

What's Up

September 3, 2024

Compiled weekly by Peg Tileston on behalf of Trustees for Alaska, The Alaska Center, and The Alaska Conservation Foundation.

****Marks added items in this issue.**

CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, SEMINARS, SPECIAL EVENTS

September 21 – 22

HOMER - MUSHROOM ID & MYCOLOGY WORKSHOP will be held at the Carl Wenn Visitor Center. In this special weekend workshop, you'll join mushroom enthusiast and mycologist **CHRISTIN SWEARINGEN** for a deep dive into the different fungi that inhabit this corner of Southcentral Alaska! This workshop is geared toward adult participants, however mature kids and teens are welcome if accompanied by an adult. The cost for this two-day workshop is \$60/person. Saturday, Day One Session runs 9am-Noon followed by a half-hour break, then resumes 12:30 to 3pm. Sunday Day Two Session runs 11am to 1pm, followed by a half-hour break, then resumes from 1:30 to 3pm. [Learn more.](#)

September 25

Start of **INTRODUCTION to SUSTAINABLE ENERGY**, a three-credit online class offered by the UAF Bristol Bay Campus. The class explores the impacts of energy systems and pathways to sustainability including renewable energy, energy efficiency and policy. Tuition is paid for by the Drumbeats Coalition. More information is available here: [link](#).

November 1 – 3

SITKA – The 28th ANNUAL SITKA WHALEFEST SCIENCE SYMPOSIUM will be held featuring 9 different talks from premier scientists and community leaders centering around each year's theme. Join us for an unforgettable Science Festival that mixes culture and community with leading research in unique and unexpected ways. From morning snorkeling to scientific illustration, and of course our Alaskan made market, there are plenty of events to keep both the science minded and curious busy. [Event Link](#).

January 27 - 31

ANCHORAGE - ALASKA MARINE SCIENCE SYMPOSIUM (AMSS), Alaska's premier marine research conference, will be held at the Hotel Captain Cook. The Symposium will bring together scientists, educators, resource managers, students, and interested public to discuss the latest marine research being conducted in Alaskan waters. Each day of the conference highlights important Alaskan marine ecosystems: Gulf of Alaska, Arctic, and the Bering Sea & Aleutian Islands. Research topics discussed range from ocean physics, fishes and invertebrates, seabirds, marine mammals, to local traditional knowledge. Since its inception, NPRB has been a proud sponsor and one of the leading organizers of AMSS. [Event Link](#)

February 18 – 20

SITKA - MARICULTURE CONFERENCE of ALASKA is an opportunity for farmers, researchers, community leaders, and professionals in mariculture-related industries and agencies to present on and discuss the latest mariculture science and activities in Alaska. The conference supports the development of shellfish and seaweed production in Alaska, looking at accomplishments and opportunities in research, education, industry growth, and the vital role of traditional knowledge in advancing sustainable mariculture. The conference will be held in conjunction with annual meetings for members of the Alaska Mariculture Alliance and Alaska Shellfish Growers Association. For more information, go to [CONFERENCE WEBSITE](#).

WEBINARS

September 25 (Webinar)

LANDSCAPE of TRIBAL COMMUNITIES: CONTEXT for WORKING in RURAL ALASKA will be held from 11am to Noon. Current funding opportunities for Arctic climate research and Indigenous priorities are needed but can simultaneously place a burden on Tribal communities in Alaska. The lack of capacity at the local level to receive and distribute these funds is challenging. Tribes, Tribal organizations and other rural and urban entities are left scrambling to access funding. **ADELHEID HERRMANN**, co-investigator at ACCAP, will discuss a set of resources she developed to help researchers, academics, and federal and state agencies working in rural Alaska understand the current landscape and complexities of Tribal communities. Herrmann's graphics help people visualize the overwhelming number of external and internal forces that Tribes and Tribal members deal with daily. [Register Here](#).

PUBLIC HEARINGS/MEETINGS/OPEN HOUSE

September 12

SEWARD - Public meeting will be held at 6:30pm Kenai Fjords National Park Visitor Center to discuss the environmental assessment for the **KENAI FJORDS NATIONAL PARK** that addresses visitor use at the park's most popular inland destination. For many years, the frontcountry area has offered visitors a unique opportunity to see and experience Exit Glacier up close. However, the glacier has retreated substantially due to a warming climate, so we need a new plan to adapt and diversify visitor opportunities in this area while stewarding park resources. We invite you to participate in reviewing and commenting on the plan and environmental assessment. This is an opportunity to learn more about the plan and ask questions of National Park Service staff.

September 16 & 18 (Virtual)

The **EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL TRUSTEE COUNCIL PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE** and **TRUSTEE COUNCIL** will meet via Microsoft Teams conferencing platform. The Public Advisory Committee will meet from Noon to 2pm on September 16 and the Trustee Council will meet from 10:30am to Noon on September 18. Participation access is available at www.evostc.state.ak.us/events. The meeting agenda will include the review of the Killley River Purchase Project (KEN 2015). For more information call: 907.278.8012 or 800.478.7745.

****September 17 (In-person & virtual)**

ANCHORAGE - ROADS and HIGHWAYS ADVISORY BOARD will hold a public meeting from 1 to 4pm at 4111 Aviation Avenue (Upside-down Building) or via Zoom at <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81883707942>.

****September 18 (Virtual)**

ALASKA MARINE POLICY FORUM, sponsored by Alaska Sea Grant and Alaska Ocean Observing System will meet from 1 to 2pm (AKDT) via Zoom. Every other month we host a one-hour meeting with participants across the state interested in marine policy in Alaska. Hear the latest about state and federal marine funding, legislation and policy issues. If you would like to speak on the call or have ideas for topics, please [email Ginny Eckert](#). To register, go to [Register for September Meeting](#).

EVENTS & MEETINGS in the ANCHORAGE AREA

Please take the **ANCHORAGE WATERWAYS COUNCIL'S (AWC) WATERSHED PERCEPTION SURVEY** which provides us with a good picture of your thoughts, concerns, and suggestions regarding the state of Anchorage's creeks and lakes. The results are compared to previous surveys that were completed in 2010, 2015, and 2020. We need at least 400 respondents who live WITHIN the Municipality, so please help us by taking the survey (15-20 minutes). All those who respond and leave a contact email will be entered into a "Thank You" drawing for one of ten \$25 gift cards from Alaska Mill and Feed. Your help is greatly appreciated! <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GJWSWTK>. For more information, contact Cherie Northon, Ph.D. Executive Director, at (907) 272-7335 or email www.anchoragecreeks.org.

SURVEY on the NEED for ELECTRIC VEHICLE (EV) CHARGING STATIONS at [Take The Survey!](#). The Anchorage Community Development Authority (ACDA) is excited to announce its application for federal funding aimed at installing electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure in publicly accessible locations throughout the Municipality of Anchorage. This initiative focuses particularly on underserved communities to ensure equitable access to EV charging facilities. This project aims to support the transition to cleaner energy by providing the necessary infrastructure to encourage EV adoption. The installation of these charging stations will help reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve air quality, and support Anchorage's commitment to sustainability.

FREE OFFICE FURNITURE: Defenders of Wildlife's Anchorage office is transitioning to a remote office. We have office furniture that we are hoping to donate to non-profits. If your organization, or you know of any other organization that would be interested in nice desks, conference tables, chairs and more, please contact: For more information, contact Nicole Whittington-Evans at: nwhittington-evans@defenders.org, or at: (907) 272-0306.

September 5

BEER om the GARDEN will be held from 6 to 9pm at the Alaska Botanical Garden. That craft beer and cider from local breweries amongst the late season blooms, autumn foliage, and harvest themed displays. Local food vendors will be onsite with delicious food for purchase. This event also features live music, lawn games, and fire pits. For more information and ticket purchase, go to https://www.flipcause.com/secure/cause_pdetails/MjEyMjI0.

September 7

HIKE & WRITE with the ALASKA WRITERS GUILD from 2 to 4pm. Meet at Point Woronzof. Bring your favorite writing materials and be prepared for a short group walk on the beach, followed by time to write.

September 7

EXPLORING OUR WILD KINSHIP will be held from 10am to Noon at the Campbell Creek Science Center. Explore your kinship with nature and the local BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) community. Learn about seasonal changes through mindful observation, practice nature journaling, and hold discussions in the forest in a welcoming environment. Everyone is welcome. This event is free and open to the public.

September 8

EAGLE RIVER NATURE CENTER – TREE-T YOURSELF: AUTUMN TREE IDENTIFICATION will be held from 2 to 4pm at the Center. Branch out your year-round tree ID skills on this tree-mendous guided hike! The hike will start in the Education Yurt to learn about the science of seasonal color change before getting out on the trails to practice identifying using branches and bark. Program participation is limited to the first 15 registrants. Register here: www.flipcause.com/secure/cause_pdetails/MjEzOTky.

****September 16**

ANCHORAGE AUDUBON SOCIETY will hold its **PHOTO SHARING MEETING** At 6pm at the BP Energy Center. Send us your favorite photos of your year's adventures and make the rest of us totally jealous. Share your best photos with an ultimately appreciative audience. You **MUST** submit your photos **IN ADVANCE**. We'll put them in the computer, and you can narrate your portion of the show. We'll also re-cap summer Audubon outings and sightings. Send us 5-10 of your fabulous photos in Jpeg format. Just email your images to W. Keys. at flybynightclub@gci.net or put them on a thumb drive and email to arrange for an early photo transfer.

****September 17**

Join [Friends of Alaska National Wildlife Refuges](#) and Backcountry Hunters and Anglers for a watch party for **FLOATING to the HUNT ON NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES in ALASKA** presented by **BARRY WHITEHILL** from 5 to 6pm in the REI Community Room. Zoom link and recording will be posted at <https://alaskarefugefriends.org/float-to-the-hunt-sept-2024/>. For over 30 years floating has been Barry Whitehill's primary vehicle for accessing national wildlife refuges in Alaska in order to hunt moose, sheep, and caribou. He also just loves rivers. Barry is a retired deputy refuge manager for Yukon Flats and Kanuti National Wildlife Refuges.

****September 17**

September 17

ALASKA TRAILS is hosting the next **TRAIL TALES** event at 7pm at the Anchorage Museum in partnership with the ALASKA OFF-ROAD CYCLING ALLIANCE (ORCA). Hear outdoor enthusiasts and trail lovers as they share seven-minute stories about their trail experiences, adventures, and life in general. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and tickets cost \$20. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit: <http://www.alaska-trails.org/trail-tales>.

September 18 – 21

The **MOOSE LOOP TRAIL CHALLENGE** will be held featuring multiple distances, including: 5K, 10K, Mini Moose, or Mighty Moose. These can be completed by running, walking, or biking on the Moose Loop trails in Anchorage. This fun, untimed event is an opportunity to hit the trails during challenge week. \$35 registration, kids under 18 are free. [Register for the Moose Loop Challenge](#).

****September 19**

WINE in the LIGHTS will be held from 5 to 8pm at the Alaska Botanical Garden 0 - 8:00pm. Taste a variety of wines while strolling through the Garden under the soft glow of lights! Unlike ABG's summer wine tasting event, the Garden will be filled with lights for an extra magical experience. Food trucks will be on-site with delicious meals for purchase, as well as live music and fire pits! [Purchase Tickets](#).

September 22

TRUSTEES for ALASKA will hold its **50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION & FUNDRAISER** from 4 to 6:30pm at the Kincaid Chalet. Help us celebrate 50 years of defending Alaska with an evening of fun, games, music, food, and drinks. ★ Live music by Witty Youngman and tunes by DJ 501(c)(3). ★ Delicious appetizers & beer/wine provided with price of admission. ★ Yard games for all. ★ Childcare with arts and crafts activities provided ★ Silent & live auction of Alaska images by award winning wildlife & landscape photographer **CARL JOHNSON** ★ Anchorage-based singer/songwriter **WITTY YOUNGMAN** will bring soulful blues to an afternoon of outdoor/indoor fun and games, food, drinks, and a brilliant art photo auction! Witty has been performing since 2012. They are a descendant of King Island Inupiat and an enrolled member of the Fort Peck Sioux tribe. Witty Youngman's music features blues and jazz-influenced reflections on social issues, as in this recent original song, [Forget-Her-Not](#), submitted in the NPR Tiny Desk Contest. Carl Johnson is a nature photographer who lives in Anchorage, Alaska, with his wife, Michelle. His greatest photographic passion lies in coming to fully understand a particular location, photographing all its wonders, from small plants to vast landscapes to wildlife. Sneak a peek at some of Carl's amazing Alaska images that will be available for auction at our September event!! **BUY TICKETS NOW!** \$25.00 – Adults | \$20.00 – Students | Kids 12 and under free. <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/98a4db45-b3bb-4c4d-bbf7-c3f0a120434f>.

September 26

WORLD THROUGH SPONTANEOUS WATERCOLORS: WILDFLOWERS will be held from 6:30 to 8:30pm at the Campbell Creek Science Center. Calling anyone who loves a little color in their world. Watercolor painting is a fun, creative, and expressive way of portraying the beauty of wildflowers. This program begins with a quick exploration in watercolor and brush techniques, to include splatter, spritz, tilt, and smear techniques to create neat effects for a spontaneous watercolor background. Then, work step-by-step with the instructor to create your own wildflower watercolor. For ages 12 and up. This event is \$25/person; register at [Recreation.gov](https://www.recreation.gov).

September 28

CAMPBELL TRACT NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY 2024 will be held from 8:30am to 1pm at the Campbell Creek Science Center. Spend the morning on volunteer projects at the BLM Campbell Tract. Projects that include trail maintenance on the Moose Track Trail and on the new single-track trail and winterizing the nearby native plant gardens. Dress for the weather. BLM will provide tools, work gloves, and all other needed equipment. No experience is necessary. Just bring a water bottle and your enthusiasm to help out on public lands. RSVP here: [Campbell Tract National Public Lands Day Tickets, Sat, Sep 28, 2024 at 10:00 AM | Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/campbell-tract-national-public-lands-day-tickets-702424212121). Noon Free lunch provided for volunteers.

****October 10**

ALASKA TRAILS will hold its annual **FALL FUNDRAISER** from 6 to 9pm at Hilltop Ski Area. Tickets are \$50 and appetizers and drinks will be provided. There will be a silent auction with great items from local businesses. It is an opportunity to meet and greet the Alaska Trails board and staff and talk trails with great company. Executive Director Steve Cleary will give an update on all the exciting projects Alaska Trails has been working on and a look at what's to come this winter and next year. Come support our efforts to expand and maintain your Alaskan trail systems! Buy tickets at: <https://www.alaska-trails.org/fall-fundraiser>

EVENTS & MEETINGS OUTSIDE of ANCHORAGE

September 7

HOMER - COASTWALK CLEAN-UP KICKOFF will be held at Bishop's Beach Pavilion from 11am to 3pm. Thos will kick off a month of marine debris awareness and beach clean up with a Kickoff cookout, marine debris crafts (paint a buoy), marine debris lawn games, and more This is your chance to adopt CoastWalk Zones, sign-up for clean-up days, and celebrate the end of summer by giving our beaches some love. Visit akcoastalstudies.org/events/catwalk-kickoff for more information.

September 17

FAIRBANKS, SOLDOTNA, HOMER and on ZOOM

Join [Friends of Alaska National Wildlife Refuges](https://www.friends-of-alaska.org) and Backcountry Hunters and Anglers for **FLOATING to the HUNT on NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES in ALASKA** presented by **BARRY WHITEHILL** from 5 to 6 pm. In **Fairbanks**, the presentation will be live at the Morris Thompson Cultural Center with a speaker reception at 4:30 with light refreshments and [Pint Night](https://www.pintnight.com) to follow program at Midnight Mine, [308 Wendell Ave](https://www.308wendell.com). In **Soldotna**, a watch party will be

held at the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center with wild foods soups and chilis provided. Bring sides and desserts if you can. In **Homer** a watch party will be held at the Alaska Maritime Refuge Visitor Center (Islands & Oceans). **Zoom link** and recording to be posted [here](#). For over 30 years floating has been Barry Whitehill's primary vehicle for accessing national wildlife refuges in Alaska in order to hunt moose, sheep, and caribou. He also just loves rivers. Come learn about these rivers and float hunting. Barry is a retired deputy refuge manager for Yukon Flats and Kanuti National Wildlife Refuges.

September 22

KENAI - BELUGAS COUNT! will be held from 1 to 6pm in Kenai ([map](#)). In partnership with Kenai Peninsula College, the Alaska Wildlife Alliance (AWA) are hosting a [Belugas Count](#) viewing site on the Kenai river and a free beluga symposium. [Click here](#) to see a full schedule of events across Cook Inlet!

****October 5 & 6**

FAIRBANKS - MAKING GOOD TROUBLE: A NON-VIOLENT DIRECT ACTION & ART TRAINING in INTERIOR ALASKA. Calling activists and organizers of all levels and experience! Join us for this two-day non-violent direct action and arts workshop. Trainers from across the state will provide information on the philosophies of direct action, give tactics and tools to help you start or further develop your campaign, and guide campaign and art development, leading to the positive change we want to see in our communities! This event is co-sponsored by Northern Center, Fairbanks Climate Action Coalition, Alaska Peace Center, and Young Alaskans Training Fund. For more information, and to register, visit <https://northern.org/news/registration-form/>

DEADLINES

CHUGACH NATIONAL FOREST – Comments are due on the proposal to **AMEND THE 2020 LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN**. Due to a mapping error, approximately 35 acres of National Forest System (NFS) lands at Trinity Point located on the south side of Passage Canal near the City of Whittier, were not included in the 2020 Chugach National Forest Plan. When the error was discovered, an Administrative Change was made to the Forest Plan to assign that parcel a Recreation Opportunity Spectrum¹ (ROS) classification of Semi-Primitive Motorized². While this was consistent with the previous Forest Plan's ROS designation for that area, it does not meet Forest Service Manual 2300 Chapter 10 (Exhibit 01) direction that outlines the characteristics that define areas that are designated with a Semi-Primitive Motorized ROS class. Characteristics that are not met by the lands at Trinity Point are:

- **Size:** Lands designated as Semi-Primitive Motorized should be 2,500 acres or greater in size. The parcel of land at Trinity Point is 35 acres and is surrounded by City of Whittier lands that are proposed for development in the future.
- **Access:** Roads in the Semi-Primitive Motorized ROS class are designed primarily for off-highway, or high clearance, vehicle traffic. In the fall of 2018 construction was completed on a 2.0-mile segment of Shotgun Cove Road. The road was constructed and is currently maintained for passenger vehicle use. In 2021 The Shotgun Cove Extension Environmental Assessment approved extending the existing road an additional 2.5 miles to end on NFS lands

at Trinity Point. The project approved construction of a vehicle turn-around loop, and a parking lot for approximately 50 vehicles. The proposed amendment would change the ROS Class at Trinity Point from Semi-Primitive Motorized to Roader Natural3. The Chugach National Forest Supervisor is the Responsible Official for this amendment affecting only the 35 acres of land located at Trinity Point. Although this amendment would modify the language and direction for ROS management at Trinity Point in the Forest Plan, it would not approve projects or activities, nor would it propose ground-disturbing activities. The Trinity Point Recreation Opportunity Spectrum Amendment project page at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=66715> and includes a web form to comment on the project. For more information contact Carey Case, at carey.case@usda.gov.

September 14

Deadline for comments on the draft **WILDERNESS INVENTORY**, Submit comments to TongassPlanRevision@usda.gov. For more information, please visit the Wilderness Recommendation Process web page at <https://www.arcgis.com/home/item.html?id=71b07d8757da444287d29dbc07781933>.

The draft assessment for the **TONGASS FOREST PLAN REVISION** is available for comment. The purpose of this assessment is to rapidly evaluate existing information about relevant ecological, economic, and social conditions, trends and sustainability, and document their relationship to the Tongass land management plan within the context of the broader landscape. In the coming months the team will be working on the Draft Assessment so that it will be ready for review at the beginning of next year. In the meantime, we want to share the current framework of the assessment document with you, as well as the literature we have gathered for the different topics that make up the full assessment. This framework is in the form of a Table of Contents which is currently in a DRAFT, working state. The table of contents outlines all the different subjects that are currently slated to be discussed in the full draft assessment. This [Draft Table of Contents](#) is available for viewing under the Public Engagements, Public Feedback Opportunities section of our Plan Revision website at [Tongass National Forest Plan Revision Website](#). To submit comments, to TongassPlanRevision@usda.gov. Helpful Resources; [Tongass National Forest Plan Revision Website – Engagement Opportunities](#), [Wilderness Recommendation Process Storymap](#), [Wilderness Recommendation Process Webpage](#), and [National Old-Growth Amendment Webpage](#).

September 15

NENANA – Comments are due on the proposal to **REPLACE the PARKS HIGHWAY NENANA RIVER BRIDGE**. at Rex Crossing near MP 276. Replacement of the bridge will require a work trestle on the south side of the existing bridge and a temporary bridge placed on the north side of the bridge to be used as a detour route. DOT&PF is currently working on conceptual designs, engineering, and environmental studies. Construction is planned for summer 2028. Portions of the existing Nenana River Bridge at Rex Crossing are within the base floodplain of the Nenana River in the form of bank protection (riprap) at both ends of the bridge and three piers. For more information, contact John Netardus, P.E., Engineering Manager, at (907) 451+5448oemail john.netardus@alaska.gov or go to [Project Plans and Location Info NFHWY00788.pdf](#).

****September 16**

Deadline for comments to identify significant **SPECIAL AREAS within the NATIONAL PETROLEUM RESERVE in ALASKA** for significant resource values for existing Special Areas; modify the boundaries or management of existing Special Areas; or identify public lands that may qualify for designation as new Special Areas in NPR-A. for more information or to submit comments, contact Stacie McIntosh at s05mcint@blm.gov or call (907) 474-2398.

****September 16**

Deadline for comments to BLM on the need to identify additional significant resource values; modify the boundaries or management; or identify public lands that may qualify for designation as new **SPECIAL AREAS in the NATIONAL PETROLEUM RESERVE IN ALASKA (NPR)**. Also comment on whether to update protected areas in the Western arctic, including whether to expand such areas, modify existing boundaries or management, or designate new protected areas. Comments are solicited on whether to initiate a process to consider adding additional protection measures, including by identifying additional significant resource values in existing Special Areas, expanding Special Areas, or creating new Special Areas within NPR. Under the Naval Petroleum Reserves Production Act (NPRP-A) of 1976, as amended, Congress directed the BLM to balance oil and gas development with the “maximum protection” of the significant surface resources and values in the Special Areas. The final rule updates the existing regulatory framework, adopted more than 40 years ago, allowing the BLM to respond more effectively to changing conditions in the NPR-A, while striking a balance between oil and gas development and the management and protection of surface values, including wildlife habitat vital to subsistence. For more information, go to [National Petroleum Reserves Alaska Federal Register Notice](#).

September 20

MAT-SU – Comments are due on the scoping documents that proposed **MAT-SU FIVE-YEAR SCHEDULE of TIMBER SALES** that outlines the proposed timber sale activity to be undertaken on State land over the next five years. This document is not a decision document. The public is invited to comment on any aspect of the Five-Year Schedule of Timber Sales. The document is available at http://forestry.alaska.gov/timber/fiveyearschedules_ Once each sale is prepared and ready for review, notice of a proposed decision and the opportunity for public comment will be given for that specific timber sale. For more information or to submit comments, contact 907-761-6301 or email stephen.nickel@alaska.gov. To see the supporting document, go to [2024-2028 FYSTS 8-20-2024 final signed.pdf](#).

September 22

Comments are due on the environmental assessment for the **KENAI FJORDS NATIONAL PARK** that addresses visitor use at the park's most popular inland destination. For many years, the frontcountry area has offered visitors a unique opportunity to see and experience Exit Glacier up close. However, the glacier has retreated substantially due to a warming climate, so we need a new plan to adapt and diversify visitor opportunities in this area while stewarding park resources. We invite you to participate in reviewing and commenting on the plan and

environmental assessment. Review the plan at [Kenai Fjords Frontcountry Management Plan/](#). To comment, go to [Comment Now](#).

September 23

Deadline for comments on the notice of **PROPOSED RE-ISSUANCE of GENERAL PERMIT STATEWIDE OIL and GAS PIPELINES** that proposes to authorize pollutants from facilities and activities related to oil and gas pipeline construction and operation to discharge to freshwaters of the U.S. and the State or dispose to lands of the State located in Alaska. During the effective period of the Permit, pollutants from the following discharges and disposals will be permitted to occur: Outfall 001 – Drilling Fluids and Drill Cuttings (Discharges Only); Outfall 002 – Domestic Wastewater (Discharges Only); Outfall 003 – Gravel Pit Dewatering; Outfall 004 – Excavation Dewatering; Outfall 005 – Hydrostatic Testing; Outfall 006 – Storm Water (Discharge Only); Outfall 007 – Mobile Spill Response; Outfall 008 – Contained Water (Formerly Part of Hydrostatic). The Permit proposes to authorize a 500-foot chronic mixing zone for turbidity and residues from inadvertent releases of drilling fluids and drill cuttings, gravel pit dewatering, and excavation dewatering discharges. The permit documents can be accessed from the DEC Wastewater Discharge Authorization Program website at [Wastewater Discharge Authorization and APDES Program \(alaska.gov\)](#). For more information or to submit comments, contact Gerry Brown at (907) 269-4874 or email Gerry.Brown@alaska.gov. Submit comments to

****September 26**

FAIRBANKS - Comments are due on the proposed **CHENA RIDGE and CHENA PUMP REPAIR** including Geist Road starting at the Parks Highway interchange and ending near Thompson Drive. The project will resurface Chena Ridge Road and Chena Pump Road, which extends into Geist Road from near Thompson Drive to the intersection of Chena Ridge and Chena Pump Roads and includes the on and off ramps to the Mitchell Expressway, Alaska. Additional work includes: reapplication of pavement markings, upgrading approaches, drainage improvements, possible utility relocates, replacement of signs and guardrails, minor repairs to Cripple Creek Bridge deck and rails, and vegetation removal within previously cleared areas. For more information or to submit comments, contact John Netardus, Engineering Manager at: (907) 451-5448 or email: john.netardus@alaska.gov.

****October 2**

Deadline for submitting comments on the **DRAFT DAMAGE ASSESSMENT and RESTORATION PLAN and ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT** for the **MARINE RESOURCES INJURED** by the **M/V SELENDANG AYU OIL SPILL** in Unalaska. The document and instructions for submitting public comments can be found online at darrp.noaa.gov.

October 29 (Deadline Extended)

The deadline for scoping for updating certain **WATER MANAGEMENT REGULATIONS** from the original August 30 deadline. The Dept. of Natural Resources (DNR) The Department adopted some administrative changes in June after receiving numerous comments on regulations concerning reservations of water. These can be reviewed at <https://aws.state.ak.us/OnlinePublicNotices/Notices/View.aspx?id=215679>. This scoping notice

looks specifically at reservations of water. The current reservation of water regulations is available at <https://www.akleg.gov/basis/aac.asp#11.93>. For information on what DRN is seeking, go to [2024-08-26 Supplemental Notice Extending Scoping Period.pdf](#).

GRANTS/AWARDS/SCHOLARSHIPS/FELLOWSHIPS/ CONTESTS/RFP

September 27 & October 9

for **BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW GRANT OPPORTUNITIES for MARINE DEBRIS REMOVAL and INTERCEPTION** These are two separate funding opportunities, and they have different application requirements. Applicants wishing to compete under both funding opportunities must submit a separate application for each. NOAA expects to fund awards from each competition depending on the merit of submitted proposals. Applicants who submit successful LOIs will be invited to submit a full proposal following the LOI review period.

September 27 - Deadline for Letters of Intent (LOI)

The Fiscal Year 2025 NOAA Marine Debris Removal under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding opportunity prioritizes the development of large-scale marine debris removal projects. These removal projects should focus on large marine debris, including abandoned and derelict vessels, derelict fishing gear, and other debris that is generally unable to be collected by hand. Applicants may submit letters of intent (LOI) from August 28 to September 27 for this opportunity.

October 9 - Deadline for application for FISCAL YEAR 2025 NOAA MARINE DEBRIS INTERCEPTION The second funding opportunity, Fiscal Year 2025 NOAA Marine Debris Interception Technologies under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, focuses on the installation, monitoring, and maintenance of proven marine debris interception technologies that will capture marine debris at or close to known marine debris sources or pathways. These proven technologies may include litter traps, shoreline removal technologies, booms, skimmers, conveyors, floating collection devices, and other technologies that do not require additional research and development. LOIs can be submitted for this opportunity to October 9, 2024. RESOURCES: [MDP Blog](#) - Overall description of opportunity, with links. [Removal Funding Opportunity](#) - on Grants.Gov website. [Interception Funding Opportunity](#) - on Grants.Gov website.

October 1

Deadline for submissions for the **ALASKA COMMUNITY ACTION on TOXICS** for the **BREAST CANCER PREVENTION ART CONTEST** that is open to youth aged 12 to 25 based in Alaska. Rural Alaskans are especially encouraged to participate! **How to Enter:** 1) Check out our [Breast Cancer Prevention Toolkit](#) and be sure to read the section about pinkwashing! 2) Create an artistic depiction of one or more pieces of info from the toolkit! There are two categories: Short film OR mixed media (poster, sculpture, etc.). Submissions may be from individuals or groups. 3) Submit a file or photo of your work to sara@akaction.org and indicate your age group (12 to 17 or 18 to 25).

October 31

Deadline for applications for the **RECREATIONAL TRAIL PROGRAM (RTP) for 2025 FUNDING**. Application package for this funding opportunity is posted on the Div. of Parks & Outdoor Recreation (DPOR) website at <http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/grants/trails.htm>. The DPOR administers Alaska's Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) RTP grant. The DPOR offers this competitive, reimbursable, matching trail grant for maintaining public recreational trails and related facilities, and for safety and educational projects. The RTP grant program provides up to 90% reimbursement of eligible costs for the entire project cost; grantees are responsible for 10% of the entire project cost. Eligible applicants include non-profit, educational institutions, state government, local government, federal government and native corporations or tribal governments. For more information, email Parks.RTPGrantApp@alaska.gov.

October 31

Deadline for applications for the **LAND & WATER CONSERVATION FUND 2025 GRANTS**. The Division of Parks & Outdoor Recreation (DPOR) administers this competitive reimbursable, matching grant program in partnership with the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. LWCF can provide up to 50% of costs for eligible outdoor recreation projects. State, regional, local and tribal governments with the legal authority to provide park and recreation services on public lands are eligible to apply for LWCF assistance. An estimated \$1 million in LWCF federal funding will be available in this grant round. Locally sponsored grant requests are limited to a minimum of \$25,000 and \$125,000 maximum in LWCF federal share. (Total project cost must be at least \$50,000 to justify a \$25,000 grant request. High-priority project types for LWCF funding assistance should also reflect one or more of the three specific strategic goals as outlined in the Alaska State Comprehensive Plan for Outdoor Recreation (SCORP), 2023-2027, Goal 1. Support the Alaska Outdoor Recreation Way of Life; Goal 4. Empower & Enable Alaskans to Lead Active, Healthy Lives. Goal 5. Balance Outdoor Recreation Growth and Stewardship. For more information, contact Ms. Danette Berkovitz, Grants Section Manager, at Danette.Berkovitz@alaska.gov or call 907-269-8706. The application package will be made available online by August 1. To learn more about the application process, go to [DNR's website](#).

ITEMS of INTEREST

The **RECORD of DECISION (ROD) for the ANCSA 17(D)(1) WITHDRAWALS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT** was signed by the Secretary of Interior on August 23, 2024. The ROD contains the details of the Secretary's decision to retain the ANCSA withdrawals on lands within the Bay, Bering Sea-Western Interior, East Alaska, Kobuk-Seward Peninsula, and Ring of Fire planning areas; Alaska. You may access the ROD and associated documents on the BLM National NEPA Register at: <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/2018002/510>.

To see the adopted **MATANUSKA VALLEY MOOSE RANGE and JONESVILLE PUBLIC USE AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN** go to <https://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/planning/mgtplans/jonesville-moose-range/>.

To see the **DEC RESPONSES** to the **KENSINGTON GOLD MINE REQUEST for an ALASKA POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (APDES)PERMIT**, go to [https://dec.alaska.gov/water/wastewater/_Recently Issued Permits](https://dec.alaska.gov/water/wastewater/_Recently%20Issued%20Permits).

North Pacific Research Board (NPRB) is SEEKING NOMINATIONS for FISHING INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVE to fill the seat on the Board that represents the interests of the fishing industry. The fishing industry seat is nominated by the Board and subject to approval and appointment by the Secretary of Commerce. This is a three-year term that would commence once the appointment is made by the Secretary of Commerce, after October 2024. [Learn more](#).

New Report: **THE ARCTIC'S PLASTIC CRISIS: TOXIC THREATS to HEALTH, HUMAN RIGHTS, and INDIGENOUS LANDS from the PETROCHEMICAL INDUSTRY**. ACAT and the International Pollutants Elimination Network (IPEN) released a new report exploring the latest science on threats to Arctic people's health and environment from plastics, petrochemicals, and climate change. [Read the report](#).

VOLUNTEER OPP OPPORTUNITIES

September 7

WHITTIER – Join **ALASKA TRAILS** for a day of volunteer work on the **HORSETAIL FALLS CONNECTOR TRAIL** from 9am to 4pm. Volunteers will be building a new trail. This will involve brushing and grubbing out the corridor and constructing a new tread. Volunteers will meet at the Whittier Public Safety Building. No experience necessary and all training and tools will be provided. Learn more and RSVP at: <https://www.alaska-trails.org/event-details/horsetail-falls-connector-trail-11>.

September 7

HATCHER PASS STATE PARK – Join **ALASKA TRAILS** for a day of volunteer work on the **GOLD MINT TRAIL** from 9:30am to 4:30pm. Volunteers will work on brushing alders and willows on this popular trail. Volunteers will meet at the Goldt Mint Trailhead. No experience necessary and all training and tools will be provided. Learn more and RSVP at: <https://www.alaska-trails.org/event-details/gold-mint-trail-brushing-take-2>.

September 14

CHUGACH STATE PARK – Join **ALASKA TRAILS** for a second day of volunteer work on the **HEMLOCK KNOB TRAIL** from 9am to 3pm. Volunteers will work on drainage, plank walk construction, and some brushing. The main focus of the event is to complete the plank walk structure. Volunteers will meet at the Upper Huffman Trailhead. No experience necessary and all training and tools will be provided. Learn more and RSVP at: <https://www.alaska-tails.org/event-details/hemlock-knob-trail-take-2>.

September 21

CHUGACH STATE PARK – Join **ALASKA TRAILS** for another day of volunteer work on the **SUNNYSIDE FLATTOP TRAIL** from 8:15am to 2:30pm. Volunteers will work on brushing,

drainage, and tread work. There is a lot of double-tracking, trail creep, social trails, and sloughing to address to touch up this popular trail. Volunteers will meet at the Sunnyside Flattop Trailhead. No experience necessary and all training and tools will be provided. Learn more and RSVP at: <https://www.alaska-trails.org/event-details/sunnyside-flattop-trail-take-3>.

****September 28**

NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY IN CHUGACH STATE PARK – Join **ALASKA TRAILS** to celebrate National Public Lands Day with volunteer work on the **SUNNYSIDE FLATTOP TRAIL** from 8am to 2pm. Volunteers will work on brushing, drainage, and tread work. There is a lot of double-tracking, trail creep, social trails, and sloughing to address to touch up this popular trail. Volunteers will meet at the Sunnyside Flattop Trailhead. No experience necessary and all training and tools will be provided. Learn more and RSVP at: <https://www.alaska-trails.org/event-details/national-public-lands-day-sunnyside-flattop-trail>.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

****KEEP IT in the GROUND ORGANIZER** for the **FAIRBANKS CLIMATE ACTION COALITION** to build people power and advance anti-extraction efforts. Lead efforts to end state support for oil and gas and support the managed decline of fossil fuels. Create space for volunteer leadership and organizing across Alaska. Connect with other FCAC working groups and statewide/national movements. Support and participate in non-violent direct actions and statewide campaigns. View the full job description at fbxclimateaction.org/jobs.

****LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM MANAGER** for the **ALASKA CENTER EDUCATION FUND** to be responsible for developing and running a leadership program to train and support the appointment of Alaskans who share our vision and who reflect the diversity of Alaska. The focus in recruitment will center on leaders who are underrepresented in leadership on Boards and Commissions, including BIPOC, low-income, young people, rural, women, and other communities. Creating a Just Transition to a locally driven, sustainable economy requires shifting power to people who have historically been underrepresented, and this Boards and Commissions Program is focused on helping to meet that objective. For more information, go to <https://akcenter.org/about/open-positions/>.

STAFF ATTORNEY for **TRUSTEES for ALASKA** in Anchorage. Candidate should have four years of legal experience, ideally two years in environmental law, including litigation and Alaska-specific issues. Trustees for Alaska has a highly collaborative team that works in coalitions, so the ability to foster coordination and cooperation among diverse groups is essential. The position pays \$84,000-96,000 based upon years of experience. Benefits include medical and dental, generous personal leave, flexible Fridays, family and sick leave, and more. People of color, persons with disabilities, women, LGBTQ+ applicants, and people of diverse lived experience are encouraged to apply. To see the full position description, go to <https://trustees.org/trustees-employment/>. Submit the required materials to our administrative director Ashley Boyd at aboyn@trustees.org. Use the subject heading "Staff Attorney

Application.” **Applications will be accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis until October 31,**

COORDINATOR for **The ALASKA CLIMATE ALLIANCE** to the alliance and help guide coalition work, including strategic planning, member engagement and growth, facilitation of our member gathering space, as well as helping to support the activities of our two leadership bodies - the Indigenous Navigation Council and the Coordinating Team. The ideal candidate must be highly organized and effective at working in group settings. Preferably the candidate will have proven experience in community organizing, coalition building, and project management. This position will work closely with a supportive, passionate and dynamic team of both staff and volunteer members from all of the ACA partner organizations. This is a contract position with the potential to grow into a permanent position. More info and apply go to akclimatealliance.org/hiring.

FINANCE DIRECTOR for the **PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND SCIENCE CENTER** in Cordova to be responsible for accounting and business functions and plays a critical role in guiding and strengthening the financial stability of the organization. This position is responsible for executing and supervising all responsibilities within the areas of accounting, budgeting, grants and contracts, and some human resources (HR). Please see the [full position description here](#) for details and how to apply. Open until filled.

MICROGRID PROJECT MANAGER for the **RENEWABLE ENERGY ALASKA PROJECDT (REAP)** to work with remote Alaskan communities, national laboratories and other REAP partners to help rural Alaskan communities transition to more resilient energy systems that include more renewable energy and energy efficiency. The Microgrid Project Manager’s work is part of the US Department of Energy’s Energy Transitions Initiative Partnership Project (ETIPP) program. **Compensation:** This is a permanent full-time position. \$65,000-\$75,000 +, depending on experience and qualifications. Includes paid personal leave and holidays, generous retirement benefits and optional access to a health care reimbursement arrangement, as well as personal communication expense reimbursement and continuing education budget. Application Process: Incomplete applications will not be considered. Please email the following five items to Greg Stiegel at gstiegel@realaska.org. 1) cover letter, 2) résumé. 3) at least one letter of recommendation, 4) 2-4 additional references. 5) writing sample. **Application Deadline: 5pm AKDT September 6.** REAP is looking for applicants who can start on or around September 30 To see the full position description, go to <https://alaskarenewableenergy.org/>.

ECONOMIC JUSTICE LEAD for the **ALASKA PUBLIC INTEREST GROUP** to work on three core issues: housing, debt, and monopolies. Most recently this work has included pro-abundant housing policy advocacy and organizing, payday lending reform, medical debt research, and preventing price increases through anti-trust initiatives. AKPIRG is seeking an innovative, emotionally intelligent, and highly organized individual to serve as Economic Justice Lead. This person should have outstanding relationship development skills, familiarity with state and municipal legislative processes and strategy, comfort with policy research and advocacy, and a collaborative leadership style. **Applications are open through September 8.** To see the full

position description, go to

<https://akpirg.bamboohr.com/careers/23?emci=2dc9d2f3-2c54-ef11-991a-6045bddbfc4b&emdi=8c84c005-b055-ef11-991a-6045bddbfc4b&ceid=4456246>.

STATE CAMPAIGNS MANAGER for the **SOUTHEAST ALASKA CONSERVATION COUNCIL (SEACC)** to coordinate and lead our state level conservation work. work on all Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation and Department of Natural Resources regulations and processes and track proposed state legislation. **Compensation:** This role is a full-time position, and the salary range for this role is between \$68,000 – \$75,000 with an exact salary dependent upon experience. **Benefits include:** 3 weeks of paid leave your first year and 4 weeks of paid leave after one year, plus 11 federal and state holidays, plus fully paid healthcare, plus 12 days of medical leave annually, plus 2 days of community service or participation leave, plus a 401K plan with a 5% match that begins after just one year of employment, and in addition, the Executive Director closes the office between Christmas Day and New Year's Day each year as a thank you to the staff! SEACC is in Juneau. **Desired Start Date:** Mid-October, preferred, but flexible. **Application process: Deadline is by the end of day on September 9** but SEACC will continue to accept and review applications on a rolling basis thereafter until the role is filled. To apply, submit your cover letter, resume and a short professional writing sample of not more than 1,000 words (excerpts are fine) to admin@seacc.org. Please put 'Job Application – State Campaigns Manager' and your last name in the email subject line. Three professional references, including one from a former or current direct supervisor will be requested from those selected for interviews. To see the full position description, go to <https://seacc.org/about/hiring>,

OPERATIONS MANAGER for the **ALASKA NATIVE TRIBAL HEALTH CONSORTIUM (ANTHC) CLIMATE INITIATIVES DEPARTMENT**, a new position to support daily operations and the strategic growth of the department. Duties include program management, project management, communications, and administrative support for a wide range of climate adaptation services. The position may become supervisory. Successful performance is a pathway to future leadership and other positions within the department, at ANTHC, or partner organizations. Starting salary up to \$107,000 depending on experience. Benefits include access to over a dozen subsidized health insurance plans, 12 paid holidays, generous paid leave, up to 8% retirement contribution, etc. Apply to the Program Manager III position on the ANTHC jobs website or contact Tricia Howe at tshowe@anthc.org) with questions.

RECREATION OUTREACH DEVELOPMENT MEMBER for the **BUREAU of LAND MANAGEMENT ALASKA** through the **American Conservation Experience (ACE)** to contribute to the Alaska Long Trail feasibility study project alongside BLM Alaska State Office Staff. **Start Date: October 7:** Estimated End Date: March 21,2025. \$800 per week. A 24-week minimum commitment is required. For more information about the Alaska State Office, please visit the BLM website. For full position description, go to <https://usaconservation.applicantpool.com/jobs/1126882>. For information about ACE, go to [usaconservation dot org](https://usaconservation.org).

SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER for the **ALASKA WILDLIFE CONSERVATION CENTER** full-time, [year-round](#) to be responsible for overseeing AWCC's interactions with the public by implementing social media platforms' content strategies. Duties include analyzing engagement data, identifying trends in customer interactions and planning digital campaigns to build community online. You will be responsible for creating original text and video content, managing posts and responding to followers. Wage is \$24 per hour, DOE, with free on-site, bunk style housing included for the first 6-months of employment. A variety of benefits are offered to full-time staff, including health, dental, optical, PTO, a 403b plan with a 3% match, and 10-paid holidays including the employee's birthday. In addition, AWCC pays employees' health care premium in full. Applications will be accepted and reviewed until the position is filled. [Click here to view a complete Job Description](#). A valid driver's license is required for all job listings. [Click HERE to apply](#). For more information, email info@alaskawildlife.org.

OUTREACH MANAGER for the **TYONEK TRIBAL CONSERVATION DISTRICT (TTCD)** to be responsible for community outreach, collaborative storytelling, and educational programming. Current projects include the development and implementation of K-12 conservation curriculum, content creation and curation for a new website concept, multi-modal community engagement, storytelling via social media and quarterly newsletters, networking with district partners, grant management, assisting other TTCD teams with their outreach needs, and monitoring measurable outreach goals for our outreach programs. The ideal candidate will have experience in developing and delivering place-based, culturally relevant curriculum for K-12 classrooms, collaborating with content experts to develop meaningful engagement, program management experience, excellent storytelling skills, and a work style conducive to learning and working on a variety of projects at once. The right candidate may not have a strong grant writing or evaluation background but is interested in developing expertise in these skills. This position is based in the Anchorage office and includes travel to Tyonek and other locations. Tyonek is a 25-minute flight from Anchorage, so a travel day may include flying to Tyonek at 9am and returning to Anchorage by 4:30pm. Overnights may be scheduled on occasion. Travel is likely to occur 2-6 days per month, depending on the season. To apply, applicants should include both a resume and cover letter describing your interest and qualifications. The resume and cover letter (as well as inquiries) can be emailed to admin@ttcd.org. Communications will be treated in confidence and applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Resume reviews begin immediately. To see the full position description, go to <https://ttcd.org/how-you-can-help/job-opportunities/>.

STATE CAMPAIGN MANAGER for the **SOUTHEAST ALASKA CONSERVATION COUNCIL (SEACC)** located in Juneau to coordinate and lead our state level conservation work. The State Campaigns Manager reports to the Executive Director and manages SEACC's work on all Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation and Department of Natural Resources regulations and processes and tracks proposed state legislation. The State Campaigns Manager will work closely and collaboratively with other campaign and communications staff at SEACC to accomplish our goals. **Qualifications:** A background in environmental policy, and/or grassroots or grassroots campaigns; Thorough understanding of the Alaska legislative process; Familiarity with use of BASIS and the akleg.gov website; Familiarity with Department of Environmental Conservation and Department of Natural resources permitting and public

processes; Professional experience or study in environmental science, natural resource management, ecology or related fields; Effective communication skills (written and oral), ability to quickly understand, translate, and communicate problems and policy solutions the general public can understand and engage in; **Compensation:** This role is a full-time position, and the salary range for this role is between \$68,000 – \$75,000 with exact salary dependent upon experience. **Benefits include:** 3 weeks of paid leave your first year and 4 weeks of paid leave after one year, plus 11 federal and state holidays, plus fully paid healthcare, plus 12 days of medical leave annually, plus 2 days of community service or participation leave, plus a 401K plan with a 5% match that begins after just one year of employment, and In addition, the Executive Director closes the office between Christmas Day and New Year’s Day each year as a thank you to the staff! To see the full position description, go to <https://seacc.org/about/hiring#job2>.

FACILITIES MANAGER for the **WRANGELL MOUNTAINS CENTER (WMC)** to oversee the facilities as a part of a collaborative leadership team working toward the successful operations and promotes living in close relationship with wilderness and with our local community f the campus. Estimated time commitment: average 40 hours/week. Due to a variety of unique factors, our 2024 summer season will be an exceptionally challenging one, and more hours may be required. These will be used to complete required training and courses, contribute to hiring facilities and attend planning meetings. Part-time work will potentially be 5-10 hours per month beginning in January. Compensation: \$3,100/month including meals and primitive lodging (valued at approximately \$1,200 per month). To see the full position description, go to <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/51ddb936e4b0bf85e2f4d9eb/t/65679f2fe2d33b0aaa5751ee/1701289779476/2024+Facilities+Manager+Position+Description+%283%29.pdf>.

To **RECEIVE** What's Up, **ADD** items, **CHANGE EMAIL ADDRESS** or **UNSUBSCRIBE**, contact **Peg Tileston** at pegtileston@gmail.com.

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