRICING is available. Earlier this winter BRETTWOOD HIGMAN was interviewed for this episode by BJORN OLSON who worked with Seward musician, MARK TECKENBROCK, on an original score. SKYLER KLINE did the graphics and web layout. We would be honored if you gave it a listen and let us know what
you think. We are also open to suggestions for future episodes. Go to https://www.alaskansknowclimatechange.com/podcast to see it.

**NITROUS OXIDE EMISSIONS FROM THAWING ALASKAN PERMAFROST ARE 12 TIMES HIGHER THAN PREVIOUSLY ASSUMED.** A recent paper shows that nitrous oxide emissions from thawing Alaskan permafrost are about twelve times higher than previously assumed.

The **PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND REGIONAL CITIZENS’ ADVISORY COUNCIL** has released the **LATEST EDITION** of **“THEN and NOW: 30 YEARS AFTER the EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL.”** This publication, updated by the council every five years, documents improvements to the oil spill prevention and response system in Prince William Sound, current and ongoing concerns, and ways the council is planning for the future. Copies are available at http://www.pwsrcac.org/wp-content/uploads/filebase/resources/thennow/Then-and-Now_web.pdf.

**VOLUNTEER and BOARD OPPORTUNITIES**

**ANCHORAGE AUDUBON** needs a **COMMUNICATIONS TECHNICIAN** to assist with Newsletters and the New Audubon Facebook page. If you are a hotshot writer and completely at home with Birds, Facebook, and Online Newsletter production, we’d love to give you the dubious title of Press Secretary. Just contact Keys at cic@anchorageaudubon.org.

**ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL JUSTICE COORDINATOR** for the **SIERRA CLUB ALASKA CHAPTER** to help strengthen efforts on environmental and social justice issues. This work is done in coordination with community-based organizations so that Sierra Club can use its institutional resources to add capacity to existing community based environmental and social justice work. **Qualifications:** Familiarity with and commitment to the Jemez Principles (see below). Deep concern about environmental and social justice (E&SJ) issues, and the ability to articulate them. Experience in building and sustaining relationships with community members. To apply, email Mushroomechristin@gmail.com.

**INTERNSHIP**

**ALASKA MARITIME NATIONAL WILDLIFE RESERVE** is seeking a **A YEAR-LONG INTERN** team member to join our education & outreach team starting in September 2019! Seeking an individual enthusiastic about engaging with the public through education work, event programming, volunteer management, communications and marketing, and supporting our visitor center! To join the team and share stories of amazing wildlife. **Travel Stipend; Housing; Weekly Living Allowance Provided. Apply at** https://bit.ly/2HCzJ6P. For more information, contact Marianne Aplin at 907-226-4619 or email Marianne_Aplin@fws.gov; 907-226-4619.

**FARMERS in HOMER** are often seeking part-time to **FULL-TIME HELP** in the field and around the farm. If you or someone you know would like such work (it’s better if you are looking for experience rather than looking to make lots of money), then please contact the
Homer Soil and Water office. They are keeping a list of interested possibilities to match up with farmers. Call 907-235-8177 ext 5 or email Kyra@homerSWCD.org.

VISITOR SERVICES/INTERPRETER at the EAGLE RIVER NATURE CENTER. We are seeking 2 intern positions from **July 24 through September 15** (or longer) to provide visitor services and interpretive information. Applicants should be outgoing, personable, and in good physical condition. The following will be provided: training, weekly stipend, housing, and use of a vehicle. For more information and to apply contact Laura Kruger, Operations Manager, at admin@ernc.org, call 907-694-2108 or go to www.ernc.org.

INTERPRETATION/DIVE FELLOW for the ALASKA SEALIFE CENTER. Must be an active scientific diver. We hope to enhance the Fellow participant’s current education and background with new practical knowledge and skills, which may prove useful in a career in a public aquarium. Under the guidance of Interpretation and Dive staff, the Fellow will be trained and expected to perform the following duties: Interpret all the Alaska SeaLife Center’s static and live animal exhibits housing marine mammals, birds, fish, and invertebrates. Help maintain the physical appearance of manned exhibits and deliver announcements over the public address system. Present briefings, lectures, presentations, multi-media shows, structured and impromptu talks, and guided tours on all the Alaska SeaLife Center’s static and live animal exhibits by learning to employ appropriate interpretive techniques and devices geared to the characteristics and interest of particular audiences. Assist in staff diving functions, which may include training in exhibit maintenance, dive tending, dive cylinder filling, planning and logistical support of dives, diving safety, and emergency procedures. Manage dive gear and assist in the logistics of group dives. Maintain and repair dive equipment and maintaining logs of equipment maintenance and repair. Deliver diving-related information to visitors in our galleries and on behind the scenes tours. Apply at https://www.alaskasealife.org/employment_opportunities.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR for the TAKSHANUK WATERSEHD COUNCIL (TWC) in Haines to strengthen and advance TWC’s programs and services and implement TWC’s strategic plan. The ideal candidate will share TWC’s core values of being science-based, credible, professional, collaborative, invested, and visionary. **Qualifications:** • An advanced degree related to natural resource management and/or professional experience relating to the fields of natural resource management, • 3-5 years’ experience in non-profits and non-profit leadership, grant writing and reporting experience, • Ability to develop and track organizational budgets with Quickbooks experience preferred, • Strong speaking, presentation, writing, and listening skills, organizational leadership experience particularly working with non-profit boards and government agencies, • Proficiency with standard computer software, ability to work under pressure and deadlines, and prior experience in Alas ka (preferred but not required). Full-time salary range of $40,000 - $50,000 annually. **To apply**, send an email with a cover letter detailing qualifications, CV/resume, and salary requirements to Meredith@takshanuk.org. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis and accepted until **June 15** with an anticipated start date of **July 1, 2019**.
AYEA 20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION COORDINATOR for the Alaska Center Education Fund in Anchorage will plan and implement AYEA's 20th Anniversary Celebration that was rescheduled due to the earthquake and will work closely with AYEA alumni and Alaska Center staff to implement both a Gala on Friday and a Reunion on Saturday. This person would ideally be based in Anchorage. Dates: mid-May to mid-Oct. 10, ~5 hours per week. Compensation Depends On Experience. Please send a letter of interest and resume to margi@akcenter.org.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR for ALPAR (ALASKANS for LITTER PREVENTION and RECYCLING) to continue to build cooperative business relationships and communicate effectively with diverse audiences throughout the state to promote the mission of this important nonprofit to eliminating litter and increasing economically viable recycling in Alaska. Qualifications: Our ideal candidate is an experienced business or non-profit leader with knowledge of public relations, program management, event planning, fiscal management, and a passion for the positive impact of responsible and effective community programs. Specific qualifications include: Commitment to the cause of economically feasible recycling and litter prevention. Outstanding written and oral communication skills. Ability to create and implement effective publicity and educational campaigns. 4-year degree in public relations, marketing, business management, strategic communication or comparable professional experience. Knowledge of the Alaskan business community. Ability to work effectively with a wide range of businesses and organizations. Ability to manage multiple projects simultaneously and to juggle diverse tasks. Basic accounting skills with a working knowledge of QuickBooks. Successful experience working with rural communities is a plus. ALPAR offers a competitive salary and benefits package. Interested applicants should send a cover letter, resume, salary requirements and references to alpar@gci.net or mail to ALPAR at PO Box 200393, Anchorage, AK 99520.

CONSERVATION PROJECT COORDINATOR for the INTERIOR ALASKA LAND TRUST to work with the public, landowners, and government groups to conserve open space in the Fairbanks area. The Conservation Coordinator will work on a part-time contract basis, providing his/her own workspace, computer and internet access, and be supervised by the Interior Alaska Land Trust Board of Directors. Requirements: • Self-motivated: figures out what needs to be done & does it; • Excellent organizational skills; • Excellent written and oral communication skills; • Experience and skill with computer word processing, e-mail, and social media; • Experience working as a member of a team to develop and complete projects; • Computer and access to internet. Part-time (approx. 20-30 hours/week) $15 – 25/hour DOE. To see the full job description, go to https://interioralaskalandtrust.files.wordpress.com/2019/02/conservation-project-coordinator.pdf. To Apply: Please email a resume/CV and cover letter detailing your qualifications to interioraklandtrust@gmail.com.

To RECEIVE What's Up, ADD items, CHANGE EMAIL ADDRESS or UNSUBSCRIBE, contact Peg Tileston at pegt@gci.net.