



























33rd ANNUAL

MAY 7-11, 2025

KACHEMAK BAY

Shorebird Scestival



For up-to-date festival information, visit: kachemakshorebird.org











Ulmer's Drug & Hardware









Meet the Planners

The Kachemak Bay Shorebird Festival takes more than nine months to plan, organize, and coordinate. Meet the team of dedicated and passionate volunteers and staff who make up the Kachemak Bay Shorebird Festival Planning Committee and who work so hard to bring this festival to you!



Michael Armstrong



Kendra Bush



Lora Haller



Whitney Harness



Ingrid Harrald



Ian Knutson



Adrienne McGill



Marcy Melville



Maghan Monnig



Mike Schantz



Tara Schmidt



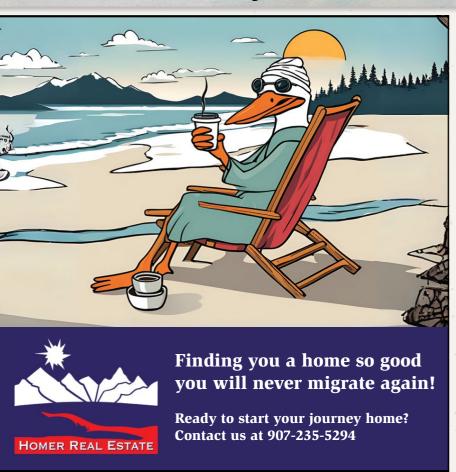
Kristine Sowl

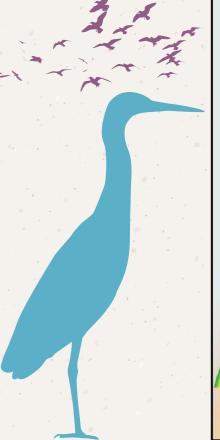


Beth Trowbridge



Homer area birding information is available on the web at: kachemakbaybirders.org





Rainbow Tours happily supports the Kachemak Bay Shorebird festival

Join us on one of our scheduled bird watching tours this weekend.
Saturday, May 10th 8:30am and 1:30pm depatures



(907) 235-7272

Greetings, Birders!

On behalf of the Friends of Alaska National Wildlife Refuges and the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge, we are thrilled to welcome you to the 2025 Kachemak Bay Shorebird Festival.

For those who haven't met me personally, my name is Marcy, and I began my position as the Programs Manager for Friends in September 2024. I've lived on the Kenai Peninsula for a few years, and could not have been more excited for the opportunity to be a part of the Shorebird Festival. While I've worked directly and indirectly in conservation for the better part of a decade, I had no idea what was in store in planning this goliath of an event.

Though it may seem hard to believe given my current work, a year ago I would not have considered myself a birder. I took notice of birds, but never actively, with my sights typically focused more on the forest floor or under the waves. It's a shame to think of all the beauty that was missed how many hikes, drives, and walks passed without hardly noticing any birds at all. People told me about birders, about their remarkable dedication and knowledge. It would be an understatement to say I didn't understand the magnitude of that statement then, but I do now.

To this day, I am still in what can only be described as awe for the sheer passion of the birding community in Kachemak Bay and Alaska beyond. I have never met a group more dedicated to something they love than the very people who have put together this festival. They have spent countless hours sharing, educating, and planning in meetings, seminars, zoom calls, and emails. In a world which can, at times, seem increasingly apathetic, the enthusiasm and care shown by this group of people is nothing short of remarkable. I hope it radiates out from every corner of this celebration, but the Kachemak Bay Shorebird Festival is truly a labor of love. So, consider both this festival and this note a love letter: to the community, to Alaska, to the birds, and to you.

To every single person who has spent any part of the last year thinking or caring about shorebirds, I have one thing to say: you are what makes this world great. And to those joining us who, perhaps more like me, have let mornings and days and months lapse without taking the time to simply look up — welcome to the team. After this year's festival, I can personally promise you'll be so hooked that you will never miss a chance to point out a bird again.

Birds are a living testament to the truth that we are all connected by the wild places we share. Every year, thousands of birds migrate from across the planet to Alaska, driven by the same unshakeable instinct that drew many of us north to call this state home. They land in the highest mountains of the Alaska Range and the farthest lakes in the Arctic, and they land on the same Homer Spit beaches where we take our children to play.

When you participate in the Shorebird Festival — whether you're on a boat tour, taking a guided walk, or even just stepping outside to listen to a songbird — you become a part of something larger than yourself. You are directly supporting the protection of Alaska's extraordinary public lands, and you're joining thousands of others who believe that all people deserve a wild future. You cared enough to be here, and you are already making a difference. So, head outside, take it all in, and let's protect what's wild — together.

Welcome, and thank you for being a part of this year's festival!

Marcy Melville, Festival Coordinator



FESTIVAL HEADQUARTERS

Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center (AMNWR)

95 Sterling Highway Homer, AK 99603

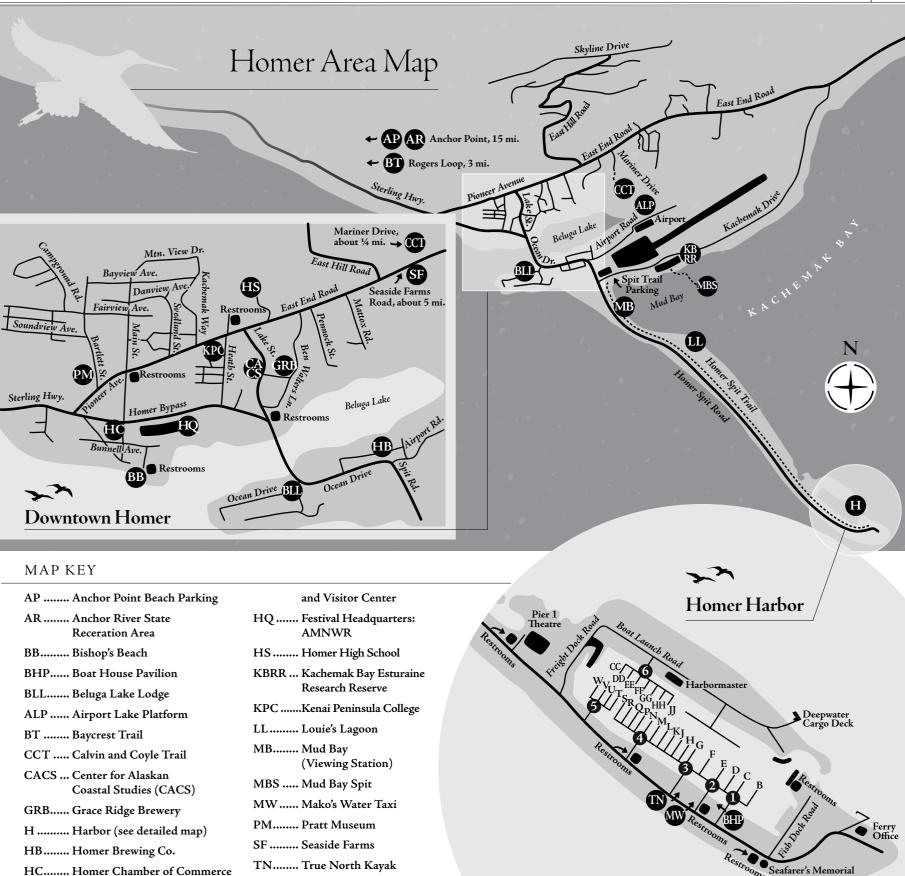
Phone: (907) 226-4631

Email: info@kachemakshorebird.org



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How to Register

Registration opens March 21 at 11:00 AM AKT

Step-By-Step

1. Go Online:

Visit https://kachemakshorebird.org/register2025/ after 11:00 AM on March 21.

2. Get Your Festival Pass:

Purchase a \$20 festival pass. If you'd like to add family members to your registration, it's \$5 per person. *This is required to attend festival activities.

3. Choose Events:

Browse the list of festival events. For events with multiple time slots (e.g., kayak tours), use the dropdown menu to select the time you'd like to attend. *Please note: events that are marked IR (Included in Registration)* on the program are all first-come, first-serve, and will not be listed on the online ticketing portal.

4. Check Out:

Review your cart to make sure all passes and event tickets are correct. You will be asked to provide some contact information, and you can complete your purchase.

5. Receive Your Tickets:

You'll get an email with your festival pass, event tickets, and all the information you'll need for your adventures! *Tickets do not need to be printed. We recommend writing down or having a screenshot of your activities or events. Activity leaders will have a list of participant names.

How Does Registration Work?

Festival Passes vs. Event Tickets

The festival pass is your main ticket to the Shorebird Festival and costs \$20 per person. It gives you entry to the festival and access to all events marked IR (Included in Registration). These IR events are first-come, first-serve, and you don't need to sign up for them online. If you want to include family members, you can add up to five people to your festival pass for \$5 each.

Some events at the festival cost extra and need their own tickets. These include things like boat tours, photography trips, and kayak tours. For each event you sign up for, you'll get a ticket or email receipt. For example, if John wants to join a boat tour, he would buy a \$20 festival pass and a \$40 boat tour ticket. If John only wants to attend a free birding walk marked IR, he would just need to buy the \$20 festival pass.

Showing Your Passes and Tickets

You will need to **show your festival pass** any time you go to **any event that is listed as IR** (Included in Registration). At paid events, vendors will have a list of attendee names and you will not be required to show your ticket. However, it may help to have a screenshot handy just in case.

In the example given above, John would need to show his festival pass when attending the birding walk marked (IR), and when arriving at the boat tour, he should tell the captain his name.



IMPORTANT NOTES

- Once registered for an event, you will receive further instructions on exactly when and where to arrive, what to bring, and what facilities will be available to you during your adventure.
- Please leave your furry friends at home (with the exception of the B.A.R.K. Ranger program).
- For additional information, please email: kachemakshorebird@gmail.com



REFUND/EXCHANGE POLICY

• **Registration Fees:** Festival pass and processing fees are non-refundable.

Event Tickets:

- Refund requests made before April 8 at 4:30 PM will receive a full refund minus a 10% processing fee.
- Refund requests made between April 9 and April 23 at 4:30 PM will receive a 50% refund.
- No refunds will be issued after **April 23** (two weeks before the festival).
- Cancellations by the festival: If an event is canceled due to high seas or other unforeseen circumstances, participants will receive a full refund for the event ticket.
- Exchanges: Free exchanges for event tickets can be made, where space allows, until Tuesday, May 2 at 12:00 PM AKDT.



EVENT KEY:



Events



Workshops & Presentations



Junior Birder



Teen Birder



Entertainment



Included with Registration



Boat Tour

AMNWR

(Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center)



(per person)

Festival Event

WEDNESDAY, MAY 7

High Tide: 3:08 PM, 16.6' • Low Tide: 8:43 PM, 2.9'

Descriptions

Lake Clark National Park Bear/Bird Viewing

7:30 AM - 2:00 PM | Anchor River State Recreation Area (Available W/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. \$375. Limit: 6.

Fins and Feathers Boat Tour



8:00 AM - 10:00 AM | Homer Harbor

(Available W/Th/F/Sa/Su)

Head to Gull Island, home to over 10,000 nesting birds and 12 different species of birds, including horned and tufted puffins, black-legged kittiwakes, and glaucous-winged gulls. From there, cruise to different areas where unique birds have been spotted, including harlequin ducks, goldeneyes, surf scoters, loons, and jaegers. \$75 adult, \$50 child. Kids Ages 0-12. Limit: 12.

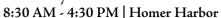
Birding Hot Spots - Anchor River 🗪

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM | AMNWR

(Available W/Th)

Hop on the bus with guide Aaron Lang and head to one of the best birding locations on the Kenai Peninsula. The beach at the mouth of the Anchor River is a nexus of shorebird, seabird, wetland, and forest habitats. Because of the diversity of habitats, a wide range of species is possible during the migration. The group will spend time scouring the beaches, marsh, and offshore area to see what's migrating by. Over the years, rarities like bristle-thighed curlew, bar-tailed godwit, and even Eurasian hobby have been found here. The birding begins right in the parking lot but plan to walk at least 2 miles along the beach. \$55.25. Limit 22.

Full Day Boat Tour to Seldovia 🖀



(Available W/Th/F/Sa/Su)

Tutka Tours and 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 and naturalist guide Cindy Mom, you'll experience Gull Island's raucous seabirds and watch for puffins, whales, sea lions, and seals. Once ashore in Seldovia, stroll the historic boardwalk and look for chestnut-backed chickadees, rufous hummingbirds, and belted kingfishers. \$350. Kids Ages 12+. Limit: 6.

Beaks and Bills AM



9:00 AM - 11:00 AM | Homer Harbor

(Available W/Th/F/Sa/Su at 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM)

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. \$85. Limit: 12.

Seabird Ventures 🖀



9:00 AM - 12:00 PM | Homer Harbor (Available W/Th/F/Sa/Su)

Come aboard for a homegrown adventure with our local captains and guides as we explore some favorite birding hotspots, including the seabird sanctuary, Gull Island. From the dainty phalaropes bobbing and feeding in the tidal streaks to the raucous Gull Island and all the territorial nesting disputes, and the dawdling sea otters in between, it's sure to be a memorable and immersive journey on the bay. \$95. Limit: 6.

Organic Farm, Tunnels, and Botanical Garden Tours AM 🗪

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM | Synergy Gardens (Available W/Th/F/Sa/Su at

10:00 AM and 4:00 PM)

Habitats for wild birding have been protected and nurtured at Synergy Gardens. Come tour a working farm and experience early spring. The farm has four high tunnels, numerous fields, and gardens. Synergy Gardens provides edible and medicinal landscapes for viewers. Primarily a garlic farm, Synergy Gardens also provides gourmet edible blossoms, culinary herbs, and vegetables for local Homer restaurants and lodges across Kachemak Bay. \$15 adult, \$5 child. Kids Ages 0-12. Limit: 25.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 7

Storytime at the Pratt: Birds! 👼 🧭

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM | Pratt Museum

Jr. Birders are invited to join the Pratt Museum staff for a bird-themed story time. This event fulfills one of the Jr. Birder requirements. Kids Ages 3-10. Limit: 15 kids.

Beginner Bird Walk - Calvin and Coyle 🗪

12:00 PM - 2:00 PM | Calvin and Coyle Trail

(Available W/Th/Sa, times vary)

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. \$7. Limit: 15.

Beaks and Bills PM

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM | Homer Harbor

(Available W/Th/F/Sa/Su at 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM)

See Wednesday at 9:00 AM listing for event description. \$85. Limit: 12.

B.A.R.K. Ranger Walk 🗪

2:00 PM - 2:30 PM | AMNWR

Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge 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! \$1. Limit: 12.

Kayaking into the Ancient Past

2:00 PM - 6:00 PM | Homer Harbor

(Available W/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 Frederica de Laguna, the spunky archeologist who explored our bay in the late 1920s. \$105 adult, \$85 child. Kids Ages 6-12. Limit: 12.

Shorebird Photography on the Anchor Point Beach 🗪

2:30 PM - 5:30 PM | Anchor River State Recreation Area (Available W/Th/F/Sa)

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. \$105.25. Limit: 4.



- First-Come First-Serve Talks: This year, any events marked as "Included in Registration" **②** in the program will not require pre-registration. These events are largely at the Alaska Maritime Visitor Center and will just require attendees to show their overall festival pass at the door.
- Alaska Native Plant Month Activities: May is Alaska Native Plant Month, and this year, we're teaming up with Homer Soil and Water and the Pratt Museum to celebrate. Check out page 14 for more info about activities!
- Bird Is the Word Writing Workshop: On Thursday afternoon, join Nancy Lord for a workshop exploring bird-related poetry and prose. Write about your "spark birds" or birds you've seen (or hope to see!) during the festival. Open to teens and adults of all experience levels in birding or writing.
- Pukorama Diets of Seabirds: On Friday afternoon, dive into the messy world of seabird diets with Alaska Maritime NWR staff. This event starts with a lecture and ends with a hands-on investigation of actual seabird diet samples in the lab. Limited seating available—don't miss this unique opportunity!
- Flyways Film: Take a bird's-eye journey into the world of migratory shorebirds on Friday evening and Sunday morning with the film Flyways. Witness the incredible endurance of birds flying up to nine days non-stop and discover how you can help protect these amazing athletes.
- Gone Half of Alaska's Common Murres Killed in Marine **Heatwave:** Join supervisory biologist Heather Renner as she talks about the long-term monitoring data from common murres on their breeding colonies which revealed that the murre dieoff in 2015-2016 was much worse than initially estimated.
- Surfrider Beach Cleanup: For the very first time, Surfrider Kenai Peninsula is joining the Kachemak Bay Shorebird Festival! At 11:00 AM on Sunday morning, they'll host a competitive beach cleanup where teams of up to four people compete to pick up the most trash and win prizes. This event is fun for all ages and especially great for teens.

Join Surfrider Kenai Peninsula on Friday afternoon for Surfrider Coastal Conservation Talk at the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge for a presentation on coastal conservation and shorebird habitat. Learn how coastal wetlands support shorebirds and what actions we can take to protect them.

Featured Speaker: Ben Mirin



Dr. Ben Mirin is an ethno-ornithologist, musician, science communicator, and media producer. He received his Ph.D. in 2024 from the Department of Natural Resources and the Environment at Cornell University, where he is based in the K. Lisa Yang Center for Conservation Bioacoustics at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. He is also a member of the Ethno-ornithology World Atlas research group at the University of Oxford. Ben's

research focuses on community-based conservation through education and storytelling, and explores how creativity can make science more inclusive for the future of life on Earth.

Ben first became known as a "Wildlife DJ" who travels the world recording animal sounds and sampling their voices to create music that inspires conservation. He is the co-creator and host of the digital and television series WILD BEATS on National Geographic Kids and Nat Geo Wild, and a National Geographic Explorer. He is also a Fellow at The Explorers Club, a Senior Fellow Emeritus at The Safina Center at Stony Brook University, and was the first Artist in Residence at the Bronx Zoo.

Ben combines his passions to create inclusive educational media that connect new audiences to nature around the world. He is especially passionate about engaging people outside the traditional scope of science communication and education. His works are freely available on benmirin.com, and have been honored with fellowships from Fulbright, the National Science Foundation, the US Department of Education, and features at the United Nations, National Geographic, the BBC, TED, SXSW, Smithsonian, and Audubon among others.

Wildlife Sound Recording with Ben Mirin

Friday 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM | AMNWR Seminar Room

Join our keynote speaker Dr. Ben Mirin for a morning of recording wildlife sounds in the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge. Learn the basics of sound recording equipment and techniques, go for a sound walk, and begin building your own personal library of nature sounds. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own equipment, but don't worry, a smartphone will suffice! \$25. Limit 15.

Creative Conservation: Applying Your Passions to Nature Saturday 7:00 PM | Homer High School Auditorium

Join us for a live musical performance and lecture from our keynote speaker, Dr. Ben Mirin, whose work explores the power of creativity as a force for making conservation more inclusive. Learn about Mirin's personal journey into ornithology and how he blends disciplines to communicate science to audiences outside the tent of conservation. Doors open at 6:30 PM. \$10. Limit 250.

🥆 Birder's Coffee

Sunday 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM | AMNWR Seminar Room

Join keynote speaker Ben Mirin, fellow birders, and Friends board members for coffee and a morning snack. Share your festival bird sightings and learn about the exciting ways to get involved with Friends of Alaska National Wildlife Refuges through education, service, and advocacy.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 7

Be a Citizen Scientist with eBird 🏈 📤 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | AMNWR, Seminar Room

Learn how to contribute to bird conservation efforts

by logging your sightings into eBird, a powerful online tool for citizen scientists. This event is perfect for beginners and experienced birders alike and is a great way to support birding research. Limit: 30.

Beluga Slough Family Walk 🗟 🧭 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM | AMNWR, Back Patio

Join local naturalist Ingrid Harrald 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.

Organic Farm, Tunnels, and Botanical Garden Tours PM

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM | Synergy Gardens (Available W/Th/F/Sa/Su at 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM)

See Wednesday at 10:00 AM listing for event description. \$15 adult, \$5 child. Kids Ages 0-12. Limit: 25.

International Bird Migration Adventure 🐯 🍑 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM | AMNWR

Come and join us on an adventure around the world as we follow the paths select bird species take during their yearly amazing migrations. Learn about the countries and habitats they stop at along the way, find out what challenges they face, and be adventurous while trying human treats from those same international locations. This event fulfills one of the Jr. Birder requirements.

Bird Survival Video Game Competition 🕰 🧭 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM | AMNWR, Seminar Room

Video games and birds – what a fabulous combination! Join us to compete in Cornell's new Flap to the Future video game on the big screen. See who can evolve the fastest! There will be light snacks and prizes. Kids Ages 12-19.

THURSDAY, MAY 8

High Tide: 1:19 PM, 15.46' • Low Tide: 7:07 PM, 2.98'

Morning at the Marsh 🗪 🏈

7:00 AM - 8:00 AM | Airport Viewing Platform (Available Th/F/Sa/Su, times vary)

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. The local guide 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.

Beginner Bird Walk - Calvin and Coyle 🗪

7:30 AM - 9:30 AM | Calvin and Coyle Trail (Available W/Th/Sa)

See Wednesday 12:00 PM listing for event description. \$7. Limit: 15.

Lake Clark National Park Bear/Bird Viewing

7:30 AM - 2:00 PM | Anchor River State Recreation Area

(Available W/Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Wednesday at 7:30 AM listing for event description. \$375. Limit: 6.

The Wise and Wonderful Journey 🌋

8:00 AM - 10:00 AM | Kachemak Bay Adventures Office (Available Th/F/Sa/Su)

Visit Gull Island for up-close viewing opportunities of horned and tufted puffins, pigeon guillemots, cormorants, kittiwakes, and murres. 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. \$85. Kids Ages 5+. Limit: 6.

Fins and Feathers Boat Tour

8:00 AM - 10:00 AM | Homer Harbor (Available W/Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Wednesday at 8:00 AM listing for event description. \$75 adult, \$50 child. Kids Ages 0-12. Limit: 12.

Cold Duck Time

8:00 AM - 11:00 AM | Homer Harbor (Available Th/F/Sa)

As the shorebirds arrive in Kachemak Bay, sea ducks prepare to head north to their happy nesting grounds. Tour Kachemak Bay's southern shore in search of the Mergini tribe. Goldeneye, harlequin, and long-tailed ducks are just a few of the fine feathered friends that inhabit our bays and coves. Dress warmly. Enclosed boat with open back access; no facilities. \$75. Limit: 12.

Birding Hot Spots - Anchor River 🗪 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM | AMNWR

(Available W/Th)

See Wednesday at 8:00 AM listing for event description. \$55.25. Limit 22.

Full Day Boat Tour to Seldovia 🚡

8:30 AM - 4:30 PM | Homer Harbor (Available W/Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Wednesday at 8:30 AM listing for event description. \$350. Limit: 6.

Beaks and Bills AM

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM | Homer Harbor

(Available W/Th/F/Sa/Su at 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM) See Wednesday at 9:00 AM listing for

Flow with the Birds:

1/2 Day Kayak Tour AM 🌋 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM | Kachemak

event description. \$85. Limit: 12.

Bay Adventures Office

(Available Th/F/Sa/Su at 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM)

A 15-min water taxi cruise to visit Gull Island with up-close viewing opportunities for puffins, guillemots, cormorants, kittiwakes, and murres. 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 and shorebirds, watch for bald eagles pursuing their next meal, and keep a lookout for harlequin ducks foraging along the shore. Explore the Bay's unique rose-colored rock formations that illustrate ancient tectonic forces. \$95. Kids Ages 5+. Limit: 12.



Viewing Stations

A current bird sightings list will be posted at Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center and at kachemakbaybirders.org. Special thanks to the Kachemak Bay Birders for all their help with the festival!

Self-Guided Shorebird Viewing - Mud Bay

- Wednesday 12:00 PM 1:00 PM
- Thursday 12:00 PM 1:30 PM
- Friday 12:45 PM 2:15 PM
- Saturday 1:15 PM 2:45 PM
- Sunday 2:00 PM 3:30 PM

Friday Family Viewing Station 🙈

Friday 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM Beluga Lake Airport Viewing Platform

Saturday Family Viewing Station and Bird Walk (Jr. Birder Event) 🙈

Saturday 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM Beluga Slough Picnic Table; meet at AMNWR back patio to walk down together.





World Wildlife Fund

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 transarctic 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.



THURSDAY, MAY 8

Seabird Ventures 👼

9:00 AM - **12:00** PM | Homer Harbor (Available W/Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Wednesday at 9:00 AM listing for event description. **\$95. Limit: 6.**

Creating Bird-Friendly Spaces with Native Plants Walk 🌣

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM | Seaside Farm

Take a guided walk on Mossy Kilcher's historic Seaside Farm and explore how to create bird-friendly spaces in your own backyard or community. Mossy will share tips on planting native species, like spruce trees and alder, and how creating natural corridors can attract birds like spruce grouse and songbirds. This is a great opportunity to see in practice how thoughtful land development can balance human needs with habitat preservation. \$5. Limit 30.

Pre-K Puffins: Surfbirds!

10:00 AM - 11:30 AM | AMNWR, Seminar Room

Join Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge staff for this special Shorebird Festival session of the Pre-K Puffins Early Learning Program all about the 2025 Shorebird Festival bird species of the year, the surfbird! 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.

Storytelling, Birding, and Bites on the Calvin and Coyle Nature Trail **1**0:00 AM - 12:00 PM | Calvin and Coyle Trail

Join Kachemak Heritage Land Trust supporter Sue Pope and an experienced birder on a guided birding walk along the Calvin and Coyle Trail. At the Beluga Lake viewing platform, Sue will read her writing about the trail's notorious northern goshawk while participants can enjoy light refreshments. If your kid can be carried and/or will enjoy a walk and story time for about an hour, they are welcome. \$25 adult, \$10 child. Limit: 15.

Homer's Homestead Hiking AM 🗪

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM | Twin Creeks Trail Head Lodge

 $(Available\ Th/F/Sa/Su\ at\ 10:00\ AM\ and\ 2:00\ PM)$

Take a guided hike along the Homestead Trail. Enjoy the expansive views of Kachemak Bay and the Cook Inlet while viewing flora and fauna. Learn about Homer's homesteading history while taking advantage of the many birding opportunities. \$30 adult, \$20 child. Kids Ages 6+. Limit: 6.

Kayaking with Birds in the Wildlife Refuge

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM | Homer Harbor

(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. All experience levels are welcome. \$105 adult, \$85 child. Kids Ages 6-12. Limit: 12.

Organic Farm, Tunnels, and Botanical Garden Tours AM

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM | Synergy Gardens (Available W/Th/F/Sa/Su at 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM)

See Wednesday at 10:00 AM listing for event description. \$15 adult, \$5 child. Kids Ages 0-12. Limit: 25.

Gull Island Tour with Hike to Grewingk Glacier Lake

10:00 AM - 4:00 PM | Homer Harbor (Available Th/F/Sa/Su)

Cruise to Gull Island for up-close viewing opportunities of puffins, guillemots, cormorants, kittiwakes, and murres. Continue 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, with Kachemak Bay on one side and Rusty's Lagoon on the other, offering opportunities to view a diversity of birds and wildlife. The trail, over the level glacier moraine, opens to Grewingk Glacier Lake, dotted with icebergs, the glacier as 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. Hike is about 6 miles. \$95 adult, \$85 child. Kids Ages 5-12. Limit: 12.

THURSDAY, MAY 8

Gulls and Glaciology Excursion 🛔

11:00 AM - 5:00 PM | Homer Harbor

(Available Th/F/Sa/Su at 11:00 AM)

With your naturalist guide, cruise to Gull Island via water taxi to check out over 10,000 nesting birds including black-legged kittiwakes, common murres, and puffins. From there, head to Glacier Spit Trailhead to hike up to Glacier Lake while learning about the fascinating glaciology of Kachemak Bay. There will be a geological mystery to solve! Must be able to hike 4 miles with 250 ft elevation gain. \$125 adult, \$115 child. Kids Ages 8-12. Limit: 12.

Is That a Bird or a Plane? Birding 101 🏈 📤

1:00 PM - 1:45 PM | AMNWR, Seminar Room

Join former USFWS biologist Patricia Heglund for an introduction to birdwatching. Learn the basics of bird identification to make your Kachemak Bay Shorebird Festival time more enjoyable. **Limit: 30.**

Beaks and Bills PM 👼

1:00 PM - **3:00** PM | Homer Harbor (Available W/Th/F/Sa/Su at 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM)

See Wednesday at 9:00 AM listing for event description. **\$85. Limit: 12.**

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

1:00 PM - 5:00 PM | Kachemak Bay Adventures Office (Available Th/F/Sa/Su at 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM)

See Thursday at 9:00 AM listing for event description. **\$95. Limit: 12.**

Shorebirding by Ear 🗪 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM | AMNWR

(Available Th/Sa)

Join local expert birder Dave Erikson 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. \$7. Limit: 20.

Homer's Homestead Hiking PM 🗪

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM | Twin Creeks Trail Head Lodge (Available Th/F/Sa/Su at 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM)

See Thursday at 10:00 AM listing for event description. \$30 adult, \$20 child. Kids Ages 6+. Limit: 6.

Kayaking into the Ancient Past

2:00 PM - 6:00 PM | Homer Harbor

(Available W/Th/F/Sa/Su at 2:00 PM)

See Wednesday at 2:00 PM for event description. \$105 adult, \$85 child. Kids Ages 6-12. Limit: 12.

Bird is the Word

2:30 PM - 3:45 PM | AMNWR

In this workshop, we'll examine some bird-related poetry and practice crafting poems or short prose related to "spark birds" and birds we've seen or hope to see during the festival. Available for ages teen and up, of any experience with birds or writing, are welcome. Bring writing tools. \$15. Limit: 12.

Shorebird Photography on the Anchor Point Beach 🗪

2:30 PM - **5:30** PM | Anchor River State Recreation Area (Available W/Th/F/Sa)

See Wednesday at 2:30 PM listing for event description. **\$105.25. Limit: 4.**

Surfbird Felt Craft 🕻 📤

3:00 PM - 5:00 PM | AMNWR

Join Lora Haller to sew a surfbird felt stuffed critter. Basic sewing/embroidery skills suggested but not necessary. All supplies will be provided, and it will take more than 2 hours to complete, but you can take it home to finish. \$10. Kids Ages 12+. Limit: 15.

Mud Bay Family Walk 🕏 🌣 🏈 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM | Mud Bay Trail/KBNERR

Join KBNERR naturalists as they lead 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! Meet at the KBNERR office, 2181 Kachemak Drive. This event fulfills one of the Junior Birder requirements.

Game Night: Wingspan **4:00** PM - 6:00 PM | 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—come alone or with a group! Must arrive by 4:15 PM to play. Limit: 15.





Carved out of the wilderness over the past 50+ years, this B&B offers more than just a place to sleep and have breakfast. The lake and surrounding forest attracts 63 varieties of birds and ducks throughout the season. A favorite spot for local artists and birders.

55640 East End Road 907-299-0261 ritajo@alaskaperfectpeony.com



Featured Artist: Danielle Larsen



Danielle Larsen is an esteemed Alaska Native artist, whose passion for the beauty of Alaska and its diverse wildlife is everpresent in her artwork. As a painter, Larsen's works reflect the serene landscapes and vibrant creatures that inhabit her home in Alaska. An amateur birder, she draws inspiration from the skies and is captivated by the intricate details of her subjects. Having grown up in Anchorage and the Kenai Peninsula, Larsen's deep connection to her surroundings is evident in her art.

Danielle has been honored to exhibit her pieces at the prestigious Kachemak Bay Shorebird Festival, where her masterful use of color and texture continues to captivate and awe audiences. Through her art, Larsen shares her love for the wondrous world of Alaska and its beautiful creatures, inviting viewers to appreciate its irrefutable charm and magnificence.

Bringing Birds to Life: Art Workshop with Danielle Larsen

Friday 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM | AMNWR Lab

Join Shorebird Festival featured artist Danielle Larsen for a hands-on bird drawing workshop that explores the shapes, forms, and movement of Alaska's shorebirds. Danielle's art reflects her deep connection to the landscapes and wildlife of her home, and in this session, she will guide participants through approachable techniques for sketching birds from capturing their posture and proportions to experimenting with expressive lines and shading. Whether you're interested in refining your artistic skills or simply looking for a fun way to connect with the natural world, this workshop offers a chance to observe, interpret, and draw birds in your own style. No prior experience is needed—just bring your curiosity and a willingness to explore! \$40. Limit 24.



Festival Kick-Off at the Pratt

Friday 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM | Pratt Museum

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 newly updated Gull Island Exhibit, which includes 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 www.prattmuseum.org. Does <u>not</u> include admission to our Special Seabird Exhibit. No cost (suggested donation of \$5 per person). Featuring music and light hors d'oeuvres will be provided.

THURSDAY, MAY 8

Organic Farm, Tunnels, and Botanical Garden Tours PM 🗪

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM | Synergy Gardens (Available W/Th/F/Sa/Su at 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM) See Wednesday at 10:00 AM listing for event description. \$15 adult, \$5 child. Kids Ages 0-12. Limit: 25.

Shorebird Dinner Cruise



4:00 PM - 8:00 PM | Homer Harbor

(Available Th/F/Sa/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. We are open to any age child, but parents can call us with any questions or concerns. Children under 6 will be at a highly discounted rate, but they still count toward the 6-passenger limit. \$300. Limit: 6.

Jr. and Teen Birder Movie Night: "Migration" 🙈 🗸



5:00 PM - 7:00 PM | Porcupine Theater

Come see the 2023 American animated adventure film on the big screen! This movie follows a family of mallards who try to convince their overprotective father to go on a vacation of a lifetime. Enjoy this family-friendly movie in our newly renovated Porcupine Theater on Pioneer Avenue. Donation-based.

FRIDAY, MAY 9

High Tide: 1:59 PM 16.17' • Low Tide: 7:42 AM 0.76'

Overlook Park Hike 🗪

6:00 AM - 2:00 PM | AMNWR For Shuttle To Trailhaid (Available F/Su)

This guided 10-mile hike journeys along the north shore 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 sloping, uneven terrain, creek crossings, and unimproved trails. Bring binoculars, lunch, water, raingear, and sturdy waterproof boots. Presented by Kachemak Bay Conservation Society, led by Laurie Daniel. Limit 12, must be at least 12 years old. By donation (\$15 suggested), proceeds to benefit Overlook Park.

Morning at the Marsh 🗪 🏈

7:00 AM - 8:00 AM | Airport Viewing Platform (Available Th/F/Sa/Su, times vary)

See Thursday 8:00 AM listing for event description.

Bird Song Bird Walk 🗪

7:30 AM - 9:30 AM | Calvin and Coyle

Join Lora Haller for a walk at Calvin and Coyle trailhead for a stroll through forest habitat as we listen for Homer's musical forest dwellers and build our auditory skills. Bring binoculars and dress for the weather and muddy trails. \$7. Limit: 15.

Lake Clark National Park Bear/Bird Viewing

7:30 AM - 2:00 PM | Anchor River State Recreation Area (Available W/Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Wednesday at 7:30 AM listing for event description. \$375. Limit: 6.

Coldwater, Hot Birds 🖀



(Available F/Sa/Su)

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. \$110 adult, \$90 child. Kids Ages 0-12. Limit: 12.

Cold Duck Time

8:00 AM - 11:00 AM | Homer Harbor (Available Th/F/Sa)

See Thursday 8AM listing for event description. \$75. Limit: 12.

Fins and Feathers Boat Tour

8:00 AM - 10:00 AM | Homer Harbor (Available W/Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Wednesday at 8:00 AM listing for event description. \$75 adult, \$50 child. Kids Ages 0-12. Limit: 12.

The Wise and Wonderful Journey 🆀

8:00 AM - 10:00 AM | Kachemak Bay **Adventures Office** (Available Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Thursday 8:00 AM listing for event description. \$85. Kids Ages 5+. Limit: 6.

Full Day Boat Tour to Seldovia 🦀

8:30 AM - 4:30 PM | Homer Harbor (Available W/Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Wednesday at 8:30 AM listing for event description. \$350. Kids Ages 12+. Limit: 6.

Shorebird Identification **②**

9:00 AM - 10:30 AM AMNWR, Auditorium

(Available F/Sa)

Join Buzz Scher to 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. Bring a pen to take notes. Limit: 90.





May is Alaska Native Plant Month, a time to celebrate the vital role native plants play in supporting wildlife, preserving ecosystems, and connecting people to nature. These plants are especially important for shorebirds, providing food and shelter during migration and nesting seasons. Explore events and exhibits throughout the festival to learn more about these incredible plants and their importance to Alaska's landscapes.

➤ Creating Bird-Friendly Spaces with Native Plants Walk

On Thursday morning, take a guided walk on Seaside Farm and explore how to create bird-friendly spaces in your own backyard or community.

Native Plants: A Lifeline for Birds

Join us for a presentation about Alaska's native plants and the birds that rely on them on Friday afternoon.

➤ Native Plant Self-Guided Walk

Ongoing throughout festival | Pratt Gardens

Take a peaceful walk through Pratt Gardens and learn about Alaska's native plants. Signs along the forest trails share fascinating facts about these plants, many of which may surprise you. This walk is free and open to everyone, making it a great way to enjoy nature at your own pace.

× Alaska's Birds and Plants Exhibit

Ongoing throughout festival | Pratt Museum

Discover how Alaska's birds and plants work together in this small, special exhibit. Alaskan birds are paired with plant specimens to show how plants give birds food, shelter, and nesting spaces. Explore these connections and see how plants and birds depend on each other in Alaska's wild landscapes. Admission \$15 adults, \$13 Seniors & AK Residents.

FRIDAY, MAY 9

Wildlife Sound Recording with Ben Mirin 🐔

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM | AMNWR, Seminar Room

Join our keynote speaker Dr. Ben Mirin for a morning of recording wildlife sounds in the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge. Learn the basics of sound recording equipment and techniques, go for a sound walk, and begin building your own personal library of nature sounds. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own equipment, but don't worry, a smartphone will suffice! \$25. Limit: 15.

Beaks and Bills AM 🏯

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM | Homer Harbor (Available W/Th/F/Sa/Su at 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM) See Wednesday at 9:00 AM listing for

See Wednesday at 9:00 AM listing for event description. \$85. Limit: 12.

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

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM | Kachemak Bay Adventures Office

(Available Th/F/Sa/Su at 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM)

See Thursday at 9:00 AM listing for event description. **\$95. Kids Ages 5+. Limit: 12.**

Seabird Ventures 🕏

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM | Homer Harbor (Available W/Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Wednesday at 9:00 AM listing for event description. **\$95. Limit: 6.**

Birdability Bird Walk at Beluga Slough 🖜

10:00 AM - 11:30 AM | AMNWR

Join USFWS staff for a casual birding walk for folks with any physical ability. Look for some forest and wetland birds, including sandhill cranes, ducks, and more. The Beluga Slough Trail is about 0.5 miles and an accessible half-mile hard-packed gravel trail 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, \$1. Limit: 12.

Pre-K Family Birding Walk 🕭 🏈

10:00 AM - 11:30 AM | Louie's Lagoon

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.

Gull Island Tour with Hike to Grewingk Glacier Lake 巖

10:00 AM - **4:00** PM | Homer Harbor (Available Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Thursday 10:00 AM listing for event description. \$95 adult, \$85 child. Kids Ages 5-12. Limit: 12.

Homer's Homestead Hiking AM 🗪

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM | Twin Creeks Trail Head Lodge (Available Th/F/Sa/Su at 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM)

See Thursday at 10:00 AM listing for event description. \$30 adult, \$20 child. Kids Ages 6+. Limit: 6.

Kayaking with Birds in the Wildlife Refuge \$\frac{1}{8}\$ 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM | Homer Harbor

(Available Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Thursday at 10:00 AM listing for event description. \$105 adult, \$85 child. Kids Ages 6-12. Limit: 12.

Organic Farm, Tunnels, and Botanical Garden Tours AM 🗪

10:00 AM - **11:00** AM | Synergy Gardens (Available W/Th/F/Sa/Su at 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM)

See Wednesday at 10:00 AM listing for event description. \$15 adult, \$5 child. Kids Ages 0-12. Limit: 25.

Shorebird Festival Event Schedule

EVENT KEY:



Field

Events

10:00-11:00 AM

10:00-11:30 AM

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

10:00 AM-2:00 PM







Junior Birder

Organic Farm, Tunnels, and Botanical Garden Tours AM

Homer's Homestead Hiking AM

Kayaking with Birds in the Wildlife Refuge

Pre-K Puffins: Surf Birds!



Teen Birder



Entertainment



Included with Registration



Boat Tour

AMNWR

(Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center)



	. *	WEDNESDA	AY, MAY 7	High	Tide: time numl	ber, Lov	w Tide: time number		
TIME	KEY	EVENT TITLE	LOCATION	COST	TIME	KEY	EVENT TITLE	LOCATION	COST
7:30 AM-2:00 PM		Lake Clark National Park Bear/Bird Viewing	Anchor River State Rec. Area	\$375	1:00-3:00 PM		Beaks and Bills PM	Homer Harbor	\$85
8:00-10:00 AM		Fins and Feathers Boat Tour	Homer Harbor	\$75/ \$50 child	2:00-2:30 PM	₹ 0	B.A.R.K. Ranger Walk	AMNWR	\$1
8:00 AM-12:00 PM	₹	Birding Hot Spots - Anchor River	AMNWR	\$55.25	2:00-6:00 PM		Kayaking into the Ancient Past	Homer Harbor	\$105/ \$85 child
8:30 AM-4:30 PM		Full-day Boat Tour to Seldovia	Homer Harbor	\$350	2:30-5:30 PM	₹ 0	Shorebird Photography on the Anchor Point Beach	Anchor River State Rec. Area	\$105.25
9:00-11:00 AM		Beaks and Bills AM	Homer Harbor	\$85	3:00-3:45 PM	Ø 🧆	Be a Citizen Scientist with eBird	AMNWR Seminar Room	IR
9:00 AM -12:00 PM		Seabird Ventures	Homer Harbor	\$95	4:00-5:00 PM	Ø ?	Beluga Slough Family Walk	Beluga Slough Trail/ Back Patio	IR
10:00-11:00 AM	00	Organic Farm, Tunnels, and Botanical Garden Tours AM	Synergy Gardens	\$15/ \$5 child	4:00-5:00 PM	₹	Organic Farm, Tunnels, and Botanical Garden Tours PM	Synergy Gardens	\$15/ \$5 child
10:30-11:30 AM	Ø 🗟	Storytime at the Pratt Museum: Birds!	Pratt Museum	IR	5:00-6:30 PM	Ø ®	International Bird Migration Adventure	AMNWR	IR
12:00-2:00 PM	<i>o</i> *0	Beginner Bird Walk	Calvin and Coyle Trail	\$7	5:30-6:30 PM	(%) (Q)	Bird Survival Video Game Competition	AMNWR Seminar Room	IR

12:00-2:00 PM	₹	Beginner Bird Walk	Calvin and Coyle Trail	\$7	5:30-6:30 PM	\mathbb{Q}	Bird Survival Video Game Competition	AM
		THURSDAY,	MAY 8	High Tid	e: 1:19 PM, 15.4	6' + Lov	v Tide: 7:07 PM, 2.98'	
TIME	KEY	EVENT TITLE	LOCATION	COST	TIME	KEY	EVENT TITLE	LO
7:00-8:00 AM		Morning at the Marsh	Airport Viewing Platform	IR	10:00 AM-4:00 PM		Gull Island Tour with Hike to Grewingk Glacier Lake	Ho
7:30-9:30 AM	₩.	Beginner Bird Walk	Calvin and Coyle Trail	\$7	11:00 AM-5:00 PM		Gulls and Glaciology Excursion	Hor
7:30 AM-2:00 PM		Lake Clark National Park Bear/Bird Viewing	Anchor River State Rec. Area	\$375	12:00-1:00 PM	Ø#	Mud Bay Viewing Station	Mu
8:00-11:00 AM		Cold Duck Time	Homer Harbor	\$75	1:00-1:45 PM	Ø 🧆	Is That a Bird or a Plane? Birding 101	AM
8:00-10:00 AM		Fins and Feathers Boat Tour	Homer Harbor	\$75/ \$50 child	1:00-3:00 PM		Beaks and Bills PM	Hor
8:00-10:00 AM	₩	Storytelling, Birding, and Bites	Calvin and Coyle Trail	\$25/ \$10 child	1:00-5:00 PM		Flow with the Birds: 1/2 Day Kayak Tour PM	Kac Adı
8:00-10:00 AM		The Wise and Wonderful Journey	Kachemak Bay Adventures Office	\$85	2:00-4:00 PM	σ	Shorebirding by Ear	AM
8:00 AM-12:00 PM	₹	Birding Hot Spots - Anchor River	AMNWR	\$55.25	2:00-4:00 PM	₹ 0	Homer's Homesteading Hiking PM	Twi Hea
8:30 AM-4:30 PM		Full-day Boat Tour to Seldovia	Homer Harbor	\$350	2:00-6:00 PM		Kayaking into the Ancient Past	Ног
9:00-11:00 AM		Beaks and Bills AM	Homer Harbor	\$85	2:30-3:45 PM	Ø 🧆	Bird is the Word	AM
9:00 AM -12:00 PM		Seabird Ventures	Homer Harbor	\$95	2:30-5:30 PM	₹	Shorebird Photography on the Anchor Point Beach	Anc
9:00 AM-1:00 PM		Flow with the Birds: 1/2 Day Kayak Tour AM	Kachemak Bay Adventures Office	\$95	3:00-5:00 PM	1 /2	Surfbird Felt Craft	AM
10:00-11:00 AM	Ø00	Creating Bird-Friendly Spaces with Native Plants Walk	Seaside Farm	\$5	3:30-4:30 PM	(1)	Mud Bay Family Walk	Mu

Synergy Gardens

Twin Creeks Trail

Head Lodge

Homer Harbor

AMNWR Seminar Room

\$15/

\$5 child

IR

\$30/

\$20 child \$105/

\$85 child

	4:00-5:00 PM		Beluga Slough Family Walk	Back Patio	IK
	4:00-5:00 PM	∞	Organic Farm, Tunnels, and Botanical Garden Tours PM	Synergy Gardens	\$15/ \$5 child
	5:00-6:30 PM	Ø 👼	International Bird Migration Adventure	AMNWR	IR
	5:30-6:30 PM	\mathbb{Q}	Bird Survival Video Game Competition	AMNWR Seminar Room	IR
ide	: 1:19 PM, 15.4	6' + Lov	v Tide: 7:07 PM, 2.98'		
	TIME	KEY	EVENT TITLE	LOCATION	COST
	10:00 AM-4:00 PM		Gull Island Tour with Hike to Grewingk Glacier Lake	Homer Harbor	\$95/ \$85 chil
	11:00 AM-5:00 PM		Gulls and Glaciology Excursion	Homer Harbor	\$125/ \$115 chi
	12:00-1:00 PM		Mud Bay Viewing Station	Mud Bay	IR
	1:00-1:45 PM	Ø 🧆	Is That a Bird or a Plane? Birding 101	AMNWR Seminar Room	IR
!	1:00-3:00 PM		Beaks and Bills PM	Homer Harbor	\$85
	1:00-5:00 PM		Flow with the Birds: $1/2$ Day Kayak Tour PM	Kachemak Bay Adventures Office	\$95
	2:00-4:00 PM	₹ 0	Shorebirding by Ear	AMNWR	\$7
	2:00-4:00 PM	₹ 0	Homer's Homesteading Hiking PM	Twin Creeks Trail Head Lodge	\$30/ \$20 chil
	2:00-6:00 PM		Kayaking into the Ancient Past	Homer Harbor	\$105/ \$85 chil
	2:30-3:45 PM	Ø 🧆	Bird is the Word	AMNWR	\$15
	2:30-5:30 PM	₹ 0	Shorebird Photography on the Anchor Point Beach	Anchor River State Rec. Area	\$105.25
	3:00-5:00 PM	1 /2	Surfbird Felt Craft	AMNWR	\$10
	3:30-4:30 PM	(18	Mud Bay Family Walk	Mud Bay Trail/KBNERR	IR
	4:00-5:00 PM	₹ 0	Organic Farm, Tunnels, and Botanical Garden Tours PM	Synergy Gardens	\$15/ \$5 child
	4:00-6:00 PM	\otimes	Game Night: Wingspan	AMNWR Seminar Room	IR
	4:00-8:00 PM		Shorebird Dinner Cruise	Homer Harbor	\$300
	5:00-7:00 PM	A	Jr. and Teen Birder Movie Night: "Migration"	Porcupine Theater	Donatio

FRIDAY, MAY 9 High Tide: 1:59 PM 16.17', Low Tide: 7:42 AM 0.76'

TIME	KEY	EVENT TITLE	LOCATION	COST
6:00 AM-2:00 PM	00	Overlook Park Hike	AMNWR	\$15/ Donation
7:00-8:00 AM	Ø#	Morning at the Marsh	Airport Viewing Platform	IR
7:30-9:30 AM	₹	Bird Song Bird Walk	Calvin and Coyle Trail	\$7
7:30 AM-2:00 PM		Lake Clark National Park Bear/Bird Viewing	Anchor River State Rec. Area	\$375
8:00-11:00 AM		Coldwater, Hot Birds	Homer Harbor	\$110/ \$90 child
8:00-11:00 AM		Cold Duck Time	Homer Harbor	\$75
8:00-10:00 AM		Fins and Feathers Boat Tour	Homer Harbor	\$75/ \$50 child
8:00-10:00 AM		The Wise and Wonderful Journey	Kachemak Bay Adventures Office	\$85
8:30 AM-4:30 PM		Full-day Boat Tour to Seldovia	Homer Harbor	\$350
9:00-10:30 AM	Ø 🧆	Shorebird Identification	AMNWR Auditorium	IR
9:00-11:00 AM	4	Wildlife Sound Recording with Ben Mirin	AMNWR Seminar Room	\$25
9:00-11:00 AM		Beaks and Bills AM	Homer Harbor	\$85
9:00 AM -12:00 PM		Seabird Ventures	Homer Harbor	\$95
9:00 AM-1:00 PM		Flow with the Birds: 1/2 Day Kayak Tour AM	Kachemak Bay Adventures Office	\$95
10:00-11:00 AM	₹ 0	Organic Farm, Tunnels, and Botanical Garden Tours AM	Synergy Gardens	\$15/ \$5 child
10:00-11:30 AM	♂	Birdability Bird Walk at Beluga Slough	AMNWR	\$1
10:00-11:30 AM	Ø 👼	Pre-K Family Birding Walk	Louie's Lagoon	IR
10:00 AM-12:00 PM	∞	Homer's Homestead Hiking AM	Twin Creeks Trail Head Lodge	\$30/ \$20 child
10:00 AM-2:00 PM		Kayaking with Birds in the Wildlife Refuge	Homer Harbor	\$105/ \$85 child
10:00 AM-4:00 PM		Gull Island Tour with Hike to Grewingk Glacier Lake	Homer Harbor	\$95/ \$85 child
11:00 AM-12:30 PM	00	Birdability Bird Walk - Mud Bay Viewing	Kachemak Drive	\$1

16

11:00 AM-1:00 PM

Festival Artist Workshop

TIME	KEY	EVENT TITLE	LOCATION	COST
11:00 AM-5:00 PM		Gulls and Glaciology Excursion	Homer Harbor	\$125/ \$115 child
12:45-2:15 PM		Mud Bay Viewing Station	Mud Bay	IR
1:00-1:45 PM	Ø 🧆	Native Plants: A Lifeline for Birds	AMNWR Auditorium	IR
1:00-3:00 PM		Beaks and Bills PM	Homer Harbor	\$85
1:00-5:00 PM		Flow with the Birds: 1/2 Day Kayak Tour PM	Kachemak Bay Adventures Office	\$95
2:00-2:45 PM	Ø 📤	Alaska's Birding Trails	AMNWR Auditorium	IR
2:00-3:00 PM	Ø	Bird Feet Lab at the Pratt	Pratt Museum	IR
2:00-4:00 PM	₹ 0	Homer's Homestead Hiking PM	Twin Creeks Trail Head Lodge	\$30/ \$20 child
2:00-6:00 PM		Kayaking into the Ancient Past	Homer Harbor	\$105/ \$85 child
2:30-5:30 PM	₹ 0	Shorebird Photography on the Anchor Point Beach	Anchor River State Rec. Area	\$105.25
3:00-3:45 PM	Ø 🧆	Pukorama - Diets of Seabirds	AMNWR Seminar Room	IR
3:00-3:45 PM	Ø 📤	Where Birds Meet the Beach	AMNWR Auditorium	IR
3:30-4:30 PM	Ø	Family Viewing Station	Airport Viewing Platform	IR
4:00-4:45 PM	Ø 🧆	Gone: Half of Alaska's Common Murres Killed in Marine Heatwave	AMNWR Auditorium	IR
4:00-5:00 PM	₹	Organic Farm, Tunnels, and Botanical Garden Tours PM	Synergy Gardens	\$15/ \$5 child
4:00-6:00 PM	Q 12	Festival Kick-Off at the Pratt	Pratt Museum	\$5/ Donation
4:00-8:00 PM		Shorebird Dinner Cruise	Homer Harbor	\$300
4:30-6:30 PM	A	Saw-whet Owl Felt Craft and Trail Adventure	AMNWR	\$3
5:00-7:00 PM	Ø	Birds, Trivia, and YOU!	Red Bird Cafe	IR
5:15-6:15 PM	⊗ ?}	Film: Flyaways	AMNWR Auditorium	IR



AMNWR EE Lab

\$40

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KACHEMAK BAY SHOREBIRD FESTIVAL PROGRAM 🎓 🦶 HOMER NEWS SPECIAL EDITION

,	SATUR	DAY, MAY 10	High Tic	le: 2:34 PM 16.7	7' + Low Tide: 8:12 AM -0.49'		;
TIME	KEY EVENT TITLE	LOCATION	COST	TIME	KEY EVENT TITLE	LOCATION	
6:00-7:30 AM	Morning at the Marsh	Airnort Viewing Platform	IR	11:00-11:45 AM	What Did We Miss? Automated	AMNWR Auditoriu	ım

11:00 AM-12:30 PM

11:00 AM-5:00 PM

11:30 AM-1:30 PM

12:00-12:45 PM

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TIME

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High Tide: 3:07 PM, 17.02' + Low Tide: 8:42 AM, -1.42'

Ear-Birding in Homer 24/7

Gulls and Glaciology Excursion

The Surfbird's Secrets: Natural History and Ecology of a Poorly Known Shorebird

Schantz Scholar Talk: Band Resighting: Citizen Scientist Involvement

Kachemak Bay Kittiwake Observations

Seabirds and Otters at the Homer Bluffs

Beginner Bird Walk

Beaks and Bills PM

Flow with the Birds:

1/2 Day Kayak Tour PM

Homer Harbor Bird Walk

Northwest Passage Cruise:

A High Arctic Immersion

Shorebirding by Ear

Wonderful Wings Workshop

Homer's Homestead Hiking PM

Kayaking into the Ancient Past

Shorebird Photography on the Anchor Point Beach

Annual Bird Calling Contest

and Botanical Garden Tours PM

Applying Your Passions to Nature

and Botanical Garden Tours AM

Homer's Homestead Hiking AM

Gull Island Tour with Hike to Grewingk Glacier Lake

Surfrider Kenai Peninsula

Competitive Beach Cleanup

Gulls and Glaciology Excursion

Friendship Walk

(V) Ir. Birder Awards Ceremony

Beaks and Bills PM

Flow with the Birds:

1/2 Day Kayak Tour PM

Organic Farm, Tunnels,

Shorebird Dinner Cruise

Homer's Homestead Hiking PM

Kayaking into the Ancient Past

and Botanical Garden Tours PM

Kayaking with Birds in the Wildlife Refuge

Keynote Ben Mirin - Creative Conservation:

Organic Farm, Tunnels,

Bird Wing Investigation

and Discovery Workshop

Shorebird Dinner Cruise

EVENT TITLE

Organic Farm, Tunnels,

Ir. Birder Discovery Lab

17

COST

IR

\$1 \$125/

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\$300

Beluga Slough

Homer Harbor

AMNWR EE Lab

and Seminar Room

AMNWR Auditorium

AMNWR Auditorium

Homer Harbormasters

Building

Homer Harbor

Kachemak Bay

Homer Harbor

Homer Harbor

AMNWR Twin Creeks Trail

Head Lodge

Homer Harbor

Homer Brewing

Synergy Gardens

Homer Harbor

AMNWR, EE Lab

Homer High School

LOCATION

Synergy Gardens

Twin Creeks Trail

Head Lodge

Homer Harbor

Homer Harbor

Homer Harbor

Homer Harbor

Homer Harbor

Homer Harbor

Kachemak Bay

Adventures Office

Twin Creeks Trail

Head Lodge

Homer Harbor

Synergy Gardens

Homer Harbor

AMNWR Auditorium

AMNWR Auditorium

AMNWR Seminar Room

Anchor River State Rec. Area \$105.25

Adventures Office

T

7:30-9:30 AM

7:30 AM-2:00 PM

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Q 1/2

Lake Clark National Park Bear/Bird Viewing Anchor River State Rec. Area

Beginner Bird Walk

Beach Walk and Talk: Shorebirds

The Wise and Wonderful Journey

Fins and Feathers Boat Tour

Upper Kachemak Bay Tour

Full-Day Boat Tour to Seldovia

Bird Trading Card Workshop

Coldwater, Hot Birds

Cold Duck Time

Shorebird Identification

Anchor Point Birding

Beaks and Bills AM

Flow with the Birds:

1/2 Day Kayak Tour AM

Discovery Lab for Adults!

Organic Farm, Tunnels, and

Botanical Garden Tours AM

Gull Island Tour with Hike

to Grewingk Glacier Lake

Homer's Homestead Hiking AM

Kayaking with Birds in the Wildlife Refuge

Lake Clark National Park Bear/Bird Viewing

Seabird Ventures

Stencil a T-Shirt

EVENT TITLE

Overlook Park Hike

Fins and Feathers Boat Tour

Coldwater, Hot Birds

Birders Coffee

Glowing Auks Workshop

Anchor Point Birding

Beaks and Bills AM

Seabird Ventures

Film: Flyaways

Flow with the Birds:

1/2 Day Kayak Tour AM

The Wise and Wonderful Journey

Full-day Boat Tour to Seldovia

Morning at the Marsh

on the Frontline of Marine Pollution

Airport Viewing Platform

Calvin and Coyle Trail

Bishops Beach Pavillion

Homer Harbor

Kachemak Bay

Homer Harbor

Homer Harbor

Homer Harbor

Homer Harbon

Pratt Museum

Homer Harbor

Homer Harbor

Kachemak Bay

Adventures Office

AMNWR EE Lab

Synergy Gardens

Twin Creeks Trail

Head Lodge

TBD

SUNDAY, MAY 11

Homer Harbor

Homer Harbor

LOCATION

Homer Harbor

Kachemak Bay

Homer Harbor

Homer Harbor

AMNWR Seminar Room

Anchor River State Rec. Area

AMNWR EE Lab

Homer Harbor

Homer Harbor

Kachemak Bay

Adventures Office

AMNWR Auditorium

Adventures Office

AMNWR For Shuttle

Airport Viewing Platform

Anchor River State Rec. Area

AMNWR Auditorium

Anchor River State Rec. Area

Adventures Office

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FRIDAY, MAY 9

Bringing Birds to Life: Art Workshop with Danielle Larsen 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM | AMNWR Lab

Join Shorebird Festival featured artist Danielle Larsen for a hands-on bird drawing workshop that explores the shapes, forms, and movement of Alaska's shorebirds. Danielle's art reflects her deep connection to the landscapes and wildlife of her home, and in this session, she will guide participants through approachable techniques for sketching birds—from capturing their posture and proportions to experimenting with expressive lines and shading. Whether you're interested in refining your artistic skills or simply looking for a fun way to connect with the natural world, this workshop offers a chance to observe, interpret, and draw birds in your own style. No prior experience is needed—just bring your curiosity and a willingness to explore! \$40. Limit 24.

Birdability Bird Walk -Mud Bay Viewing 🌣

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM | Kachemak Drive

This bird viewing is specifically for folks with mobility challenges and is wheelchair accessible. Join local birder Dave Erikson on a private home's deck to view birds in Mud Bay. Ride a tram down to the deck. Dress for the weather. \$1. Limit: 8.

Gulls and Glaciology Excursion 🕏

11:00 AM - 5:00 PM | Homer Harbor (*Available Th/F/Sa/Su at 11:00 AM*)

See Thursday at 11:00 AM listing for event description. \$125 adult, \$115 child. Kids Ages 8-12. Limit: 12.

Beaks and Bills PM 🕏

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM | Homer Harbor

(Available W/Th/F/Sa/Su at 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM)

See Wednesday at 9:00 AM listing for event description. **\$85. Limit: 12.**

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

1:00 PM - 5:00 PM | Kachemak Bay Adventures Office

(Available Th/F/Sa/Su at 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM)

See Thursday at 9:00 AM listing for event description. **\$95.** Limit: **12.**

Native Plants: A Lifeline for Birds 🏈 📤

1:00 PM - 1:45 PM | AMNWR, Auditorium

Join Mossy Kilcher for a presentation about Alaska's native plants and the birds that rely on them. In honor of Native Plant Month, we'll explore how these plants provide food, shelter, and habitat for birds and other wildlife. Learn why native plants are key to healthy ecosystems and how they help support the natural world around us. Limit: 90.

Alaska's Birding Trails 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM | AMNWR, Auditorium

Join Audubon Alaska for a presentation about the incredible birding trails across the state. Learn about the unique habitats these trails highlight and the bird species that depend on them. Gain insights into the connections between Alaska's landscapes and its birds, and discover how these trails help protect and celebrate Alaska's rich birdlife. **Limit: 90.**

Bird Feet Lab at the Pratt 🕏 🧭

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM | Pratt Museum

Join Pratt Museum staff for this fun, interactive exploration of bird feet! During this lab, participants will compare and contrast different types of bird feet and learn why birds evolved to have the feet they do. This event fulfills one of the Junior Birder requirements. Kids Ages 8-14. Limit: 15 Kids.

Homer's Homestead Hiking PM 🧒

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM | Twin Creeks Trail Head Lodge (Available Th/F/Sa/Su at 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM)

See Thursday at 10:00 AM listing for event description. \$30 adult, \$20 child. Kids Ages 6+. Limit: 6.

Kayaking into the Ancient Past 🗿



See Thursday at 2:00 PM listing for event description. \$105 adult, \$85 child. Kids Ages 6-12. Limit: 12.

Shorebird Photography on the Anchor Point Beach 🗪

2:30 PM - 5:30 PM \mid Anchor River State Park Recreation Area

(Available W/Th/F/Sa)

See Wednesday at 2:30 PM listing for event description. \$105.25. Limit: 4.

Art & Adventure Auction

By participating in the auction, you're not just bidding on beautiful art and exciting items—you're helping to keep the spirit of the Kachemak Bay Shorebird Festival alive. Your support ensures we can continue offering inspiring programs, welcoming incredible speakers, and celebrating the wonder of Alaska's birds for years to come.

The 2025 Auction Features:

- Original festival artwork by 2025 festival artist Danielle Larsen
- Unique 6x6 art pieces created by Alaskan artists, inspired by Alaska's incredible birdlife
- Donated Items: travel experiences, bird-friendly goodies, and other fun surprises

Important Details:

- Bidding Opens: Wednesday, April 23
- Bidding Closes: 7:30 PM Saturday, May 10
- Items may be taken with you after the keynote speaker event or picked up at festival headquarters the next day.

Viewing Locations:

- During the Shorebird Festival: at the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center
- Leading up to the Keynote Speaker Talk: Homer High School

Visit our auction at https://kachemakshorebird.org/auction2025/ or scan the QR Code below:



20

Bird TLC

The Bird Treatment and Learning Center (Bird TLC) is a nonprofit that helps Alaska's wild birds through care and education. They rehabilitate over 500 injured or orphaned birds each year, giving them a second chance to thrive in the wild. Bird TLC also brings wildlife closer to people through engaging programs featuring their Ambassador Birds, offering a unique way to learn about Alaska's incredible bird species.

Wonderful Wings Workshop

Saturday 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM AMNWR, Seminar Room

Kids, Join Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies staff and special guests from Bird TLC at the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center for a fun and interactive introduction to bird wings! Participants will discover how wings work, how they help birds survive, and how to identify birds by their wings. Plus, meet a live crow and falcon and learn about their unique adaptations up close. This event fulfills one of the Jr. Birder event requirements. Registration is required. Limit: 35 kids.

Meet Gertie the Crow and Breeland the Peregrine Falcon Sunday 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM | AMNWR

Stop by the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center to meet two incredible birds up close! Bird TLC will introduce Gertie the Crow and Breeland the Peregrine Falcon, sharing their fascinating stories and the adaptations that make them unique. This informal, family-friendly session is open to all and offers a rare opportunity to learn about these amazing birds in person.



FRIDAY, MAY 9

Pukorama - Diets of Seabirds 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | AMNWR, Seminar Room

Puke alert! Join Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge staff to explore seabirds and their puke... er, food. Learn what seabirds eat, how scientists learn about seabird diet, and what it can tell us. The first portion is a lecture, followed by a hands-on opportunity to investigate actual seabird diet samples in the lab. Limit: 35.

Where Birds Meet the Beach 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM | AMNWR, Auditorium

Get a bird's eye view of coastal conservation with Surfrider Kenai Peninsula! Learn how healthy beaches and wetlands help shorebirds survive and what we can do to protect these important places. **Limit: 90.**

Gone: Half of Alaska's Common Murres Killed in Marine Heatwave 🏈 🛦

4:00 PM - 4:45 PM | AMNWR, Auditorium

Join supervisory biologist Heather Renner as she talks about the long-term monitoring data from common murres on their breeding colonies which revealed that the murre die-off of 2015-2016 was much worse than initially estimated. Half of Alaska's population, an estimated 4 million birds, were killed in one winter, with no signs of recovery to date. This article was published in Science magazine in December 2024. Limit: 90.

Organic Farm, Tunnels, and Botanical Garden Tours PM

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM | Synergy Gardens (Available W/Th/F/Sa/Su at 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM)

See Wednesday at 10:00 AM listing for event description. \$15 adult, \$5 child. Kids Ages 0-12. Limit: 25.

Shorebird Dinner Cruise 🚆

4:00 PM - **8:00** PM | Homer Harbor (Available Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Thursday 4:00 PM listing for event description. **\$300. Limit: 6.**

Saw-whet Owl Felt Craft and Trail Adventure

4:30 PM - 6:30 PM | AMNWR

Junior and Teen Birders can join Ranger Lora to sew a felt stuffie of a saw-whet owl. Basic sewing or embroidery skills are helpful. The craft will take more than 2 hours to complete, and participants will be able to take their owl home to finish. Part of the program is inside, and part is outside on the trail. All supplies included. Anyone less than 10 must have an adult assisting them with sewing. This event fulfills one of the Jr. Birder requirements. \$3. Kids Ages 10-18. Limit: 12.

Birds, Trivia, and YOU! Solution 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM | Red Bird Cafe

Teens, meet at the Red Bird Cafe for a night of trivia and laughs. See if you can beat last year's teen trivia champions. Prizes and fun guaranteed. Join KBNERR education staff for a lighthearted competition of bird trivia and (of course) coffee!

Film: Flyways 🏈 🕏 5:15 PM - 6:15 PM | AMNWR, Auditorium

Take a bird's-eye journey into the world of migratory shorebirds with the film Flyways. Witness the incredible endurance of birds flying up to 9 days non-stop and discover how you can help protect these amazing athletes. **Limit: 90.**

Game Night: Wingspan 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM | AMNWR, Lobby

See Thursday 4:00 PM listing for event description. Must arrive by 6:15 PM to play. Limit: 15.

Festival Kick-Off at the Pratt 🏵 🕏

4:00 PM - 6:00 PM | Pratt Museum

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 newly updated Gull Island Exhibit, which includes 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 www.prattmuseum. org. Featuring music and light hors d'oeuvres will be provided. Does <u>not</u> include admission to our Special Seabird Exhibit. Suggested donation of \$5 per person.

SATURDAY, MAY 10

High Tide: 2:34 PM 16.7' • Low Tide: 8:12 AM -0.49'

Morning at the Marsh 🗪 🏈

6:00 AM - 7:30 AM | Airport Viewing Platform (Available Th/F/Sa/Su, times vary)

See Thursday 8:00 AM listing for event description.

Beginner Bird Walk - Calvin and Coyle 🗪

7:30 AM - 9:30 AM | Calvin and Coyle Trail.

(Available W/Th/Sa, times vary).

See Wednesday at 12:00 PM listing for event description. \$7. Limit 15.

Lake Clark National Park Bear/Bird Viewing

7:30 AM - 2:00 PM | Anchor River State Recreation Area

(Available W/Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Wednesday at 7:30 AM listing for event description. \$375. Limit: 6.

Beach Walk and Talk: Shorebirds on the Frontline of Marine Pollution 🌣 🏈

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM \mid Bishops Beach Pavillion

Take a guided walk along Bishops Beach with Surfrider's Liz Schotman to explore how marine debris impacts shorebird habitats and survival. Learn how plastics and other pollutants affect feeding and nesting areas, and discover how shorebirds often mistake microplastics for food. Through stories of conservation success and hands-on observation, this walk highlights the vital connection between clean beaches and healthy shorebird populations. Gloves and bags will be provided for optional debris collection along the way. Limit: 15.

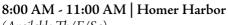
Coldwater, Hot Birds 🌋

8:00 AM - 11:00 AM | Homer Harbor

(Available F/Sa/Su)

See Friday at 8:00 AM listing for event description. \$110 adult, \$90 child. Kids Ages 0-12. Limit: 12.

Cold Duck Time 🖁



(Available Th/F/Sa)

See Thursday 8:00 AM listing for event description. \$75. Limit: 12.

Fins and Feathers Boat Tour 🚡

8:00 AM - 10:00 AM | Homer Harbor (Available W/Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Wednesday at 8:00 AM listing for event description. \$75 adult, \$50 child. Kids Ages 0-12. Limit: 12.

The Wise and Wonderful Journey 🌉

8:00 AM - 10:00 AM | Kachemak Bay Adventures Office

(Available Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Thursday 8:00 AM listing for event description. \$85. Kids Ages 5+. Limit: 6.

Full-Day Boat Tour to Seldovia 🍣



See Wednesday at 8:30 AM listing for event description. \$350. Kids Ages 12+. Limit: 6.

Upper Kachemak Bay Tour \$\mathbb{\mathbb{E}}\$ 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM | Homer Harbor

Join us aboard for a trip to the rich shorebird feeding area near the Fox, Sheep, and Bradley Rivers. Explore the head of Kachemak Bay, with a visit to Bear Cove, Aurora Lagoon, Glacier Spit, and a stop at the Gull Island bird rookery. Enclosed boat with open back access; has facilities. Sponsored by Rainbow Tours. \$85 adult, \$65 child. Kids Ages 0-12. Limit: 55.

Anchor Point Birding 🗪

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM | Anchor Point State Recreation Area (Available Sa/Su)

Join Kristine Sowl at the Anchor River State Recreation Area to search for foraging shorebirds. Walk up to 1.5 miles (depending on bird locations) on the sand and cobbles with possible shallow water crossings. 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. \$15. Limit: 12.



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 passion 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, offer their wisdom, and everything in between.



Schantz Scholar: Kristen Johnson

Sponsored by the Schantz Brothers Foundation Encouraging the Passionate Study of Birds and Birdlife



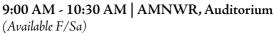
Kristen Johnson began birding from a stroller and was able to distinguish a Fish Crow from an American Crow by ear before the age of two. She is an avid birder, photographer, and bander of passerines, saw-whet owls, and shorebirds including coastal species such as Saltmarsh and Nelson's Sparrows, Piping Plovers, Least Terns, Black Skimmers, and American Oystercatchers. She has worked along the East Coast and is currently doing fieldwork in Georgia and South Carolina. Spending countless hours on the beach these past few years has cemented Kristen's love of shorebirds. Kristen graduated summa cum laude from Mount Holyoke College in 2023 as a doublemajor in Biology and Music, with an honors thesis on avian predators of Piping Plovers on Fire Island, NY. When not watching and photographing birds or other nature subjects, Kristen sings, plays violin, and rides horses.

> Band Resighting: Citizen Scientist Involvement

Hear from Kristen Johnson on Saturday at 1:00 PM as she recounts her experience resighting bands and explaining the information needed to report sightings of banded birds.

SATURDAY, MAY 10

Shorebird Identification **(4)**



See Friday at 9:00 AM listing for event description. Limit: 90.

Bird Trading Card Workshop 🙉 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM | Pratt Museum

Join Seward author Sean Ulman at the Pratt Museum for this creative workshop making bird trading cards! Participants will get the opportunity to design and create their very own bird species trading cards that can later be shared or traded with others. This event fulfills one of the Junior Birder requirements. Registration required. Suggested donation: \$5. Kids Ages 6-14. Limit: 20 kids.

Beaks and Bills AM

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM | Homer Harbor (Available W/Th/F/Sa/Su at 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM) See Wednesday at 9:00 AM listing for event description. \$85. Limit: 12.

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

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM | Kachemak **Bay Adventures Office**

(Available Th/F/Sa/Su at 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM)

See Thursday at 9:00 AM listing for event description. \$95. Kids Ages 5+. Limit: 12.

Seabird Ventures



9:00 AM - 12:00 PM | Homer Harbor (Available W/Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Wednesday at 9:00 AM listing for event description. \$95. Limit: 6.

Discovery Lab for Adults! 🗸 📥 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM | AMNWR, EE Lab

All festival participants have the opportunity to explore this interactive in-person Beginning Birder Lab at the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center. Throughout the lab, participants can explore each station to learn about basic birding skills, birding tools, bird identification, and local bird habitats and adaptations. Ages 15+.

Gull Island Tour with Hike to Grewingk Glacier Lake 🖀

10:00 AM - 4:00 PM | Homer Harbor (Available Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Thursday at 10:00 AM listing for event description. \$95 adult, \$85 child. Kids Ages 5-12. Limit: 12.

Homer's Homestead Hiking AM 🏍

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM | Twin Creeks Trail Head Lodge (Available Th/F/Sa/Su at 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM)

See Thursday at 10:00 AM listing for event description. \$30 adult, \$20 child. Kids Ages 6+. Limit: 6.

Kayaking with Birds in the Wildlife Refuge 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM | Homer Harbor

See Thursday at 10:00 AM listing for event description. \$105 adult, \$85 child. Kids Ages 6-12. Limit: 12.

(Available Th/F/Sa/Su)

Organic Farm, Tunnels, and Botanical Garden Tours AM

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM | Synergy Gardens (Available W/Th/F/Sa/Su at 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM)

See Wednesday at 10:00 AM listing for event description. \$15 adult, \$5 child. Kids Ages 0-12. Limit: 25.

Stencil a T-Shirt 🥻

Hourly from 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Stencil a T-Shirt with custom bird stencils by Lorri Davis. This is a creative workshop. Sign up for a slot for each child. Depending on the creative process with some children, there may be delays. \$15. Kids Ages 5-15 (younger with adult supervision). Limit: 6 kids each hour.

SATURDAY, MAY 10

Beginner Bird Walk Beluga Slough 🏍 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM | AMNWR

Join park ranger Betsy Rogers for a beginning bird walk on the Beluga Slough Trail. Listen for songbirds and search the estuary for waterfowl and sandhill cranes. **Accessible. \$1. Limit: 15.**

What Did We Miss? Automated Ear-Birding in Homer 24/7 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM | AMNWR. Auditorium

Have you ever wondered what you missed, what birds you could have seen if only you could bird all the time? The use of "Artificial Intelligence" is revolutionizing birding and scientific data collection, moving us closer to answer this question of what is all out there. Martin Renner reports on one year of continuous 24/7 recording and real-time analysis of bird calls and songs in his yard, here in Homer, using birdNET. He will introduce birdNET, explain how to run it, and how it differs from the Merlin app that you may already have on your smartphone. Limit: 90.

Gulls and Glaciology Excursion \$\bigsep\$ 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM | Homer Harbor

(Available Th/F/Sa/Su at 11:00 AM)
See Thursday at 11:00 AM listing for

event description. \$125 adult, \$115 child. Kids Ages 8-12. Limit: 12.

Jr. Birder Discovery Lab (20) 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM | AMNWR, EE Lab and Seminar Room

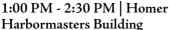
All Jr. Birders have the opportunity to explore this interactive in-person discovery lab at the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center. Throughout the lab, participants can explore each station to learn about basic birding skills, birding tools, bird identification, local bird habitats 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.

The Surfbird's Secrets: Natural History and Ecology of a Poorly Known Shorebird 🏈 🔈

12:00 PM - 12:45 PM | AMNWR, Auditorium

Join Stan Senner, biologist and long-time leader in Alaska bird conservation, to learn about the amazing lives of surfbirds. Known to travel from Alaska to Chile, surfbirds remain one of the least studied shorebirds in North America. Stan will share how he has studied them since finding much of the world population on one island in Prince William Sound during spring migration after the Exxon Valdez oil spill. Limit: 90.

Kachemak Bay Kittiwake Observations **A**



Teen birders can join KBNERR educator Ingrid Harrald to get hands-on experience with seabird monitoring. Help observe, document, and collect nesting data for black-legged kittiwakes and gulls in the Homer Harbor.

Schantz Scholar Talk: Band Resighting: Citizen Scientist Involvement (**) 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM | AMNWR, Auditorium

Kristen Johnson, this year's Schantz Scholar, has been involved in banding for many years, resighting any banded birds she comes across. These resightings provide valuable information to researchers on longevity and movement of these individuals, and anyone can participate! Birding is one great big scavenger hunt – not just for rarities but also for any banded individuals you might encounter. Kristen will explain the information needed to report sightings of banded individuals and share examples of incredible birds she has encountered. Limit: 90.

Beaks and Bills PM 🏝

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM | Homer Harbor (Available W/Th/F/Sa/Su at 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM) See Wednesday at 9:00 AM listing for event description. \$85. Limit: 12.



Friends of Alaska National Wildlife Refuges is an independent nonprofit dedicated to supporting Alaska's 16 National Wildlife Refuges. Our mission is to promote the conservation of these natural habitats through education, advocacy, and community involvement.

We are proud to co-host the Kachemak Bay Shorebird Festival in partnership with the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge. Donations to the Shorebird Festival directly support the event and its programming, while contributions to Friends of Alaska National Wildlife Refuges help us provide broader support for national wildlife refuges across the state. Every donation makes a difference in preserving Alaska's wild places and fostering community connections.

By purchasing a Friends membership along with your festival event tickets, you can support our ongoing efforts to protect Alaska's wildlife refuges. Additionally, we invite you to visit our table at the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center during the festival to learn more about how you can get involved.

We also sponsor Sunday's Birders Coffee at 9:00 AM, a wonderful opportunity to meet fellow birders, chat with some of our presenters, and discover more ways to support Alaska's incredible wildlife. For more information, please visit our website at alaskarefugefriends.org.



Support Surfbird Research, Name a Surfbird

Where do the surfbirds stopping in Kachemak Bay go to nest?

Scientists aren't sure. They could be in nearby mountains, farther north in the Brooks Range, or even in the Yukon. By tracking their movements with satellite transmitters, researchers hope to uncover key habitats and better understand the challenges these birds face. The project is an incredible reminder that even in our modern world, nature still holds mysteries waiting to be solved—and you can help be part of the potential discovery.

The goal is to begin tagging birds in spring 2025, and each transmitter costs \$2,100. We're helping raise \$16,800 to support this research. Donations go directly toward these tags, and supporters will receive biweekly updates on the birds' movements. If you fund an entire tag, you can even name your bird!

Donations are tax-deductible through the Kachemak Bay Shorebird Festival (501(c)(3) nonprofit).

Join us in supporting this exciting research—every contribution helps!

Learn more and donate: kachemakshorebird.org/ support-surfbird-research



SATURDAY, MAY 10

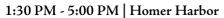
Flow with the Birds: 1/2 Day Kayak Tour PM 🖀

1:00 PM - 5:00 PM | Kachemak **Bay Adventures Office**

(Available Th/F/Sa/Su at 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM)

See Thursday at 9:00 AM listing for event description. \$95. Kids Ages 5+. Limit: 12.

Seabirds and Otters at the Homer Bluffs 🖀



Explore the Homer Bluffs by sea, looking for spectacular sea birds and adorable otters. Enclosed boat with openback access; has facilities. Sponsored by Rainbow Tours. \$75 adult, \$55 child. Kids Ages 0-12. Limit: 55.

Homer Harbor Bird Walk 💏

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM | Homer Harbor

Join Kristine Sowl for a visit to the southeast end of the Homer boat harbor. Meet at the Seafarer's Memorial near the end of the Spit. Free parking is nearby. We will stroll down Fish Dock Road to the boat harbor entrance, looking for birds as we go. At the harbor entrance, we will search for surfbirds and turnstones amongst the rocks and look for sea ducks, loons, and seabirds in the nearby waters. This is an easy walk on gravel roads and parking areas. \$7. Limit: 15.

Shorebirding by Ear 🧒 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM | AMNWR

(Available Th/Sa)

See Thursday at 2:00 PM listing for event description. \$7. Limit: 20.

Wonderful Wings Workshop 麾 🍑 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM AMNWR, Seminar Room

Join Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies staff and special guests from Bird TLC at the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center for a fun and interactive introduction to bird wings! Participants will discover how wings work, how they help birds survive, and how to identify birds by their wings. Plus, meet a live crow and falcon and learn about their unique adaptations up close. Registration is required. This event fulfills one of the Jr. Birder event requirements. Limit: 25 kids.

Northwest Passage Cruise: A High Arctic Immersion 🕊 🗥

2:00 PM - 2:45 PM | AMNWR, Auditorium Join local birder George Matz as he shares his 20-day Northwest Passage cruise through High Arctic Canada and Greenland. The small ship voyage included going ashore daily (weather

permitting) for field trips led by experts on the

Homer's Homestead Hiking PM 🦚

fauna, flora, and geology of the Arctic. Limit: 90.

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM | Twin Creeks Trail Head Lodge

(Available Th/F/Sa/Su at 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM)

See Thursday at 10:00 AM listing for event description. \$30 adult, \$20 child. Kids Ages 6-18. Limit: 6.

Kayaking into the Ancient Past 🖀



2:00 PM - 6:00 PM | Homer Harbor (Available W/Th/F/Sa/Su at 2:00 PM)

See Wednesday at 2:00 PM for event description. \$105 adult, \$85 child. Kids Ages 6+. Limit: 12.

Shorebird Photography on the Anchor Point Beach 🥽

2:30 PM - 5:30 PM | Anchor River State Recreation Area

(Available W/Th/F/Sa)

See Wednesday at 2:30 PM listing for event description. \$105.25. Limit: 4.

Annual Bird Calling Contest 🏈 🕉 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM | Homer Brewing

Tune up your vocal cords and tweet your favorite bird call 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 PM, competition begins at 4:00 PM; awards and prizes given out at 5:00 PM.

SATURDAY, MAY 10

Bird Wing Investigation and Discovery Workshop 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM | AMNWR, EE Lab

Teens, join KBNERR and Refuge staff in solving the mystery of bird wing identification. Measure, observe, and use special tools and guides to help identify different bird wings.

Organic Farm, Tunnels, and Botanical Garden Tours PM

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM | Synergy Gardens (Available W/Th/F/Sa/Su at 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM)

See Wednesday at 10:00 AM listing for event description. \$15 adult, \$5 child. Kids Ages 0-12. Limit: 25.

Shorebird Dinner Cruise



4:00 PM - 8:00 PM | Homer Harbor (Available Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Thursday at 4:00 PM listing for event description. \$300. Limit: 6.

Presentation by Keynote Speaker, Ben Mirin: Creative Conservation: Applying Your Passions to Nature

7:00 PM | Homer High School

Join us for a live musical performance and lecture from our keynote speaker, Dr. Ben Mirin, whose work explores the power of creativity as a force for making conservation more inclusive. Learn about Mirin's personal journey into ornithology and how he blends disciplines to communicate science to audiences outside the tent of conservation. Limited tickets available at the door. Doors to high school open at 6:30 PM. \$10. Limit 250.

Crane Club

Many thanks to our festival sponsors! The Friends of Alaska National Wildlife Refuges and the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge would like to recognize and thank our many generous supporters who make the Kachemak Bay Shorebird Festival possible.



ALASKA

Audubon Alaska



Homer Chamber of Commerce



Kachemak Crane Watch



Maverick Charters



Schantz Bros. Foundation





25



Homer Stay and Play







Wilderness Birding Adventures

- Kristine Schmidt
- Marcia Trudgen
 - Sue Pope

Interested in becoming a part of the Crane Club next year and sponsoring the 2026 Shorebird Festival?

Donate online at: <u>kachemakshorebird.org/support</u>



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 and follow us on Facebook (@audubonalaska1) and Instagram (@ audubonalaska).



ALASKA

SUNDAY, MAY 11

High Tide: 3:07 PM, 17.02' + Low Tide: 8:42 AM, -1.42'

Morning at the Marsh 🗪 🏈

6:00 AM - 7:30 AM | Airport Viewing Platform (Available Th/F/Sa/Su, times vary)

See Thursday 7:00 AM listing for event description.

Overlook Park Hike 🧒

6:00 AM - 2:00 PM | AMNWR

(Available F/Su)

See Friday at 6:00 AM listing for event description. Limit 12, must be at least 12 years old. By donation (\$15 suggested), proceeds to benefit Overlook Park.

Lake Clark National Park Bear/Bird Viewing

7:30 AM - 2:00 PM | Anchor River State Recreation Area

(Available W/Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Wednesday at 7:30 AM listing for event description. \$375. Limit: 6.

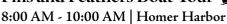
Coldwater, Hot Birds 🎇

8:00 AM - 11:00 AM | Homer Harbor

(Available F/Sa/Su)

See Friday at 8:00 AM listing for event description. \$110 adult, \$90 child. Kids Ages 0-12. Limit: 12.

Fins and Feathers Boat Tour



(Available W/Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Wednesday at 8:00 AM listing for event description. \$75 adult, \$50 child. Kids Ages 0-12. Limit: 12.

The Wise and Wonderful Journey 🖀

8:00 AM - 10:00 AM | Kachemak Bay

Adventures Office

(Available Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Thursday at 8:00 AM listing for event description. \$85. Kids Ages 5+. Limit: 6.

Full Day Boat Tour to Seldovia 🖀

8:30 AM - 4:30 PM | Homer Harbor

(Available W/Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Wednesday at 8:30 AM listing for event description. \$350. Kids 12+. Limit: 6.

Birders Coffee 🗸 🥻

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM | AMNWR, Seminar Room

Join keynote speaker Ben and other festival speakers, fellow birders, and Friends Board Members for coffee and treats. Check out the festival bird list! Hosted by Friends of Alaska National Wildlife Refuges, co-sponsor of the festival. Learn about how you can support and get involved with all 16 National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska.

Glowing Auks Workshop 🕱 🏈 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM | AMNWR, EE Lab

Join Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge staff to learn

why some species of birds such as puffins and rhinoceros auklets actually glow in certain lights. This activity will include an interactive lesson and themed craft. This event fulfills one of the Jr. Birder requirements. Limit: 35.

Anchor Point Birding 🤲

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM | Anchor Point State Recreation Area (Available Sa/Su)

See Saturday at 9:00 AM listing for event description. \$15. Limit: 12.

Beaks and Bills AM 🖀

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM | Homer Harbor

(Available W/Th/F/Sa/Su at 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM)

See Wednesday at 9:00 AM listing for event description. \$85. Limit: 12.

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

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM | Kachemak Bay

Adventures Office

(Available Th/F/Sa/Su at 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM)

See Thursday at 9:00 AM listing for event description. \$95. Kids Ages 5+. Limit: 12.

Seabird Ventures

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM | Homer Harbor

(Available W/Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Wednesday at 9:00 AM listing for event description. \$95. Limit: 6.

Film: Flyways 🍑 🥻

10:00 AM - 11:15 AM | AMNWR, Auditorium

(Available F/Su, times vary)

See Friday at 5:15 PM listing for event description. Limit: 90

SUNDAY, MAY 11

Gull Island Tour with Hike to Grewingk Glacier Lake 🌋

10:00 AM - 4:00 PM | Homer Harbor (Available Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Thursday at 10:00 AM listing for event description. \$95 adult, \$85 child. Kids Ages 5-12. Limit: 12.

Homer's Homestead Hiking AM 🗪

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM | Twin Creeks Trail Head Lodge

(Available Th/F/Sa/Su at 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM)

See Thursday at 10:00 AM listing for event description. \$30 adult, \$20 child. Kids Ages 6+. Limit: 6.

Kayaking with Birds in the Wildlife Refuge 🎇

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM | Homer Harbor (Available Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Thursday at 10:00 AM listing for event description. \$105 adult, \$85 child. Kids Ages 6-12. Limit: 12.

Organic Farm, Tunnels, and Botanical Garden Tours AM

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM | Synergy Gardens (Available W/Th/F/Sa/Su at 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM)

See Wednesday at 10:00 AM listing for event description. \$15 adult, \$5 child. Kids Ages 0-12. Limit: 25.

Friendship Walk

10:30 AM - 3:30 PM | Homer Harbor

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. \$75. Ages 10+. Limit: 15.

Gulls and Glaciology Excursion

11:00 AM - 5:00 PM | Homer Harbor (Available Th/F/Sa/Su at 11:00 AM)

See Thursday at 11:00 AM listing for event description. \$125 adult, \$115 child. Kids Ages 8-12. Limit: 12.

Surfrider Kenai Peninsula Competitive Beach Cleanup 🏈 \infty

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM | Homer Harbor

Join Surfrider Kenai Peninsula in protecting our oceans, waves, and beaches while competing for fun prizes! Teams of up to four compete to collect the most trash, with prizes for the winners. This family-friendly event is open to all ages and is especially great for teens. Let's work together to keep Kachemak Bay beautiful—for the birds and beyond! Gloves and bags will be provided, no pre-registration is required. Meet in front of Swell Taco on the Homer Spit.

Jr. Birder Awards Ceremony 🐼 🏅

12:30 PM - 1:00 PM AMNWR, Auditorium

Join fellow Jr. Birders for the Jr. Birder Award Ceremony. Participants will showcase their birding art, activities, and photos created throughout the festival. They will also be awarded for achieving their Jr. Birder level requirements.

Beaks and Bills PM

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM | Homer Harbor

(Available W/Th/F/Sa/Su at 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM)

See Wednesday at 9:00 AM listing for event description. \$85. Limit: 12.

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

1:00 PM - 5:00 PM | Kachemak Bay Adventures Office

(Available Th/F/Sa/Su at 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM)

See Thursday at 9:00 AM listing for event description. \$95. Kids Ages 5+. Limit: 12.

Homer's Homestead Hiking PM 🗪

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM | Twin Creeks Trail Head Lodge

(Available Th/F/Sa/Su at 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM)

See Thursday at 10:00 AM listing for event description. \$30 adult, \$20 child. Kids Ages 6+. Limit: 6.

Kayaking into the Ancient Past

2:00 PM - 6:00 PM | Homer Harbor

(Available W/Th/F/Sa/Su at 2:00 PM)

See Wednesday at 2:00 PM for event description. \$105 adult, \$85 child. Kids Ages 6-12. Limit: 12.

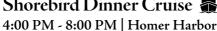
Organic Farm, Tunnels, and Botanical Garden Tours PM

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM | Synergy Gardens

(Available W/Th/F/Sa/Su at 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM)

See Wednesday at 10:00 AM listing for event description. \$15 adult, \$5 child. Kids Ages 0-12. Limit: 25.

Shorebird Dinner Cruise



(Available Th/F/Sa/Su)

See Thursday at 4:00 PM listing for event description. \$300. Limit: 6.

THINGS TO KNOW

- Only events marked with the Junior Birder or Teen Birder icon are eligible for credits with their respective program. There may be many events at the Shorebird Festival that are suitable for children, but are not specifically part of the Junior or Teen birder program.
- If you are attending a Junior or Teen Birder event to supervise your child, you only need to register them for the event — registering yourself may inadvertently fill up spaces meant for young birders!
- Junior and Teen Birders can attend some adult events and count them towards their official requirements. Please reach out to the Junior and Teen Birder Program volunteers during the festival, and they can help your child with this.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

• Go to our website (kachemakshorebird. org/juniorbirder) or contact Ranger Kendra at 907-226-4606.







Junior and Teen Birders Program



🥆 Junior Birder Program (Ages 5-15)

The Junior Birder Program helps kids and families learn about birds while exploring the incredible wildlife of Kachemak Bay. Participants attend family-friendly events, complete birding activities, and fill out a personal Junior Birder notebook to earn their official Junior Birder badge!

New Junior Birders can pick up their first-year activity packet at the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center. Returning participants can retrieve their previous year's journal to continue their birding journey. You can also download activity packets, event schedules, and requirement checklists from the Junior Birder website. Look for the next to events specifically for Junior Birders!

Teen Birder Program (Ages 12-18)

The Teen Birder Program is designed for young birders to connect with others and deepen their love of birds. The festival offers events tailored for teens, such as hikes, art, and more. These activities provide a great way for teens to celebrate birds, build skills, and meet new friends. Look for the an ext to Teen Birder events throughout the festival!

> Junior Birder Award Ceremony

Sunday 12:30 PM - 1:00 PM | Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge, Auditorium

Celebrate the accomplishments of our Junior Birders at this special award ceremony! Participants will have the chance to share their pictures, drawings, and stories from the festival and receive recognition for completing their Junior Birder requirements. Junior Birders should check in at the visitor center to return their binders on Sunday before the ceremony.

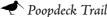
🔭 Self-Guided Jr. Birder Activities - Ongoing throughout festival 🗟



- Bird Bingo: Visit viewing stations during the festival and spot the birds you see to complete a row on your bingo sheet. Use the simple I.D. guide provided to help identify species and fulfill a Jr. Birder notebook requirement!
- Family Bird Seek and Find Challenge: Explore trails around town to find hidden, laminated birds along the path. Use trail guides to identify the species and see how many your family can spot!

💎 Calvin and Coyle Trail 🛛 🦿 Karen Hornaday Trail 🛣 Poopdeck Trail





About Our Speakers, Presenters, and Guides

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.

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.

Brie Drummond is a Wildlife Biologist for the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge. She has been working with seabirds at the Refuge for over 20 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 all but the Covid-era (plus one) Kachemak Bay Festivals.

Dave Erikson is a professional biologist with over 50 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.

Heather Renner is the Supervisory Wildlife Biologist for the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge, where she oversees one of the largest seabird monitoring programs in the world. With over 20 years of experience studying Alaska's seabirds, Heather focuses on understanding the health of marine ecosystems and how they are impacted by climate change.

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.

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.

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

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.

Lisa Spitler has worked for the Alaska Maritime NWR in a wide variety of capacities for 30 years, and has been analyzing the planktivorous seabird diet samples collected at our annual monitoring sites since 2013. She loves delving into the wondrous components that make up an ostensibly gross pile of regurgitation!

Liz Schotman has worked with Surfrider for many years, supporting its mission to protect coastal ecosystems and inspire community action. She helped launch Alaska's first Surfrider chapter in Homer and continues to bring her passion for education and conservation to her work. A proud bird nerd, Liz spends her free time running trails, freediving, making maps, and hanging out with her chickens.

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.

Maghan Monnig moved to Homer from Missouri at the end of August 2024 to start as the new Curator of Education and Public Programs at the Pratt Museum. She has never been birding before, but is excited for the festival!

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.

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

Mossy Kilcher has lived in Homer, Alaska her entire life, and is an artist, photographer and an avid, lifelong birder. Mossy is a member of several bird organizations, and participates in many local bird activities, including feeder watch, bird counts, and bird walks. She also contributes material to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Mossy's main passion is filming and photographing birds, especially songbirds, documenting their habits, and collecting their songs.

Nancy Lord is a Homer resident, a former Alaska Writer Laureate, and the author of numerous books, including Fishcamp, Beluga Days, and pH: A Novel. A Literary Field Guide to Alaska is forthcoming. She has taught creative writing for many years at both undergrad and graduate levels and currently teaches science writing for Johns Hopkins University.

Patricia Heglund is a retired US 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 four years ago. She is looking forward to sharing her knowledge and experiences.

Stan Senner has experience in birds, science, conservation, and public policy. He studied shorebirds as a graduate student, was the lead author for the surfbird species account in the Birds of North America series, led development and publication of the Pacific Americas Shorebird Conservation Strategy, worked as a staff member in the U.S. House of Representatives, and 20 years with the National Audubon Society and 10 years as the Executive Director of Audubon Alaska.

THANK YOU

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.



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