

WHAT'S UP

August 15, 2025

Compiled 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

August 18 -24

FAIRBANKS – TANANA VALLEY SANDHILL CRANE FESTIVAL will be held at Creamer's Field Migratory Waterfowl Refuge. Each August, thousands of Sandhill cranes begin their southward passage from Alaska and Siberia. One of the best places to catch this is at Creamer's Field where daily Sandhill crane tallies regularly top 1,000. Enjoy nature walks, bird and wildlife viewing, photography, workshops, kid's activities, silent auction, food, The festival is organized by the Friends of Creamer's Field in collaboration with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, the Alaska Songbird Institute, and the Arctic Audubon Society. To see the video on sandhill cranes, go to [Sandhill Cranes at Creamer's Field](#) with ADF&G biologist MARK ROSS. For information visit the [Friends of Creamer's Field website](#) or call 907-978-8457

September 6 – 7

SEWARD – The NATURE JOURNALING WORKSHOP is an immersive two-day workshop on field sketching to be held from 8am to 3pm in the Seward Community Library Downstairs Community Room. You will spend time indoors honing your skills and learning observational drawing and watercolor techniques and then take those skills outside and practice them in nature. Students will work from botanical subjects, landscapes and moving subjects like weather and animals. The workshop will be taught by KRISTIN LINK and sponsored by SEWARD NATURE JOURNALING. Cost: \$250 for both days. For registration go to <https://www.sewardnaturejournaling.com/events-calendar>. For more information, go to sewardnaturejournaling@gmail.com.

September 23 – 25

KODIAK – The 10th ANNUAL CONFLUENCE SUMMIT, focusing on Outdoor Recreation Economic Development at the annual conference that brings Alaskans together to discuss trends in outdoor recreation and to share ideas to expand the sector. co-presented by Koniag and Island Trails Network. With federal funding shifts, staffing cuts, and conservation challenges mounting, now is the time to collaborate, innovate, and lead. Confluence brings together Alaska's top outdoor champions, policy makers, non-profits, and nature-based businesses to help chart a 10-year plan for a regenerative future. Outdoors. For more information, including agenda and registration, go to <http://alaskaoutdooralliance.org/confluence-ak>.

****September 23 – December 13**

****October 13 – December 13**

Bristol Bay Campus is offering the following online courses:

September 23 – December 13 - Introduction to Sustainable Energy F120 002 / 75175

October 13 – December 13 – Home Energy Basics F120 002 / 7573

Enroll in Bristol Bay Campus flexible designed to fit your schedule no matter where you are, Sign up by calling 907-842-5109 or email uafbbcinfo@alaska.edu.

September 25

ANCHORAGE – The ALASKA CONSERVATION FOUNDATION (ACF) CONSERVATION ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS will be held from 6 to 9pm at the Anchorage Museum. This year's recipients are: Lifetime Achievement Award – Fran Ulmer; Lifetime Achievement Award – Pat Pourchot; Celia Hunter Award for Outstanding Volunteer Contributions – Nancy Waterman; Olaus Murie Award for Outstanding Professional Contributions – Dave Mitchell; Daniel Housberg Wilderness Image Award for Excellence in Still Photography, Film or Video – Gerrit Vyn; Jerry S. Dixon Award for Excellence in Environmental Education – Nan Eagleson; Caleb Pungowiyi Award for Outstanding Achievements by an Alaska Native Organization or Individual – Deila Johnson; Lowell Thomas, Jr. Award for Outstanding Achievements by an Organization Doing Conservation Work – Copper River Watershed Project; Denny Wilcher Award for Young Environmental Activists - Kai Thomas. Tickets: \$30 are available at

www.alaskaconservation.org/community-resources/achievement-awards/tickets/.

September 27

NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY is an annual event on the fourth Saturday of September that has been the nation's largest single-day volunteer effort. Last year, over 130 national parks hosted events with 7,600 volunteers donating an impressive 41,500 hours of service. All national parks that charge an entrance fee will offer free admission. The theme for this year's celebration is National Public Lands Day: Together for Tomorrow. Let's join forces for a common goal, stewarding America's natural resources for future generations to enjoy. Be a part of this impactful day and help make a difference in our public lands!

PUBLIC HEARINGS/MEETINGS/OPEN HOUSE

August 20

FAIRBANKS - An Open House will be held from 5 to 7pm at the Pioneer Park Wilderness Pavilion (closest access is from Peger Road) to discuss the PIONEER PARK BOAT LAUNCH/PARKING/PLUG-INS & PEGER ROAD BIKE PATH. Learn about the proposed project to improve access and amenities near the Chena River at Pioneer Park. The proposed project includes: * Expanding the existing parking lot near the Chena River to more than 100 spaces. * Adding approximately 16 motor vehicle plug-ins to support winter use. * Constructing a southbound left-turn lane from Peger Road into the parking lot. Enhancing the riverbank to improve non-motorized watercraft access (e.g., kayaks, canoes, rafts). * Developing a separated bicycle and pedestrian path along the east side

of Peger Road, connecting Airport Way to the Chena River and the Chena Riverwalk path. Construction is anticipated to begin in summer 2027. The proposed riverbank and non-motorized boat launch improvements are anticipated to place fill in the regulated floodway of the Special Flood Hazard Area Zone AE of the Chena River floodplain. More information about the project can be found at <https://dot.alaska.gov/nreg/pioneerpark>. Comment sheets will be provided at the meeting, or comments outside the meeting can be made by contacting John Nectarous, PE, Engineering Manager, at (907) 451-5448 or email info@pioneerparkingproject.com. **Submit comments by September 20.**

August 21 (In-person & virtually)

HEALY - A Public Meeting will be held from Noon to 1pm and from 5 to 7pm at the Tri-Valley Community Center to discuss the update of the DENALI AREA AIRPORT PLANNING STUDY (DAAPS). The open house will present three scenarios for development of the Denali area aviation system, focused on maintaining the current level of service. The online and in-person meetings will cover the same information, and attendees will be asked to provide feedback on the scenarios. Join Zoom Meeting at <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81228583326> Meeting ID: 812 2858 3326. To comment, go to [Leave a Comment](#).

****September 8**

A Public Hearing and Review will be held on the MUNICIPALITY of ANCHORAGE (MOA) [CONTEXT SENSITIVE SOLUTIONS \(CSS\)](#) for the SAFER SEWARD HIGHWAY PROJECT will be held at 6:30pm at the Loussac Library Assembly Chambers. CSS is an approach to project planning and design for transportation and infrastructure project that emphasizes engages with stakeholders and understanding community values and local contexts of a project. Although Safer Seward is only in the environmental assessment stage and does not have a final design selected, the project team opted to submit the CSS report for review at this stage to integrate CSS elements early in the decision-making process. To see the CSS, go to the [website](#) or click on safersewardhighway.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/2025y05m27d_Safer-Seward-Highway-MP-98.5-118_MOA-PZ_CSS-Design-Report.pdf. For more information, go to SaferSewardHighway.com or call (907) 802-3656 or email info@safersewardhighway.com.

WEBINARS & VIRTUAL

August 19 (Webinar)

URANIUM MINING and COMMUNITY HEALTH CONCERNS will be presented at 10am. Uranium is becoming increasingly in demand due to its use as fuel for nuclear power plants as part of the clean energy transition. In Alaska, the village of Elim is being targeted as a potential source of uranium. Although the company that initiated the exploration program, Panther Minerals, has recently withdrawn from the project, it is

possible that another developer could take over. When uranium is extracted from the ground as ore, it undergoes a process that utilizes multiple chemicals and blasting, resulting in significant quantities of mine tailings and polluted wastewater that will continue to contaminate for years to come. In this webinar, speakers will discuss the environmental and health impacts of uranium mining, as well as the efforts of communities to organize against it. [RSVP for This Webinar](#).

August 22 (**Virtual**)

AUGUST NOAA NWS ALASKA CLIMATE OUTLOOK BRIEFING will be held from Noon to 1pm by RICK THOMAN, Alaska Center for Climate Assessment and Policy. During this month's Climate Outlook Briefing, we will review recent and current climate conditions around Alaska, discuss forecasting tools, and finish up with the Climate Prediction Center's forecast for September and the fall season. Join the gathering online to learn what's happened and what may be in store with Alaska's seasonal climate. [Event Link](#)

EVENTS & MEETINGS in the ANCHORAGE AREA

****August 19 (Date correction)**

BIKE and BIRD DAY will be held at 6pm starting at the at by AUDUBON ALASKA on Tuesday, August 19, at 6 p.m. for a special! We'll meet at the Point Woronzof Park parking lot for this 5.5-mile bike route along the Tony Knowles Coastal Trail, stopping at prime birding locations on the way. Our very own Pacific Shorebird Conservation Initiative Coordinator, RIVER GATES, will be positioned at a stop along the route, equipped with spotting scopes and extensive bird knowledge. Optional: End the ride with us at 49th State Brewing, where you can enjoy food, drinks, and fun!

August 19

TRAILHEAD NATURALIST will be held from 1 to 3pm. As you're walking, bicycling, or enjoying your day on Campbell Tract trails, stop by our table to learn something new about the nature around us. Stay as long as your curiosity desires. Our instructors will be at the Campbell Creek Science Center or the Campbell Tract parking lots. Topics will change throughout the summer, so check back each time you pass by. This event is free and open to the public.

August 20

SUBSISTENCE IS RESISTANCE will be shown from 5 to 8pm at the Loussac Library by the Alaska Community on Toxics. For more information, go to <https://www.akaction.org/>.

****August 21 (In-person & Virtually)**

The AMATS POLICY COMMITTEE will meet at 1pm in the City Hall Mayor's Conference Room and [Microsoft Teams](#). Please send your comments on agenda items to staff to amats_policy@PublicInput.com or by phone at 855-925-2801 (code: 3758) 48 hours in advance of the scheduled meeting.

August 23 – 30

The 5th ANNUAL MOOSE LOOP TRAIL CHALLENGE will be held along the amazing urban trails that loop around the city in the shape of a moose! Run, walk, bike, or roll, this un-timed, all ages, all-abilities adventure is your chance to enjoy the great outdoors at your own pace on the Moose Loop in Anchorage or wherever you are. It's not just a celebration of trails, it's a feel-good fundraiser for the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and the perfect way to stay active and connected. Run, walk, bike, or roll, this un-timed, all-ages, all-abilities adventure is your chance to enjoy the great outdoors at your own pace—on the Moose Loop in Anchorage or wherever you are. It's not just a celebration of trails, it's a feel-good fundraiser for the Anchorage Park Foundation, and the perfect way to stay active and connected all summer long. run, walk, bike, or roll, all-ages, all-abilities adventure is your chance to enjoy the great outdoors at your own pace—on the Moose Loop in Anchorage or wherever you are. It's not just a celebration of trails, it's a feel-good fundraiser and the perfect way to stay active and connected all summer long. Sign up at <https://runsignup.com/Race/AK/Anchorage/TheMooseLoopRace> .

****August 24**

EAT IT or LEAVE IT GUIDED HIKE will take place from 2 to 4pm at the Eagle River Nature Center.

Discover the basics of edible and toxic plants and berries found at the Eagle River Nature Center with volunteer naturalist STACY FLAGG. We will start with a brief presentation inside followed by a short hike. Registration is limited to the first 15 participants.

Registration required at <https://ernc.app.neoncrm.com/eventReg.jsp?event=1369>.

August 24

CONSERVATION PHOTOGRAPHER LECTURE will be held from 6 to 8pm at the BP Energy Center for a special evening with KATHERINE FENG, a retired veterinarian who devotes her photography to protecting China's endangered species and their habitat. She will discuss how to make great images and presentations for your conservation projects. Katherine will explain how she approaches conservation photography to educate the public about wildlife, their habitat and people's efforts to protect them. The event is sponsored by the Alaska Society of Outdoor and Nature Photographers. Appetizers and Drinks sponsored by National Parks Conservation Association and the Alaska Wildlife Alliance will be available.

August 27

RENEWABLE ENERGY ALASKA PROJECT (REAP) will hold a **LEADERSHIP HAND-OVER & FUNDRAISER** at 5:30pm at the King Street Brewing Company. After 21 years REAP is saying goodbye to its incredible leader, CHRIS ROSE, and welcome the next Executive Director! CADY LISTER who grew up in Fairbanks and has deep clean energy experience, including in her prior role as the Deputy Director of the Alaska Energy Authority. For more information and ticket purchases, go to <https://www.eventcreate.com/e/reap-anchorage-leadership-handoff-and-fundraiser>.

August 27

WORLD WAR II and the CAMPBELL TRACT WALK will be held from 6:30 to 8pm at the Campbell Creek Science Center. During WWII, the Army Corps of Engineers built four satellite airstrips around Southcentral Alaska, including one on the BLM Campbell Tract. Although the forest has reclaimed many foxholes and airplane parking pads, there is still much to discover. Join a CCSC naturalist for a walk to learn about the fascinating WWII history of Campbell Tract and discover remaining relics of the past. This event is \$5 per person; register at [Recreation.gov](https://www.recreation.gov).

August 27, & September 20

ANCHORAGE - Exclusive Anchorage HIGH PERFORMANCE HOME TOURS will be held by the AK Center for Appropriate Technology. The guided walk-through will be of a 2,600 sq. ft. high-performance home under construction in Anchorage with builder Eric Visser, a certified Passive House professional. Learn about advanced air sealing, efficient windows, exterior insulation, heat pump installation and more. | Cost: \$15 ACT members / \$30 for non-members. For more information, go to <https://acat.org/events/hometours/> or call 907.229.1982,

****September 4**

BEER in the GARDEN will be held at the Alaska Botanical Garden from 5 to 9pm. Taste a variety of craft beers and ciders from local breweries amongst the Garden's autumn foliage and harvest themed displays! Local food vendors will be on site with delicious food for purchase. This event also features live music, lawn games, and fire pits! Beer Tasting and Designated Driver ticket options available. Event is 21+ only (no babes in arms). [Get Tickets](#).

****September 7**

DAM GOOD ENGINEERS GUIDED HIKE will be held at 2pm at the Eagle River Nature Center.

Join volunteer Naturalist on Deck PETE PANARESE (and his assistant Castor!) for a deep dive into the world of beavers. See the incredible engineering this keystone species has done around nature center trails. Registration required at <https://ernc.app.neoncrm.com/np/clients/ernc/eventRegistration.jsp?event=1374>.

****September 10**

Trivia for Alaska's Wildlife! will be held by the BIRD TREATMENT AND LEARNING CENTER and the ALASKA WILDLIFE ALLIANCE as the team up in support of Alaska's wildlife. Gather your friends for a night of wildlife-themed trivia led by That Trivia Gal and a live and silent auction at 6pm at Mad Myrna's, Anchorage's favorite nightclub! Guests will be able to order food and drinks from Mad Myrna's menu. Must be 21 years of age or older to attend Hint cards and Phone-a-friend cards available at the door (payment by cash only). Hint cards: \$10/each. Phone-a-friend: \$15/each. Limited to 120 players - last year's event sold out! Teams are limited to six players. [Get your tickets here!](#)

****September 17**

Join the TRUSTEES for ALASKA BOARD and STAFF at Organic Oasis from 5:30 to 8pm for an evening with MARYBETH HOLLEMAN as she discusses her new novel, Bloom Again and music by The Forest That Never Sleeps. Get your own signed copy of Bloom Again with a donation to Trustees. For more information, go to [Event Website](#). Please RSVP by emailing cswearingen@trustees.org.

EVENTS & MEETINGS OUTSIDE of ANCHORAGE

August 21 – August 27

FAIRBANKS - MUSIC in the GARDEN, the UAF concert series will be held every Thursday through August 27 at the Georgeson Botanical Garden. Each concert features two bands with the first band starting at 6pm, and the second plays at 7:30pm. The concerts are free, but donations to support the botanical garden are welcome. Because parking is limited, concertgoers are encouraged to use a free shuttle service that departs from the Nenana Parking Lot, located across from the Patty Center, beginning at 5:30 p.m. Music in the Garden does not cancel due to weather. In case of unhealthy conditions such as smoke, the program will move to the Regents' Great Hall in the UAF Fine Arts Complex. When raining, Music in the Garden will take place under the covered Rotary pavilion in the garden. For more information, visit the Summer Session events page or call 907-474-7021.

August 21 – 24 (Virtual)

FAIRBANKS - The RUN for the REFUGE is again being held to celebrate the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. This free virtual event, sponsored by Earthjustice, will show your support and raise awareness for the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. You can participate from anywhere, and you can choose how you want to move—whether it's a walk in your neighborhood, a trail run through the forest, or a sunny paddle on your favorite lake. Find more information here:

<https://runsignup.com/Race/AK/Fairbanks/runforrefuge>. For more information email sean@northern.org or mesner@northern.org.

August 22- 24

FAIRBANKS FUNGI FESTIVAL – The kickoff lecture on Alaska's Mushrooms will be held on Friday at 7pm in the Murie auditorium on UAF campus. On Saturday, join in collecting forays and a guided lichen walk. The main festival will be on Sunday, from 11am to 5pm at Ester Community Park. Free and fun for all ages! For more information, go to [Fairbanks Fungi Fest](#). To volunteer, please email mushroomchristin@gmail.com.

****September 9**

PALMER – GLASS RECYCLING RETURNS to the MAT-SU RECYCLING CENTER with a drive-through collection available. For more information, visit their education booth at the Alaska State Fair. Recycle clean, empty & dry, bottles, & jars (labels ok), glasses and stemware. Don't bring ceramics, coffee mugs, lids, Pyrex, windshields, or plate glass.

****September 9 - 10**

CORDOVA – Two Open House OIL SPILL RESPONSE COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS will be held in the Cordova Community Center by the **PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND REGIONAL CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COUNCIL (PWSRCAC)** to get your input and expertise to improve oil spill response planning and protection in the Copper River Delta & Flats! The Tuesday, September meeting will be held from 3 to 5pm and the Wednesday meeting will be from 10am to Noon. We will be discussing the development of geographically specific oil spill response strategies for the ecologically sensitive and logistically challenging Copper River Delta and Flats. If you or your organization cannot make the open house but would like to provide feedback, reach out to Jeremy Robida at jeremy.robida@pwsrcac.org for additional opportunities to provide input into this planning work.

September 23 – 30

The **MOOSE LOOP TRAIL CHALLENGE** is a fun, un-timed adventure on Anchorage's incredible urban trail system that is shaped like a moose! Run, walk, bike, or roll the Moose Loop at your own pace while supporting the Park Foundation's work to improve and advocate for local trails. [Register](#).

DEADLINES

August 18

PRINCE of WALES Comments are due DRAFT FOREST LAND USE PLAN for the **ODYSSEY/EXCHANGE COVE TIMBER SALE**. The sale area is found within the Petersburg A-4 USGS quadrangle. The main access for this sale area is from the existing Prince of Wales Road System. The harvest units total approximately 107 acres and contain approximately 2,200 MBF of timber. This volume was already sold under the provisions of AS 38.05.118 to Viking Lumber Company Inc. The FLUP is intended to provide the best available information regarding the proposed timber harvest on 107 acres and the management of other non-timber uses in compliance with AS 38.05.112 and AS 41.17.060 and must be adopted by the DoF before the proposed activity can occur. This FLUP does not determine whether or not to access and sell timber within the timber sale area, nor the method of sale. Those decisions have been made previously in the March 7, 2025, Best Interest Finding and are not appealable under this FLUP. The public is invited to comment on the FLUP. For more information or to submit comments contact to Greg Staunton at (907) 225-3070 or email dnr.dof.sse@alaska.gov. Copies of the FLUP are available at <http://notice.alaska.gov/220228>. To see the FLUP, go to [20250717_dofflup_exchange_draft_rev1.pdf](#).

August 30

TOK/COPPER RIVER AREA - Comments are due on the proposal to adopt a SITE-SPECIFIC FOREST LAND USE PLAN (FLUP). This timber sale is in the Tanana Valley State Forest approximately 12 miles southwest of the community of Tok. Access to the sale area is along the Tok Cutoff Highway near Mile Marker 112. The eight harvest units

total 343 acres and contain approximately 5300 CCF of spruce sawtimber and approximately 2000 CCF of fuelwood in the form of spruce, poplar, and some aspen. This volume will be sold under the provisions of AS 38.05.115, in the form of one or multiple sales. The FLUP is intended to provide the best available information regarding the proposed timber harvest on 343 acres, and the management of other non-timber uses and must be adopted by the DOF before the proposed activity can occur. This FLUP does not determine whether or not to access and sell timber within the timber sale area, nor the method of sale. Those decisions have been made previously on June 27th, 2023, with the Best Interest Finding and are not appealable under this FLUP. For a copy of the FLUP, go to forestry.alaska.gov/timber/. For more information or to submit comments, contact Kato Howard at (907) 883-1400 or email kato.howard@alaska.gov.

September 11

MAT-SU – Deadline for comments on the MAT-SU VALLEY PLANNING for TRANSPORTATION PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN (PPP). MatSu Valley Planning for Transportation (MVP) is a nonprofit organization serving as the regional transportation planning organization for the greater core area of the Matanuska-Susitna (Mat-Su) Borough. MVP is governed by a seven-member Policy Board composed of elected and appointed officials from the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, the Cities of Palmer and Wasilla, Knik Tribe, Chickaloon Native Village, and the Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities. MVP is responsible for developing transportation plans and policies, setting priorities for the use of federal transportation funds, and providing a collaborative forum for regional decision-making. The Public Participation Plan (PPP) provides the framework for MVP's continuous, cooperative, and comprehensive (3C) transportation planning process. It outlines how MVP will keep the public informed, engaged, and involved throughout transportation planning efforts and the infrastructure projects that follow. To review the Draft PPP, go to www.mvpmmpo.com/public-participation-plan. For more information or to submit comments, go online at www.mvpmmpo.com/public-participation-plan or email Kim Sollien at kim.sollien@mvpmmpo.com.

September 30

Comments are due on the DoF RESUMPTION of PUBLIC SCOPING of HAINES STATE FOREST RMA MANAGEMENT PLAN after a hiatus in public planning activities since December 2024. Initial HSF RMA MP public amendment activities began in Spring 2024 with scoping meetings, online surveys, and an informational meeting in October 2024. During this initial scoping phase, the amendment was framed with the primary focus of inserting language to allow carbon offset projects as a potential use of the forest resources. After reflecting on the DOF's resource management goals within the HSF RMA and upon the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) goals to provide opportunities for carbon offset projects within Alaska's State Forest lands, the DOF has determined that additional changes to the management policy within the HSF RMA MP are necessary to best support these goals. These additional changes include the following: 1. Policy language will be written to allow forest management including timber harvest and carbon

offset projects on all land classifications within the HSF RMA. 2. Management intent for each unit will be amended from broadly defining a unit's management intent by a single resource use to defining management intent for multiple resources present on the landscape. With these adjustments to the amendment goals, the DoF would like to offer additional opportunities for the public to provide input on policy development prior to the public review of the amended HSF RMA MP draft. Four public scoping surveys and an interactive web map have been re-opened for public input through September 30. These surveys and additional plan amendment information are available at <https://forestry.alaska.gov/HSFamendment/>. Opportunities to submit comments and to participate in virtual and in-person public meetings will be announced on the plan amendment website and through the State of Alaska On-line Public Notices System.

****October 15**

Request for Public Comment: National Plan for Arctic Research The Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee (IARPC), chaired by the National Science Foundation, seeks public input from all interested parties on national needs regarding the Arctic and the research necessary to address those needs. The public input provided in response to this RFI will inform the update of the five-year National Arctic Research Plan for 2027-2031. To see the full notice, go to [Federal Register](#).

GRANTS/AWARDS/SCHOLARSHIPS/CONTESTS/RFP

****August 21**

Comments are due on the FISCAL YEAR 2026 PROJECT PRIORITY LIST UPDATES for the ALASKA CLEAN WATER FUND and ALASKA DRINKING WATER FUND that announces the availability of Base, General Supplemental and Emerging Contaminants capitalization grants. Comments related to the updated Project Priority Lists can be sent via email to dec.srfprogram@alaska.gov. The draft Project Priority Lists are available on the State Revolving Fund Program website at <https://dec.alaska.gov/water/state-revolving-fund/intended-use-plans/>. The SRF Program provides below market rate financing for drinking water, wastewater, stormwater, and other water quality projects. The Intended Use Plans and associated Project Priority Lists outline the SRF Program's plan for administering the funding available through the Alaska Clean Water and Drinking Water Funds. The Intended Use Plans include the funding made available through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021 (also referred to as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law or BIL).

August 24

Deadline for applications to the ALASKA WILDERNESS LEAGUE for the fourth year of the ALASKA STORYTELLING GRANT to honor the memory of our late executive director, ADAM KOLTON. The Storytelling Grant is a merit-based, unrestricted award of \$20,000 to a practicing professional storyteller of exceptional talent and ability who has experience living in Alaska and who tells a uniquely Alaskan story. Please share this opportunity with any and all artists and storytellers in your circles. [Click here to see a brief look at the](#)

[project forthcoming](https://alaskawild.org/support-us/adam-kolton-memorial-storytelling-grant/) from the 2024 award recipient, ELSA SEBASTIAN. The storytelling grant is supporting Elsa and Colin's latest film, a partnership with Tlingit weaver, LANI HOTCH, who has embarked on an ambitious project to teach other women in her community how to weave Chilkat robes. More information is available at <https://alaskawild.org/support-us/adam-kolton-memorial-storytelling-grant/>.

****September 12**

Comment and applications are due on the PROPOSED GRANTS of LAND after NATURAL DISASTER. Land grants may be issued to persons and municipal corporations after the Governor has formally declared a natural disaster severe enough to warrant state assistance to persons or municipal corporations. The grant land is used to replace land rendered unusable by the natural disaster for the purposes for which it was used before the natural disaster, as described in the Preliminary Decision document. To obtain a copy of the Preliminary Decision, instructions on submitting comment, or an application for grant of state land, go to <http://landsales.alaska.gov/> or <http://aws.state.ak.us/OnlinePublicNotices/>. To submit comments or for more information, contact Denise Wiltse at dnr.noncompland@alaska.gov or call 907-465-1240.

ITEMS of INTEREST

****The ANNUAL STATE of the CLIMATE REPORT** provides a comprehensive overview of global conditions in 2024. University of Alaska Fairbanks Rick Thoman was the lead editor of the Arctic Chapter this year, and several other UAF scientists authored sections of the report. Their contributions demonstrate that increasing air, ocean and ground temperatures; greater precipitation; and declining snow and sea ice cover are transforming Alaska and the Arctic. 2024 was the second-warmest year on record (since 1900) in the Arctic. Deadhorse reached 89 degrees Fahrenheit on Aug. 6, 2024, the highest temperature ever recorded in Alaska north of 70 degrees latitude. 2024 experienced the third-highest average precipitation (since 1950) in the Arctic and the highest summer (July-September) precipitation. Permafrost temperatures rose again after several years of slight cooling. 2024 marked the highest temperature ever recorded at a few sites. Satellite observations of plant color show that vegetation across the North American Arctic was the greenest ever observed (since 2000). And Alaska's North Slope was much greener than average. This trend is primarily driven by warmer summers, which make vegetation more productive. Greening is also associated with the expansion of shrubs into areas where small tundra plants once dominated. Documenting these occurrences annually makes the State of the Climate a key resource for understanding and tracking climate change globally and in Alaska. The State of the Climate is a supplement to the Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society and has been produced since 1996. To learn more about climate reports, review the [Quick Guide to Climate Reports](#).

ALASKA MARINE DEBRIS ACTION PLAN including insights provided through in-person and online listening sessions, are community-built frameworks to identify and capture a

picture of the marine debris issue in a specific region or state. This includes an understanding of what is already being done, the gaps and challenges, and the priority actions to address those gaps and challenges. The Alaska Marine Debris Action Plan is unique in that it captures these elements while also providing context on how the marine debris issue, and the actions needed to address it, are unique in Alaska. To see the Plan, go to [2025 Alaska Marine Debris Action Plan](#).

A NEW INTERACTIVE TRAIL MAP is now available from the MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH (MSB). A large collection of trail data from a variety of sources has been pulled together, extensively reviewed and adjusted to match the best available imagery and known details about over many years, but due to the inconsistencies of accuracy and trail information it had not been in a condition to share publicly. In a combined effort between the MSB Land & Resource Management Dept. and the GIS Division, this data has been reviewed extensively and adjusted to match best available imagery and known details about usage. The trail map is available at <https://trails.matsu.gov/>.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

August 23

Join ALASKA TRAILS for a day of volunteer work on MIDDLE FORK TRAIL! Volunteers will be brushing and scraping organics out of the trail. Hiking will be moderate and around 4 miles is expected for the day. No experience necessary and all training and tools will be provided. The event is from 9 am to 2:30 pm and volunteers will meet at the Prospect Heights Trailhead. Learn more and RSVP at: <https://www.alaska-trails.org/event-details/middle-fork-trail-take-3>.

August 30-31

Join ALASKA TRAILS for a weekend of volunteer work on CURRY RIDGE TRAIL! Volunteers will be brushing this popular trail in Denali State Park. This is a two-day event with camping at the K'esugi Ken campground. Hiking will be easy to moderate each day. No experience necessary and all training and tools will be provided. Learn more and RSVP at <https://www.alaska-trails.org/event-details/curry-ridge-trail>.

INTERN & FELLOWSHIP/POSITIONS

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

****The PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND REGIONAL CITIZENS' ADVISORY COUNCIL has the following positions available:**

PROJECT MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT (PMA) position in Anchorage to assist project managers in coordinating project tasks, tracking milestones, maintaining project documentation, and providing general office coordination and administrative support. This is a non-exempt position with a starting base hourly wage of \$33.80/hr. After 60 days

of successful employment, an additional 25% of base pay is added for optional benefits, bringing total compensation to \$42.25/hr. For more information and to apply, go to <https://www.pwsrcac.org/announcements/now-hiring-project-management-assistant/>
First review of applicants to take place September 22.

TERMINAL OPERATIONS PROGRAM MANAGER in Valdez to lead the Council's work related to the safe, transparent, and environmentally sound operation of the Valdez Marine Terminal. The role supports the Terminal Operations and Environmental Monitoring (TOEM) Committee and works closely with staff, industry representatives, regulators, and local stakeholders. This is a full-time, exempt position with a starting annual salary of \$113,400+ DOE. An additional 10% of base salary is provided for Valdez cost of living adjustment. After 60 days of successful employment, an additional 25% of base salary is added for optional benefits, bringing total compensation to \$153,090. For more information and to apply, go to:

<https://www.pwsrcac.org/announcements/now-hiring-terminal-operations-project-manager/>
First review of applicants to take place September 22.

TERMINAL OPERATIONS and ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING (TOEM) PROJECT MANAGER in our Valdez office to be responsible for monitoring the actual and potential environmental impacts from the operation of the Valdez Marine Terminal and for reviewing operational and maintenance practices at the facility to help mitigate those impacts. The role also includes coordinating the volunteer efforts of the PWSRCAC TOEM Committee, managing projects and contracts, and overseeing related budgeting and administrative responsibilities. For more information, including a complete job description and details on how to apply, go to <https://www.pwsrcac.org/announcements/now-hiring-terminal-operations-project-manager/>.

DISTRICT MANAGER for the KENAI SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT to lead the SWCD's daily operations and long-term direction, including program development, grant writing and reporting, admin tasks, community engagement, staff management, and fostering partnerships to support voluntary conservation on the Kenai Peninsula. Additional seasonal work as field supervisor for seasonal interns and independent work on assorted conservation projects based on technical experience and ability to develop additional skills and knowledge. To see the full position description, go to <https://www.conservationjobboard.com/search/state=2/1>. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled and evaluated on a weekly basis.

TONGASS ENERGY BANK LENDING DIRECTOR for SPRUCE ROOT in Juneau to be responsible for implementing the newly created Tongass Energy Bank Lending program and will play a key role in driving the program's success in coordination and support of clean energy initiatives. The Bank will focus on providing financial solutions for clean energy projects, such as establishing a revolving loan fund for renewable energy generation, energy efficiency, and beneficial electrification initiatives. Additionally, the Bank will offer debt relief and loan guarantees for renewable energy projects facing economic challenges. To see the full position description and application information, go

to

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1pZtZgxerAF03GFzWzAK19-hg9pKywFHku881IMkSpC4/edit?tab=t.0>.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR of the WRANGELL MOUNTAINS CENTER to oversee the long and short-term direction of the Wrangell Mountains Center's operations through high-level planning, development, and management of support staff. The ED is expected to meet the needs and mission of WMC as the situation requires, prioritizing safety and inclusion, facility integrity, and collaboration when resources are limited. Estimated Start Date: Ideally by August 10. Compensation: \$4,700-\$6,000/month salary depending on experience. Salary can be renegotiated upward based on fundraising success. To apply:

- Please send a cover letter and resume to jobs@wrangells.org.
- Applications are open until the position is filled; the initial applicant review will begin July 7.
- References will be requested for finalist candidates. To see the full position description, go to <https://www.wrangells.org/work>.

ACCOUNTING AND GRANTS MANAGER for the KACHEMAK HERITAGE LAND TRUST to provide administrative support to fulfill our mission to permanently protect land on the Kenai Peninsula. This organization has complex program offerings and diverse funding sources, including state, federal, corporate, and foundation funding. The Accounting and Grants Manager will work closely with program leaders and the Board of Directors, not only to educate them regarding finance and accounting procedures but also to explore how the finance function can best support operation of KHLT programs. See the [Job Description & Application Instructions Here](#).

SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL SUPPORT LEAD at OUTER COAST to provide our undergraduates with the resources—social-emotional, intellectual, and relational they need in order to make the most of their time in Sitka. The Social-Emotional Support Lead will be the cornerstone for student guidance, ensuring students thrive across all three pillars of the program. This person will be a highly visible and approachable member of the Outer Coast team and a regular presence at meals and community events. This is a full-time role. [Learn more and apply here](#).

COMMUNITY CATALYST for the ALASKA SOUTH COAST PARTNERSHIP (ASCP) to serve as trusted bridge between their home community and the regional partnership -applicants must be based in Chenega, Cordova, Nanwalek, Port Graham, Seward, Tatitlek, or Valdez. In this position, you will help guide local projects and support the creation of strong, collaborative systems that will serve the Southcoast for generations to come; we would love for you to apply! Starting at \$23.00 DOE. To see the full position description and application form, visit <https://crrcalaska.bamboohr.com/careers/33>.

ACCOUNTING TECHNICIAN 3 for the ALASKA SEALIFE CENTER in Seward be responsible for various accounting support functions at the Alaska SeaLife Center. To see the full position description, go to

<https://jobs.ourcareerpages.com/job/944999?source=ccp&key=Fd%2bO9%2bH%2bxnhw1HjvyZIMNzzZdnQjGq2G8O4cs8oIP%2bY%3d>.

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

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