

WHAT'S UP

December 2, 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

January 20 – 22

JUNEAU - The **ALASKA YOUNG FISHERMEN'S SUMMIT** will be held in the Elizabeth Peratovich Hall. This is a three-day, high energy training and networking opportunity for young Alaska commercial fishermen who are learning the ropes of their businesses, including: * managing the financial aspects of a successful fishing business; * participation in the fisheries regulatory process; * the role of Alaska seafood in the world marketplace; and * the science and management of our sustainable fisheries. Come learn from industry experts and peers. The early-bird registration fee is \$225 and includes entry to a welcome reception with other AYFS participants and an evening reception with invited guests. Active Alaska commercial fishermen receive a \$100 registration discount through support from Alaska Sea Grant and AYFS sponsors. **Registration for all attendees increases by \$50 after December 1.** For more information, go to alaskaseagrant.org/events/2026-alaska-young-fishermens-summit/.

January 26 – 30

ANCHORAGE - Early bird registration is open for the **2026 ALASKA MARINE SCIENCE SYMPOSIUM (AMSS)** at the Hotel Captain Cook and will be available **until December 22** at a discounted price of \$175. Please click on the link to visit the AMSS website and register. [Register here.](#)

February 2 – 6 (In-person & virtual)

ANCHORAGE – The **ALASKA FORUM** will be held at the Dena'ina Center or Online. Registration is now open. This year, the [Alaska Forum](#) is excited to offer even more opportunities to learn and connect. In addition to the valuable content, you've always counted on, we're expanding into new areas such as housing and health, broadband, tribal administration, grant writing and management and more. These additions will help us better serve communities across Alaska while continuing to provide the trusted learning and resources you value most. [View AF26's pricing structure.](#) For more information, go to [Alaska Forum](#).

February 27

ANCHORAGE - The **ALASKA OUTDOOR and ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION SYMPOSIUM: BRIDGING COMMUNITIES THROUGH OUTDOOR LEARNING** will be held at

the Kincaid Chalet, 6998 Raspberry Road. Do you take youth outside in Alaska, work as an informal educator looking for community, or support the growth of outdoor learning across our state? Connect with a network of educators dedicated to building community, advancing professional skills, and strengthening outdoor programs that benefit all of Alaska. This symposium is your chance to gain practical tools, share experiences, and be part of a supportive community that values connection to place and the power of outdoor experiences. [Register here!](#) **Call for Proposals:** Please consider contributing your knowledge, skills, program insights, outdoor/environmental education curriculum, innovative ideas or successful partnerships with a community of passionate educators, youth leaders and outdoor education enthusiasts with a 1-hr. session that speaks to this year's theme: Bridging Communities through Outdoor Learning. [Call For Session Proposals - Alaska Outdoor and Environmental Education Symposium.](#)

March 10 – 13

ANCHORAGE – The **2026 MARICULTURE CONFERENCE of ALASKA**, will be held at The Captain Cook Hotel to bring farmers, researchers, community leaders, and professionals in mariculture-related industries and agencies to present and discuss the latest mariculture science, policy and innovation in Alaska. Now in its fifth year, the annual conference supports the continued development of Alaska's shellfish and seaweed industries by showcasing accomplishments and opportunities in research, education, workforce development, market expansion, and the vital role of traditional knowledge in sustainable mariculture. This year's 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](#).

****April 7 – 9**

BETHEL The **WESTERN ALASKA SCIENCE CONFERENCE** coming will share knowledge and ideas across cultures and disciplines, with the goal of learning and working together on issues important to Alaska's rural communities. **Abstracts are due by January 30.** [Learn more about the WAISC call for abstracts.](#)

May 5 – 8

KODIAK – The **34TH LOWEL WAKEFIELD FISHERIES SYMPOSIUM** will be held by Alaska Sea Grant and the University of Alaska Fairbanks. The theme for the symposium is **MARINE HEATWAVES at HIGH LATITUDES: TOOLS for TRACKING and SUPPORTING FISHERIES RESILIENCE**. The 2026 Wakefield Fisheries Symposium will bring together fishery researchers and managers to address the impacts of extreme warming events on northern fisheries and share tools and strategies to build resilience. Participants worldwide are invited to share case studies and contrast approaches in different regions. For the conference website, go to <https://alaskaseagrant.org/events/wakefield-fisheries-symposium-2026/>.

May 11-14

ANCHORAGE – The **2026 ANNUAL CONFERENCE & TRAINING SYMPOSIUM of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of ENVIRONMENTAL PROFESSIONALS (NAEP).**

<https://conference.naep.org/>. Enthusiastic environmental professionals from across the country gather each year to share in the opportunity to learn about new projects, share technical knowledge, network with other industry professionals, and engage with environmental leaders. NEPA training, poster sessions, and mobile workshops are always part of the fun. The 2026 conference will be held at the Dena'ina Civic and Convention Center in Anchorage.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/MEETINGS/OPEN HOUSE

Now to December 6

DOT&PF SOUTHEAST ALASKA TRANSPORTATION PLAN PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE will be held via Zoom on the project website at www.southeastalaskatransportationplan.com. DOT&PF is updating the Southeast Alaska Transportation Plan (SEATP), a 20-year multimodal transportation plan that will guide future public investments in Southeast Alaska's infrastructure. Goals include: • Assess the existing transportation system; • Align with the Alaska Marine Highway System (AMHS) Long-Range Plan; • Identify and evaluate transportation facilities, issues, and needs; • Guide development and maintenance of all transportation modes; • Incorporate public input to reflect community needs; • Prioritize projects for future funding opportunities. For more information or need help. Go to SEATP@dowl.com or call (907) 562-2000.

December 8, 9, 10, 11

Open house meetings will be held in the following location to **SOLICIT PUBLIC INPUT to GAUGE COMMUNITY INTEREST on ESTABLISHING a KENAI PENINSULA STATE FOREST:**

December 8 – NINILCHIK from 2 to 3pm at the Ninilchik Community Center

December 9 – SOLDOTNA from 6 to 7pm at the Soldotna Public Library

December 10 – SEWARD from 6 to 7pm at the Seward Community Library

December 11– Virtual Meeting from 6 to 7pm via Microsoft Teams Meeting at Microsoft

Teams Meeting Link

https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_M2E2ZDgwOTQtYTRmYy00NWNjLTlkNzktY2U3YzAwY2YxMzQ3%40thead.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2220030bf6-7ad9-42f7-9273-59ea83fcfa38%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%2258392a3b-fd32-4193-9_1-46391f5c19ec%22%7d

The Alaska Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is interested in the public's input on potentially expanding the state forest system by establishing a new state forest on the Kenai Peninsula to secure long-term investment in Alaska's forest resources. This initiative would transfer primary management of state lands from the Division of Mining, Land, and Water to the Division of Forestry & Fire Protection (DFFP) and retain land within the state forest in state ownership for timber management under the principles of multiple use and sustained yield. In a state forest, timber production, regeneration, and active management remain the primary goals while maintaining opportunities for recreation, hunting, fishing, and other public uses. Under Alaska law, only the Legislature can formally designate land as state forests. Designation would provide long-term certainty for the State, industry, and local communities by protecting

investments in reforestation, roads, and other infrastructure; supporting jobs and local economies; and sustaining healthy, resilient forests for future generations. Comments can be submitted by email to stateforests@alaska.gov until January 16. For more information, contact the DFFP Special Projects Manager at stateforests@alaska.gov.

December 10

ANCHORAGE - An Open House will be held from 4:30 to 6:30pm at the Loussac Library Atrium to discuss the **NO. 1 SEWARD HIGHWAY & TUDOR ROAD INTERCHANGE**

RECONSTRUCTION. Learn about the project, meet the team, ask questions, and share your comments. Meeting materials will be available on the project website beginning December 10. With more than 80,000 vehicles per day, this interchange connects Anchorage's primary north/south and east/west transportation corridors, providing essential access and mobility for the Anchorage Bowl. Upgrades will improve safety, reduce congestion, and support mobility for all users. Comments can be submitted during the open house, online at www.TudorInterchange.com, or emailed to TudorInterchange@dowl.com. For more information, contact Galen Jones, Project Manager, at (907) 269-0550.

****December 16 (Virtual)**

Public Scoping Meeting will be held on the proposed **COLD BAY AMHS FERRY TERMINAL RECONSTRUCTION** to be held via Zoom from 6:30 to 8pm to take comments on a project to develop and implement the design of a replacement dock facility in Cold Bay. The existing dock is nearing the end of its serviceable life. The project is proposing the construction of a new pile-supported dock and adjacent mooring dolphins, fendering around the perimeter of the new dock, and demolition of the old dock to support commercial, freight and public use, and AMHS. This meeting serves as a follow-up to the session held on October 28, offering additional information and an extended opportunity for public questions and comments. Project information and a Zoom link is available through the project website at <https://dot.alaska.gov/sereg/projects/cold-bay-ferry-terminal>. For more information, contact Nate Geary, Marine Design Project Manager, at 907-465-5883 or email nate.geary@alaska.gov. Submit comments to coldbaydock@pndengineers.com.

****December 16 – 18**

FAIRBANKS - The **EASTERN INTERIOR SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL** fall meeting, postponed in October, will be held at the Wedgewood Resort beginning at 9am daily. On December 17, the Eastern Interior and Western Interior Regional Advisory Councils will meet together. The Council will focus on time-sensitive action items such as developing recommendations on federal wildlife proposals and closure reviews, providing comments on the Secretary review of the Federal Subsistence Management Program, and developing their fiscal year 2025 Annual Report. Less critical agenda items originally scheduled for the fall 2025 meeting may be moved to the winter 2026 agenda. The public is encouraged to attend and participate in this meeting. To join the meeting via Microsoft Teams go to [click here to join the meeting](#). A revised agenda and all meeting materials may be found at https://www.doi.gov/subsistence/regions/ei_materials.

****December 17 & 18**

WRANGELL- The Southeast **ALASKA SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL** fall meeting, which was postponed in October, has been rescheduled to be held at the Nolan Center beginning at 9am daily. The Council will focus on time-sensitive action items such as developing recommendations on federal wildlife proposals and closure reviews, providing comments on the Secretary review of the Federal Subsistence Management Program, and developing their fiscal year 2025 Annual Report. Less critical agenda items originally scheduled for the fall 2025 meeting may be moved to the winter 2026 agenda. The public is encouraged to attend and participate in this meeting via Microsoft Teams at [click here to join the meeting](#). A revised agenda and all meeting materials may be found at https://www.doi.gov/subsistence/regions/se_materials.

****December 17 & 18**

FAIRBANKS - The **WESTERN INTERIOR SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL** fall meeting, postponed in October, will be held at the Wedgewood Resort beginning at 9am daily. **ON DECEMBER 17, the WESTERN INTERIOR and EASTERN INTERIOR REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCILS will meet together.** The Council will focus on time-sensitive action items such as developing recommendations on federal wildlife proposals and closure reviews, providing comments on the Secretary review of the Federal Subsistence Management Program, and developing their fiscal year 2025 Annual Report. Less critical agenda items originally scheduled for the fall 2025 meeting may be moved to the winter 2026 agenda. The public is encouraged to attend and participate in this meeting. To join the meeting via Microsoft Teams: on December 17 go to [click here to join the meeting on december 17](#) and on December 18 go to [click here to join the meeting on december 18](#). A revised agenda and all meeting materials may be found at https://www.doi.gov/subsistence/regions/wi_materials.

December 19

ALASKA HISTORICAL COMMISSION will be held via MS TEAMS from 10am to Noon. To register to attend the meeting or deliver public comments, email a request for a meeting link to dnr.oha@alaska.gov. To see the tentative agenda, go to [Tentative Agenda_AHC_DEC19.25.pdf](#).

****January 7 & 8**

KOTZEBUE - The **NORTHWEST ARCTIC SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL** fall meeting, postponed in October, will meet at the Northwest Arctic Heritage Center beginning at 9am daily. The Council will focus on time-sensitive action items such as developing recommendations on federal wildlife proposals and closure reviews, providing comments on the Secretary review of the Federal Subsistence Management Program, and developing their fiscal year 2025 Annual Report. Less critical agenda items originally scheduled for the fall 2025 meeting may be moved to the winter 2026 agenda. The public is encouraged to attend and participate in this meeting. To join the meeting via Microsoft Teams, go to [click here to join the meeting](#). A revised agenda and all meeting materials is available at https://www.doi.gov/subsistence/regions/nwa_materials.

WEBINARS & VIRTUAL

December 4 (Webinar)

VAWS: WEATHER and AVALANCHE FORECASTING in SOUTHCENTRAL ALASKA will be presented from 11am to Noon by **CARSON JONES**, Lead Meteorologist, NWS Anchorage, and **MIK DALPES**, Avalanche Specialist, Chugach National Forest Avalanche Center. This VAWS webinar examines the complexities of forecasting mountain weather in Alaska and its impacts on snowpack evolution, avalanche hazard, and operational forecasting. It will detail the analytical tools, model guidance, and observational networks used by meteorologists and avalanche forecasters to assess and communicate risk, forecast confidence, and uncertainty across Southcentral Alaska. [Register Here](#).

December 4 (Webinar)

The **Alaska Community on Toxics and CHE-Alaska** will present **MERCURY in a WARMING ARTIC: SCIENCE, PUBLIC HEALTH HAZARDS and the PATH FORWARD** at 4pm with **LEE BELL** from IPEN and **Dr. ISABEL SMITH** from USC on Mercury in a Warming Arctic. For additional information and to register go to [Mercury in a Warming Arctic: Science, Public Health Hazards and the Path Forward | ACAT](#).

December 4 (Virtual)

OCEAN ACIDIFICATION & the BERING STRAIT REGION will be presented at the American Geophysical Union (AGU) Annual Meeting. The meeting convenes over 25,000 attendees from 100+ countries to share scientific findings and make connections and better understand our planet and environment, and our role in preserving its future. For the Zoom connection, go to [Event Link](#).

December 6 (Webinar)

RHODIOLA in ALASKA - 2025 MARKET UPDATES will be presented from 11am to 12:30p via Zoom. The Zoom link will be provided upon registration. Sign up at <https://secure.alaskafoodpolicycouncil.org/a/2025-rhodiola-updates>. The Alaska Food Policy Council is sharing ongoing research about Rhodiola in Alaska. This effort focuses on identifying changes, gaps, and opportunities for Certified Organic production of *Rhodiola rosea* in Alaska, as well as assessing overall market growth potential and opportunities for growers. At this virtual session, we will share preliminary findings, discuss what's changed in the rhodiola world, and invite dialogue on barriers, successes, and new opportunities for Alaska producers. Speakers will include **MELISSA HEUER** of Spork Consulting, **PETRA ILLIG** of Alaska Rhodiola, and **KRISTINA PETERSON** from the Northwest Transition to Organic Partnership Program.

December 11(Virtual)

ALASKA'S WILD WOOD BISON: PAST, PRESENT and FUTURE will be presented by Wood Bison Project Biologist **TOM SEATON** from 7 to 8pm. Tom will provide an in-depth update on Alaska's wood bison restoration efforts. This presentation will cover the current status of the Lower Yukon-Innoko herd, established in 2015, and the newly released Lower Tanana herd in the Minto Flats State Game Refuge. He will also share insights into upcoming plans for future herd releases in other regions of Alaska. [Register here!](#)

December 19 (Webinar)

DECEMBER NWS ALASKA CLIMATE OUTLOOK BRIEFING will be held from Noon to 1pm with **RICK THOMAN**, Climate Specialist, AK Center for Climate Assessment and Preparedness. 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 January and early spring. Join the gathering online to learn what's happened and what may be in store with Alaska's seasonal climate. [Register Here](#).

EVENTS & MEETINGS in the ANCHORAGE AREA

December 4

MOONLIGHT SNOWSHOE HIKE will be held from 6 to 7:30pm at the Campbell Creek Science Center. Snowshoe through Campbell Tract's beautiful boreal forest lit up by the full moon's light. The hike is approximately one mile or more, depending on the group's ability and interest. All skill levels are welcome; a brief snowshoe introduction will be at the start. Snowshoes are provided or bring your own. Notify us in advance of any special needs or requirements you have. We will be almost entirely outdoors, so please dress for the weather. In case of no or low snow conditions, we will switch to hiking.

December 4

The **ALASKA WILDLIFE ALLIANCE** is holding their annual **HIBERNATION CELEBRATION WILDLIFE FUNDRAISER** at Writer's [Block, 3956 Spenard Road](#), from 6 to 8pm. Whales can't tell us about the changing oceans, moose don't understand crosswalks, and bears are definitely not welcome at town hall meetings. Founded in 1978, the Alaska Wildlife Alliance gives a local voice to Alaska's wildlife by advocating for healthy ecosystems across the state. Join us for a presentation on our 2025 work, meet the faces behind AWA, and participate in a live & silent auction. An online silent auction will be held to December 12. Learn more here www.akwildlife.org/hibernation-celebration.

December 4

The **GREAT LAND TRUST WINTER PARTY** will celebrate 30 years of land conservation for communities benefits in Southcentral Alaska from 5:30 to 8:30pm at the Williwaw School, [600 F Street](#). Enjoy light snacks and beverages, connect with friends and fellow conservation supporters, and help us continue this important mission. We couldn't do it without you!

December 9

ALASKA TRAILS is hosting **TRAIL TALES** in partnership with **GRIT (GIRLS RIDING into TOMORROW)** at 7pm at the Anchorage Museum. Hear outdoor enthusiasts and trail lovers as they share seven-minute stories about their trail experiences, adventures, and life in general. All proceeds are split between Alaska Trails and GRIT to continue their important work. Doors open at 6:30pm and tickets cost \$20. For more information and to purchase tickets, go to <http://www.alaska-trails.org/trail-tales>.

December 10

HUMMINGBIRDS to BLUE-FOOTED BOOBIES—QUITO and the GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS will be presented by **JULES TILESTON** at 6pm at the BP Energy Center at the Anchorage Audubon Society meeting. Jules and Peg Tileston took a 3-week very special safari to Ecuador that included Quito, the Cloud Forest, the Galapagos Islands National Park/Marine Reserve, and 1 day looking for the Andean Condor. There will also be last-minute updates on this year's Christmas Bird Count.

December 11

The **RENEWABLE ENERGY ALASKA PROJECT (REAP)** will hold their **HOLIDAY PARTY & FUNDRAISER** from 6 to 8pm at the home of Drs. K.C. Kaltenborn & Cathie Schimacher. [6640 Lawlor Circle](#). 00502. Join REAP staff, members, and your fellow clean energy champions for a festive gathering. [Please visit this event webpage for our December 11 Holiday Party & Fundraiser to learn more and RSVP.](#)

December 14

The **CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT** will be changed from our usual Saturday count to Sunday, this is because December 14 is the first legal day for Christmas Counts according to National Audubon. The Tally Party and Chili Feed Potluck will be at the Lydia Selkregg Chalet in Russian Jack Park. For more information, go to www.anchorageaudubon.org,

December 17

STORIES of the LAND: THE LEGACY of ALASKA NATIVE LEADERS will be presented from 7 to 8pm at the Campbell Creek Science Center. Historical and contemporary Alaska Native leaders have shaped public lands. They have influenced its conservation, development, and access. Hear a highlight reel of various leaders from across the state and their unique contributions. This talk is presented by **DONNA BACH**, the Bureau of Land Management's Alaska Native Liaison and history buff. This event is free and open to the public.

December 19

WINTER SOLSTICE FESTIVAL will be held from 5 to 8pm at the Cuddy Family Midtown Park. Celebrate the shortest day of the year by enjoying all that winter offers. The Winter Solstice Festival offers activities for everyone. Bring your ice skates for skating around the oval to your favorite holiday music. Take a break by a warm fire while sipping hot chocolate and visiting with friends. Ride on a horse-drawn wagon, hop on a dog sled for a ride around the park, or visit Santa's reindeer, and you might see Santa if he's not too busy getting ready for his big day. Food truck goodies are available for purchase. All the activities are free to the public. There is nothing like bringing in the holiday season and enjoying the fresh air on a beautiful night in this lighted park! There are limited timeslots for the horse-drawn wagon, dog sled rides, and borrowing the skate assist seals. Reservations are NOT available in advance. Make a reservation at the activity station when you arrive. Reservations can be made starting at 4:30 pm. Cost: Free. Sponsored by Anchorage Parks & Recreation.

EVENTS & MEETINGS OUTSIDE of ANCHORAGE

****December 9**

CORDOVA – The Prince William Sound Science Center **Tuesday Night Talk** will be held from 5:30 to -6:30pm with **MILO BURCHAM** presenting on the **HISTORY OF THE CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT** and discussing how you can get involved in this year's Cordova Christmas Bird Count.

December 9 & 11

Two (2) **BACKCOUNTRY AND ICE TRAVEL SAFETY SEMINARS** will be held on the following date and locations:

December 9 - TALKEETNA from 6 to 8pm at the Upper Susitna Senior Center.

December 11 – BIG LAKE from 6 to 8pm at the Big Lake Lion's Club

These are educational presentations on safe travel in backcountry and ice conditions for snowmachines. The sessions will include information on recognizing signs of weak or unsafe ice, recommended safety equipment, and response steps in the event of a breakthrough. For more information, see the Facebook event pages. For more information and to sign-up, go to Talkeetna Seminar: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1133136402315645> or Big Lake Seminar: <https://www.facebook.com/events/808263252086000>.

****December 10 (In-person & virtual)**

HOMER – The **KACHEMAK BAY CITIZEN ADVISORY BOARD** will meet at 5:30pm in the USFWS Islands and Ocean's Seminar Room on December 10th, 2025, starting at 5:30 pm. If you would like to submit written comment, please email your comments prior to the meeting to ans.rinke@alaska.gov. Please include Kachemak Bay State Park Citizen Advisory Board in subject line. Your comments will be forwarded to board members. **A trails working group will meet on the same day at the same location at 4pm.** This group discusses all things trails related for Kachemak Bay State Park. You can also participate using the TEAMS meeting information, please contact state parks for if you wish to join virtually. If you have any questions concerning the meeting please contact Jason hans.rinke@alaska.gov, 907-262-5581. To see the agenda, go to [K-Bay Agenda.docx](#).

December 10

TALKEETNA - A COZY WINTER GATHERING at the ROADHOUSE will be held from 6 to 9pm at the Historic Talkeetna Roadhouse. This year, we'll be screening **BLUE HEART**, Patagonia's documentary about the last wild rivers of the Balkans and the communities fighting to protect them. The film follows grassroots organizers, scientists, and river defenders pushing back against hundreds of proposed hydropower projects that threaten one of Europe's most ecologically rich river systems. It's a reminder of what's at stake when people rally around free-flowing rivers. RSVP here: https://www.susitnarivercoalition.org/event-info/a-cozy-winter-gathering-at-the-roadhouse/form_

December 11

JUNEAU – PHOTOS from ANTARCTICA & the STORIES BEHIND the SCENES will be presented by **SEAN NEILSON** at 6:30pm in the Egan Lecture Hall.at the Juneau Audubon Society.

****December 13**

PALMER - The **VALLEY MOUNTAIN BIKERS & HIKERS** will hold their **ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY** from 6 to 9pm at The Annex, 247 S Alaska Street. Come help us celebrate another great year on the trails and welcome in the holidays. Enjoy food, friends, music, beverages, & fun.

December 21

DENALI NATIONAL PARK - SOLSTICE SKI AND STROLL 2025 will be held from 4 to 6pm at the park. This free drop-in event celebrates the long nights, and the snowy winters that make Alaska so unique and special. Bring your skis or snowshoes and stop by the Winter Visitor Center anytime between 4 - 6 p.m. to explore the boreal forest by candlelight. This event is family-friendly, and the trail is appropriate for all levels of skiing and snowshoeing. A small number of snowshoes are available for loan at the Winter Visitor Center. A selection of hot drinks will be provided at the Indoor Picnic Area. Please bring a mug, a headlamp, and warm layers as we celebrate the longest night of the year. For more information regarding Solstice Ski, please contact the park information line at 907-683-9532.

DEADLINES

December 19

Deadline for **Request for Proposals** from the **COPPER RIVER WATERSHED PROJECT (CRWP)** for the **2026 ALASKA INVASIVE PLANT MINI-GRANT PROGRAM. (CRWP)** is soliciting proposals from qualified organizations for invasive plant management and outreach projects across Alaska. Funds will be available for non-federal organizations for the 2026 field season. The RFP and all details are available at the [CRWP Invasive Plant Program](#) website.

GRANTS/AAWARDS/SCHOLARSHIPS/CONTESTS/RFP

December 15

Deadline for applications for the **YOUTH GARDEN GRANTS** from the National Gardening Association to schools and community organization with child-centered garden programs. For this grant cycle, 100 grants are available. Schools, youth groups, community centers, camps, clubs, treatment facilities, and inter-generational groups throughout the U.S. are eligible. Applicants must plan to garden with at least 15 children aged 3 to 18. For more information, go to [Youth Garden Grants](#).

December 31

Deadline for applications for the **APPRENTICE ECOLOGIST INITIATIVE** (Student Opportunity) from the **NICODEMUS WILDERNESS PROJECT**. The goals of the Apprentice Ecologist

Initiative are to: Elevate youth into leadership roles by engaging them in environmental cleanup and conservation projects, Empower young people to rebuild the environmental and social well-being of our communities, and Improve local living conditions for both citizens and wildlife through education, activism, and action. To become an official Apprentice Ecologist and be considered for a scholarship: Conduct your own environmental stewardship project, take a few digital photos of your project in action, write an essay about your project and what it meant to you, and register and upload your favorite project photo along with your essay. For more information, go to [Apprentice Ecologist Initiative™](#).

ITEMS of INTEREST

FELLOWSHIPS/INTERSHIPS

TRUSTEES for ALASKA is accepting applicants for the **SEPTEMBER 2026 LEGAL FELLOWSHIP** for a two-year full-time position in Anchorage starting in September 2026 and continuing through September 028. Responsibilities include: Working with staff attorneys to research, develop, and implement legal and other strategies Assisting with various aspects of litigation, including substantive work and other tasks. Candidates must be licensed in Alaska before, or shortly after, starting work We offer a competitive non-profit salary of \$74,000/year, plus medical, dental, life, long-term disability, and retirement benefits. We are committed to diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice. To apply, please submit (1) cover letter, (2) resume, (3) references, (4) law school transcript, and (5) writing sample (max. 25 pages) to **Ashley Boyd, Administrative Director**, at aboyd@trustees.org: Please include "Fellowship" in the subject line of the email. To facilitate our anonymous review of application materials, please do not reach out directly to the executive director, legal director, or staff attorneys at Trustees for Alaska. To see the full position description, go to <https://trustees.org/trustees-employment/>.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Are you up for a new **winter adventure**? Volunteer with ABDC for **an opportunity to travel to the rural communities**, engage with Alaskan Natives and provide a valuable service to fellow Alaskans. The **Alaska Business Development Center** is recruiting for **TAX PREPARERS and TEAM LEADERS/EDUCATORS** to travel to rural Alaska in 2026; experience is helpful but not required. Training is provided and begins in December. Most travel is completed in February, with some travel in March. Trips span three to seven days. Recruiting is open now! Interested? Email your inquiry to volunteer@abdc.org with your name and how you heard about the program.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

MANAGER for the CENTER for CLIMATE and HEALTH for the ALASKA NATIVE TRIBAL HEALTH CONSORTIUM (ANTHC) to join a dedicated team working to strengthen community

health and resilience in the face of climate change across Alaska. The CCH Manager will oversee the Local Environmental Observer (LEO) Network and One Health activities, lead program operations and strategic development, supervise staff, manage partnerships, and guide communications and outreach for climate and health initiatives. This role provides a pathway to expanded leadership opportunities within the department, across ANTHC, and with partner organizations. ANTHC offers a robust benefits package, including subsidized health insurance plans, 11 paid holidays, generous leave, and up to an 8% retirement contribution. Apply to the Center for Climate and Health Manager position on the ANTHC jobs website or contact Abigail Nelson at aenelson@anthc.org. * **\$10,000.00 SIGN-ON BONUS*** **Apply before November 30.** For more information, go to www.anthc.org/work-with-us Search JOB ID: 3640b.

ALASKA STATE DIRECTOR for The NATURE CONSERVANCY to provide experienced and visionary leader. This role offers a unique opportunity to guide conservation strategies and partnerships across Alaska's diverse landscapes and communities. The pay range for this position is 187-200k. TNC offers a 35hr work week (with the option to consolidate hours for every other Friday off) and an 8% retirement match, alongside other competitive benefits. Candidates may reside in any major city in Alaska, with a strong preference for Anchorage or Juneau (where we have offices). A core responsibility of this role is fundraising and donor engagement. The state director will frequently travel out of state to cultivate and steward major donors, foundations and corporate partners. [Apply here](#)

The **ALASKA WILDLIFE CONSERVATION CENTER** has the following position available:

NATURALIST INTERNSHIP to assist the year-round education team in all interpretation, educational programming, and tours both at AWCC and off site. This position is designed for college students, recent graduates, or career changing individuals interested in working in this field regardless of relation to their degree path. In this position, interns will have the opportunity to gain experience and skills relative to position duties, and cross train on animal care duties and procedures. Workdays and hours will vary by week; full 40 hours and 5 days per week, maximum 8 hours per day. Positions are available beginning in May and ending in September. [Click HERE for a full job description or to submit an application.](#) To apply please submit a single page resume, a single page cover letter detailing why this position is an appropriate fit for your career path, phone and email contact for three professional or academic references. **The deadline to submit an application for all internship opportunities is Friday, January 31.**

ANIMAL CARE INTERNSHIP to assist the year-round Animal Care team with husbandry tasks and assisting the year-round Education team with facilitating animal encounters and daily programs as needed. This position is designed for the college student interested in working with wildlife, or for entry-level animal care professionals looking to gain more experience. Works days and hours are full 40 hours and 5 days per week, maximum 8 hours per day. The internship position is for up to 20 weeks with a minimum duration of 16 weeks available for the right candidate. [Click HERE for a full job description or to submit an application.](#) To apply please submit a single page resume, a single page cover letter detailing why this position is an appropriate fit for your career path, phone and email contact for three professional or academic

references. **The deadline to submit an application for all internship opportunities is Friday, January 31.**

NATURALIST - SEASONAL to support and lead educational and interpretive programs to reach the mission of the Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center (AWCC). This is a Full-time, 30-week Seasonal position. Preferred Dates: Early April – November. As a team member of a small not-for-profit, the ideal candidate will show their ability to work with flexibility shifting between duties. Amongst team members all programs and tasks required to complete educational programming are assigned to work collaboratively, exact programs and tasks may vary over the duration on the position to adjust for strengths and growths. As our programs primarily feature Alaskan wildlife, environment, history, and geography, we are seeking an applicant with a background and knowledge in these areas, especially pertaining to the dynamic ecosystem of Portage Valley. Preference will be given to applicants who may return for multiple seasons. Wage is \$16-\$18 per hour DOE. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis beginning in January 2026. A valid driver's license is required for all job listings. **Click HERE to view a complete job description and apply.** Questions? Email education@alaskawildlife.org.

REGIONAL CATALYST for REGENERATIVE TOURISM for **SPRUCE ROOT** in **Juneau**, to work through the [Sustainable Southeast Partnership](#) to help Southeast Alaskans benefit from the visitor industry in ways that honor and sustain their communities, cultures, and ecosystems. If you're passionate about community-driven tourism, cultural integrity, and the balance between people and place, we'd love to hear from you. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Go to www.spruceroot.org/careers for more information.

FINANCE OFFICER for the **NORTH PACIFIC RESEARCH BOARD (NPRB)** to manage NPRB's financial operations, supporting the organization's mission to improve understanding of the marine ecosystems of the North Pacific. We are seeking a detail-oriented professional with strong analytical skills, a commitment to accountability, and a passion for supporting science-driven research and stewardship. For more details about the position, benefits, salary, and more, go to <https://nprb.org/job-announcement-nprb-finance-officer/>.

COMMUNITY GRANTS MANAGER III for the **ANTHC Climate Initiatives Group** to provides advanced grant management and financial management technical assistance support to remote Alaska Native communities with climate adaptation and community development engineering and construction projects. To co-develop and implement grant and financial management policies, procedures, and tools with community staff and leadership and. provide extensive ongoing assistance and training to communities to achieve compliance with all funding agency requirements. To see the full position description, go to [https://CSS-ANTHC-PRD.INFORCLOUDSUITE.COM:443/hcm/Jobs/navigation/JobPosting\[JobPostingSet\]\(1000,3586,1\).JobPostingDisplayNav?csk.HROrganization=1000&csk.JobBoard=ANTHCEXTERNAL_](https://CSS-ANTHC-PRD.INFORCLOUDSUITE.COM:443/hcm/Jobs/navigation/JobPosting[JobPostingSet](1000,3586,1).JobPostingDisplayNav?csk.HROrganization=1000&csk.JobBoard=ANTHCEXTERNAL_)

1 CO-LEAD & 1 COORDINATOR for the **2026 COMMUNITY COASTAL EXPERIENCE (CCE)** to help Alaskan adults explore career and internship pathways in **MARINE and COASTAL RESEARCH, ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING, and ALASKA NATIVE CULTURAL HISTORY**

and ARTS. During the CCE, interns travel with program leaders to different locations in southcentral Alaska to observe, learn, and practice new skills in coastal ecology and environmental sciences. Through immersion in new field environments and intentional connection with land, water, and each other, interns will broaden their perspectives through discussions about the challenges facing their communities and ecosystems. We are looking to hire one co-lead and one coordinator for this upcoming CCE focused in **SEWARD** and **KODIAK**. The **co-lead** position runs from mid-January to August 31, 2026. Pay is \$21/hour if you wish to live in shared staff housing in Homer during the summer, or \$24/hour without staff housing. The **coordinator** position runs from mid-January 2026 to mid-January 2027 as a 12-month position, and the salary is \$56,160 per year. Both positions are in-person based in Homer from May-August. In-person training required April 7 - 9, 2026, in Homer. Remote work may be possible in January, February, March, & April. To see the full position description and application process, go to [coastal studies employment page](#). Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis, with a priority deadline of November 7. We will begin reviewing materials as they come in.

CAMPAIGN DIRECTOR for the Alaska office of **NATIONAL PARKS CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION (NPCA)** with a primary focus on northwest Alaska and the speculative Ambler Road. For more information, go to [Campaign Director at National Parks Conservation Association](#).

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR for the **ALASKA ZOO** to help us fulfil our mission of wildlife conservation, education and community enrichment. The Volunteer Coordinator plays a critical role in ensuring that our volunteer program runs smoothly and effectively, directly supporting operations, special events, and guest experiences. To see the full position description and to apply, go to

<https://hr.focussolutions.us/Careers/UserPortal/job-description.aspx?enc=SYRdk0GvdJEXJ/HGbXXXjoEEpMIA6pCsxWxbDDT0ICvPtpviYxRvywyctLXct4esQsRix7As2kEFd/fM9raBQ==>

COMMUNITY ORGANIZER for **COOK INLETKEEPER (Part-Time in Homer)** to help strengthen local climate action and community engagement on the Lower Kenai Peninsula! This position will play a key role in advancing **Homer Drawdown**, a community-led effort to implement local climate solutions, and in coordinating Inletkeeper's **annual Electronics Recycling events** across the region. To see the full position description, go to [Read the full job description](#).

CLIMATE ADAPTATION PROJECT MANAGER II, NETWORKING and KNOWLEDGE SHARING for **ANTHC CLIMATE INITIATIVES (Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium)** to join a dynamic team that is creating change from the local to national levels. This new position will support planning, developing, coordinating, and overseeing the activities of the networking and knowledge sharing branch. Duties include developing and leading a climate adaptation community of practice, gathering and disseminating information on current and planned climate adaptation activities statewide, coordinating peer-to-peer learning opportunities with Tribal communities, social network analysis, and publishing the CETC monthly newsletter. Benefits include access to over a dozen subsidized health insurance plans, 11 paid holidays, generous

paid leave, up to 8% retirement contribution, etc. Apply to the Climate Adaptation Project Manager III position on the ANTHC jobs website or contact hrrecruiting@anthc.org with questions.

DIRECTOR for COASTAL RESILIENCE for the **PRINCE WILLIAM SCIENCE CENTER** in **Cordova** to empower coastal communities to thrive through approaches that can be developed, tested, and used here and applied elsewhere. To see the full position description, go to <https://pwssc.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/PWSSC-DCR-position-posting.pdf>. To Apply: Please submit the following to president@pwssc.org with the subject: Director of Coastal Resilience: [Your First and Last Name]: • A cover letter describing your qualifications and what you propose to accomplish in the first two years of the position (not to exceed three pages); • Resume or CV; • Three professional references who may be contacted regarding this preferred start date is as soon as possible and can be negotiated. For more information, contact the hiring committee at president@pwssc.org. The position is open until filled. The preferred start date is as soon as possible and can be negotiated. For more information, contact the hiring committee at president@pwssc.org.

PROTECTING FUTURE GENERATIONS COORDINATOR for the **ALASKA COMMUNITY ACTION on TOXICS (ACAT)** for their research project whose ultimate goal is the cleanup of military toxics on Sivuqaq (a/k/a St. Lawrence Island) and protection of health. To see the full position description, go to <https://www.akaction.org/wp-content/uploads/Job-Announcement-PFG-Coordinator.pdf>. To apply: Please submit your resumé, letter of interest, and three references to Schwan Thoma at schawnathoma@northerncompassgroup.com. Include the words PFG Coordinator Application in the subject line. Position is open until filled.

DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR for the **FAIRBANKS CLIMATE ACTION COALITION (FCAC)** to develop and lead a fundraising strategy, build strong relationships with funders and donors, and coordinate FCAC staff, volunteers, and partners to support FCAC's fundraising efforts in order to meet the organization's annual budget and long-term budget goals. To see the full position description, go to [Job Description](#).

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/1pZtZgxAf03GFzWzAK19-hg9pKywFHku881IMkSpc4/e/dit?tab=t.0>.

SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL SUPPORT LEAD for the **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>.

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

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