

32<sup>ND</sup>  
ANNUAL

# KACHEMAK BAY SHOREBIRD FESTIVAL

MAY 8-12  
2024

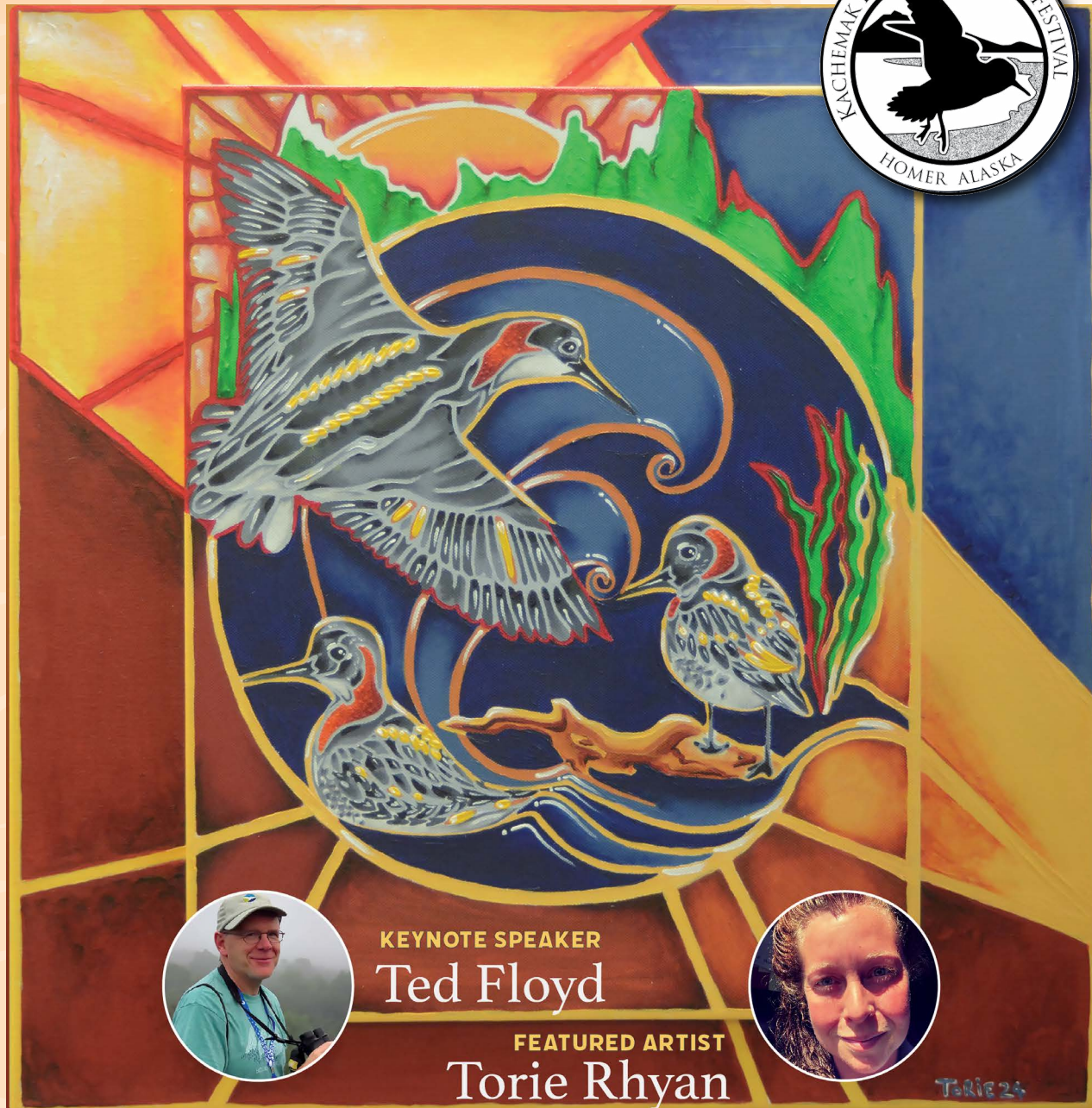
## EVENT SPONSORS:



HOMER NEWS



LAND SEA & SKY



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Ted Floyd



FEATURED ARTIST

Torie Rhyan

TORIE 24

# FESTIVAL HEADQUARTERS

**Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center (AMNWR)**  
95 Sterling Highway  
Homer, AK 99603  
Phone: (907) 226-4631  
[info@kachemakshorebird.org](mailto:info@kachemakshorebird.org)

**Festival Registration opens March 22**  
Register online at:  
[kachemakshorebird.org](http://kachemakshorebird.org)

**Need help registering?**  
Email or call us Tuesdays and Thursdays,  
11 a.m.-4:30 p.m.



# GREETINGS, BIRDERS!

The Friends of Alaska National Wildlife Refuges and co-sponsor Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge will celebrate this year's Shorebird Festival **May 8-12, 2024**. This year's festival will offer over 100 events for all ages and abilities to celebrate the spring migration of Alaska's shorebirds. Registration will open *March 22* on our website.

We look forward to our Keynote Speaker Ted Floyd, the longtime Editor of Birding Magazine, the award-winning flagship publication of the American Birding Association (ABA). He has written five bird books, including the Smithsonian Field Guide to the Birds of North America (HarperCollins) and How to Know the Birds (National Geographic), and he has three more on the way.

This year's Festival Artist, Torie Rhyan, created our unique artwork which features the red-necked phalarope, this year's featured shorebird. We know you'll also enjoy workshops and presentations from the 2024 Schantz Scholar, Adriana Nelson, a recent graduate with a BS in Biology from Appalachian State University and the ABA 2020 Young Birder of The Year. The Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies, the Pratt Museum, and Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve are key program partners and will offer education and fun activities throughout the festival. We have scheduled several tours and talks by knowledgeable Alaska birders and researchers.

Kachemak Bay, located in Homer, Alaska, provides miles of shoreline and intertidal habitat for migrating birds. Kachemak Bay's unique ecology, easy accessibility to beaches, and the scenic landscapes of Homer, make this a prime location to experience this annual migration. Kachemak Bay is a site of International Significance in the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network.

The Board of Friends of Alaska National Wildlife Refuges will host **Birders Coffee at 9 a.m. Sunday, May 12**. This will provide an opportunity to learn about our organization, share your bird sightings, chat with our presenters (including Keynote Ted Floyd!), and pick up any auction items you have won.

It takes an entire community to successfully sponsor more than 30 years of conservation education. The Kachemak Bay Shorebird Festival could not happen without the dedication of Homer's businesses, countless volunteers, sponsors, and enthusiastic attendees.

**Thank You ALL and Happy Birding!**

## RED KNOT REAL ESTATE

1529 Homer Spit Road, Suite 5



SCAN ME



Gordon, Denise, Susannah

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**(907) 299-9944**

JOIN US FOR THE 2024

# Friendship Walk

Join us for a guided hike along **Glacier Spit**

**SUN, MAY 12TH 11 AM - 4PM**

SEE GUIDE FOR DETAILS



**SPONSORED BY:**  
**FRIENDS OF KACHEMAK BAY STATE PARK**



**SHOUT OUT** to the Staff and Volunteers of the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center for their support, knowledge, and input during planning and implementing the events and activities, and for opening their doors as the festival headquarters.



**Michael Armstrong**  
*Homer News, retired*



**Kendra Bush**  
*USFWS Education Specialist*



**Melanie Dufour**  
*Festival Coordinator, Friends of AKNWR*



**Lora Haller**  
*USFWS*



**Whitney Harness**  
*Pratt Museum*



**Jim Herbert**  
*Kachemak Bay Birders*



**Ingrid Herrald**  
*Education Coordinator at KBNERR*



**Jan Knutson**  
*Homer Chamber of Commerce*



**Adrienne McGill**  
*USFWS*



**Mike Schantz**  
*Schantz Brothers Foundation  
Friends of AKNWR*



**Tara Schmidt**  
*Friends of AKNWR*



**Marilyn Sigman**  
*Friends of AKNWR Board President*



**Jason Sodergren**  
*Friends of AKNWR*



**Matt Steffy**  
*City of Homer*



**Karl Stoltzfus**  
*Bay Excursions, retired*



**Beth Trowbridge**  
*Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies*

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction . . . . .	2
Shorebird Festival Planning Committee . . .	3
Viewing Stations . . . . .	4
Event Descriptions . . . . .	4-22
Featured Artist . . . . .	6
6x6 Bird Art and Adventure Auction . . . . .	7
Audubon Alaska . . . . .	8
Schantz Scholar . . . . .	9
Crane Club . . . . .	11
Bird House, Bird Feed . . . . .	12
Schedule of Events . . . . .	14-15
Birds and Tides . . . . .	16
Keynote Speaker . . . . .	17
Spring Sightings . . . . .	18
Photography Track . . . . .	20
More to Do in Homer . . . . .	22
Junior Birder/Teen Birder . . . . .	23
Speaker Bios . . . . .	24
Maps . . . . .	25
How to Register . . . . .	26
Shorebird Checklist . . . . .	26

# FESTIVAL EVENT DESCRIPTIONS

## EVENT KEY:



Field Events

Workshops  
& Presentations

Junior Birder



Teen Birder



Entertainment

Included  
with Registration

Boat Tour

AMNWR

(Alaska Maritime National  
Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center)

pp

(per person)

## VIEWING STATIONS

### Self-Guided Shorebird Viewing at Mud Bay

*Lighthouse Village viewing platform is not available.\**

Wednesday afternoon, 1:30-3 p.m. *Mud Bay*

Thursday afternoon, 2:30-4 p.m. *Mud Bay*

Friday afternoon, 3:30-5 p.m. *Mud Bay*

Saturday afternoon, 4:30-6 p.m. *Mud Bay*

Sunday morning, 6-7:30 a.m. *Mud Bay*

### Morning at the Marsh

*Beluga Lake Airport Viewing Platform*

Saturday morning, 6-8 a.m.

Sunday morning, 6-7:30 a.m.

### Family Viewing Station

*Beluga Lake Airport Viewing Platform*

Friday evening, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

### Family Viewing Station

*Beluga Slough Picnic Table*

Saturday afternoon, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

### Self-Guided Activities *(ongoing during festival)*

Self-guided bird walks on local trails with laminated birds: **The Family Bird Search Challenge** on these five trails around town:

- Calvin and Coyle
- Beluga Slough Trail
- Pratt Museum Trails
- Diamond Ridge Trail
- Mud Bay

Current bird sightings will be posted at Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge (AMNWR), 95 Sterling Hwy., and at [kachemakbaybirders.org](http://kachemakbaybirders.org).

*\*The new owner of the Lighthouse Village property removed the shorebird viewing platform as part of a proposed development and it is not available this year.*

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 8

High Tide: 3:48 p.m. 19.7'

Low Tide: 9:23 a.m. -5.4'

### Lake Clark National Park Bear and Bird Viewing



7:30 a.m.-2 p.m. | Depart from Anchor River State Recreation Area, Lake Tractor Launch

*(AVAILABLE We/Th/F/Sa/Su)*

Travel by boat to Lake Clark National Park on Cook Inlet's remote west coast to view coastal brown bears and sea birds. Join bear guide Captain Mel Erickson, along with bird expert Deb Hess who will be onboard the "Gamefisher" to point out and identify dozens of different species of birds of the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge. You'll also see giant brown bears digging clams, walking the beach, or grazing on the sedge grasses in the salt marsh. This event is weather dependent. **Limit 6. \$370 pp.**

### Beaks and Bills Boat Tour



9-11 a.m. | Harbor Ramp 3, M/V Seabird

*(AVAILABLE We/Th/Fr/Sa/Su, 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.)*

Join us on a venture to spot the many shorebirds of Kachemak Bay. We'll take a cruise to Gull Island, home to over 10,000 nesting birds, with an opportunity to get up close and personal to a variety of nesting species. From there, our journey continues with the flowing tide to seek out some of the unique birds and other wildlife that can be found along the coastline, including kingfishers, black oystercatchers, nesting eagles, and sea otter rafts. Bring warm layers, binoculars, and snacks. **Limit 12. \$85 pp.**

### Bird Storytime at the Homer Public Library



10:30-11:30 a.m. | Homer Public Library

Jr. Birders are invited to join library staff for a bird-themed story time, interactive activities, and craft. *\*This event fulfills one of the Jr. Birder requirements.* **No limit. Free.**

### Beginner Bird Walk



12-2 p.m. | Calvin and Coyle Trail  
(trailhead is at the end of Mariner Dr.)

Join Sabine Simmons for an introduction into the world of songbirds. Meet at Calvin and Coyle trailhead parking lot for a stroll through forest habitat as we listen for Homer's musical forest dwellers, building birding confidence, and practicing your skills. Bring binos and dress for the weather. **Limit 15. \$7 pp.**

### Is that a Bird or a Plane? Birding 101



1-1:45 p.m. | AMNWR Seminar Room

*(AVAILABLE We/Th)*

Join Patricia Heglund to learn more skills for birdwatching. This program is for those who are new to birdwatching and want to learn the basics of bird identification to make your Kachemak Bay Birding Festival time more enjoyable. **Limit 25. Registration is required.**

### Beaks and Bills Boat Tour



1-3 p.m. | Harbor Ramp 3, M/V Seabird

*(AVAILABLE We/Th/F/Sa/Su, 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.)*

Join us on a venture to spot the many shorebirds of Kachemak Bay. We'll take a cruise to Gull Island, home to over 10,000 nesting birds, with an opportunity to get up close and personal to a variety of nesting species. From there, our journey continues with the flowing tide to seek out some of the unique birds and other wildlife that can be found along the coastline, including kingfishers, black oystercatchers, nesting eagles, and sea otter rafts. Bring warm layers, binoculars, and snacks. **Limit 12. \$85 pp.**

## COLLABORATION CREDITS:

Melanie Dufour, Editorial Content  
Torie Rhyhan, Cover Illustration

## HOMER NEWS TEAM:

David Rigas, Publisher  
Erin Thompson, Editor

Callie Steinberg,  
Multimedia Sales Consultant



## WEDNESDAY, MAY 8

### B.A.R.K. Ranger 🐾

2-2:45 p.m. | AMNWR Back Patio

Alaska Maritime NWR has a B.A.R.K. Ranger program for owners and their dogs. What does it mean to be a good pet owner on public land? Take a walk with your dog on the Beluga Slough trail and learn about being a responsible pet owner. Dogs should be well socialized and on a leash to earn their free B.A.R.K. Ranger Badge! **Limit 12. \$5 pp (includes dog). Registration is required.**

### Jr. Birder Walk with KBNERR

at Beluga Slough 🕒👓👓

3:30-4:30pm | AMNWR, meet in parking lot

Join local naturalist Ingrid Harrauld for a guided walk along the Beluga Slough Trail exploring the local estuary up close and personal. Spotting scopes and binoculars will be used to identify local shorebirds and waterfowl. Mud boots recommended! *\*This event fulfills one of the Jr. Birder Requirements.* **Limit 15, kids 2-6 (parents not included in max #). Free, but must register.**

### Shorebird Photography on the Anchor Point Beach 🕒

3:30-6:30 p.m. | Anchor River State Park Recreation Area, main parking lot, Dodge Dakota truck

(AVAILABLE We/Th/F/Sa/Su)

Join award winning wildlife photographer and Homer resident Joey Hausler in photographing the migrating shorebirds! We will be scanning the shoreline in a Dodge Dakota truck looking for peeps, plovers, turnstones, godwits, whimbrels, or any other shorebirds we might come across. The outing is timed with the outgoing tide so we best capture the birds as they are feeding. To ensure ethical wildlife photography practices, as we drive and photograph the birds, their safety will be prioritized. DSLR or mirrorless camera with a minimum 400 mm lens is recommended. **Limit 4. \$100 pp.**

### Steller's Jay Felt Craft 🕒👓👓

4-6 p.m. | AMNWR Lab

Jr. Birders and Teen birders can join Ranger Lora to sew a felt stuffie of a Steller's Jay. Basic sewing or embroidery skills are helpful. Ages 12 to 18. Craft will take more than 2 hours to complete and participants will be able to take home their jay to finish. All supplies included. *\*This event fulfills one of the Jr. Birder requirements.* **Limit 12. \$3pp.**

### Nature Journaling with Kim McNett 🕒👓

4-6 p.m. | Pratt Museum

Join Artist and naturalist Kim McNett for a Nature Journaling gathering at the Pratt Museum. Explore the sights and sounds of the nature trail while learning the skill of nature journaling. No experience necessary. Bring your own supplies if you have them and something to sit on. We will have basic supplies for everyone to share. **Limit 15. Free.**

### Unveiling the Newest Bird Beer Label and Beer! 🎵

4-6 p.m. | Grace Ridge Brewing, 870 Smoky Bay Way

Conrad Field, Biological Technician & Education Specialist, Artist and Author, will be presenting a new Bird Beer Label! He will tell you about the bird and Grace Ridge Brewers will tell you about the beer. Conrad is one of the founders of the International Bird Beer Label Association! **No Limit. Free. (Ages 21+ unless accompanied by a guardian.)**

### Shorebird Dinner Cruise 🚢

4-8 p.m. | Homer Harbor F3

(AVAILABLE We/F/Su)

Guests will join our crew on a 4-hour shorebird tour of Kachemak Bay with a 3-course dinner prepared by our private chef. Experience the amazing animals of Alaska from the comfort of the 72-foot motor yacht, Lady of the Sea. Enjoy the views from our spacious main deck, elevated flybridge, or from behind the large windows inside our salon. Our knowledgeable naturalist will provide incredible insights and answer any questions you may have. As we cruise, our chef will prepare an exquisite dinner for your party featuring local Alaskan seafood and produce from farms in the Homer area. **Limit 6. \$300pp.**

### AK Maritime Refuge Visitor Center 20th Birthday Party and Bird Bash! 🕒👓

4:30-6:30 p.m. | AMNWR

Come and join AK Maritime National Wildlife Refuge staff as they celebrate the visitor center's 20th birthday! To honor the center's 20 years of being a space to learn about birds and other wildlife, there will be bird based games, activities, and (of course) cake! In addition, there will be opportunities to learn all about birds, their habitats, migrations, and more. The birthday party will be open to participants of all ages but will be designed as a Jr. Birder event. It will be a drop in event between 4:30-6:30pm. *\*This event fulfills one of the Jr. Birder requirements.* **Free.**

## REFUGE FRIENDS



FRIENDS OF  
**ALASKA**  
NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES

Friends of Alaska National Wildlife Refuges is an independent, nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the stewardship of Alaska's 16 National Wildlife Refuges through education, support and advocacy.

Friends continues partnering with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service to bring you the Kachemak Bay Shorebird Festival. Friends Members are essential volunteers during the Festival.

Be sure to come to **Sunday's Birders Coffee at 9 a.m.** to chat with Keynote Speaker Ted Floyd, fellow birders and some of our presenters and hear about the exciting ways to get involved firsthand with Friends and all 16 Alaska National Wildlife Refuges through education, service and advocacy. **Learn more today at [alaskarefugefriends.org](http://alaskarefugefriends.org).**

## ZEISS OPTICS



**LAND SEA & SKY**

**The right optical equipment can make it a unique and unforgettable moment in life.**

Zeiss is an international leading technology enterprise operating in the optics and optoelectronics industries. While they will not be able to attend this year, they continue to support our Festival and one of their retailers, Land Sea & Sky, is providing a code (KACHEMAK24 for 10% off all optics on their website [landseaskyco.com](http://landseaskyco.com)) giving ALL attendees opportunity to purchase on their website at a discount and your purchase will be shipped directly to the address of your choice!

# 2024 FESTIVAL ARTIST

TORIE RHYAN



Torie Rhyan has been an Alaskan artist for the past 23 years, known for her love of animals and sea life. When she is not creating a commissioned piece of art, you can find her in the gardens. Torie specializes in pollinator habitats and bringing in as many birds as possible with permaculture practices alongside landscaping projects. Whether using paint or plants, she enjoys creating beauty everywhere she goes. Continuing her belief in life long learning, Torie looks forward to the camaraderie and creativity with all who will be participating in this year's festival!

## First Friday Art Opening

Friday, May 3

Land's End Resort, 4785 Homer Spit Road

## Festival Artist Workshop: Watercolor!

Friday, May 10, 9-11 a.m.

AKNWR

## Festival Artist Work + Community Art & Adventure Auction Display

May 3-11, 2024

Land's End Resort, 4785 Homer Spit Road

# THURSDAY, MAY 9

High Tide: 4:33 p.m. 19.1'

Low Tide: 10:05 a.m. -5.3'

## Beginner Bird Walk

7:30-9:30 a.m. | Calvin and Coyle Trail (trailhead is at the end of Mariner Dr.)

Join Lora Haller for an introduction into the world of songbirds. Meet at Calvin and Coyle trailhead parking lot for a stroll through forest habitat as we listen for Homer's musical forest dwellers, building birding confidence, and practicing your skills. Bring binos and dress for the weather. **Limit 15. \$7 pp.**

## Lake Clark National Park

### Bear and Bird Viewing

7:30 a.m.-2 p.m. | Depart from Anchor River State Recreation Area, Lake Tractor Launch

(AVAILABLE We/Th/F/Sa/Su)

Travel by boat to Lake Clark National Park on Cook Inlet's remote west coast to view coastal brown bears and sea birds. Join bear guide Captain Mel Erickson, along with bird expert Deb Hess who will be onboard the "Gamefisher" to point out and identify dozens of different species of birds of the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge. You'll also see giant brown bears digging clams, walking the beach, or grazing on the sedge grasses in the salt marsh. This event is weather dependent. **Limit 6. \$370 pp.**

## Fins and Feathers Boat Tour

8-10 a.m. | True North Kayak Adventures office, Harbor Ramp 2

(AVAILABLE Th/F/Sa/Su)

Head to Gull Island, home to over 10,000 nesting birds and 12 different species of birds (horned and tufted puffins, black-legged kittiwakes, glaucous-winged gulls, common murre, pigeon guillemots, and pelagic cormorants. From there, cruise to different areas where unique birds have been spotted including harlequin ducks; goldeneyes; surf, black and white-winged scoters; yellow-billed, common and red-throated loons; red-necked phalaropes; red-necked grebes; kingfishers, and jaegers. Bring your life list, a snack, warm clothes, and a camera. Hot drinks provided. **Limit 12. \$75 pp, \$50 for kids 12 and under.**

## The Wise and Wonderful Journey

8-10 a.m. | 7:30 a.m. check-in at Kachemak Bay Adventures office, between Coal Point Seafoods and Ramp 3 parking lot

(AVAILABLE Th/F/Sa/Su)

Visit Gull Island for up-close viewing opportunities of horned and tufted puffins, pigeon guillemots, cormorants, kittiwake and murre. The cruise continues along the coast; nesting eagles, loons, kingfishers, sea ducks and many other species are common sightings. The journey passes ocean upwellings and tide streaks that bring nutrients and food to the surface, locations ideal for foraging birds such as Aleutian terns, red necked phalaropes, murrelets, sea ducks and other wildlife. The rich biodiversity of Kachemak Bay supports many marine mammals, and seals, otters and porpoises are common sightings. Encounters of Steller sea lions, humpback and orca whales are not unusual. **Limit 6. \$85 pp. Ages 5 and up.**

## Birding Hot Spots at the Anchor River

8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. | AMNWR, meet in parking lot

Hop on the bus with guide Aaron Lang to discover the hottest birding spots along the Anchor River. Seabirds, songbirds, shorebirds, water birds, raptors and more! Join our experienced guides for a 2.5 mile walk along the beach and Anchor River to its mouth. There's the potential to see rarities like bristle-thighed curlew, glaucous gulls or horned lark. More common are whimbrels, yellowlegs, scoters, loons, guillemots, mergansers, "peeps," harlequin ducks, and murrelets. Wear sturdy shoes or hiking boots to walk in the sand. Dress in layers and take water. A limited number of scopes will be available. **Limit 22. \$50pp.**

## Full-day Boat Tour To Seldovia

8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. | Seldovia Nature Tours and Tutka Tours, Harbor Ramp 4, Slip N14, M/V Silver Wake

(AVAILABLE Th/F/Sa/Su)

Tutka Tours & Seldovia Nature Tours team up to guide you to the rainforest side of Kachemak Bay, where you'll visit Seldovia, a charming town off the road system. Onboard with Captain Scott McEwen, you'll experience Gull Island's raucous seabirds, and watch for puffins, whales, sea lions and seals. Naturalist Cindy Mom then hops aboard for a tour of Seldovia Bay, home to black oystercatchers and mom-and-pup rafts of sea otters. Once ashore in Seldovia, we'll stroll the historic boardwalk and look for chestnut-backed chickadee, great blue heron, and rufous hummingbird. Bring lunch, snacks, and water, and dress for the weather. Enclosed boat with open deck access; bathroom available while aboard. **Limit 6. \$295pp.**

## THURSDAY, MAY 9

### Beaks and Bills Boat Tour

9-11 a.m. | Harbor Ramp 3, M/V Seabird

(AVAILABLE We/Th/F/Sa/Su, 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.)

See Wednesday, 9 a.m. listing for event description.

Limit 12. \$85 pp.

### Flow with the Birds: 1/2 Day Kayak Tour

9 a.m.-1 p.m. | Kachemak Bay Adventures,  
between Coal Point Seafoods and Ramp 3 parking lot

(AVAILABLE Th/F/Sa/Su, 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.)

A 15-minute water taxi cruise to visit Gull Island with up-close viewing opportunities for puffins, guillemots, cormorants, kittiwakes and murre. Then cruise to a nearby beach for shoreside instruction. Let the tide carry you through the calm waters and the abundant biodiversity of China Poot Bay as you glimpse stunning scenery and wildlife from a kayak. Listen for black oystercatchers, shorebirds, watch for bald eagles pursuing their next meal, keep a look out for harlequin ducks foraging along the shore. Explore the Bay's unique rose-colored rock formations that illustrate ancient tectonic forces. Morning and afternoon tours. **Limit 12. \$95pp.**

### Pre-K Puffins: The Remarkable Red-necked Phalarope!

10-11:30 a.m. | AMNWR Seminar Room

Join Ranger Kendra with the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge for this special Shorebird Festival Session of the Pre-K Puffins Early Learning Program all about the Remarkable Red-necked Phalarope! The program is designed for children ages 2-5 and will include story time, interactive games and a craft. *\*This event fulfills one of the Jr. Birder requirements.* **No Limit. Free.**

### Kayaking with Birds in the Wildlife Refuge

10 a.m.-2 p.m. | True North Kayak Adventures office,  
Harbor Ramp 2

(AVAILABLE Th/F/Sa/Su)

Enjoy a scenic water taxi ride to Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge's Yukon Island, disembark and paddle around the Island, watching for sea ducks, shorebirds, eagles and sea otters. Wear warm, layered clothes and raingear. Bring water and lunch. Light snacks and hot drinks provided. All experience levels are welcome. Enclosed boat with open back access. No facilities. **Limit 15. \$95pp, \$85 for kids 12 under.**

### Gull Island Tour and Hike to Grewingk Glacier Lake

10 a.m.-4 p.m. | 9:30 a.m. check-in at Kachemak Bay Adventures office, between Coal Point Seafoods and the Ramp 3 parking lot

(AVAILABLE Th/F/Sa/Su)

This fully guided tour cruises to Gull Island for up-close viewing opportunities of horned and tufted puffins, guillemots, cormorants, kittiwake and murre. We continue cruising along the coast viewing sea ducks, otters, seals, and wildlife to Glacier Spit and Rusty's Lagoon. The hike begins with your guide leading you along Glacier Spit, Kachemak Bay on one side, Rusty's Lagoon on the other, with viewing opportunities for a diversity of birds and wildlife, shorebirds, raptors, kingfishers, loons, otters, seals, porpoise. The trail, over the level glacier moraine, opens to Grewingk Glacier Lake, dotted with icebergs, the glacier is a backdrop surrounded by mountain peaks. Return through an old growth coastal forest, with views of Halibut Cove to meet your water taxi pick-up. This is a 6-mile hike with a steep uphill and downhill section. **Limit 12. \$95pp. \$85 ages 5-12.**

### Gulls and Glaciology Excursion

11 a.m.-5 p.m. | True North Kayak Adventures office,  
Harbor Ramp 2

(AVAILABLE Th/F/Sa/Su)

With your naturalist guide, cruise to Gull Island via water taxi to check out over 10,000 nesting birds including black-legged kittiwakes, common murre and puffins. From there we'll head to Glacier Spit Trailhead to hike up to Glacier Lake learning about the fascinating glaciology of Kachemak Bay. There will be a geological mystery to solve as well as snacks and hot drinks. Bring lunch, water, and layers. Must be able to hike 4 miles with 250 ft elevation gain. **Limit 12. \$125 pp, \$115 for kids 12 and under.**

### Beginner Bird Walk in Town

12:30-2:30 p.m. | Poopdeck Trail

Join Sabine Simmons for a casual bird walk along the connector Poopdeck Trail. Meet at the west end of the library parking lot or park on Hazel Avenue (behind Safeway). Trail is about 0.5 mile with a small hill. **Limit 15. \$7pp.**

### Foggy Origin: Rats in the Aleutians

1-1:45 p.m. | AMNWR Auditorium

Bravely sail into the fog of 18th century Alaska to discover the origin of an invasive predator in the Aleutian Islands. What can history tell us about the future of bird conservation? Join Lauren Flynn, a Wildlife Refuge Specialist from AK Maritime NWR for this talk. **Limit 70. Free.**

## 6X6 BIRD ART AND ADVENTURE AUCTION



The 2024 festival artist **Torie Rhyan** and local artists have created unique, handmade pieces inspired by Alaska's avian wonders. The art and other fun items will be auctioned online in support of the Festival.

Submissions can be viewed online at **[kachemakshorebird.org/birders-art-alert](https://kachemakshorebird.org/birders-art-alert)** and in person at Land's End Resort, 4785 Homer Spit Road, May 1-6, 6 p.m.

Items up for auction:

- Torie Rhyan's original Festival artwork
- Original 6x6 Art Pieces by Alaskans
- Travel, Fun, and Bird Friendly Items!

Proceeds benefit the Kachemak Bay Shorebird Festival and ensure top-notch programs, speakers, and the ongoing legacy of the Festival.

**Bidding opens April 20, and will close at 8 p.m. AKDT on May 11.** Items may be picked up at Festival Headquarters or arranged for mailing.

**2024 AUCTION LINK HERE:**

**[kachemakshorebird.org/birders-art-alert](https://kachemakshorebird.org/birders-art-alert)**



# Audubon

## ALASKA

From the icy, bountiful waters of the Arctic Ocean to the misty, salmon-rich rainforests of the Tongass National Forest, Audubon Alaska works to conserve our spectacular birds, wildlife, and habitats. We employ science and state-of-the-art mapping technology to drive our conservation priorities, with an emphasis on protecting public lands and waters for generations to come. Audubon Alaska is a proud sponsor of the Kachemak Bay Shorebird Festival.

Learn more at [AudubonAlaska.org](https://AudubonAlaska.org) and follow us on Facebook, X (formerly Twitter) (@audubonalaska1), and Instagram (@audubonalaska).

## THURSDAY, MAY 9

### Is that a Bird or a Plane? Birding 101

1-1:45 p.m. | AMNWR Seminar Room

(AVAILABLE We/Th)

Join Patricia Heglund to learn more skills for birdwatching. This program is for those who are new to birdwatching and want to learn the basics of bird identification to make your Kachemak Bay Birding Festival time even more enjoyable. **Limit 25. Free.**

### Motus Towers in Homer: Learn About New Resources for Tracking Birds in Homer with KBNERR

1-2 p.m. | KBNERR, 2181 Kachemak Drive

The Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (KBNERR) will be installing a new Motus tower by their office on Kachemak Drive in Homer. The Motus Tracking System is an international collaborative network of researchers using automated radio telemetry to track birds, bats, and insects. A recent collaborative grant has allowed for the installation of Motus towers across the country and will be developing a website that will display collected data on migratory birds to support research, education, and conservation. Experts will be at KBNERR for this outreach opportunity to present on the new tower and answer any questions. **Limit 30. Free.**

### Beaks and Bills Boat Tour

1-3 p.m. | M/V Seabird, bottom of Ramp 3, turn right

(AVAILABLE We/Th/F/Sa/Su, 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.)

See Wednesday, 9 a.m. listing for event description. **Limit 12. \$85pp.**

### Nature Journaling for All Skill Levels

1-3 p.m. | AMNWR Lab

In this workshop with Addie Willsrud, we will focus on observation skills and exploring ways to engage with the natural world through the process of art and creativity. No experience needed! Watercolor supplies will be provided. **Limit 15. \$7pp.**

### Flow with the Birds:

#### PM 1/2 Day Kayak Tour

1-5 p.m. | Kachemak Bay Adventures, between Coal Point Seafoods and Ramp 3 parking lot

(AVAILABLE Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Thursday 9 a.m. listing for event description.

**Limit 12. \$95pp.**

Hey Stalkers, make your way to the Homer Bookstore, warm up and peep at the selection of fine avian literature.



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## SELDOVIA NATURE TOURS

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## THURSDAY, MAY 9

### Kachemak Bay Overnight Cruise

1 p.m.-10 a.m. next day | Homer Harbor F3

(AVAILABLE Th/Sa)

Enjoy a leisurely boating tour of the bay in a 72-ft motor yacht with a 360-degree upper deck, with our captain, chef, and naturalist guide. View a variety of shorebirds, including puffins, murres, cormorants, guillemots, and kittiwakes often at close range. We also can go ashore for more viewing opportunities and will design the trip around group interests, including both Gull Island and Yukon Island. Great photo opportunities and the length of the trip allow us to find the best of the bay. Dress warmly. Snacks, dinner, and breakfast are included. 6-person maximum, but can be booked on an individual basis. **Limit 6. \$750pp.**

### Schantz Scholar: Adrianna Nelson

2-2:45 p.m. | AMNWR Auditorium

Join Schantz Scholar Adrianna Nelson as she presents "The Seabird Connection: Linking Local Birds to Global Conservation." An overview of seabirds with an early career bird biologist. Adrianna will discuss her experiences with seabirds, including her favorite, the captivating Leach's Storm Petrel. Seabirds are fascinating, important to the environment, and significant to people. But that's not all — join Adrianna to find out how local seabirds connect us to the rest of the world. **Limit 70. Free.**

### B.A.R.K. Ranger

2-2:45 p.m. | AMNWR Back Patio

(AVAILABLE We/Th/Su)

See Wednesday, 2 p.m. listing for event description.

**Limit 12. \$5pp (inc. pup).**

### Kayaking into the Ancient Past

2-6 p.m. | True North Kayak Adventures office, Harbor Ramp 2

(AVAILABLE Th/F/Sa/Su)

Water taxi to Yukon Island keeping an eye out for birds and wildlife. We will kayak past ancient Sugpiaq villages and learn more about the ways of the Sugpiaq and Dena'ina people and Frederika de Laguna, the spunky archeologist who explored our bay in the late 1920s. **Limit 12. \$95pp. \$85 for kids 12 and under.**

### KBNER: Mud Bay Family Walk

3:30-4:30 p.m. | Meet at the Mud Bay parking lot, 2181 Kachemak Bay Drive

Join local naturalist Ingrid Harrauld and Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve for a guided walk along the beach to Mud Bay, exploring the mysteries of the tidal areas and exploring the local estuary up close and personal. Spotting scopes will be used to identify local shorebirds and waterfowl. Mud boots recommended! Registration is required. **No Limit. Free.**

### Shorebird Photography on the Anchor Point Beach

3:30-6:30 p.m. | Anchor River State Park Recreation Area, main parking lot, Dodge Dakota truck

(AVAILABLE We/Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Wednesday, 3:30 p.m. listing for event description.

**Limit 4. \$100pp.**

### Game Night: Wingspan

4-6 p.m. | AMNWR Seminar Room

Join us to play the board game Wingspan for ages 14 and up. Seek to discover and attract the best bird to your preserve. Lay eggs, gain food tokens, and learn about birds across North America. Five players per game and a max of 3 games will be playing. New players encouraged! Registration is required. **Limit 15. \$1pp.**

### Jr. Birder Movie Night

4:30-6:30 p.m. | AMNWR Auditorium

Join us for this fun, family friendly, bird-related movie night. The movie showing will be *Fly Away Home*, rated PG. Bring your comfy cushions, blankets, and bean-bag chairs to sprawl out on while enjoying the film, munching popcorn, and drinking tasty refreshments.

*\*This event fulfills one of the Jr. Birder requirements.* **Free.**

### Birding Trivia!

5-7 p.m. | Grace Ridge Brewing, 870 Smoky Bay Way

Whether you're a true birder or just looking to test your knowledge, stop in. These bird trivia questions and how folks answer them are sure to be both informative and entertaining. **No Limit. Free. Ages 21+ unless accompanied by a guardian.**

## SCHANTZ SCHOLAR

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**SCHANTZBIRD.ORG**

*Encouraging the Passionate Study of Birds and Birdlife*



**Schantz Scholar Adrianna Nelson presents, *The Seabird Connection: Linking Local Birds to Global Conservation***

2-2:45 p.m. | Thursday, May 9 

AMNWR Auditorium

**Limit 70. Free.**

Adrianna Nelson began bird watching at age 9 when she identified a dark-eyed junco in her yard. She quickly got involved in local birding groups and became the Sullivan County Coordinator for the Tennessee Bluebird Society. She received a B.S. in Biology at Appalachian State University in 2022 and completed a thesis on the behavioral ecology of nesting tree swallows. While at ASU, she was also named the American Birding Association (ABA) 2020 Young Birder of the Year (age 14-18 division). She has since contributed several pieces to ABA's magazines *Birding* and *The Fledgling*. After graduating, Adrianna has been traveling the country to work in various ornithology, education, or conservation positions. She has plans to attend graduate school in the future. In addition to birds, Adrianna is passionate about moths and Appalachian culture. She looks forward to combining her interests for wildlife and culture in her future career.



## WORLD WILDLIFE FUND

### WWF SALUTES THE KACHEMAK BAY SHOREBIRD FESTIVAL

For more than two decades, the World Wildlife Fund has worked to protect America's most remarkable Arctic places and the species that live there. With WWF colleagues in other nations, we work across the Arctic to conserve ecosystem functioning for wildlife and people.

Today, we are committed to minimizing threats posed by increasing trans-Arctic shipping, supporting community-led area-based conservation, protecting the Bristol Bay watershed from large-scale mining, and reducing human/polar bear conflict along Alaska's northern coast.

The WWF U.S. Arctic Program has been a proud sponsor of the Kachemak Bay Shorebird Festival since 2008. We salute the Festival's organizers, volunteers, and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service staff who continue to help us all understand, celebrate, and protect our returning shorebirds as they pass through Kachemak Bay en route to their Arctic breeding grounds.

## FRIDAY, MAY 10

High Tide: 5:17 p.m. 18.1'



Low Tide: 10:48 a.m. -4.3'

### Overlook Park Hike

7 a.m.-2 p.m. | Meet at AMNWR parking lot for shuttle to trailhead

(AVAILABLE F/Su)

This guided 10-mile hike journeys along the north shoreline of Kachemak Bay to Overlook Park, an undisturbed, remote pocket of native coastal habitat within the Alaska State Park system. View shorebirds, sea ducks, marine mammals, ravens and eagles along the way, plus songbirds and waterfowl around the ponds in the Park. This all-day hike traverses some sloping, uneven terrain, creek crossings and unimproved trail. Bring binoculars, lunch, water, raingear and sturdy, waterproof boots. Proceeds benefit the management of Overlook Park. Presented by Kachemak Bay Conservation Society, led by Laurie Daniel. **Limit 12. \$15pp. Must be at least 12 years old.**

### Lake Clark National Park Bear and Bird Viewing

7:30 a.m.-2 p.m. | Anchor River State Recreation Area, lake Tractor Launch

(AVAILABLE We/Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Wednesday, 7:30 a.m. listing for event description. **Limit 6. \$370pp.**

### Beginner Bird Walk

7:30-9:30 a.m. | Calvin and Coyle Trail

Join Lora Haller for an introduction into the world of songbirds. Meet at Calvin and Coyle trailhead parking lot for a stroll through forest habitat as we listen for Homer's musical forest dwellers, building birding confidence, and practicing your skills. Bring binos and dress for the weather and muddy trails. **Limit 15. \$7pp.**

### Fins and Feathers Boat Tour

8-10 a.m. | True North Kayak Adventures office, Harbor Ramp 2

(AVAILABLE Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Thursday, 8 a.m. listing for event description.

**Limit 12. \$75pp, \$50 for kids 12 and under.**

### The Wise and Wonderful Journey

8-10 a.m. | 7:30 a.m. check-in at Kachemak Bay Adventures office, between Coal Point Seafoods and Ramp 3 parking lot

(AVAILABLE Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Thursday, 8 a.m. listing for event description. **Limit 6. \$85pp. Ages 5 & up.**

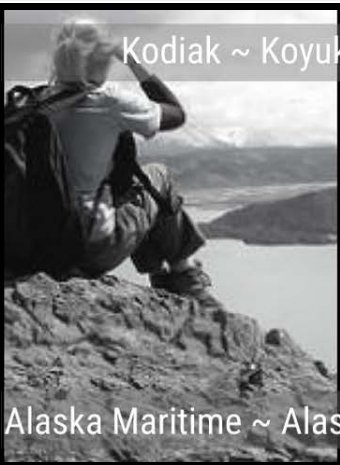
### Coldwater, Hot Birds

8-11 a.m. | Harbor Ramp 3 (wait under the covered area), black and grey landing craft M/V ColdwaterAk, Mako's Water Taxi

(AVAILABLE F/Sa)

Coldwater Alaska and Wilderness Birding Adventures show off their favorite spots on the Bay during this 3 hour tour guided by Aaron Lang. Kachemak Bay is one of the richest marine environments in Alaska and this short tour will provide a sampling of the diversity of birds and wildlife on our doorstep. Almost anything is possible on this trip and we will keep our route option open to take advantage of the serendipity of migration. **Limit 12. \$110pp, \$90 12 & under.**

Kodiak ~ Koyukuk ~ Nowitna ~ Selawik ~ Tetlin ~ Togiak ~ Yukon Delta ~ Yukon Flats



Alaska Maritime ~ Alaska Peninsula ~ Arctic ~ Becharof ~ Innoko ~ Izembek ~ Kanuti ~ Kenai

## FRIDAY, MAY 10

### Full-day Boat Tour to Seldovia

8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. | Seldovia Nature Tours and Tutka Tours,  
Harbor Ramp 4, Slip N14, M/V Silver Wake

(AVAILABLE Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Thursday, 8 a.m. listing for event description. Limit 6. \$295pp.

### Beaks and Bills Boat Tour

9-11 a.m. | Harbor Ramp 3, M/V Seabird

(AVAILABLE Th/F/Sa/Su, 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.)

See Thursday, 9 a.m. listing for event description.

Limit 12. \$85pp.

### Watercolor Workshop with 2024 Festival Artist Torie Ryan

9-11 a.m. | AMNWR Lab

Participants will learn how to draw and paint the Red Necked Phalarope using watercolors. All travel size supplies will be provided for participants to use in workshop along with bringing them home to continue the practice, a photo will be included for reference. We will start with discussing how to use basic shapes in order to start forming your subject and all the fun details that will help you bring your bird to life. All supplies provided (and you can take them home). Limit 24. \$40pp.

### Flow with the Birds: AM 1/2 Day Kayak Tour

9 a.m.-1 p.m. | Kachemak Bay Adventures,  
between Coal Point Seafoods and Ramp 3 parking lot

(AVAILABLE Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Thursday, 9 a.m. listing for event description.

Limit 12. \$95pp.

### Documenting Birds in the Digital Era

9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. | AMNWR Seminar Room

A totally friendly primer on "best practices" for taking pictures, making audio recordings, and sharing media with others — with technology as simple as a smartphone or laptop. Birders and other nature lovers in the 2020s probably use digital gear (app-equipped phones, small digital cameras, databases like eBird and iNaturalist, etc.) as much as field guides and binoculars. The digital revolution has massively altered the way we engage with birds and nature, and most of us have probably at least dabbled with both hardware and software for increasing our enjoyment of the natural world. In this hands-on tutorial, Ted Floyd (festival keynote) will go over the basics of hardware (phones, simple recording gear, and gratifyingly economical cameras) and software (eBird and "iNat"), with a particular emphasis on "best practices" — the do's and don'ts of obtaining, editing, and sharing media with nature lovers everywhere. This will be a hybrid workshop: We'll start with a few general topics indoors, then we'll go outside and create natural history media with our equipment, then go back inside and share it with the whole world! No experience necessary. If you have a phone or digital camera, please bring it along. Limit 25. \$10pp.

### Gull Island Tour and Hike to Grewingk Glacier Lake

10 a.m.-4 p.m. | Kachemak Bay  
Adventures office, between Coal Point  
Seafoods and Ramp 3 parking lot

(AVAILABLE Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Thursday, 10 a.m. listing for event  
description. Limit 12. \$95pp, \$85 for kids  
ages 5-12.

### CACS: Pre-K Family Birding Walk

10-11:30 a.m. | Louie's Lagoon, on the  
Homer Spit

Join a Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies  
naturalist on a walk focused on exploration  
and observation. Little ones and their  
families will look for bird signs and clues of  
feeding, walking and resting. *\*This event  
fulfills one of the Jr. Birder Requirements.*  
Limit 15. Kids ages 2-6 (parents not  
included in max #). Free but must  
register.

### Birdability on Beluga Slough

10-11:30 a.m. | Meet in AMNWR  
Parking Lot

A casual birding walk for folks with any  
physical ability. Look for some forest and  
wetland birds. The Beluga Slough Trail is  
an accessible half-mile hard packed gravel  
and graded boardwalk trail with a hill.  
Folks who choose not to do the hill can do  
the beginning top part then drive to the  
bottom. Wheelchair accessible. Limit 15.  
Registration required. Free.

### Kayaking with Birds in the Wildlife Refuge

10 a.m.-2 p.m. | True North Kayak  
Adventures office, Harbor Ramp 2

(AVAILABLE Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Thursday, 10 a.m. listing for event  
description. Limit 15. \$95pp, \$85 for kids  
under 12.

## CRANE CLUB

### Many thanks to our Crane Club financial supporters!

The Friends of Alaska National Wildlife Refuges and  
the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service would like to recognize  
and thank our many generous supporters who make  
the Kachemak Bay Shorebird Festival possible.

Visit [kachemakshorebird.org/crane-club](http://kachemakshorebird.org/crane-club) for  
a complete list of the sponsors and to find out  
how you can be involved!

### Bristle-thighed Curlew (\$5000+)

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### Aspen Suites Hotel Homer

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907-235-2351

[aspenhotelsak.com/homer](http://aspenhotelsak.com/homer)

Aspen Hotels Homer offers competitive rates and one of the best locations in town. Guests are close to everything, from downtown dining to wild outdoor adventures. The front desk staff are local and go above and beyond to make every guest's stay special.

## FRIDAY, MAY 10

### Gulls and Glaciology Excursion

11 a.m.-5 p.m. | True North Kayak Adventures office, Harbor Ramp 2

(AVAILABLE Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Thursday, 11 a.m. listing for event description. Limit 12. \$125pp, \$115 for kids 12 and under.

### Red-necked Phalarope Craft

11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. | AMNWR Lab

Join us to sew a red-necked phalarope felt-stuffed critter. Basic sewing/embroidery skills suggested. All supplies will be provided and it will take more than 2 hours to complete but you can take home to finish. Limit 15. \$10pp, ages 12 and up.

### Bird-friendly Buildings:

#### What You Can Do

1-1:45 p.m. | AMNWR Auditorium

Join Dr. Christine Sheppard from American Bird Conservancy as she talks via Zoom about bird mortality caused by bird-collisions with glass. Learn what solutions are possible. Despite having Dr. Christine on Zoom, participants must join program in the auditorium. Limit 70. Registration required. Free.

### Storytime at the Pratt, Shorebird Festival Session

1-2 p.m. | Pratt Museum

Join staff at the Pratt Museum for this interactive program, including storytime + activities, all about birds! Limit 20. Registration required. Free.

### Beaks and Bills Boat Tour

1-3 p.m. | M/V Seabird, bottom of Ramp 3, turn right

(AVAILABLE We/Th/F/Sa/Su, 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.)

Join us on a venture to spot the many shorebirds of Kachemak Bay. We'll take a cruise to Gull Island, home to over 10,000 nesting birds, with an opportunity to get up close and personal to a variety of nesting species. From there, our journey continues with the flowing tide to seek out some of the unique birds and other wildlife that can be found along the coastline, including kingfishers, black oystercatchers, nesting eagles, and sea otter rafts. Bring warm layers, binoculars, and snacks. Limit 12. \$85pp.

### Flow with the Birds: PM 1/2 Day Kayak Tour

1-5 p.m. | Kachemak Bay Adventures office, between Coal Point Seafoods and Ramp 3 parking lot

(AVAILABLE Th/F/Sa/Su, 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.)

See Thursday, 9 a.m. listing for event description. Limit 12. \$95pp, ages 5 & up.

### Be a Citizen Scientist and Explorer with eBird

2-2:45 p.m. | AMNWR Seminar Room

Find out what species are in your area, where to go birding, and how to develop better birding skills. How do scientists use the data? We will explore the migration tracker and you will be introduced to the eBird and Merlin apps. Join Kristine Sowl to learn more about eBird and don't forget your cell phone! Limit 25. Registration required. Free.

### Kayaking into the Ancient Past

2-6 p.m. | True North Kayak Adventures office, Harbor Ramp 2

(AVAILABLE Th/F/Sa/Su)

Water taxi to Yukon Island keeping an eye out for birds and wildlife. We will kayak past ancient Sugpiaq villages and learn more about the ways of the Sugpiaq and Dena'ina people and Frederika de Laguna, the spunky archeologist who explored our bay in the late 1920s. Limit 12. \$95pp. \$85 for kids 12 and under.

### Red-necked Phalaropes: Understanding a Unique Shorebird

3-3:45 p.m. | AMNWR Auditorium

Join biologist Willow English as she Zoom's in to share the life history characteristics that make red-necked phalaropes unique among shorebirds, such as their pelagic nature, their sex-role reversal and their spinning foraging strategy. Willow has spent more than a decade working with phalaropes on their breeding grounds, and will be sharing her personal experiences with this charismatic species. Despite having Willow on Zoom, participants must join program in the auditorium. Limit 70. Registration required. Free.

### Shorebirding by Ear

3-5 p.m. | AMNWR Back Patio (but might move to Mud Bay; bird dependent)

Join local expert birder Dave Erickson for an introduction to shorebirds and their sounds outside on the visitor center patio before heading out on foot to nearby Beluga Slough and Bishop's Beach to listen. Put new skills into action with guided practice in this field based workshop. Limit 20. \$7pp.

Descriptions continued on page 17





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
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SHOREBIRD FESTIVAL SCHEDULE									
WEDNESDAY, MAY 8					HIGH TIDE: 3:48 P.M. 19.7'   LOW TIDE: 9:23 A.M. -5.4'				
TIME	KEY	EVENT TITLE	LOCATION	COST	TIME	KEY	EVENT TITLE	LOCATION	COST
7:30 a.m.-2 p.m.		Lake Clark National Park Bear/Bird Viewing	Anchor River State Park Rec. Area	\$370	3:30-4:30 p.m.		Jr. Birder Beluga Slough Walk with KBNERR	Beluga Slough	IR
9-11 a.m.		Beaks and Bills Boat Tour	H Ramp 3, M/V Seabird	\$85	3:30-6:30 p.m.		Shorebird Photography on the Anchor Point Beach	Anchor River State Park Rec. Area	\$100
10:30-11:30 a.m.		Bird Storytime at the Homer Public Library	Homer Public Library	IR	4-6 p.m.		Nature Journaling with Kim McNett	Pratt Museum	IR
12-2 p.m.		Beginner Bird Walk	Calvin & Coyle Trail	\$7	4-6 p.m.		Steller's Jay Felt Craft	AMNWR Lab	\$3
1-1:45 p.m.		Is that a bird or a plane? Birding 101	AMNWR Seminar Room	IR	4-6 p.m.		Unveiling the newest Bird Beer Label & Beer!	Grace Ridge Brewing	IR
1-3 p.m.		Beaks and Bills Boat Tour	H Ramp 3, M/V Seabird	\$85	4:30-6:30 p.m.		AK Maritime Refuge Visitor Center 20 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Party and Bird Bash!	AMNWR	IR
2-2:45 p.m.		B.A.R.K. Ranger	AMNWR Back Patio	\$5	4-8 p.m.		Shorebird Dinner Cruise	Homer Harbor F3	\$300
THURSDAY, MAY 9					HIGH TIDE: 4:33 P.M. 19.1'   LOW TIDE: 10:05 A.M. -5.3'				
TIME	KEY	EVENT TITLE	LOCATION	COST	TIME	KEY	EVENT TITLE	LOCATION	COST
7:30-9:30 a.m.		Beginner Bird Walk	Calvin & Coyle Trail	\$7	1-1:45 p.m.		Foggy Origin: Rats in the Aleutians	AMNWR Auditorium	IR
7:30 a.m.-2 p.m.		Lake Clark National Park Bear/Bird Viewing	Anchor River State Park Rec. Area	\$370	1-1:45 p.m.		Is that a bird or a plane? Birding 101	AMNWR Seminar Room	IR
8-10 a.m.		The Wise and Wonderful Journey	H Ramp 2, Kachemak Bay Adventures	\$85	1-2 p.m.		Motus Towers in Homer with KBNERR	KBNERR	IR
8-10 a.m.		Fins and Feathers Boat Tour	H Ramp 2, True North Kayak	\$75/\$50 kids	1-3 p.m.		Beaks and Bills Boat Tour	H Ramp 3, M/V Seabird	\$85
8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.		Birding Hot Spots at the Anchor River	AMNWR parking lot	\$50	1-3 p.m.		Nature Journaling for All Skill Levels	AMNWR Lab	\$7
8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.		Full-day Boat Tour to Seldovia	H Ramp 4, Slip N14, M/V Silver Wake	\$295	1-5 p.m.		Flow with the Birds: 1/2 Day Kayak Tour	H Ramp 3 parking lot, Kachemak Bay Adventures	\$95
9-11 a.m.		Beaks and Bills Boat Tour	H Ramp 3, M/V Seabird	\$85	2-2:45 p.m.		Schantz Scholar: Adrianna Nelson	AMNWR Auditorium	IR
9 a.m.-1 p.m.		Flow with the Birds: 1/2 Day Kayak Tour	H Ramp 3 parking lot, Kachemak Bay Adventures	\$95	2-2:45 p.m.		B.A.R.K. Ranger	AMNWR Back Patio	\$5
10-11:30 a.m.		Pre-K Puffins: The Remarkable Red-necked Phalarope!	AMNWR Seminar Room	IR	2-6 p.m.		Kayaking into the Ancient Past	H Ramp 2, True North Kayak	\$95/\$85 kids
10 a.m.-2 p.m.		Kayaking with Birds in the Wildlife Refuge	H Ramp 2, True North Kayak	\$95/\$85 kids	3:30-4:30 p.m.		Mud Bay Family Walk	2181 Kachemak Bay Drive	IR
10 a.m.-4 p.m.		Gull Island Tour & Hike to Grewingk Glacier Lake	Ramp 3 parking lot, Kachemak Bay Adventures	\$95/\$85 kids	3:30-6:30 p.m.		Shorebird Photography on the Anchor Pt. Beach	Anchor River State Park Rec. Area	\$100
10 a.m.-1 p.m. next day		Kachemak Bay Overnight Cruise	Homer Harbor F3	\$750	4-6 p.m.		Game Night: Wingspan	AMNWR Seminar Room	\$1
11 a.m.-5 p.m.		Gulls and Glaciology Excursion	H Ramp 2, True North Kayak	\$125/\$115 kids	4:30-6:30 p.m.		Jr. Birder Movie Night	AMNWR Auditorium	IR
12:30-2:30 p.m.		Beginner Bird Walk in Town	Poopdeck Trail	\$7	5-7 p.m.		Birding Trivia	Grace Ridge Brewing	IR
FRIDAY, MAY 10					HIGH TIDE: 5:17 P.M. 18.1'   LOW TIDE: 10:48 A.M. -4.3'				
TIME	KEY	EVENT TITLE	LOCATION	COST	TIME	KEY	EVENT TITLE	LOCATION	COST
7 a.m.-2 p.m.		Overlook Park Hike	AMNWR parking lot	\$15	9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.		Documenting Birds in the Digital Era	AMNWR Seminar Room	\$10
7:30-9:30 a.m.		Beginner Bird Walk	Calvin & Coyle Trail	\$7	10-11:30 a.m.		Pre-K Family Birding Walk	Louie's Lagoon, Homer Spit	IR
7:30 a.m.-2 p.m.		Lake Clark National Park Bear/Bird Viewing	Anchor River State Park Rec. Area	\$370	10-11:30 a.m.		Birdability on Beluga Slough	AMNWR parking lot	IR
8-10 a.m.		Fins and Feathers Boat Tour	H Ramp 2, True North Kayak	\$75/\$50 kids	10 a.m.-2 p.m.		Kayaking with Birds in the Wildlife Refuge	H Ramp 2, True North Kayak	\$95/\$85 kids
8-10 a.m.		The Wise and Wonderful Journey	H Ramp 2, Kachemak Bay Adventures	\$85	10 a.m.-4 p.m.		Gull Island Tour & Hike to Grewingk Glacier Lake	Ramp 3 parking lot, Kachemak Bay Adventures	\$95/\$85 kids
8-11 a.m.		Coldwater, Hot Birds	H Ramp 3, ColdwaterAK	\$110/\$90 kids	11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.		Red-necked Phalarope Craft	AMNWR Lab	\$10
8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.		Full-day Boat Tour to Seldovia	H Ramp 4 Slip N14 M/V Silver Wake	\$295	11 a.m.-5 p.m.		Gulls and Glaciology Excursion	H Ramp 2, True North Kayak	\$125/\$115 kids
9-11 a.m.		Watercolor Workshop with 2024 Festival Artist Torie Rhyan	AMNWR Lab	\$40	1-1:45 p.m.		Bird-friendly Buildings: What You Can Do	AMNWR Auditorium	IR
9-11 a.m.		Beaks and Bills Boat Tour	H Ramp 3, M/V Seabird	\$85	1-2 p.m.		Storytime at the Pratt: Shorebird Festival Session	Pratt Museum	IR
9 a.m.-1 p.m.		Flow with the Birds: 1/2 Day Kayak Tour	H Ramp 3 parking lot, Kachemak Bay Adventures	\$95	1-3 p.m.		Beaks and Bills Boat Tour	H Ramp 3, M/V Seabird	\$85

May 2024		KACHEMAK BAY SHOREBIRD FESTIVAL PROGRAM				HOMER NEWS Special Edition				15				
EVENT KEY:		Field Events		Workshops & Presentations		Junior Birder		Teen Birder		Entertainment		Included with Registration (IR)		Boat Tour
	FRIDAY, CONTINUED...													
TIME	KEY	EVENT TITLE	LOCATION	COST	TIME	KEY	EVENT TITLE	LOCATION	COST					
1-5 p.m.		Flow with the Birds: 1/2 Day Kayak Tour	H Ramp 3 parking lot, Kachemak Bay Adventures	\$95	4-4:45 p.m.		Gambell: Birding on the Western Edge	AMNWR Auditorium	IR					
2-2:45 p.m.		Be a Citizen Scientist and Explorer with eBird	AMNWR Seminar Room	IR	4-6 p.m.		Festival Kick-Off at the Pratt	Pratt Museum	IR					
2-6 p.m.		Kayaking into the Ancient Past	H Ramp 2, True North Kayak	\$95/\$85 kids	4-8 p.m.		Shorebird Dinner Cruise	Homer Harbor F3	\$300					
3-5 p.m.		Shorebirding by Ear	AMNWR Back Patio	\$7	5-6:30 p.m.		Forest Bird Scavenger Hunt	Pratt Museum Trails	IR					
3-3:45 p.m.		Red-necked Phalaropes: Understanding a Unique Shorebird	AMNWR Auditorium	IR	5-7 p.m.		Birds, Trivia, and YOU!	TBD	IR					
3:30-6:30 p.m.		Shorebird Photography on the Anchor Pt. Beach	Anchor River State Park Rec. Area	\$100										
SATURDAY, MAY 11  HIGH TIDE: 6:03 P.M. 16.8'   LOW TIDE: 11:32 A.M. -2.8'														
TIME	KEY	EVENT TITLE	LOCATION	COST	TIME	KEY	EVENT TITLE	LOCATION	COST					
TBA		Seabirds and Plastics: Investigations and Dissection	KPC Campus	IR	10 a.m.-2 p.m.		Kayaking with Birds in the Wildlife Refuge	H Ramp 2, True North Kayak	\$95/\$85 kids					
6-8 a.m.		Morning at the Marsh	Airport Viewing Platform	IR	10 a.m.-4 p.m.		Gull Island Tour & Hike to Grewingk Glacier Lake	Ramp 3 parking lot, Kachemak Bay Adventures	\$95/\$85 kids					
7:30-9:30 a.m.		Beginner Bird Walk	Calvin & Coyle Trail	\$7	11-11:45 a.m.		Tundra Nesting Birds of Arctic NWR	AMNWR Auditorium	IR					
7:30 a.m.-2 p.m.		Lake Clark National Park Bear/Bird Viewing	Anchor River State Park Rec. Area	\$370	11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.		Beluga Slough Bird Walk for Beginners	AMNWR Back Patio	\$7					
8-10 a.m.		Fins and Feathers Boat Tour	H Ramp 2, True North Kayak	\$75/\$50 kids	11 a.m.-5 p.m.		Gulls and Glaciology Excursion	H Ramp 2, True North Kayak	\$125/\$115 kids					
8-10 a.m.		The Wise and Wonderful Journey	H Ramp 3 parking lot, Kachemak Bay Adventures office	\$85	11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.		Jr. Birder Discovery Lab	AMNWR Lab and Seminar Room	IR					
8-11 a.m.		Coldwater, Hot Birds	H Ramp 3, ColdwaterAK	\$110/\$90 kids	1-1:45 p.m.		Birding the South Pacific from Austraila to Chile	AMNWR Auditorium	IR					
8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.		Full-day Boat Tour to Seldovia	H Ramp 4 Slip N14 M/V Silver Wake	\$295	1-2 p.m.		Wings + Warblers Maker Lab at the Pratt	Pratt Museum, 3779 Bartlett St.	\$15					
9-10:30 a.m.		Shorebird Identification	AMNWR Auditorium	IR	1 p.m.-10 a.m. next day		Kachemak Bay Overnight Cruise	Homer Harbor F3	\$750					
9-11 a.m.		Beaks and Bills Boat Tour	H Ramp 3, M/V Seabird	\$85	2-2:45 p.m.		The Power of Migration	AMNWR Auditorium	IR					
9 a.m.-1 p.m.		Flow with the Birds: 1/2 Day Kayak Tour	Ramp 3 parking lot, Kachemak Bay Adventures	\$95	2-3:30 p.m.		Meet Girdie the Crow with Bird TLC	AMNWR Seminar Room	IR					
10-11 a.m.		Adult Beginning Birder Discovery Lab	AMNWR Lab and Seminar Room	IR	3:30-5 p.m.		Annual Bird Calling Contest	Homer Brewing Co.	IR					
10 a.m.-12 p.m.		Beginner Bird Walk	Calvin & Coyle Trail	\$7	3:30-6:30 p.m.		Shorebird Photography on the Anchor Pt. Beach	Anchor River State Park Rec. Area	\$100					
10 a.m.-12 p.m.		Low Tide Anchor Point	Anchor River State Park Rec. Area	\$12	7 p.m.		Presentation by Keynote Speaker, Ted Floyd: Birding & Nature Study in the Digital Age	HHS Auditorium	\$10					
SUNDAY, MAY 12  HIGH TIDE: 5:39 A.M. 18.1'   LOW TIDE: 12:18 P.M. -1.0'														
TIME	KEY	EVENT TITLE	LOCATION	COST	TIME	KEY	EVENT TITLE	LOCATION	COST					
6-7:30 a.m.		Morning at the Marsh	Airport Viewing Platform	IR	10 a.m.-2 p.m.		Kayaking with Birds in the Wildlife Refuge	H Ramp 2, True North Kayak	\$95/\$85 kids					
7 a.m.-2 p.m.		Overlook Park Hike	AMNWR parking lot	\$15	10 a.m.-4 p.m.		Gull Island Tour & Hike to Grewingk Glacier Lake	Ramp 3 parking lot, Kachemak Bay Adventures	\$95/\$85 kids					
7:30 a.m.-2 p.m.		Lake Clark National Park Bear/Bird Viewing	Anchor River State Park Rec. Area	\$370	11 a.m.-4 p.m.		Friendship Walk	Boat House Pavilion	\$70					
8-10 a.m.		Fins and Feathers Boat Tour	H Ramp 2, True North Kayak	\$75/\$50 kids	11 a.m.-5 p.m.		Gulls and Glaciology Excursion	H Ramp 2, True North Kayak	\$125/\$115 kids					
8-10 a.m.		The Wise and Wonderful Journey	H Ramp 2, Kachemak Bay Adventures	\$85	12:30-1 p.m.		2024 Junior Birder Award Ceremony!	AMNWR Auditorium	IR					
8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.		Full-day Boat Tour to Seldovia	H Ramp 4 Slip N14 M/V Silver Wake	\$295	1-3 p.m.		Beaks and Bills Boat Tour	H Ramp 3, M/V Seabird	\$85					
9-10 a.m.		Meet Girdie the Crow with Bird TLC	AMNWR	IR	1-5 p.m.		Flow with the Birds: 1/2 Day Kayak Tour	Ramp 3 parking lot, Kachemak Bay Adventures	\$95					
9-10 a.m.		Birders Coffee	AMNWR Seminar Room	IR	2-6 p.m.		Kayaking into the Ancient Past	H Ramp 2, True North Kayak	\$95/\$85 kids					
9-11 a.m.		Beaks and Bills Boat Tour	H Ramp 3, M/V Seabird	\$85	3:30-6:30 p.m.		Shorebird Photography on the Anchor Pt. Beach	Anchor River State Park Rec. Area	\$100					
9 a.m.-1 p.m.		Flow with the Birds: 1/2 Day Kayak Tour	Ramp 3 parking lot, Kachemak Bay Adventures	\$95	4-8 p.m.		Shorebird Dinner Cruise	Homer Harbor F3	\$300					
10-11:30 a.m.		Film: Purple Haze	AMNWR Auditorium	IR										

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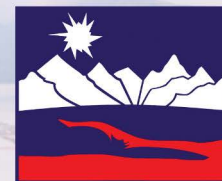
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## FRIDAY, MAY 10



...Continued from page 12

### Shorebird Photography on the Anchor Point Beach

3:30-6:30 p.m. | Anchor River State Park Recreation Area, main parking lot, Dodge Dakota truck

(AVAILABLE We/Th/F/Sa/Su)

Join award winning wildlife photographer and Homer resident Joey Hausler in photographing the migrating shorebirds! We will be scanning the shoreline in a Dodge Dakota truck looking for peeps, plovers, turnstones, godwits, whimbrels, or any other shorebirds we might come across. The outing is timed with the outgoing tide so we best capture the birds as they are feeding. To ensure ethical wildlife photography practices, as we drive and photograph the birds, their safety will be prioritized. DSLR or mirrorless camera with a minimum 400 mm lens is recommended. **Limit 4. \$100 pp.**

### Gambell: Birding on the Western Edge

4-4:45 p.m. | AMNWR Auditorium

Join Jim Herbert for a slide show detailing the logistics of birding in the town of Gambell located on Saint Lawrence Island. What bird rarities should you look for that can fly in from Russia? **Limit 70. Registration required. Free.**

### Festival Kick-Off at the Pratt

4-6 p.m. | Pratt Museum, 3779 Bartlett Street

Kick off your Shorebird Festival weekend at the award-winning Pratt Museum. Come explore the cultures, science and art of the Kachemak Bay region. Tour museum exhibits, including the Gull Island bird cam, the only live bird cam from the Kachemak Bay seabird rookery for gulls and puffins. Explore the Botanical Garden exhibit, homestead garden and historic Harrington Cabin. Take a walk on our forest trails, which tour the nearly 10-acre campus of the Pratt Museum. For more information visit our website at [prattmuseum.org](http://prattmuseum.org). **Free.**

### Shorebird Dinner Cruise

4-8 p.m. | Homer Harbor F3

(AVAILABLE We/F/Su)

Guests will join our crew on a 4-hour shorebird tour of Kachemak Bay with a 3-course dinner prepared by our private chef. Experience the amazing animals of Alaska from the comfort of the 72-foot motor yacht, Lady of the Sea. Enjoy the views from our spacious main deck, elevated flybridge, or from behind the large windows inside our salon. Our knowledgeable naturalist will provide incredible insights and answer any questions you may have. As we cruise, our chef will prepare an exquisite dinner for your party featuring local Alaskan seafood and produce from farms in the Homer area. **Limit 6. \$300pp.**

### Forest Bird Scavenger Hunt

5-6:30 p.m. | Pratt Museum Trails

Join Ranger Kendra along the Pratt Museum Trails for this fun interactive forest bird scavenger hunt. The scavenger hunt will be open to participants of all ages but will be designed as a Jr. Birder event. *\*This event fulfills one of the Jr. Birder requirements.* **Limit 35. Registration required. Free.**

### Birds, Trivia, and YOU!

5-7 p.m. | Location TBD

(will be included in registration)

Be a part of the first ever teen trivia night focused on birds, birding, and fun! This is a trivia night that is as much about learning than what you already know! Bring a team or show up and join one — there will be music, costumes, and prizes. **No limit. Registration required. Free.**

## KEYNOTE SPEAKER



### Presentation by Ted Floyd, Keynote Speaker

7 p.m. Saturday, May 11 | Homer High School, 600 E. Fairview Ave., \$10pp.



Ted Floyd is the longtime Editor of *Birding Magazine*, the award-winning flagship publication of the American Birding Association. He has written five bird books, including the Smithsonian Field Guide to the Birds of North America (HarperCollins) and How to Know the Birds (National Geographic), and he has three more on the way. Ted is also the author of more than 200 popular articles, technical papers, and book chapters on birds and nature. He is a frequent speaker at bird festivals, bird club meetings, and ornithological conferences.

Ted is especially interested in analyzing bird vocalizations, in interpreting birds and nature for children and beginners, and in applying new media and emerging technologies toward the appreciation of nature. Ted has served on the boards of Western Field Ornithologists and Colorado Field Ornithologists, and he remains heavily involved in both organizations. A graduate of Princeton University (A.B., 1990) and Penn State University (Ph.D., 1995), Ted has taught biology, math, and statistics to everyone from second graders to advanced graduate students.

Ted is a recent recipient (2023) of the American Birding Association's Award for Distinguished Service, recognizing his 20+ years of contributions to the association. Ted is a frequent guest on the American Birding podcast and a prolific content generator for the ABA's online platforms, and he is especially proud of his involvement in the ABA's Young Birder programs.

Ted and his family live in Lafayette, Colorado.

# SPRING SIGHTINGS

## KACHEMAK BAY BIRDERS



Kachemak Bay is home not only to the spring shorebird migration, but also many other hard-to-find bird species as well. Early May brings the first warblers and swallows to Homer, along with sandhill cranes, Arctic and Aleutian terns, fork-tailed storm-petrels and puffins, both tufted and horned. Cormorants, common murres and black-legged kittiwakes can be found near their nesting sites on Gull Island, and common eider, pigeon guillemot, marbled and Kittlitz's murrelets are visible on Kachemak Bay. Also hermit and varied thrush, greater white-fronted, Canada and snow geese, trumpeter swans as well as savannah and fox sparrows and Lapland longspur, horned larks, and American pipits!

Look for Eurasian wigeons in Mud Bay and on Beluga Lake. Find American three-toed and hairy woodpeckers in the spruce wood areas. The southside of Kachemak Bay's northern temperate coastal rainforest attracts different species from the drier north shore and boreal forest. Though not a shorebird, the bald eagle can be spotted frequently on shore and in the sky. Many of the 236 species of birds recorded for Kachemak Bay may be visible during Shorebird Festival weekend.

For a complete species list during the festival, just stop by the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center or visit [kachemakbaybirders.org](http://kachemakbaybirders.org)

## SATURDAY, MAY 11

High Tide: 6:03 p.m. 16.8'

Low Tide: 11:32 a.m. -2.8'

### Morning at the Marsh

6-8 a.m. | Airport Viewing Platform

(AVAILABLE Sa/Su)

Drop in to peak into Beluga Lake from the airport viewing platform. Beluga Lake has a wide variety of wildlife, including moose, raptors, waterfowl, shorebirds, and more. Our guide, Kristine Sowl, will help find and identify what is there. Some scopes and identification books will be provided but feel free to bring your own binoculars and scope and dress for the weather. **No Limit. Free.**

### Beginner Bird Walk

7:30-9:30 a.m. | Calvin and Coyle Trail

Join Adrienne McGill for an introduction into the world of songbirds. Meet at Calvin and Coyle trailhead parking lot for a stroll through forest habitat as we listen for Homer's musical forest dwellers, building birding confidence, and practicing your skills. Bring binos and dress for the weather and muddy trails. **Limit 15. \$7pp.**

### Lake Clark National Park Bear and Bird Viewing

7:30 a.m.-2 p.m. | Anchor River State Recreation Area,  
Lake Tractor Launch

(AVAILABLE We/Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Wednesday, 7:30 a.m. listing for event description.

**Limit 6. \$370pp.**

### Fins and Feathers Boat Tour

8-10 a.m. | True North Kayak Adventures office,  
Harbor Ramp 2

(AVAILABLE Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Thursday, 8 a.m. listing for event description.

**Limit 12. \$75 pp, \$50 for kids 12 and under.**

### The Wise and Wonderful Journey

8-10 a.m. | 7:30 a.m. check-in at Kachemak Bay  
Adventures office, between Coal Point Seafoods  
and the ramp 3 parking lot

(AVAILABLE Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Thursday, 8 a.m. listing for event description.

**Limit 6. \$85pp. Ages 5 and up.**

### Coldwater, Hot Birds

8-11 a.m. | Ramp 3, black and grey landing craft,  
M/V ColdwaterAk, Mako's Water Taxi

(AVAILABLE F/Sa)

See Friday, 8 a.m. listing for event description.

**Limit 12. \$110pp, \$90 ages 12 and under.**

### Full-day Boat Tour to Seldovia

8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. | Seldovia Nature Tours  
and Tutka Tours, Harbor Ramp 4, Slip N14, M/V  
Silver Wake

(AVAILABLE Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Thursday, 8:30 a.m. listing for event description.

**Limit 6. \$295pp.**

### Shorebird Identification

9-10:30 a.m. | AMNWR Auditorium

With Buzz Scher, learn a holistic, beyond the feathers approach to identifying shorebirds (including size, profile, behavior, structure, habitat, and yes some feathers), and then review these identification features for all the shorebirds regularly seen during the Festival. **Limit 70, registration required. Free.**

### Beaks and Bills Boat Tour

9-11 a.m. | M/V Seabird, bottom of Ramp 3,  
turn right

(AVAILABLE We/Th/F/Sa/Su, 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.)

See Wednesday, 9 a.m. listing for event description.

**Limit 12. \$85pp.**

### Flow with the Birds:

#### 1/2 Day Kayak Tour

9 a.m.-1 p.m. | Kachemak Bay Adventures,  
between Coal Point Seafoods and Ramp 3  
parking lot

(AVAILABLE Th/F/Sa/Su, 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.)

See Thursday, 9 a.m. listing for event description.

**Limit 12. \$95pp.**

## SATURDAY, MAY 11

### Adult Beginning Birder Discovery Lab

10-11 a.m. | AMNWR Lab and Seminar Room

All festival participants have the opportunity to explore this interactive in-person Beginning Birder Lab at the AMNWR. Throughout the lab, participants can explore each station to learn about basic birding skills, birding tools, bird identification, and local bird habitats and adaptations. **No Limit.**

**Ages 15 and up. Free.**

### Beginner Bird Walk

10 a.m.-12 p.m. | Calvin and Coyle Trail

Join Sabine Simmons for an introduction into the world of songbirds. Meet at Calvin and Coyle trailhead parking lot for a stroll through forest habitat as we listen for Homer's musical forest dwellers, building birding confidence, and practicing your skills. Bring binos and dress for the weather and muddy trails. **Limit 15. \$7pp.**

### Low Tide Anchor Point

10 a.m.-12 p.m. | Anchor River State Park Rec Area

Meet at Anchor River State Park Recreation Area main parking lot to join Kristine Sowl to search for foraging shorebirds. Walk up to 1.5 miles (depending on bird locations) on the beach and cobbles with possible shallow water crossing. Mix of shorebirds can include western and least sandpipers, yellowlegs, dowitchers, dunlin, godwits, whimbrels, plovers, turnstones, and a variety of other birds. Dress in layers. Anchor Point State Recreation Area is managed by AK State Parks and there may be a \$5 day use fee required onsite. Check with the self-pay Day Use Fee Station. **Limit 12. \$12pp. Registration required.**

### Kayaking with Birds in the Wildlife Refuge

10 a.m.-2 p.m. | True North Kayak Adventures office, Harbor Ramp 2

(AVAILABLE Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Thursday, 10 a.m. listing for event description. **Limit 15.**

**\$95pp, \$85 for kids 12 under.**

### Gull Island Tour, with Hike to Grewingk Glacier Lake

10 a.m.-4 p.m. | Kachemak Bay Adventures office, between Coal Point Seafoods and Ramp 3 parking lot

(AVAILABLE Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Thursday, 10 a.m. listing for event description. **Limit 12.**

**\$95pp, \$85 kids 5-12.**

### Tundra Nesting Birds of Arctic NWR

11-11:45 a.m. | AMNWR Auditorium

Join Sadie Ulman as she discusses various research projects and improved methods of studying tundra nesting bird species in remote locations in Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. **Limit 70. Registration required. Free.**

### Beluga Slough Bird Walk for Beginners

11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. | AMNWR Back Patio

Beginner birds are invited to walk along Beluga Slough Trail with Alaska Maritime NWR staff. Participants will discover the basics of birding including binocular use, bird songs, ID, behavior, keeping a list, and sharpening observation skills. **Limit 15. \$7pp. Registration required.**

### Gulls and Glaciology Excursion

11 a.m.-5 p.m. | True North Kayak Adventures office, Harbor Ramp 2

(AVAILABLE Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Thursday, 11 a.m. listing for event description.

**Limit 12. \$125 pp, \$115 for kids 12 and under.**

### Jr. Birder Discovery Lab

11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. | AMNWR Lab and Seminar Room

All Jr. Birders have the opportunity to explore this interactive in-person discovery lab at the AMNWR. Throughout the lab, participants can explore each station to learn about basic birding skills, birding tools, bird identification, local bird habitats and adaptations, play bird based games, accompany a birding expert for a short trail walk, and complete a bird craft. *\*This event fulfills one of the Jr. Birder event requirements and guided walks.* **No Limit. Free.**

### Birding the South Pacific from Australia to Chile

1-1:45pm | AMNWR Auditorium

The South Pacific is a vast stretch of ocean. From the amazing number of endemic species in the Solomon Islands, to the incredibly remote Austral Islands, Pitcairn group, or Rapa Nui. The South Pacific is home to some truly remarkable birds. There are petrels galore, some of the world's rarest land birds, as well as more widespread but no less remarkable tropical seabirds. Besides introducing you to the birds of the region, Martin Renner will discuss some recent conservation issues. **Limit 70. Registration required. Free.**

## WHAT'S NEW IN 2024?

### Purple Haze: A Conservation Film SUNDAY

What do we do at home affects what we do to the world. Follow one man's journey chasing America's favorite backyard bird halfway around the world and back.

### Birding Trivia

THURSDAY, FRIDAY

Whether you're a true birder or just looking to test your knowledge, these bird trivia questions and how folks answer them is sure to be both informative and entertaining for all ages.

### New Outings on the Bay

THROUGHOUT FESTIVAL

There is a new full-day tour to Seldovia, and one to the head of Kachemak Bay!

### Steller's Jay Felt Craft

WEDNESDAY

Jr. Birders and Teen birders can join Ranger Lora to sew a felt stuffie of a Steller's Jay. Art supplies included.

## AND MORE!

### Is that a bird or a Plane? Birding 101

WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY

### Shorebird Dinner Cruise

WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY, SUNDAY

### Motus Tracking Towers in Homer

THURSDAY

### Watercolor Workshop with 2024 Festival Artist

FRIDAY

### Nature Journaling

WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY



# PHOTOGRAPHY TRACK

## Workshop with Keynote Speaker Ted Floyd: *Documenting Birds in the Digital Era*

9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. | AMNWR Seminar Room

A totally friendly primer on "best practices" for taking pictures, making audio recordings, and sharing media with others — with technology as simple as a smartphone or laptop. Birders and other nature lovers in the 2020s probably use digital gear (app-equipped phones, small digital cameras, databases like eBird and iNaturalist, etc.) as much as field guides and binoculars. The digital revolution has massively altered the way we engage with birds and nature, and most of us have probably at least dabbled with both hardware and software for increasing our enjoyment of the natural world. In this hands-on tutorial, Ted Floyd will go over the basics of hardware (phones, simple recording gear, and gratifyingly economical cameras) and software (eBird and "iNat"), with a particular emphasis on "best practices" — the do's and don'ts of obtaining, editing, and sharing media with nature lovers everywhere. This will be a hybrid workshop: We'll start with a few general topics indoors, then we'll go outside and create natural history media with our equipment, then go back inside and share it with the whole world! No experience necessary. If you have a phone or digital camera, please bring it along. **Limit 25. \$10pp. Must register.**

## Shorebird Photography on the Anchor Point Beach

3:30-6:30 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday, May 8-12  
Meet at Anchor River State Park Recreation Area,  
details in registration

Join award winning wildlife photographer and Homer resident **Joey Hausler** in photographing the migrating shorebirds! We will be scanning the shoreline in a Dodge Dakota truck looking for peeps, plovers, turnstones, godwits, whimbrels, or any other shorebirds we might come across. The outing is timed with the outgoing tide so we best capture the birds as they are feeding. To ensure ethical wildlife photography practices, as we drive and photograph the birds, their safety will be prioritized. DSLR or mirrorless camera with a minimum 400 mm lens is recommended. **Registration required.**

# SATURDAY, MAY 11

## Wings + Warblers

### Maker Lab at the Pratt

Come make with staff at the Pratt! Choose between two crafts — Bird Water Whistle OR a Paper Bird with wings that flap — and then make one of your very own! Learn the science behind the design and understand more about birds in the process. *\*This event fulfills one of the Junior Birder requirements.* **Limit 14, \$10, materials provided. Ages 8-14. Registration required.**

## Beaks and Bills Boat Tour

1-3 p.m. | M/V Seabird, bottom of Ramp 3, turn right  
(AVAILABLE We/Th/F/Sa/Su, 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.)

See Wednesday, 9 a.m. listing for event description. **Limit 12. \$85pp.**

## Kachemak Bay Overnight Cruise

1 p.m.-10 a.m. next day | Homer Harbor F3

(AVAILABLE Th/Sa)

See Thursday, 1 p.m. listing for event description. **Limit 6. \$750pp.**

## The Power of Migration

2-2:45 p.m. | AMNWR Auditorium

How do birds migrate and how do they know where to go? Join Lora Haller to learn about the actions at work helping birds to migrate. **Limit 70. Registration required. Free.**

## Bird TLC: Meet Girdie the Crow

2-3:30 p.m. | AMNWR Seminar Room

Come learn about crows and other corvids while also getting to meet Girdie, the very cute crow that lives with Bird TLC. This event is designated as a Junior Birder and Teen Birder event. *\*This event fulfills one of the Jr. Birder event requirements.* **Limit 35. Registration is Required. Free.**

## Seabirds and Plastics:

### Investigations and Dissection

2-4 p.m. | KPC Campus

Join biologists from UAA as they explore the impacts of plastic on bird health. The session will include hands-on experiments and a scientist-led bird dissection to determine cause of death. Guaranteed to be informative, messy and fun! **Limit 20. Sign up at registration. Free.**

## Kayaking into the Ancient Past

2-6 p.m. | True North Kayak Adventures office,  
Harbor Ramp 2

(AVAILABLE Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Thursday, 2 p.m. listing for event description. **Limit 12. \$95pp, \$85 kids 12 and under.**

## Annual Bird Calling Contest

3:30-5 p.m. | Homer Brewing Co. 1411 Lake Shore Dr.

Tune up your vocal chords and tweet your favorite bird all or make up your own for the 9th Annual "What the Heck Kind of Bird was That?" bird-calling competition. Professional guest judges will determine winners in both serious and not-so-serious bird calling categories. Prizes for top competitors. Registration starts at 3:30 p.m. and competition begins at 4 p.m.; awards and prizes given out at 5 p.m. Outdoor event. Contact the Homer Brewing Co. at 907-235-3626 with questions. **No limit. Free. (Ages 21+ unless accompanied by a guardian).**

## Shorebird Photography on the Anchor Point Beach

3:30-6:30 p.m. | Anchor River State Park Recreation  
Area, main parking lot, Dodge Dakota truck

(AVAILABLE We/Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Wednesday, 3:30 listing for event description.  
**Limit 4. \$100 pp.**

## Presentation by Keynote Speaker, Ted Floyd: Birding and Nature Study in the Digital Age

7 p.m. | Homer High School Auditorium,  
600 E. Fairview Ave

The desire — the deeply felt need — to connect with birds and nature is as ancient as humanity itself. As our human cultures and societies have evolved through the millennia, we have constantly applied new technologies and new ways of thinking to the engagement of birds and nature. And the past two decades have witnessed perhaps the profoundest transformation of all, with the rapid emergence of digital technologies for enjoying and understanding the natural world. In this lively and gently provocative presentation, Ted will make the case that the digital revolution has led us to a substantially revised conception of the world around us, while at the same time reawakening humanity's sense of wonder for the natural world. **Limit 250. Registration is required. \$10pp.**

# SUNDAY, MAY 12

High Tide: 5:39 a.m. 18.1'

Low Tide: 12:18 p.m. -1.0'

## Morning at the Marsh

6-7:30 a.m. | Airport Viewing Platform

(AVAILABLE Sa/Su)

Drop in to peek into Beluga Lake from the airport viewing platform. Beluga Lake has a wide variety of wildlife, including moose, raptors, waterfowl, shorebirds, and more. Our guide, Jim Herbert, will help find and identify what is there. Some scopes and identification books will be provided but feel free to bring your own binos and scope and dress for the weather. **No Limit. Free.**

## Overlook Park Hike

7 a.m.-2 p.m. | Meet at AMNWR parking lot for shuttle to trailhead

(AVAILABLE Fr/Su)

See Friday, 7 a.m. listing for event description.

Limit 12. \$15pp. Ages 12 & up.

## Lake Clark National Park Bear and Bird Viewing

7:30 a.m.-2 p.m. | Anchor River State Recreation Area, Lake Tractor Launch

(AVAILABLE We/Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Wednesday, 7:30 a.m. listing for event description.

Limit 6. \$370pp.

## Fins and Feathers Boat Tour

8-10 a.m. | True North Kayak Adventures office, Harbor Ramp 2

(AVAILABLE Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Thursday, 8 a.m. listing for event description.

Limit 12. \$75pp, \$50 for kids 12 and under.

## The Wise and Wonderful Journey

8-10 a.m. | Kachemak Bay Adventures, between Coal Point Seafoods and Ramp 3 parking lot

(AVAILABLE Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Thursday, 8 a.m. listing for event description.

Limit 6. \$85pp. Ages 5 and up.

## Full-day Boat Tour to Seldovia

8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. | Seldovia Nature Tours and Tutka Tours, Harbor Ramp 4, Slip N14, M/V Silver Wake

See Thursday, 8:30 a.m. listing for event description.

Limit 6. \$295pp.

## Jr. Birder Bird Ornament Craft

9-10 a.m. | AMNWR

Join Ranger Kendra for this creative, bird-themed craft. Participants will get the opportunity to paint and mix the dough for their very own bird ornament. *\*This event fulfills one of the Jr. Birder requirements.* **Limit 35. Registration required. Free.**

## Meet Girdie the Crow with Bird TLC

9-10 a.m. | AMNWR

Don't miss this Festival favorite. Drop in for a few minutes to have a unique opportunity to get the entire family up close and personal with a live bird. Chandelle Cotter from Anchorage's Bird Treatment and Learning Center will introduce Girdie the American crow and discuss her history and natural behavior. **No Limit. Free.**

## Birders Coffee

9-10 a.m. | AMNWR Seminar Room

Join Keynote Ted Floyd, other festival speakers, fellow birders, and Friends Board Members for coffee and treats. Share your Festival bird sightings! Hosted by Friends of Alaska National Wildlife Refuges, co-sponsor of the Festival. You will hear about the exciting ways to get involved firsthand with Friends and all 16 Alaska National Wildlife Refuges through education, service and advocacy. Learn more today at [alaskarefugefriends.org](http://alaskarefugefriends.org). **No Limit. Free.**

## Beaks and Bills Boat Tour

9-11 a.m. | Harbor Ramp 3, M/V Seabird

(AVAILABLE Th/F/Sa/Su, 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.)

See Thursday, 9 a.m. listing for event description.

Limit 12. \$85pp.

## Flow with the Birds: AM 1/2 Day Kayak Tour

9 a.m.-1 p.m. | Kachemak Bay Adventures, between Coal Point Seafoods and Ramp 3 parking lot

(AVAILABLE Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Thursday, 9 a.m. listing for event description.

Limit 12. \$95pp.

# VOLUNTEERS MAKE IT ALL HAPPEN



In 1993 a group of Homer residents got together, dreaming up an event to educate the public about the importance of shorebirds and their habitat. These early volunteers set our Festival in motion over 30 years ago and we are grateful for the community support we receive for the Festival today.

The Kachemak Bay Shorebird Festival would not be possible without the continued commitment and support of our wonderful volunteers. Over 80 dedicated folks come together to offer their time and expertise ensuring the success, longevity and spunk of this community Festival.

A big **THANK YOU** to each and every volunteer who has donated their time to manage our Viewing Stations, lead bird walks, count attendees, carry scopes, edit this program, create art pieces, offer their wisdom and everything in between.

# MORE TO DO IN HOMER

## Pratt Museum

10 a.m.-6 p.m. daily | 3779 Bartlett St.

Come find a few good eggs to take home to your nest! Receive 10% off with the purchase of any bird-related items. (Excludes consigned items. Admission not required to shop in the Museum Store.)

## Homer Shores Boardwalk

12-2 p.m. Sat. and Sun., May 11-12

4025 Homer Spit Road

FREE Kids Art!

- Plant Potting
- Bird Houses
- Bird Feeders
- AND Music!

## Bear Creek Winery 60203 Bear Creek Dr. Tasting and Tours! Wed.-Sun., 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

We invite you to do a tasting and walk our beautiful gardens while enjoying the spectacular views of Kachemak Bay. Our new Glacier Bear Wines are Alaska's leading unblended fruit wine, receiving national and international acclaim for its unwavering loyalty to creating wines from Alaska grown fruit. These wines showcase the unique character of our rich and wild terrain with ingredients sourced entirely in Alaska soils. Don't forget to pick up a bottle of special label wine printed in honor of the Shorebird Festival.

## Aerial Tour with Beluga Air — 2 Choices!

Beluga Lake Floatplane Base,  
3409 Lampert Loop

Get a Bird's-Eye View of Homer! Embark on a captivating Floatplane Flightseeing Tour with Beluga Air. Witness Homer's breathtaking landscapes from an unparalleled perspective. Soar over Kachemak Bay and admire the majestic Grewingk Glacier, experiencing Homer just as the birds do. Limited seats available — reserve now! Choose between:

- Grewingk Glacier Tour - 45 min., \$200.00/person
- Kachemak Bay Tour - 1 hour, \$250.00/person.

907-235-8256. **Belugaair.com** available  
to book between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m.

# SUNDAY, MAY 12

## Film: Purple Haze

10-11:30 a.m. | AMNWR Auditorium

What we do at home affects what we do to the world. Follow one man's journey chasing America's favorite backyard bird halfway around the world and back! **Limit 70. Registration required. Free.**

## Kayaking with Birds in the Wildlife Refuge

10 a.m.-2 p.m. | True North Kayak Adventures office,  
Harbor Ramp 2

(AVAILABLE Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Thursday, 10 a.m. listing for event description. **Limit 15. \$95 pp. \$85 for kids ages 8-12.**

## Gull Island Tour and Hike to Grewingk Glacier Lake

10 a.m.-4 p.m. | Kachemak Bay Adventures office,  
between Coal Point Seafoods and Ramp 3 parking lot

(AVAILABLE Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Thursday, 10 a.m. listing for event description. **Limit 12. \$95/Adults, \$85/kids 5-12.**

## Friendship Walk

11 a.m.-4 p.m. | Homer Harbor, top of Ramp 2,  
Boat House Pavilion

Join the Friends of Kachemak Bay State Park for a cruise across the Bay, breaking for birds along the way. Guided by experienced ornithologists, tour two lagoons, trace the Glacier Spit shoreline, and detour into the forest to experience a variety of unique habitats while helping to support an important organization. Bring lunch. Mako's Water Taxi, enclosed boat with open back access. No facilities. Proceeds benefit Friends of Kachemak Bay State Park. **Limit 15. \$70pp.**

## Gulls And Glaciology Excursion

11 a.m.-5 p.m. | True North Kayak Adventures office,  
Harbor Ramp 2

(AVAILABLE Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Thursday, 11 a.m. listing for event description. **Limit 12. \$125pp. \$115 for kids 12 and under.**

## 2024 Junior Birder Award Ceremony!

12:30-1 p.m. | AMNWR Auditorium

Join fellow Jr. Birders for the Jr. Birder Award Ceremony. Participants will get the opportunity to showcase the birding art, activities and photos they created throughout the festival. They will also be awarded for achieving their Jr. Birder level requirements. **No Limit. Free.**

## Beaks and Bills Boat Tour

1-3 p.m. | Harbor Ramp 3, M/V Seabird

(AVAILABLE Th/F/Sa/Su, 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.)

See Thursday, 9 a.m. listing for event description. **Limit 12. \$85pp.**

## Flow with the Birds: PM 1/2 Day Kayak Tour

1-5 p.m. | Kachemak Bay Adventures office,  
between Coal Point Seafoods and the  
Ramp 3 parking lot

(AVAILABLE Th/F/Sa/Su, 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.)

See Thursday, 9 a.m. listing for event description. **Limit 12. \$95pp, ages 5 & up.**

## Kayaking into the Ancient Past

2-6 p.m. | True North Kayak Adventures office,  
Harbor Ramp 2

(AVAILABLE Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Thursday, 2 p.m. listing for event description. **Limit 12. \$95pp, \$85 for kids 12 and under.**

## Shorebird Photography on the Anchor Point Beach

3:30-6:30 p.m. | Anchor River State Park Recreation  
Area, main parking lot, Dodge Dakota truck

(AVAILABLE We/Th/Su)

See Wednesday, 3:30 p.m. listing for event description. **Limit 4. \$100pp.**

## Shorebird Dinner Cruise

4-8 p.m. | Homer Harbor F3

(AVAILABLE We/F/Su)

See Wednesday, 4 p.m. listing for event description. **Limit 6. \$300pp.**

# JUNIOR BIRDER PROGRAMMING

## Junior Birder Program for ages 5-15

The Junior Birder program gets youth and families outside to learn birding basics. Attend family-friendly festival events and complete a personal birding journal. Both new and returning Junior Birders can register online or in person. Previous year journals and first year activity packets can be picked up at Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center. Activity packets, event schedules and requirement checklists can also be downloaded or printed from the Junior Birder website below. Look for this icon  for Junior Birder events!

Some of this year's Junior Birder activities include, but are not limited to:

- Junior Birder Discovery Lab
- Self-Guided Family Bird Search Walks on Local Trails
- Pre-K Puffins for ages 2-5
- Bird Scavenger Hunt Adventure



## Junior Birder Award Ceremony

12:30-1 p.m. Sunday, May 12 | AMNWR Auditorium

There will be opportunities to share pictures and drawings of Junior Birders adventures!

## Teen Birder Events for ages 12-18

The festival is offering events specifically designed for teen birders ages 12-18. These events help to bring young enthusiastic birders together to celebrate birds through hikes, art, photography, and more. Look for this icon  next to an event to identify teen birder activities.

Some of this year's Teen Birder activities include, but are not limited to:

- Nature Journaling
- Trivia
- Plastics Investigation + Dissection
- Movie Night

Go to our website for information about Junior Birder requirements:

**[kachemakbayshorebird.org/JuniorBirder](http://kachemakbayshorebird.org/JuniorBirder)** or contact Ranger Kendra at 907-226-4606.

*Sponsored by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge, the Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies, Kachemak Bay Research Reserve and UAA.*



# ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS, PRESENTERS & GUIDES

The Kachemak Bay Shorebird Festival Committee would like to thank each and every one of our presenters for their energy and enthusiasm, and for sharing their vast wealth of knowledge during this year's Festival.

**AARON LANG** is co-owner of Wilderness Birding Adventures and Tour Leader. He has been birding since he was 11 years old and serves on the Alaska Bird Checklist Committee since 2009, the American Birding Association Checklist Committee 2015-2022, and the board of Audubon Alaska since 2019.

**ADDIE WILLSRUD** grew up in Ester, Alaska and has been a nature enthusiast for her entire life. She recently graduated with a BA in Interpretive Natural Sciences, focusing on scientific illustration and creative nonfiction writing with an emphasis on ornithology.

**ADRIENNE MCGILL** joined the Alaska Maritime NWR team in January 2023 as the Visitor Services Manager. Most of her career she has been leading diverse outdoor learning programs for all ages and is excited to assist with the Shorebird Festival.

**BETH TROWBRIDGE** is the Executive Director for the Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies and has been leading natural history and science education programs for youth and adults in Homer for over 14 years.

**BETSY ROGERS** is a Park Ranger for Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge. Her work with birds includes songbird and owl banding and wild bird rehabilitation. She has been connecting people to the natural world for 21 years.

**BUZZ SCHER** is a retired civil engineer living in Anchorage for over 40 years. He started birding, in the pastureland and hardwood forests of northeast Ohio, 60-odd years ago; and has since birded on all seven continents. Buzz has presented a shorebird identification program at most of the Kachemak Bay Festivals.

**CINDA NOFZIGER** is the Youth Services Librarian at the Homer Public Library. She's worked in historical libraries, public libraries and more. She's a transplant to Homer from Michigan, but has extended family who have been birders in Homer for decades. She loves birds, books and reading with kids!

**DR. CHRISTINE SHEPPARD** has been director of American Bird Conservancy's Glass Collisions Program since its inception in 2009. She has led instrumental bird collision mitigation efforts including testing and evaluation of materials, the publication Bird-friendly Building Design, LEED Pilot Credit 55: Bird Collision Deterrence, and consulting on related legislation throughout the US.

**DAVE ERICKSON** is a professional biologist with over 40 years of experience birding in Homer. He compiles data for the annual Christmas Bird Count in Homer, and has volunteered with the Shorebird Festival since its beginning: at the viewing stations, leading bird walks and giving presentations.

**GEORGE MATZ** is an avid birder and serves on the Kachemak Bay Research Reserve Community Council, Homer Fish and Game Advisory Committee, and Kachemak Bay Birders. He teaches a birding course at Kenai Peninsula College and organizes the Kachemak Bay Shorebird Monitoring Project each spring.

**INGRID HARRALD** is currently the Education Coordinator for Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve. She has worked as a seabird biologist in California and Alaska as well as an educator and YCC crew leader for the Alaska Maritime NWR.

**JIM HERBERT** is a 45+ year resident of the Kenai Peninsula. He is a retired mariner and fisherman who is active in the Homer community. As an active birder he especially enjoys visiting remote Alaska locations.

**KENDRA BUSH** is the Environmental Education Specialist for Alaska Maritime NWR, teaching students in grades pre-K through 12th. She is a member of the Shorebird Festival Planning Committee.

**KIM MCNETT** has a life-long fascination with the natural world, Kim received a Bachelor of Science from The Evergreen State College. Her work as an environmental educator, sea kayak guide, and fisheries observer led to an intimate understanding of the local ecosystems and allowed Kim to develop her professional niche as an artist. She teaches nature journaling and visual art to all ages with lessons that use both logical and creative modes of thinking. Her classes help demystify drawing by making it fun and accessible, while inspiring a hands-on relationship with the environment.

**KRISTINE SOWL** has been a wildlife biologist with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service in Alaska since 1992. She enjoys working with birds and sharing her knowledge with others.

**DR. LAURA FARWELL** is the Coastal Habitats Conservation Coordinator for Pacific Birds Habitat Joint Venture and has over 15 years of experience in avian research and conservation.

**LAUREN FLYNN** leads biosecurity work as a Wildlife Refuge Specialist for Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge.

**LAURIE DANIEL** is a Wildlife Restoration Biologist and a Board member of the Kachemak Bay Conservation Society. Through KBCS, Laurie was very involved in the local effort to establish Overlook Park and has led the springtime hikes during Shorebird Festival for too many years to count.

**LORA HALLER** has worked as a park ranger since 2004, and leads families, adults, and students in outdoor programs. She is the Visitor Center Manager for the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center and part of the Shorebird Festival Planning Committee.

**MARTIN RENNER** is a local and international bird expert who has resided in Homer for 20 years. Martin works as a marine data scientist for National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration at Kasitsna Bay Laboratory in Kachemak Bay. When he is not working, Martin is guiding on the southern oceans or calling through the local woods.

**MELANIE DUFOUR** is the Program Manager for Friends of Alaska National Wildlife Refuges and this is her 4th year as Coordinator of the Kachemak Bay Shorebird Festival.

**MIKE SCHANTZ** Environmental Engineering Professional, an integral part of the Schanz Foundation. This family foundation supports the passionate study of birds and birdlife by young people.

**PATRICIA HEGLUND** is a retired U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Regional Biologist. Her first job was with the former Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge. She divides her time between Homer, Alaska and the Methow Valley in Washington.

**SABINE SIMMONS** grew up in Switzerland, but has lived in Homer for over 30 years. She has always been interested in birds, and turned into a more serious birder when she joined Kachemak Bay Birders 3 years ago. She is looking forward to sharing her knowledge and experiences.

**SADIE ULMAN** has studied Alaskan birds for over 15 years. She is currently a biologist for Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and working with tundra nesting birds.

**STEVE DELEHANTY** is the Manager of the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge.

**WILLOW ENGLISH** is a biologist working with Arctic-breeding shorebirds in Canada. She has spent more than a decade working with shorebirds including during her PhD, and her master's project, which focused on incubation behavior in red-necked phalaropes.



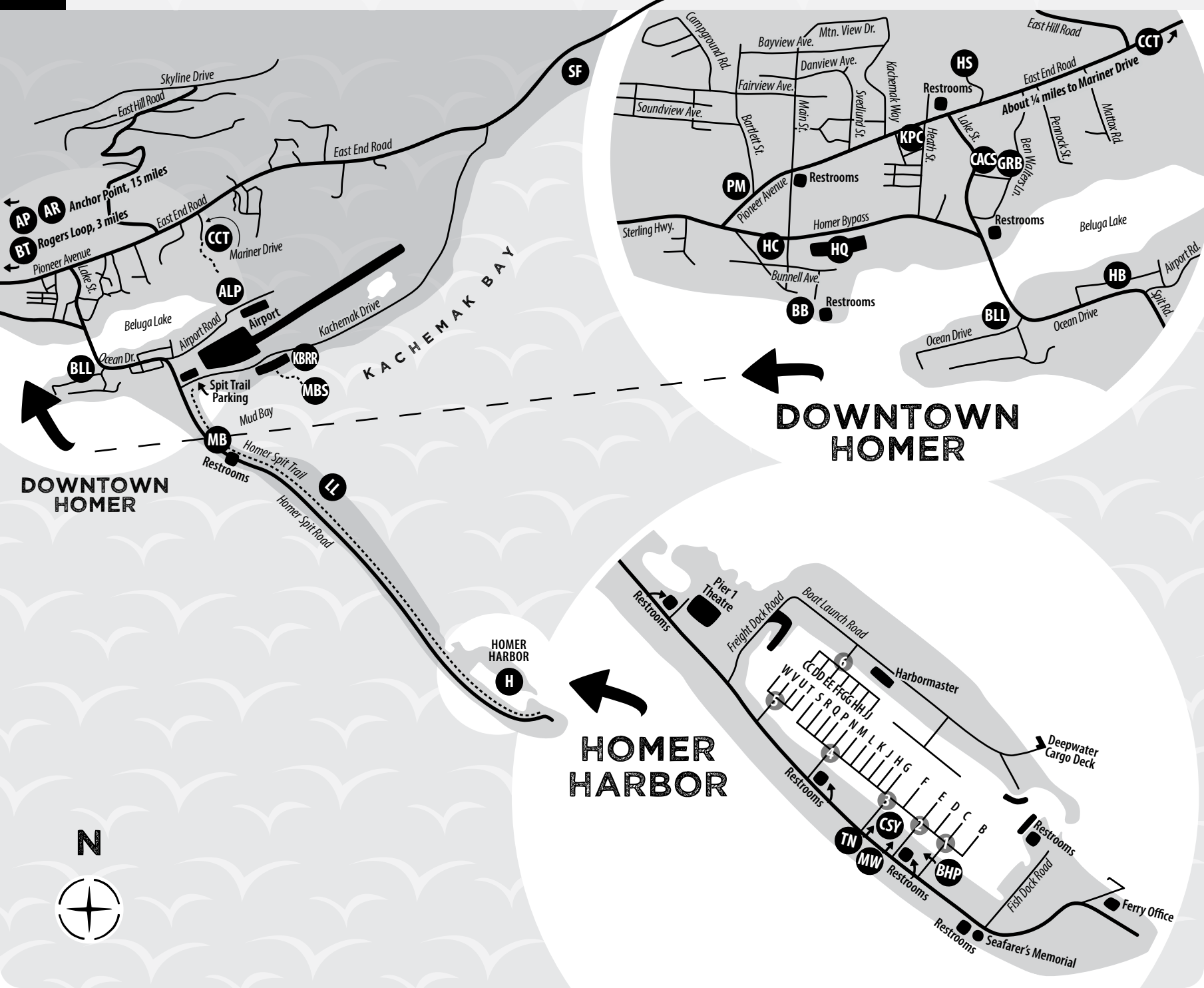
**HS** ..... Homer High School

**KBRR** ..... Kachemak Bay  
National Estuarine  
Research Reserve

**KPC** ..... Kenai Peninsula College

**LL** ..... Louie's Lagoon

**MB** ..... Mud Bay (*Viewing Station*)



# SHOREBIRD CHECKLIST

● = UNCOMMON      ● = RARE

\_\_\_ Black-bellied Plover  
\_\_\_ ● American Golden-Plover  
\_\_\_ ● Pacific Golden-Plover  
\_\_\_ Semipalmated Plover  
\_\_\_ ● Killdeer

\_\_\_ ● Black Oystercatcher

___ Greater Yellowlegs	___ ● Stilt Sandpiper
___ Lesser Yellowlegs	___ Western Sandpiper
___ Wandering Tattler	___ Least Sandpiper
___ Whimbrel	___ ● Baird's Sandpiper
___ ● Bristle-thighed Curlew	___ Pectoral Sandpiper
___ ● Hudsonian Godwit	___ ● Rock Sandpiper
___ ● Bar-tailed Godwit	___ Dunlin
___ ● Marbled Godwit	___ Short-billed Dowitcher
___ ● Ruddy Turnstone	___ ● Long-billed Dowitcher
___ Black Turnstone	___ Wilson's Snipe
___ Surfbird	___ Red-necked Phalarope
___ ● Red Knot	___ ● Red Phalarope
___ ● Sanderling	___ ● Red-necked Stint
___ ● Solitary Sandpiper	___ ● Temminck's Stint
___ Spotted Sandpiper	___ ● Ruff
___ Semipalmated Sandpiper	
___ ● Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	

PROVIDED BY KACHEMAK BAY BIRDERS

## HOW TO REGISTER

### IMPORTANT NOTES

- All participants are required to complete general registration for the Festival. Many events and activities are included in the registration fee at no extra cost, but registration is required to participate due to capacity and allows us to contact you if there is additional information or changes made.
- **Weather can change quickly.** Dress in layers; bring mud boots, binoculars, or a scope.
- Please leave your furry friends at home except for the B.A.R.K. Ranger event. **The city of Homer has adopted a leash ordinance that is enforced.** Keep your pets and wildlife safe!
- All boat tours **leave on time.** Please be at the meeting location **30 minutes prior to departure time.** Refunds will not be issued if you are late for your boat.
- **Join Friends** of Alaska National Wildlife Refuges if you're not already a member. Friends is the lead coordinator of the festival and supports ALL 16 National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska. As a member YOU will be making a difference and have volunteer opportunities across Alaska. Learn more at [alaskarefugefriends.org](http://alaskarefugefriends.org).
- **Festival Headquarters** is in the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge (AMNWR) Visitor Center, 95 Sterling Highway. This is where you can find the Festival Coordinator's office, many of the workshops and presentations, lots of volunteers, and answers to your questions in person or call 907-226-4631.

### HOW TO REGISTER

Registration will open **Wednesday, March 22 at 11 a.m. Alaska Standard Time (AKDT).** Ways to register:

1. Online at: [kachemakshorebird.org](http://kachemakshorebird.org) (quickest way to register)
2. By phone on Tuesdays and Thursdays 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Alaska Standard Time (AKDT) by calling (907) 226-4631.\*

*\* If we don't pick up, please leave a message. If you call outside these hours, your call will be returned during the next office hours.*

### FESTIVAL REGISTRATION

Festival Registration permits entry into events listed with the "included with registration" icon. Registration allows participants to reserve purchase/reserve tickets for events with limited space and/or an additional fee.

Print and bring a copy of your registration or have it on your cell phone to make it easy to attend an included program/activity.

The one-time **required** Festival Registration fee is \$20. Participants may add up to five *immediate* family members to their Festival Registration for an additional \$5 per person. This is required to participate and it ensures quality speakers and events.

Contact the Festival Coordinator for further information at [kachemakshorebird@gmail.com](mailto:kachemakshorebird@gmail.com).

### CANCELLATION POLICY

In an effort to be fair to both our participants and event sponsors, our updated **Refund and Exchange Policy** is:

- No refunds will be given for Registration or Processing Fees at any time.
- Refunds and exchanges on event ticket sales made before April 7 at 4:30 p.m. will receive a full refund less a 10% refund fee.
- Refunds and exchanges on event tickets sales made between April 8 and April 22 at 4:30 p.m. receive a 50% refund.
- No refunds after April 24 — two weeks prior to the Festival.
- If an event is canceled by the Festival due to high seas or other unforeseeable circumstances, participants will receive a full refund of event ticket costs.
- No-cost even exchanges may be issued where space permits until Tuesday, May 7, 12 p.m. AKDT.




**ONLINE REGISTRATION** is the quickest and easiest way to register and reserve event tickets.

**M**AKO'S  
**W**ATER TAXI 907-235-9055

Discover  
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**50 YEARS IN HOMER | 1974-2024**  

### SHOREBIRD HAVEN

Welcome Shorebirders!  
Everybody knows that  
the Bird is the Word

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the Rest! Wake Up to Million Dollar View  
Every Day! \$175,000 #2625



Rare Bird Alert! Beautiful Diamond Ridge  
Home! Forever View Ocean, Sunsets &  
Northern Lights! \$435,000 #9891



Three Little Birds! Don't Worry Be Happy!  
17.8 Acre Gateway Business District Zoned  
Bluff Lot! \$425,000 #3497



Little Bird! Sit Back Relax and watch  
Sandhill Cranes, Eagles & Raven  
Overlooking Cook Inlet! \$31,000 #7162



White Bird Blue Grass 9+ Acres with  
Beautiful Knob Hill Views of Cook Inlet &  
Mt Redoubt Volcano. \$70,000 #6480



Bird Song! Live with the Beauty of the  
Bird's Singing Here! 2.76 Dazzling East  
End View Acres! \$169,000 #2626



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Vacation Spot! Two Cabins on 2.8 Acres!  
Spacious Decks! \$500,000 #9881



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Bees & Flowers of Red Cabin Peony Farm!  
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East End Retreat! Cabin, Sauna and  
Glorious View! \$475,000 #9884



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# St. Augustine's Kayak & Tours and Alan's Water Taxi

St. Augustine's Kayak & Tours and Alan's Water Taxi have joined together  
uniting our stellar reputations of service and values as, Kachemak Bay Adventures

## "The Wise & Wonderful Journey"

Join an experienced guide & local bird expert on a journey of discovery. 8:am departure every day during Shorebird Festival

## "Guided Birding & Hike to Grewingk Glacier Lake"

Visit Gull Island with a bird expert. Cruise to Rusty's Lagoon viewing sea ducks, otters, and wildlife. Your guide will lead you on an easy trail up the glacier moraine to the open beaches of Grewingk Glacier Lake. 10:30 departure every day during Shorebird Festival

## St Augustine's Kayak & Tours

### "Flow With The Birds": Half Day Kayak Tour

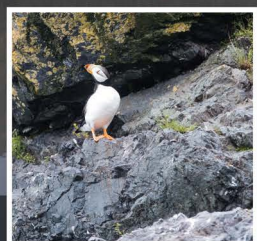
Flow through calm waters, view abundant biodiversity, stunning scenery, birds, and wildlife from a kayak. Morning Tour departure 9:am ~ Afternoon Tour departure 1:pm

All tours visit Gull Island

For more information call 907-235-5680

[www.alanswatertaxi.com](http://www.alanswatertaxi.com) | (907) 235-5680 | [www.homerkayaking.com](http://www.homerkayaking.com)

PHOTO CREDIT: All photos by Alan



## Beluga Lake Lodge

*Centrally located one mile from:*  
**Airport**  
**Homer Spit**  
**Museums**



## Welcome Birders

We invite you to enjoy some of our wonderful food while viewing  
the wildlife from our beautiful deck.



**907-235-5995** (Lodge)  
**907-435-0697** (Bar & Grill)  
[belugalakelodging.com](http://belugalakelodging.com)  
204 Ocean Drive Loop  
Homer, AK 99603

*Bird Watching*  
*Shopping*  
*Charter Fishing*  
*Float Plane Access*

## Hotel Accommodations Open Year Round

- Smoke Free
- Family Suites/Kitchenettes
- Standard Queen Rooms w/private Baths
- Reasonable Rates
- Cable TV
- Free High Speed Wireless Internet
- Guest Laundry
- Spacious Parking